



Stretham Community Primary School

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4th September 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Firstly, it was wonderful having the children back this week – they appear to be happy and eager to start. A warm welcome to all of Year 4. We are looking forward to familiarising ourselves with you and getting to know Robin Class. Through this letter, we hope to clarify any questions you may have and inform you of our expectations in Year 4.

Class Organisation

Mrs Ashby will welcome you into school and teach you every Monday. Then, Tuesday to Friday, Mrs Spencer will be teaching you.

Robin Class will have specialist teaching in French by Madam Connolly and PE with Premier Sports on a Wednesday morning. Fortnightly, the children will also have Computing with Mrs Bowen.

Tuesdays - PE Kits (These won't be needed on a Tuesday unit after Swimming finishes.)

Wednesdays – PE Kits

Thursday – Swimming Kits

Please ensure your child has the correct kit in school. Their PE kit should consist of:

- black/navy shorts
- a blue/white t-shirt/polo shirt
- a pair of socks (in addition to the socks or tights worn to school by your child)
- trainers (in addition to their school shoes)
- tracksuit bottoms and warm blue/black jumper for outside PE.

Swim kit should consist of:

- Swimwear
- towel
- goggles (if desired). We hope these sessions will continue until October but you will be informed of this.

Please LABEL all items coming into school.

School Timings

A gentle reminder that it is hugely important for children to arrive promptly to school each day. They enter through the classroom door and put their belongings in the cloakroom. The doors will open at **8.45am** and be closed at **8.55am**. Children who arrive at school after this time will be marked as late and will need to enter school via the school office. The school day finishes at **3.15pm**. Should you need to speak to us/pass on a message, we are mostly available at these times, but longer chats with us can be arranged for a suitable date. If you are unable to speak to us in person, you may contact us via an email to the school office and we will respond as promptly as we can.

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Homework & Reading

An orange exercise book will be sent home for your child to record their homework, however you are most welcome to use our online platform, Seesaw. Their updated Seesaw account details will be shared with you. Homework tasks will be set on a **Thursday** and will need to be returned by **Tuesday** - please support your child in remembering to complete and return this homework. Homework will consist of: a maths task, spelling task and a task linked to another aspect of the curriculum. These will all be linked to their current learning in school. There will be a spelling focus each week based on the rule we are working on in school and this will support our learning in the classroom. Homework should take your child no longer than 30-40 minutes to complete. On top of this, we encourage your child to read for 10 minutes daily and record reading regularly in their Reading Records. These Reading Records are expected to be in school each day.

Your child will read at least once a week with an adult in school through our whole class Guided Reading sessions. We will use quality class texts to complete reading activities from. It is vitally important that reading is happening both at home and school. Book banded reading books will be sent home, as well as their Reading Records which will need to be handed back in every **Tuesday** alongside their homework.

Robin Class will visit the library every **Monday** to have the opportunity to change their reading for pleasure book. This book is in addition to their book banded reading book.

If you have any difficulties with your Seesaw account or questions related to homework/reading, please email the office or Mrs Spencer. We look forward to seeing how your child's learning continues at home.

Curriculum

Soon you will receive our Autumn termly overview. We always aim to make cross curricular links as this will enhance your child's learning and support them in school.

Times Tables

At the end of Year 4, there is a standardised test of 25 questions, which the children will complete online. This is known as Multiplication Tables Check (MTC). They must answer each question in 6 seconds. It is designed to test their knowledge and instant recall of times table facts. For them to do their best and feel ready, we will be encouraging their practice both at home and in school. In Robin Class, as well as explicating teaching the times tables and carrying out different times table activities, the children will have a weekly test.

The levels are marked out below:



2, 5, 10 3, 4 6, 8, 11 7, 9, 12	2, 5, 10 3, 4 6, 8, 11 7, 9, 12	2, 5, 10 3, 4 6, 8, 11 7, 9, 12	2, 5, 10 3, 4 6, 8, 11 7, 9, 12	2, 5, 10 3, 4 6, 8, 11 7, 9, 12
20 questions	30 questions	45 questions	60 questions <i>With the inverse</i>	75 questions <i>With the inverse</i>
Completed in 3 minutes				

- Random test sheets generated every week for each level
<http://www.timestables.me.uk/printable-pdf-quiz-generator.htm>
- Each child completes test in 3 minutes
- Tests marked and sent home (scores recorded in school)
- If a child scores full marks for 3 consecutive tests (weeks) they pass that level

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- Children can also move onto the next level if they score full marks 6 times
- They will receive a certificate on completion of a level

Forest School

We know all children benefit immensely from regular Forest School sessions. We hope to visit Forest School once per half term. We will let you know when a session will run and if you are eager to help, please do come and speak to us, however this does require an enhanced DBS check. There is no such thing as bad weather when it comes to Forest Schooling – so please make sure your child has the appropriate clothing. Our first date is **Tuesday 6th October**.

Lunch, Waterbottles and snacks

Children will choose their lunch in the morning and this will be recorded by the class teacher during morning register. If you are sending in a packed lunch, do take a look at the NHS advice which has lots of healthy lunch ideas: <https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes/>.

Please provide your child with a morning fruit or vegetable snack to eat at morning break time, should they get hungry! Your child needs a NAMED waterbottle in school too.

Medication

Please ensure that the school is updated with any changes in medical condition for your child. If they have an Asthma inhaler or EpiPen, this needs to be named, in date and in the correct packaging for us to store in the classroom. Any medicine required for your child should be shared with the Office, again in the original packaging with clear dosage instructions.

Classroom resources

The children will be provided with the resources they need for working in the classroom. They don't need to bring their own pencil case. We also request that the children don't bring in small toys/charms/fidget toys which could easily get lost or be a distraction in the classroom.

We hope this letter has answered any questions you may have had, but as always, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask. We are looking forward to the year ahead.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Spencer and Mrs Ashby

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