

Wednesday 3rd June 2020

Re: Year 4 Weekly Timetable

Dear Year 4 Families,

I hope you are well, taking care and staying safe. I know that many of you are accessing our Year 4 Transition Support page on our closure site and we appreciate the extremely positive feedback that has been received, since it was launched over a week ago. If you have not yet seen this, you can view it [here](#).

Transition to a new school is a crucial phase in every child's education, particularly as they are expected to develop a greater sense of independence and responsibility. Therefore, we want to support you and your child as best as we can. We know that our older children may be feeling it more than most, compared to their younger peers, by not being in routine and not having the same structure and working environment, that they are used to. It is perfectly normal at this point, if children are not feeling as motivated as they would usually be; you are not alone, if this is the case.

Therefore, each week we will be releasing an **optional** structured timetable (alongside the weekly activities) that children can follow so that they know exactly what activity they will need to be doing and at what time. This has the aim of promoting your child's self-sufficiency and will support them with the increased independence and responsibility they will be expected to take at Middle School.

We are not stating that Year 4 children are to follow these weekly timetables because we understand based on feedback from families that some:

- May not have access to digital devices, particularly in households with siblings
- The flexibility offered from selecting the home learning activities is preferred as it lends itself well to the hustle and bustle of everyday family life
- Children are able to take ownership of their learning and activities

Therefore, it is the choice of each family whether they choose to follow the timetable and pursue any benefits it may have. With so many families, there are a significant number of factors and variables to take into account and therefore one approach might not always be ideal, where we know some families have created their own household timetables that these take into account a range of household-specific factors and arrangements. We will upload each weekly timetable in an editable format so that families can adjust timings to suit their household.

If you feel that the suggested activities are potentially too challenging, we will signpost alternative activities that you may wish to access. However, please do bear in mind that staff are going to be working in school within their bubbles and therefore responses to queries will take slightly longer than usual. Please do direct any queries to myself (ryan.gough@st-nicholas.staffs.sch.uk) and I will endeavour to respond as soon as possible.

As always, we are deeply committed to ensuring our Year 4 children have a smooth transition, despite the significant challenges currently facing us and we will continue to help you in any way that we can. We understand the whole host of emotions that children and parents alike are experiencing during this phase, even more so, throughout this unprecedented time.

Miss Parker and I are meeting regularly to discuss transition and plan for this important time for your child whether it be at home or back in school. We will do all we can to help your child in the coming weeks.

Thank you for your support and for all that you are doing.

Sending my very best wishes to you all,

Mr Gough