

Dear Parents,

I hope you have had an enjoyable summer and that you are all looking forward to the start of a new school year, so welcome to Class Four! I am looking forward to teaching your child and getting to know you better so that we can work together to make sure that this is a happy and successful year. I hope that your child enjoys the challenges that this year will bring and I am sure that you will work with me to help them along the way.

This term, our first Power of Reading book will be "Moon Man", and we are focusing on Place Value and Number in Maths, where there will be lots of opportunities for practical work. In Science, Year 5 will be learning about Earth and Space and Year 4 will be studying Sound.

Miss Greer will be teaching Geography, History and RE and our first topics will be "Where Would You Choose to Build a City?" and "Who Were the Early Law Makers?" Mr Milner will continue to provide the Music teaching. French will be taught regularly, and as far as possible, linked to other areas of learning.

Please make sure that your child has their full PE kit in school every Monday. The school rule is that if they forget their PE kit they will miss some of their Golden Time which takes place on Friday afternoon. If your child needs an inhaler it is essential that we have one in school at all times (named please). Please also make sure that all of your child's clothing has their name inside it so that we can help them look after their own belongings.

Spellings for Year 5 children (lists of 5 words) will be given out every Friday and Wednesday, with tests being every Wednesday and Friday. Year 4 children will be given a list of 5 spellings to learn every Friday for a test on the following Friday.

Homework (linked to either Maths or English such as times tables or grammar practise) will be given out every Friday and must be completed and brought back in to school by Wednesday. I would also ask for your continued support with our Strive for Five target, where your child should read aloud to an adult five times or more every week. Children will be questioned on the content of their weekly reading to ensure they comprehend what they read. All of this information will be found inside your child's new reading journal.

Punctuality is very important at Derwent Vale and we request that your child is lined up ready to start the school day at 8.45 am.

I have high expectations of your child, both academically and in terms of behaviour, and I am sure that you will support me with this to make this a very positive year. It is important to me that your child feels happy and settled, so please do not hesitate to speak to me if you have any concerns. Appointments are best made for the end of the day if possible.

Thank you for your support.

Kind regards
Mrs Dennison