



GRADE 4 GROUP PARENTS' MEETING

**Monday
September 2nd
2019**

PURPOSE OF MEETING

To state very clearly what we consider valuable and most beneficial to your children at this stage of their education.

To give a brief outline of the curriculum and the experiences your child will encounter this year.

To outline rules and expectations for the coming year.

OUR FOCUS IN GRADE 4

Promote **A sense of independence** in each one of our children.

Encouraged to think for themselves and use different resources available to them.

Vital that a similar approach is encouraged at home.

Your role will gradually be reduced to a more supervisory one, with your child making decisions and evaluating their work against clearly understood criteria.

Assessment for Learning.

We Are Learning To... **W.A.L.T.**

We articulate what we expect the children to understand from our lessons

What I'm Looking For... **W.I.L.F**

We give them criteria against which they can gauge their level of understanding.

The children can revisit the topic to ensure a deeper understanding of the concepts covered.

ENGLISH/ LITERACY

Emphasis on-

READING

- Develop **comprehension** and **enjoyment** of reading. (New reading records)
- Children to read a **wide range** of texts fiction & non fiction (Book Bingo).
- Reading at a suitably **challenging** level.
- Focus on not just literal answers but also inferential (why do you think?)

ORAL LANGUAGE

- Growing in confidence at speaking and presenting in public.
- Working on debate writing and presentations.

ENGLISH/ LITERACY (CONT.)

WRITING

- Writing genres- promoting different genres.
- Presentation and handwriting
- Grammatical accuracy.
- Increasingly proficiency at constructing sentences.

SPELLING

- To develop an understanding, not solely learn by rote. New spellings should eventually become part of child's vocabulary. (Learning definitions, Spelling Bee, Word of the week, topic based spellings)

MATHS/NUMERACY

Promoting hands on learning –

- Use of interactive whiteboard, games, I.T. etc

ELPS approach- *‘One size doesn’t fit all’*

- **Experiences** of concrete activities.
- Associated mathematical **Language** (Link with Spelling Programme).
- **Pictorial** representation.
- Formal mathematical **Symbols**.

MATHS/NUMERACY (CONT)

We encourage children to show workings out/steps, neatly and great tool for revision.

Children encouraged to write **rules**, take notes. (language of maths)

To be encouraged to be confident in all **four operations**. (+, -, X and ÷)

Promote **very sharp mental** calculations. – times tables & mental maths

Problem solving and investigation. This is an area that children find most challenging but really need to develop. New Operations Maths programme- (Home/ School links)

GAEILGE

New Irish arrangement for all.

Promotion of Irish as a spoken language

- Focus on the oral element over the written work.

Promotes new curriculum, bringing language alive.

Use of role play, games, songs, poems and conversation.

Fortnightly themes that the children can relate to.

Emphasis on developing vocabulary, sentence composition, grammar and spelling. (Grammar copy and new spelling programme).



SESE- Science, History and Geography

- Enquiry approach- experiments using science lab materials.
- Projects throughout the year.
- Presentation skills focused.
- Presentation of work through different media.
- Computers as an explicit subject

HOMework

Homework allocation:

	Reading	Role of Parent	To be Learned	Written Work Recommended time allocation	Written English	Written Maths	Written Irish
Grades 4-6	15 - 20Minutes per night	Question child on text read and sign Reading Record once satisfied that child has a good understanding of text read.(School will provide sample questions to assist)	Spellings and Definitions Multiplication/division tables Maths vocabulary Irish Verbs + vocab	Up to 30 minutes per night	Options: -4-5 Comprehension Qs based on Class novel /comprehension book -Written definitions if not learning as required -Sentences for EAL students Grammar/punctuation exercises. -Various Writing assignments	-Sums/problems to consolidate previous learning. - Mental Arithmetic based on topics taught- Brain Teasers	Options: -learn 3-4 Irish spellings per night -Write 4 sentences using spelling words -specific spelling related exercises from spelling book -Grammar related written activities -learning class work for consolidation -daily rote learning of verbs (G4-AC, G5-AC+AL, G6-AC, AL, AF)

Reading as a focus every night.

Reduced the written element, learning is central.

Help from home-

- Journal to be signed and timed each night.
- Encouraged to try the work unless there is a total lack of understanding.
- Notes in journal re: missed work.

ASSESSMENTS

Weekly Spelling & Gaeilge (To be signed)

Progress in English and Maths (New students)

Autumn/ Spring tests (Study time and outline will be given at the time)

- English
- Maths
- Gaeilge
- Science
- History/ Geography

Drumcondra testing in May (Whole school testing)

TIMETABLE (SAMPLE)

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8.45 – 9.25	Maths	SESE- History/ Geography (C. Lynch to cover)	Maths	English	<u>Weekly Tests</u> - English, Irish & Maths weekly tests - Correct Homework - Assembly
9.25 – 10.05				French	
10.05 – 10.25					
10.25 – 11.05	Gaeilge (Until 11.20)	Gaeilge (Until 11.20)	Gaeilge	Gaeilge (Until 11.20)	
11.05 – 11.45	English	Maths	PE	Maths	Spanish
11.45-12.25			Music		Maths
12.25-1.05					
1.05-1.45	Computers	English	Computers	Science	English
1.45-2.25	SPHE		English		Library
2.25-3.05	Music	PE			
3:05-3:45	Clubs	Clubs	Finished 2:45	Clubs	Finished 2:45

HOUSEKEEPING

Uniform (Full uniform, not just school colours)

Lunch (Healthy eating Mon- Thurs, small snack on Friday. Canteen available daily)

Punctuality (Classes start 8.45am sharp)

Finishing times (Mon, Tues & Thurs- 3.45, Wed & Fri- 2.45)

Homework club (Mon, Tues & Thurs- 3.45 to 4.40)

Rewards (Individual, tables and whole class)

Behaviour- If class rules are broken; sanctions taken (missed break, extra homework, yellow cards, Mr Burns/ parents informed)

HOUSEKEEPING

Emailing (Don't get to emails during the school day, try to reply every afternoon.) kate.oconnor@sps.ie

Presentation of work throughout the year.

Library (Thursday)

PE (Tuesday & Wednesday)

Birthdays- sharable treats, allergies, invites, no homework.

Class Dojo

THANKS!

I'm happy to answer any other questions,
and otherwise thank you for your time!