



**YEAR FOUR**

**PARENT**

**HANDBOOK**

2019/20

## **Year 4 handbook**

Welcome to Year 4! This booklet summarises the main points discussed at the Curriculum Meeting. We hope you find it useful. Please get in touch if you have any queries.

### **Staff**

Magnus Hinde: 4H and Head of Religious Education  
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### **Responsibility**

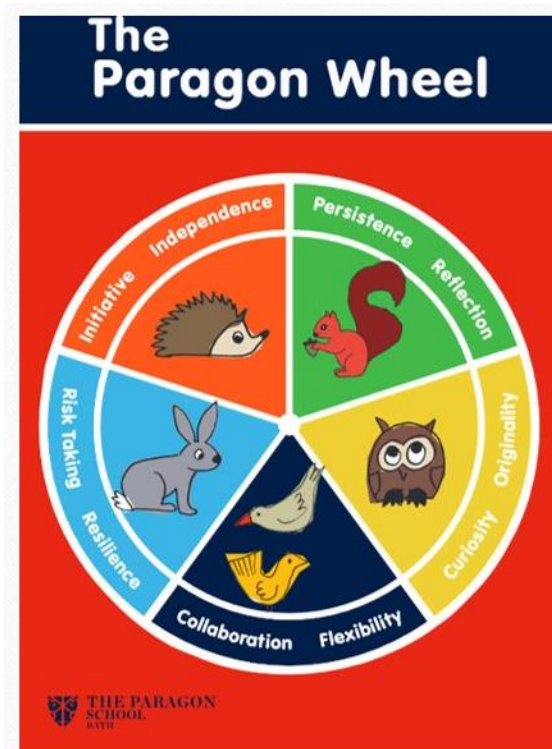
There is a big emphasis on responsibility in Year 4. As the year progresses, we encourage the children to take more responsibility for themselves, their work and their belongings.

We encourage the children to take responsibility for organising and completing their homework on time.

## Academic Matters

### Learning Habits.

Pupils are encouraged to develop the learning habits shown on The Paragon Wheel and they are discussed regularly.



### Maths

After an initial settling in period, Maths lessons will be taught in ability groups. Each group will follow the same topics throughout the term, but the depth and pace of study will vary. Careful monitoring of each pupil's mathematical development will allow movement between the sets as necessary to optimise pupil progress.

## **Spelling**

Year 4 follow the revised Paragon spelling programme (September 2019) which is aligned to the National Curriculum. All pupils complete a spelling assessment at the start of the year and this, combined with formative assessment, is used to ensure that they are in the correct group.

Pupils have regular spelling lessons during the week and are taught strategies to help to embed their knowledge and understanding of spelling.

Pupils will need to practise their spellings at home and will be set tasks to complete. They will have a short weekly spelling test/dictation at school on Tuesday.

## **Reading**

Reading is the key to success in many aspects of English and the curriculum as a whole. It is important that children continue to read for pleasure in order to build a wide comprehension of language and a broad vocabulary to use in their own writing. Parents are encouraged to listen to their child read regularly; to discuss the plot and any unfamiliar vocabulary.

We will hear the children read at least once a week in school. Further support will be given if necessary.

We also undertake Guided Reading in class, using the texts for comprehension, language and creative activities. All reading, at home and at school, is recorded in the Pupil Planner.

The school library catalogue, including useful websites, can be accessed via <https://u002299.microlibrarian.net>. Your child can then log on to their individual account by entering their unique library number as their username and again for their password.

## **Homework**

Your child will be set Homework on Monday (Maths), Tuesday (English) and Thursday (Topic, Science or Writing Journal). The expectation is for your child to spend 20 minutes on each homework.

Every other week, instead of a written homework for Maths or English, your child will be allocated a homework slot to practise either DoodleMaths or DoodleEnglish. It is recommended that that your child practises their DoodleMaths/DoodleEnglish 'little and often'; we recommend 5 -10 minute slots instead of just one sitting. Every week there will be a DoodleMaths or a DoodleEnglish focus but it would be great if your child can continue to do some practice for both, if time allows.

## **Stage Production**

All Year 4 will be involved in our drama production which is rehearsed and performed at The Paragon. A thorough auditions process for speaking and singing roles is held towards the end of the Spring Term and scripts published before the Easter holidays in order to give the children enough time to learn their lines. The production provides the children with an invaluable opportunity to learn about the various aspects of a production, however large or small their part is.

## **Residential Trip**

Year 4 is the first year in the children's school life that they embark on a residential trip for two to three nights. Our residential trip will be to Mill on the Brue in Somerset, held in an outdoor education centre.

## **The Bulletin**



The Bulletin is a key publication for parents, do check it every week. It contains a summary of what has been happening in school and, perhaps more importantly, information about forthcoming events. Details about:

- Trips – letters with permission slips
- Outdoor Learning activities - appropriate clothing and wellies
- On site special days
- Assemblies
- Headmaster's Comments
- Music and Sport Notices

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We hope you find all the enclosed details useful; if you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask.

MH/RH 2019