



St James' Church of England First School & Nursery
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Headteacher: Miss Jo Hudson
Assistant Headteacher: Mrs Kathryn Cousins

10 September 2026

Dear Parents of Badger Class,

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you all to Year Four. The children have settled in well and I am looking forward to working and playing, with them as the year progresses. This letter is intended to give you an overview of the routines and expectations in our class, so that the day-to-day running can go as smoothly as possible. I hope that the information below answers any questions that you may have at this stage.

Break/ snack times:

- Your child should bring a **fruit snack** each day for their morning break.
- If you would like your child to have milk, please see the office for instructions on how to pre-order.
- Your child must bring a named *water* bottle each day which they will be encouraged to drink from throughout the day. They may bring an additional drink for their lunch which does not have to be water.

Reading books:

- Your child will have received a levelled reader matched to their phonics/reading group last week.
- The reading books that your child is receiving will be changed when they have finished the text.
- The books should be kept in their book bags at all times as on occasions children will be asked to read in school. Book bags **MUST** be in school each day.
- Children will take part in regular library visits, during which they may choose a "love to read" book. A record is kept of all library books, and we kindly ask that these are looked after and returned to school so that your child can exchange them for another.
- Please try to read with your child as often as possible. It is also helpful to question your child and talk about the story and characters.

Home learning:

- Home learning will follow the following format:
- A 'knowledge organiser' sent at the beginning of a half term, containing a project-based home learning task and details of the key knowledge and skills being taught.
- Weekly spellings and times table practice



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- If your child wants to do something else at home which is related to our topic, literacy or numeracy they are encouraged to do so and to bring it into the classroom to show.

Uniform:

- Please ensure your child comes to school with their shirt tucked in and collar arranged outside their jumper
- ALL items of clothes should be clearly labelled, including coats and wellies.
- It is essential that your child comes to school with a jumper, cardigan or fleece as we often work and play outside on a daily basis.
- Hair should always be tied up and adornments should be kept to a minimum in school colours.
- Due to our unpredictable weather it would be a good idea to send your child with a waterproof coat, or keep one in school. Even on a wet day we endeavour to get the children out for some fresh air, wellies are a good idea!

PE:

- Children will have PE on a Thursday and Friday afternoon.
- PE kit should be worn to school on these days.

Toys and other items from home:

- Your child should not bring toys or other items from home into school as we cannot ensure they will not get broken or lost.
- Items brought in should be educational e.g. swimming certificates etc... or topic related.

This term we will be covering the topic 'Ancient Antics'. Details of the skills and knowledge taught in these topics will be sent home separately on knowledge organisers.

It is very important to me that your child enjoys their time in Year Four so if you feel that there are any problems whatsoever please do not hesitate to come and speak to me. Please remember that we operate an open door policy and I welcome any information or comments that may affect your child's learning or happiness during school time.

I thank you for your support and I look forward to working with you this year.

Yours Sincerely,

Ben Spinks