

Welcome to Skylark Class



2022-23

Years 3 and 4

Teacher: Mr Moorby

Challenge, Commit, Conquer, and Celebrate

Hello Young Skylarks!

I am absolutely delighted that you will be joining me in Skylark class this year. For some of you, this will be the beginning of your KS2 journey and for others it will be your chance to support our newcomers and really push yourselves to become the best learners you can be, in preparation for Upper KS2. I am particularly excited to work with you all to create an exciting learning environment where we can take risks, challenge each other and celebrate our endless successes.

In this guide, I have set out lots of the expectations for what we will do in Skylark class. Some are for you and some are for your parents so it would be great if you could share this together.

If you have any questions, I am always happy to help and support you in any way that I can. Feel free to contact me at Skylark@st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk if you have any questions before the end of term.

I look forward to seeing you in September!

In our class

In Skylark class, we know the importance of following the school rules so that we can maximise our learning and be considerate to others in the class. We know that we need to communicate with each other clearly; always be enthusiastic and try our best; take responsibility for our learning and behaviour; and reflect on our mistakes and success so we can continue to learn from them. Some of these are quite challenging (even for adults) so we will make sure we work together to help learn strategies to achieve them.

Maths

What will I learn in year 3?

We will start to become more secure in a range of areas of maths and this will include, but is not limited to, the following areas:

- **Place value** - Recognising the place value of each digit in a three digit number, reading and writing numbers up to 1000 in numerals and words, finding 10 and 100 more or less, counting in 50s.
- **Addition and subtraction** Add and subtract numbers with up to three digits using formal written methods.
- **Multiplication and division** - Fluent with 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 & 10 times tables, writing and calculating multiplication and division statements using mental and then written methods.
- **Fractions** - Comparing and ordering unit fractions; adding and subtracting fractions with the same denominator.
- **Measurement** - Measuring, comparing, adding and subtracting lengths, mass, volume and capacity; measuring the perimeter of shapes.
- **Geometry** - Identifying right angles; identifying horizontal and vertical lines and pairs of perpendicular and parallel lines.

What will I learn in year 4?

We will build on what you have learnt in year 3 as well as introducing some new areas of maths. This will include, but is not limited to, the following areas:

- **Number and place value** - Recognising the place value of each digit in a four digit number; read roman numerals to 100; round any number to the nearest 10, 100 or 1000; rounding decimals.
- **Addition and subtraction**- Adding and subtracting numbers with up to four digits using the formal written methods.
- **Multiplication and division**- Recall multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to 12×12 ; multiply two-digit and three-digit numbers by a one digit number using formal written layout.

- **Fractions including decimals and percentages** - Recognise fraction and decimal equivalence $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{3}{4}$; round decimals with one decimal place to the nearest whole number.
- **Algebra** - Expressing perimeter algebraically.
- **Measurement** - Measure and calculate the perimeter of a shape; find the area of shapes by counting squares; read, write and convert time between analogue and digital 12 and 24-hour clocks.
- **Geometry**- Identify acute and obtuse angles and compare and order angles up to two right angles by size; compare and classify geometric shapes, including quadrilaterals and triangles.
- **Statistics** - Interpret and present data using bar charts, pictograms and tables.

What can I do with my parents to support my maths?

If there is one thing that you will need to know in Skylark class, it is your times tables! Don't try to learn them all at once but focus on a times table and when you have worked out that one, move onto the next.

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Will I have to do maths at home?

The short answer is 'yes!' All the time if possible - adding up prices in the shop and weighing ingredients for cooking are just some of the useful activities for building confidence with number.

In addition to this, you will have maths homework to complete weekly - this will all be explained at the beginning of September.

Where can I find out more information to help me and my parents?

Check out the Skylark webpage for any resources linked to the areas that we currently learning in all subjects. If there is something that you would like support with that isn't on there, please contact me!

Reading

I love to read! So much so that I have been known to devour up to five books a week during the holidays. My hope is that you grow to love reading as much as I do during your time in Skylark class.

Which books will I read this year in Skylark Class?

That's a secret but I have been lucky enough to get my hands on our first text for September and I am sure you are going to love it!

Which colour band will I be reading?

By the end of Year 3 children should have reached grey book band and by the end of year 4 they should be dark blue. If you commit to reading every day then you will absolutely be able to reach this target.

We are running out of books to read at home. What should we do?

Sign up to the Summer Reading Challenge at the library. You will be able to borrow some great books to take you on adventures and maybe even earn some prizes too!

<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>

Once we are back in school, you will be able to borrow books from the library. They are colour banded to support you in finding the books that will be best for you.

Will I have to do reading homework?

You will need to aim to complete a reading activity daily for a minimum of 10 minutes - this could be listening to an audio book; reading to a parent/sibling/teddy bear/cat; reading to yourself; filming yourself reading; using read theory or recommending a book to others. You will be asked to write your home reading in to your reading record at least 5 times a week and this will be checked on a Monday morning. Because I am so passionate about reading, I will find opportunities to support you with your reading at lunchtime if you are unable to complete your daily 10 minutes at home.

In addition, you will have a group guided reading novel. You will have set pages to read each week as well as tasks to complete on the book and on a Wednesday afternoon you will meet together to discuss what is happening- your very own book club!

Writing

My friend says that in Skylark class you have to join your handwriting all the time. Is it true?

Yes! All pupils will be expected to write in legible, cursive and joined handwriting at all times.

Why not practise by sending a postcard or letter to your family or friends? I am sure that they would love to hear what you are getting up to over your summer holidays.

Spelling

Will I have a spelling test?

Yes! Some spellings do not follow specific rules but require us to spend time learning how to spell them. In KS2, we call these our dictations. In class, you will be tested weekly on a word list. Once you have achieved 5/5 on each list, we encourage you to move on to start learning the next one! To achieve this, I will support you with strategies but just like with learning your times tables, the best thing is to practise...and practise...and practise!

Year 3/4

Can you give me any tips to help practise?

Here are some strategies you can try:

- Log on to Spelling Shed (<https://www.spellingshed.com/en-gb/>) You will be given a spelling shed login in in September.
- Pyramid words
- Rainbow writing using different coloured pens
- Making up 'silly' sentences using the words
- Draw around the word to show the shape
- Set a timer and write the word as many times as you can in the time limit. You only score a point for the correct ones!
- Look, say, cover, write, check

Other areas of learning

What will you do if I need some extra help with my learning?

Within the class, there will be people who have different starting points in different subjects. We will use a mixture of pre-teaching the day before, breaking things down into small steps, interventions and challenges to make sure that everyone is learning.

Over the year, you may be invited to a morning group with a small group of your friends from 8am. We will do some targeted work together and then enjoy a chocolate biscuit before everyone else gets to school. Personal invitations will be sent out to those who will benefit from the focus on particular day during a particular term and groups will change over the year.

Will I learning anything that isn't maths and English?

Of course! We are going to learn lots more about a whole range of subjects this year. We will learn about the industrial revolution and the Forest of Dean in History. In Geography we will be learn all about sustainability. Science will see us learning about living things and their habitats! There will also be computing, RE, PSHE, music, French, art and DT to keep us busy!

Can I find out more information at home?

I am always keen to hear about anything you have learnt at home - particularly if you have found out more about something we have looked at in class. In addition, you will be given POWer project sheets. These are optional tasks that can be completed at home with your family. I am sure they are looking forward to sharing all of your learning with you.

Will I get to learn outside?

We hope so - come rain or shine! We will have two PE sessions a week. You will be expected to take responsibility for making sure you have your PE kit in school on these days. If you are unsure of what to include in your PE kit, I will attach the list below:

The Physical Education kit is:

Plain white or pale blue T-shirt (pupils must change their t-shirt for PE)

Black or navy shorts

Black plimsolls (daps)

Dark trainers (for outside wear)

Navy, grey or black tracksuit for cold weather

If you have earrings, you must bring your own tape to cover them during PE sessions.

We will have opportunities to take part in Forest School sessions and work on the allotment over the year. A timetable will be shared with parents with the days, times and clothing required - these are things I am particularly excited about as I am a Forest School Leader!

What should we do if we have questions for you?

Just get in touch! Email is best (skylark@st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk) and I will do my best to answer any questions.

That's it for now but please get in touch if there is anything I can help you with to reassure you that we are going to have the most wonderful year together in Skylark class.