

**FAIRFIELD**  
**Prep School**



**Year 4**  
**Information Booklet**  
**2020-2021**

This booklet introduces you to what your child can expect from being in Year 4. **The Year 4 staff are:**

- 4B Mrs Butcher - Head of Year K.Butcher@lsf.org
- 4Y Mr. Young – Class Teacher D.Young@lsf.org
- 4I Mr. Boothe – Class Teacher I.Boothe@lsf.org
- all Mrs Bradley – Teaching Assistant

All four members of staff aim to provide the best possible education and opportunities for your children in a friendly and family-based atmosphere. They will be encouraged to develop their independence and will be presented with a multitude of opportunities.

## TIMETABLE

The Upper Prep runs to a structured timetable. A copy of your child's timetable will be in the back of their homework diary so that you are aware of the equipment they will need to bring on any given day. Government guidelines will depend whether we are able to run the planned timetable, minor adjustments might have to be made.

## SPECIALIST LESSONS

The majority of your child's lessons are taught by their class teacher. However, we are fortunate to have a number of specialist teachers at Fairfield and therefore your child will be taught by these staff on a regular basis throughout the year. At present every class in Year 4 has specialist lessons in:

Music, PE, Swimming, Games, Science and Modern Foreign Languages.

You will have an opportunity to meet your child's specialist teachers during the Autumn Term Parents' Evenings.

## THE HOUSE SYSTEM

There are 4 houses at Fairfield and they are named

Normans, Romans, Saxons and Vikings.

To those unfamiliar with the house system, its benefits are numerous. It gives all the children an opportunity to represent their house in all facets of school life and so it engenders a real sense of belonging. Children can compete for their House in organised competitions such as Sports Day, Swimming Gala, House Music, or House Prose Reading. They also earn House points given out by members of staff for excellent effort, outstanding work or good behaviour.

## EQUIPMENT

Your child should bring a pencil case with the basic stationery items.

The children move around the school for different lessons. Therefore, it is vital that **ALL** items are named. This includes shin pads, football boots, socks, gloves, swimming hats and towels. It is very easy for children to lose items of clothing if they are not labelled.

## SWIMMING

These lessons begin in the Autumn Term for Year 4 and take place at the Grammar School Pool. Again, this is dependent on guidance from the Government on returning to school in September. The children are assessed during their first lessons and then are separated into ability groups and are taught accordingly. The assessment process is ongoing. All items that are taken to swimming lessons must be named.

There is a swimming gala at the end of the Autumn Term, to which you will be invited to attend.

## **GAMES**

This takes place on a Thursday afternoon.

Boys are taught in Rugby, Football and Cricket.

Girls are taught in Hockey, Netball and Cricket.

All other aspects of PE are covered in class lessons.

## **HOMEWORK**

The children will be expected to complete approximately 30 minutes of homework each evening, Monday to Thursday. 20 minutes of a specific task and 10 minutes reading.

Pupils will write what they are expected to do daily in their homework diary which should be read and initialled by an adult when the homework has been completed.

The teacher will check this weekly. It can also be used for teachers and parents to communicate. If a child has a message in their diary, it is their responsibility to bring it to the teacher's attention during registration.

## **SUPPORT STAFF**

If a particular need is identified for your child in a specific area, then your child's class teacher will co-ordinate this with the support staff available. If through testing, assessment and observation a particular need is identified in your child, then the options of extra support will be discussed with our Learning Support Coordinator, Mrs Coombes, the class teacher and you.

## **CLUBS**

There are many extra-curricular clubs on offer to children in Year 4. A list will be sent out to you so that you can discuss them with your child.

Some are after school and some are at lunchtime. Your child will be informed as and when these clubs/activities become available to them.

## **MUSIC LESSONS**

All children in Year 4 learn either the trumpet or the trombone and have a weekly brass lesson in the Music Department with Mr. Rutter. In addition, children have the option to have individual music lessons, in school time, on an instrument of their choice. This could be a continuation from Year 3 or a new one in Year 4. The lessons are organised on a rota basis so that the children do not miss the same lesson every week.

The following Firefly page provides much more detailed information and a variety of videos <https://lesfairfield.fireflycloud.net/instrumental-and-vocal-lessons>

Your child's class teacher will help your child to remember when their lesson is, however, it is ultimately their own responsibility and therefore it would be very helpful if you could help them to practise telling the time at home.

Please contact Mrs Eloise Hipwell, [e.hipwell@lsf.org](mailto:e.hipwell@lsf.org) for any matters regarding individual instrumental music lessons.

## **ASSESSMENTS, EXAMS AND PARENTS' EVENINGS**

There are a variety of informal assessments throughout the year in English, Maths and Science. There will also be weekly spelling tests and biannual assessments for the core subjects of Maths and English.

Parents' Evenings will be held in the Autumn, Spring and Summer Term.

Reports will be written and sent home annually at the end of the Summer Term.

## **FORM CAPTAINS**

Children vote in their class for the boy and girl they feel would best represent the class in a responsible manner. This is done every term.

## **MERIT BADGES**

These are awarded to a few children, at the discretion of the class teacher, at the end of each term. They are then worn during the following term.

## **PRIZE GIVING**

Prize Giving takes place each year in June. It is a formal occasion to celebrate the successes of the children. All of Year 6 receive a leavers' prize. Other prizes are also awarded in other areas. For Years 3-5, prizes are awarded in each class as follows: two Form Prizes given for academic success, one Effort Prize, and one Discretionary Prize. If your child is to receive a prize, you will be notified and invited to the ceremony.

There are a lot of changes for your children stepping up from Year 3 into Year 4. Our expectations are high but they are also realistic. Our overriding motivation is for your child's safety, happiness and their development. With your support this transition will be both a smooth and enjoyable one for them.