



Welcome to Year 4 2022

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome to Year 4. Thank you for joining us for our Information Afternoon.

Year 4 Statistics

- 5 x classes taught by Michael Nemeth (4N), Deirdre Grace (4D), Claire Whitcombe (4C), Natalie Westren (4W), Daniel Pozarik (4P)

Values

Each class has set expectations based on our school values. These have been negotiated by both students and teachers. They also reflect the school welfare guidelines.

RANDWICK SCHOOL VALUES	CLASS EXPECTATIONS
Be Responsible	
Be Respectful	
Be a Learner	

Parents as Partners

The best way to encourage children to value education is to show them that you value it too. You can do this by ensuring your child:

- Attends school every day;
- Arrives at and is collected from school on time;
- Has full school uniform including a broad brimmed school hat and is well groomed;
- Has the required classroom equipment;
- Has a sufficient amount of nutritious food and water every day;

Parent Check-Ins

There will be Parent Check-Ins held in Week 8, 9 and 10 of Term 1. If you wish to discuss your child's progress at any other time throughout the year, please arrange an appointment. I would be more than happy to discuss your child's progress, at a mutually convenient time. Please be mindful that in the morning I am completing preparation for the day's lessons and am unavailable unless a prior appointment has been made. Please email me, call the school office or send a letter via your child if you wish to arrange an interview.

Homework

- Homework activities will be issued weekly on a **Friday** to be returned on **Thursday** the following week. This will allow students to use the weekend to complete homework if they wish. Students will access their homework via Google Classroom and use their DET login from home. If you require hard copy homework, please let your teacher know.

- Homework routines will include English skill revision, spelling revision, Maths Pathway and Home Reading.
- Additional homework **may** be sent home by specialist and support teachers throughout the week.
- Reading **daily** forms an incredibly important part of your child’s homework routine. Year 4 students will record their reading in their school diaries. Take home reading books will be supplied by the class teacher, or students who are reading above Level 28 will move onto the **Accelerated Reader Program** which allows students to borrow a range of texts from the library for home reading that are appropriate for their level.
- Please look at the following document for some tips for home reading with your child:
<https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/going-to-a-public-school/translated-documents/reading-with-your-child-at-home>

Recommended Time Allocations per Night:

Daily home reading must be included as an essential component of homework from Kindergarten to Year 6. This includes both set readings that will be provided to suit your child’s assessed reading level as well as reading for pleasure. Children will also be assisted to borrow appropriate level materials from the library to suit their interests.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Times allocated for Homework Tasks</i>	<i>Times allocated for Home Reading Tasks</i>
Year 4	Comprehension Spelling Mathematics Time expectation- no longer than 40 minutes per day	Home reading of set level- 20 minutes per day. Shared reading of longer/more difficult texts for enjoyment and to expand vocabulary and knowledge is highly beneficial.

We are realistic about homework and understand ‘life’ gets in the way. However, we would appreciate your support in encouraging your child to complete their weekly homework tasks. This is important when instilling good organisational skills and independent work habits.

Subject Areas – The Curriculum

The Key Learning Areas in primary school are; English, Mathematics, History & Geography, Science and Technology, Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE) and Creative Arts.

English

In Year 4, students will focus on the social purpose and clustering of texts to enable them to build a repertoire of devices when writing and reading. Grammar and language skills are linked to writing, together with an emphasis on comprehension in reading. Students will give several oral presentations throughout the year as well as engage in class discussions. Guided reading continues to support students to help children develop reading skills, decode text successfully and progress as independent readers.

In Year 4, students participate in reading groups 2-3 times per week. Students are grouped according to performance level and provided with a differentiated program to best meet their needs and maximise their ability.

Mathematics

Mathematics in Year 4 provides students with knowledge, skills and understanding in Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, and Statistics and Probability. There is a focus on developing and refining their mathematical understanding, and extending their logical reasoning and problem-solving skills.

In Year 4, students participate in the **Maths Pathway** model as well as grade-based content lessons to deliver learning targeted at their area of need. Using an adaptive diagnostic test, **Maths Pathway** provides individualised learning, targeted explicit teaching, rich learning opportunities and differentiated assessment.

History

The NSW History syllabus covers a range of history concepts and skills. Year 4 will cover the following topics:

Year 4 – First Contacts

This topic introduces world history and movements of people. Beginning with the history of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, students examine European exploration and colonisation in Australia and throughout the world up to the early 1800's. Students examine the impact of exploration on other societies, how these societies interacted with newcomers, and how these experiences contributed to their cultural diversity.

Geography

Year 4 – The Earth's Environment

Students explore the climate, natural vegetation and native places in Australia and Asia. They examine the importance of natural vegetation and natural resources to the environment, animals and people and learn about the ways people value environments, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. Students identify sustainable practices and recognise that there are differing views on how sustainability can be achieved.

Science

Students engage in inquiry-based learning in the study of science, and are involved in hands-on learning experiences with scientific phenomena.

The focus topics for this year are:

- Term 1: Agriculture and Digital Systems
- Term 2: Agriculture
- Term 3 and 4: Year 4 STEM - Earth's Surface & Interaction with the Sun

Personal Development, Health, Physical Education (PDHPE)

Personal Development Programs are covered throughout the year.

Year 4 focus topics are:

- Semester 1- Building Relationships with our Buddies (Health, Wellbeing & Relationships), Keeping Safe and Healthy (Healthy, Safe & Active Lifestyles), AFL (Movement Skill & Performance);
- Semester 2- Personal Safety (Healthy, Safe & Active Lifestyles), Managing Change (Health, Wellbeing & Relationships), Cricket (Movement Skill & Performance).

Each term students will be provided with the opportunity to participate in PSSA (Primary Schools Sports Association) or School Sport. Students also take part in our 3 major sport carnivals of Swimming, Cross Country and Athletics.

Creative Arts

In Stage 2, students learn about making, performing, composing and appreciating the Creative Arts. They engage in the study of music, dance, drama and visual arts.

Technology (Digital Citizenship & iPads)

Students will have access to computers, laptops and iPads at school. Students will also have access to the internet and must sign an Acceptable Usage Contract about sensible and responsible internet use.

In 2022, all Year 4 students have 1:1 access to iPads. Students should be aware of and abide by the guidelines set out by the Responsible Digital Use Agreement. Teachers have the right to search an iPad to ensure compliance with the school's iPad rules and agreement. Students in breach of either, may be subject to but not limited to; disciplinary action, confiscation and removal of content.

Randwick Public School identifies that Internet, and Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) play an increasingly important role in the learning of students in education. As part of the PDHPE curriculum, students will engage in digital citizenship lessons throughout the year focused on what it means to be a good digital citizen. Information regarding e-safety can be found at <http://www.common sense media.org/> and <https://www.esafety.gov.au/>

Assessment & Reporting

Classroom assessment is continuous. Taken into consideration are class bookwork and participation, anecdotal records, homework, projects and tests. Grades are not based on tests alone. Whole grade assessments are necessary to compare children in different classes and to see what concepts need to be reviewed. These take place throughout the year for Reading, Spelling, Writing and Mathematics.

You could greatly assist me by:

- If your child is **absent**, please **email the office directly on the day your child is absent** explaining the absence and again for any following days of absence.
- Completing **late notes** when your child has arrived late for school, notes are available at the school office.
- Ensuring all **homework** is completed neatly and returned on time. Creating a weekly schedule for completing homework may help to ensure your child doesn't leave their work until the last minute.
- Ensuring that your child has time and space to complete their homework.
- Encouraging your child to **read every night**.
- Placing your child's name and class on all items of clothing etc.
- Not allowing small toys and valuable items to be brought to school.
- Ensuring that your child wears a **broad brimmed hat** and sun cream to school every day (especially sports days.) Our '**No hat, sit in the shade**' policy is in accord with the Department and Cancer Council policies.
- Making any payments online or sending any notes to the school in labelled envelopes.
- Please remember to update Skoolbag preferences to 'Stage 2' to receive up to date school information and excursion/permission notes.

Stage 2 Class Requirements:

It is important that students have the correct stationery throughout the year to ensure they are prepared for all lessons and that their name is on all of their items. Check-in with your child throughout the school year as they often need a top up of items. Year 4 students gradually begin to write using pens as they gain their 'pen licence'.

Stationery Requirements	
2 x Blue, black & red pens	Sharpener
4 x HB lead pencils	Scissors
30cm ruler with mm	Whiteboard markers (for student use)
Glue stick	Highlighter
Eraser	Small headphones

Please also send in a box of tissues and liquid soap.

Important Dates for Year 4

These dates may change so please keep updated via the fortnightly School Newsletter/SkoolBag for possible changes, additions and further details.

Event	Date
School Leadership Induction Assembly	Term 1, Wednesday 9th February
Summer PSSA & School Sport begins	Term 1, Friday 18th February
Swimming Carnival	Term 1, Wednesday 16th February
Harmony Week (Harmony Day TBD)	Term 1, Monday 21st March
Parent/Teacher Interviews	Term 1, 8-10
Winter PSSA & School Sport begins	Term 2, Friday 6th May
Cross Country Carnival	Tuesday 5th April (early due to NAPLAN)
Opportunity Class Placement Test	TBD - generally, applications open in late April and close in early May. More information will be sent as we receive it.
Athletics Carnival	Term 3, Tuesday 2nd August
Year 4 Camp	Term 3, Thursday 15th and Friday 16th of September