



9th September 2025

YEAR 4 AUTUMN TERM CLASS LETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, a warm welcome back to school. We hope you have enjoyed a restful summer break and are excited to start the Year 4 curriculum.

Curriculum

In **Literacy**, we are starting with two weeks of learning based on the book 'Arthur and the Golden Rope' by Joe Stanton, focusing on writing single and multi-clause sentences as well as using a full range of punctuation. Children will then develop their ability to organise writing using paragraphs and increase their confidence with conjunctions through 'The King Who Banned The Dark' by Emily Haworth-Booth.

In **Maths**, children will begin by reactivating their prior learning from previous year groups before developing their understanding of 4-digit numbers. They will gain experience of regrouping numbers in different ways and will explore how to estimate the magnitude of 4-digit numbers. They will deepen their knowledge of addition and subtraction, comparing various strategies, and discuss several mental strategies for multiplication and division.

Our **Science** this term will include finding out about how humans digest food, exploring and creating our own food chains and investigating which liquids cause the most damage to our teeth. Children will learn about the different types of teeth humans have and what the function of each is. We will also be analysing the differences between solids, liquids and gases, as well as discovering different ways to represent the water cycle.

In **History**, the children will learn about the growth of the Roman Empire and the lasting impact it has had on modern society. We will discuss the Roman army, including failed and successful invasions of Britain, tactics and training. We will also build upon learning from Year 3 as we debate the benefits and costs of rebellion against Roman rule by the Celts.

Through **Computing** lessons, Year 4 will discuss the importance of online safety, including the importance of not giving away personal information and recognising spam mail. We will then explore and create animations and music.

RE will focus on developing an understanding of how different events are celebrated, both within and between religions, as well as sources of wisdom that different people rely upon. We will explore the concept of commitment and discuss how light is symbolic in some religions.

PE this term will include a skills focused games session and then develop our Orienteering and Drumba. Please ensure your child wears their PE kit to school on that day.

Kingfishers – Thursday

Seals – Monday

They must be equipped with appropriate clothing and footwear as we will be going outside even if it is cold.

The class will be attending **swimming** lessons every **Monday** (Kingfishers) and **Thursday** (Seals) afternoon at Westminster Lodge w/c 8th September 2025. Children must be equipped with a swimming costume, hat, goggles and towel for these sessions.

In **Music** we will start the term with some fun body percussion activities and then move to our fantastic whole class strings project. Each child will be given the opportunity to learn a string instrument in the hope that having a 'taster' for a year could encourage some to continue to learn through private lessons at the school. This is a fantastic opportunity which we hope will inspire the children for their musical future.

French will be taught by Mrs Birss who will be teaching the children to describe their friendships and their favourites in French. The children will continue to build their understanding of French sounds, words and patterns throughout the unit.

Year 4 will be receiving class support every morning by Mrs Hornsby (Kingfishers) and Mrs Hayes (Seals).

Home Learning

Homework will be set via Google Classroom starting on Friday 12th September. Children will be set weekly spellings which will be quizzed the following Friday. Children are expected to read 15-20 minutes at least 3 times a week. They should comment in their reading record book on the reading record activity, which will be set for them. Maths Home Learning will be set on Doodle Learning.

Times tables should also be practised regularly at home. In Year 4, children are expected to know the tables up to twelve. A sound knowledge of times tables promotes good progress in maths, particularly mental arithmetic. We will have designated time in class for the children to use Times Table Rock Stars but it is vital that they use this resource at home too (5 minutes at least three times per week is ideal). They can also use other free websites and apps such as Hit the Button.

General Notices

If you have any queries concerning your child please feel free to email us at Kingfisher@stpeters.herts.sch.uk and Seals@stpeters.herts.sch.uk and we will get back to you as soon as possible. For any urgent communication, please contact the school office.

Key Dates:

- History Trip - Tuesday 16th September
- Kingfishers Class Assembly – Friday 21st November
- Seals Class Assembly – Friday 14th November
- Parent Consultation Evening – Tuesday 21st October & Thursday 23rd October
- Learn & Share (Book Look) – Wednesday 15th October

We recommend that you regularly check the school calendar on the school website for any other events that may occur throughout the term. We will also use the Google Classroom to send updates. We regularly update our class pages on the website with information about our learning. [Year 4 | St Peter's School St Albans. \(stpeters.herts.sch.uk\)](http://Year4|StPeter'sSchoolStAlbans.stpeters.herts.sch.uk)

We are delighted to have the pleasure of working with your children and cannot wait for what the term brings.

Kind regards,

Ms Feind & Mrs Kingswood