

# Year 4

## Welcome Meeting

## Teachers



# Staffing



Miss Brooks -  
Year Group  
Lead and  
Picasso Class  
Teacher



Miss Bird -  
Riley Class  
Teacher

## PPA Leads



Mrs Wake -  
RE Teacher



Mr Passade -  
PE Teacher

## Learning Support Staff



Mrs Sadat



Mrs Nolan



Mrs Shah

## KS2 Phase leader



Mrs O'Connor

CB

## Staffing

### Other Important Staff:

Mrs Lisa Withe - Headteacher

Mr Paul Wyatt - Deputy Headteacher

Ms Ruth Johnson - Assistant Headteacher for  
Inclusion & Well-Being (also our SENDCo)

Ms Jale Apicella - Family Link Support Worker

Odette Coe & Gill Williams - Lead First Aiders

## Safeguarding

Evacuation - when fire alarm sounds

Exit via nearest fire exit and walk calmly & silently to the Fire Evacuation Point at the bottom of the school field

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Invacuation - procedures in place

Move calmly & silently to the nearest room, secure yourself inside (staff will undertake procedures) then wait until further instruction

## Attendance

Descriptor	Threshold attendance	Actual attendance	Whole days absent each year	Learning hours lost each year	The impact over 5 years
Excellent	100%	190 days	0	0	0
	99%	188 days	2	10	
Good	98%	186 days	4	20	
	96%	182.5 days	7.5	37.5	
Unsatisfactory	95%	180.5 days	9.5	47.5	Quarter year missed
	94%	179 days	11	55	
	93%	177 days	13	65	Half year missed
	90%	171 days	19	95	
Major issue	88%	167 days	23	115	
	86%	163 days	27	135	
	83%	158 days	32	160	
Serious concern	81%	154 days	36	180	One whole year of school missed
	80%	152 days	38	190	
Critical	75%	143 days	47	235	

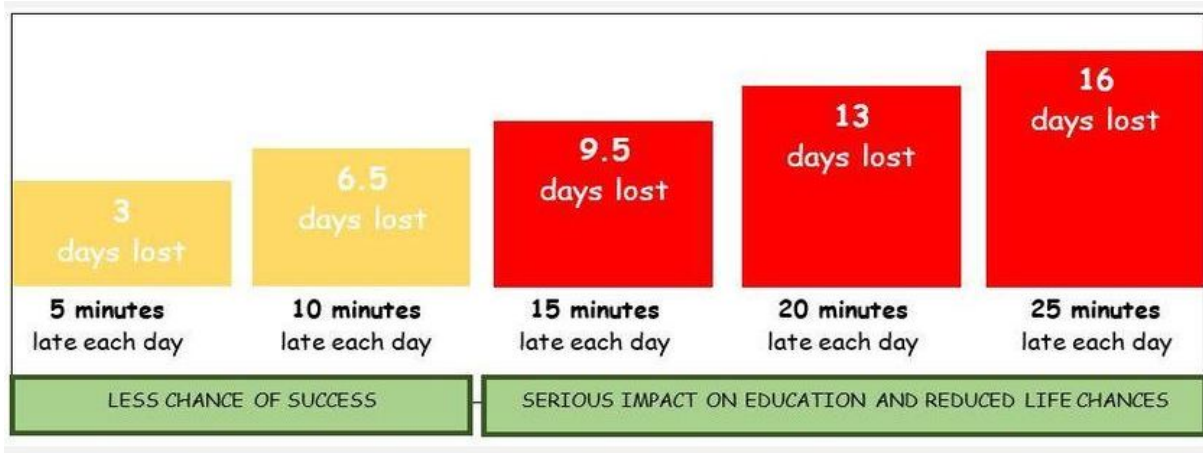
97% and above - pupils with attendance at this level throughout their school career will make the best progress, this should lead to better prospects for work, college and university  
 90% - pupils with attendance at this level are missing a month of school a year and may not reach their target grades. Progress will be affected and viewed negatively by employers and further education  
 85% - pupils with attendance at this level will find it difficult to keep up and their chances of achieving their potential significantly damaged

### Attendance - 96% or above

We won't authorise holidays during the term. We ask that routine (non-emergency) dentist, opticians & doctor appointments take place out of the school day whenever possible

We are here to support - contact Jale Apicella (Family Link Support Worker) or your child's class teacher

# Punctuality



Lessons begin at 8:45am sharp - Gates open at 8:30am and doors to the school building at 8:35am

The Registration period is 8:35-8:45am - children should be in their classroom by 8:45am when the register closes

Children don't like arriving late - it's embarrassing, interrupts the lesson and does not evoke positive emotions in your child - they also miss key messages and learning

We are here to support - contact Jale Apicella (Family Link Support Worker) or your child's class teacher

Many Hands Make Light Work



Thank You For Being So Kind

## Parent Volunteers

**We are hoping to be able to welcome back our wonderful parent volunteers this year. If you are interested in supporting the children in school you will need to attend one of the three planned volunteer safeguarding meetings:**

**Friday 12th September 9am**

**Monday 15th September 2:30pm**

**Friday 9th January 9:00am**

Healthy Lifestyles  
Staying Healthy  
First Aid 2 (Allergies)  
Germs and Illness  
Drugs and Medicines  
Vaccinations

Respecting Difference  
Diverse Communities  
Prejudice and Discrimination  
Racism

Water Safety Code  
Summer Safety  
First Aid 3 (Asthma)

# Behaviour and Discipline Policy

Applecroft School



## Expectations of Behaviour

At Applecroft School we have high expectations of behaviour.

We expect all members of our school family, child, parent and staff member to behave pro-socially.

Pro-social behaviour is behaviour that helps everyone to feel safe and be able to learn.

Our 'Expectations of Behaviour' are to:

- Be responsible for yourself and your actions
- Be respectful and well-mannered
- Be honest, open and reflective
- Be kind and supportive

Good to be green

# Behaviour expectations



We use Senso software, which monitors keystrokes on school devices such as Chromebooks and computers. DSLs are alerted if inappropriate words are typed.  
For more details, the Behaviour Policy is on the school website.

CB

SuperKind will return for the 25-26 academic year - more details will follow



## School Uniform



**PE kit** - should be worn to school on Tuesdays and Fridays

**Correct footwear** required - plimsolls or trainers for outdoors; dance and gym is done in bare feet unless there is a problem. Please notify us if so

**White shirts** - needed for normal lessons, coloured for house events

**Girls** - extra socks in PE kit in case of wearing tights

**Outdoor PE** - need Applecroft hoodie or black top and joggers

**Shorts** - must be worn for Gymnastics. In colder weather, joggers can be worn over the top for rest of day



Long hair should be tied back

Red hair accessories only

Stud earrings only

No nail varnish or motifs in hair

Wellie Boots (for OPAL)

Full body waterproofs (for OPAL)

Black school shoes - no boots



## Communication between home and school

We will have 2 scheduled online consultations.

Dates:

Monday 1st December 2025

Friday 22nd May 2026

Year 4 Surgery - if you have any questions or concerns, we are usually available on Thursdays from 3.20-3.40pm. A ten-minute appointment can be requested via the school office (if made in advance). This appointment can take place face to face, online or via telephone.

If you have an urgent message or enquiries please contact the school office.

We will use Google Classroom to send messages directly to the children, including information regarding home learning. Year 4 (25-26)

Instagram and the school website will also be used/updated when appropriate.



## Communication between home and school

We will use Google Classroom to send messages directly to the children, including information regarding home learning. Year 4 (25-26)

Website

<https://www.applecroft.herts.sch.uk/>

Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/applecroftschoo?igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==>

Admin email

[admin@applecroft.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@applecroft.herts.sch.uk)

If any concerns arise, the first port of call is always class teacher → phase leader → Assistant Head → Deputy Head → Headteacher.



## Important Reminders

The use of mobile phones by adults are NOT permitted on the school site (hands-free is) but all phones must be out of site and not being actively used on the school site for safeguarding reasons

Smartwatches - can we worn but must be silenced and all functions except for the watch to be disabled whilst at school (some watches have a 'school mode' that does this)

School Lunches: please order these in advance at home to avoid lost learning time.

Healthy Snacks only (e.g. fruit, vegetables, cereal bars)

Stationery - Handwriting pen, glue sticks.

Positive Feedback & Suggestion boxes/emails

Polite reminder if coming to school on a bike or scooter - please be respectful and mindful of other families and wait outside the school, off your bike until the gate opens



## Important Dates

Friday 12th September - Curriculum Letter for the Autumn Term published on school website and Welcome Meeting slides.

Friday 12th September @ 9am/Monday 15th September @ 2:30pm- Volunteer Meeting & Safeguarding Training.

Monday 1st December 2025 and Friday 22nd May 2026 online parent consultations.

Any further dates will be communicated via email.



## **Birthday Books:**

For children's birthdays/special events sweets are no longer permitted and from now on will not be distributed to the children.

However, we would still like the opportunity for your child to celebrate their birthday in a special way at school, by donating a birthday book.

There is **no expectation that anything needs to be purchased**. However, if your child would like to celebrate in this way each class has a 'Birthday Book Wishlist' which can be found on your google classroom.

Each 'Birthday Book' received will have a special sticker on the inside cover displaying who donated it and on which birthday. The book will then be added to your child's class library.

Why a book makes the perfect gift...

Autumn 2025	Spring 2026	Summer 2026
<b>Year 4 Events</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Art and Design themed week</li> <li>Christmas Performance</li> <li>Panto</li> </ul>	<b>Year 4 Events</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visit to the Hindu Temple</li> <li>Bhaktivedanta Manor</li> <li>Leadership event</li> </ul>	<b>Year 4 Events</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year group Assembly</li> <li>Buddhist immersion day</li> <li>Water Safety workshop</li> <li>Language Day</li> </ul>
<b>CUSP Reading (YA)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Queen's Nose 2 Blocks</li> <li>What a Waste 1 Block</li> <li>The Girl who stole an Elephant 3 Blocks</li> </ul>	<b>CUSP Reading (YA)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vajrak Paw 3 Blocks</li> <li>Young, Gifted and Black 3 Blocks (Caged Bird - Maya Angelou)</li> </ul>	<b>CUSP Reading (YA)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Young, Gifted and Black 1 Block (Caged Bird - Maya Angelou)</li> <li>The Boy at the back of the class 3 Blocks</li> <li>Wind in the Willows (The Walrus and the Carpenter - Lewis Carroll) 3 Blocks</li> </ul>
<b>HFL Essential Writing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Entertain (10 steps) Graphic novel</li> <li>Persuade (10 steps) Persuasive speech</li> <li>Entertain (5 steps) Poem (Free verse)</li> <li>Inform (15 Steps) Explanation</li> <li>Entertain (15 Steps) Narrative</li> </ul>	<b>HFL Essential Writing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inform (15 steps) Newspaper article/ Recount</li> <li>Persuade (10 steps) Travel leaflet</li> <li>Entertain (15 steps) Narrative</li> <li>Entertain (10 steps) Poetry (pubs)</li> </ul>	<b>HFL Essential Writing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Persuade (15 steps) Persuasive speech &amp; letters</li> <li>Inform (15 steps) Non-chronological report</li> <li>Entertain (5 steps) Poetry</li> <li>Entertain (15 steps) Short Story</li> <li>Entertain (10 steps) Poetry (focus on figurative)</li> </ul>
<b>Maths - Essential Maths</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4L51 Place Value - Order and Compare Numbers Beyond 1000</li> <li>4L52 Rounding, Estimation and Magnitude</li> <li>4L53 Securing Addition and Subtraction Mental Fluency</li> <li>4L54 Securing Formal Written Addition and Subtraction Fluency</li> <li>4L55 Counting in Multiples of 6, 7, 9, 25 and 1000</li> <li>4L56 Multiplication and Division Facts (Times Table)</li> <li>4L57 Factor Pairs, Integer Scaling and Correspondence Problems</li> <li>4L58 Problem Solving Including Measures to Apply Place Value, Mental Strategies and Arithmetic Laws</li> <li>4L59 Multiply and Divide a One or Two-digit Number by 10 and 100</li> <li>4L510 Measure - Conversion of Units</li> <li>4L511 Measure - Compare, Estimate and Calculate</li> <li>4L512 Discrete and Continuous Data (Time Graphs), including Application of Scales and Division</li> <li>4L513 Perimeter</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4L514 Properties of Shape</li> <li>4L515 Symmetry</li> <li>4L516 Decimal Numbers</li> <li>4L517 Calculating With Decimals</li> <li>4L518 Measure - Money</li> <li>4L519 Problem Solving (involving Decimals to Two Decimal Places)</li> <li>4L520 Add and Subtract Fractions with the Same Denominator</li> <li>4L521 Finding Fractions of Quantities</li> <li>4L522 Fractions in the Context of Measure</li> <li>4L523 Equivalent Fractions, Ordering and Comparing</li> <li>4L524 Multiply Two and Three-digit Numbers by a One-digit Number Using a Formal Written Layout</li> <li>4L525 Two and Three-digit Numbers by a One-digit Number Using a Formal Written Layout</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4L526 Time - Read, Write Calculate and Convert Time on Analogue and Digital 12- and 24-Hour Clocks</li> <li>4L527 Statistics - Interpret and Present Continuous and Discrete Data, Solve Problems incorporating Measures</li> <li>4L528 Roman Numerals to 100 and Zero</li> <li>4L529 Negative Numbers - Counting through Zero and Calculating in Context</li> <li>4L530 Geometry - Angles</li> <li>4L531 Geometry - Properties of Triangles</li> <li>4L532 Geometry - Coordinates in the First Quadrant</li> <li>4L533 Geometry - Position and Direction, incorporating Angles and Plotting Points of a Shape</li> <li>4L534 Multiplication and Division Review</li> <li>4L535 Area</li> <li>4L536 Fractions Review</li> <li>4L537 Application and Problem Solving - Developing Operation Sense</li> </ul>
<b>CUSP Science</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Living things and their habitats</li> <li>Status of matter</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Animals, including humans</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Electricity</li> <li>Sound</li> </ul>
<b>Art and Design (Applied Art)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Painting Making Colours to match objects</li> <li>Collage and Textiles - Mosaics and Lino (Art Week)</li> </ul>	<b>Art and Design (Applied Art)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drawing (creating shadows and reflections)</li> </ul>	<b>Art and Design (Applied Art)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sculpture (paper sculpture)</li> </ul>
<b>Computing (National Centre for Computing Education)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Online Safety</li> <li>Creating Media A: Audio Editing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Programming A: Repetition in Shapes</li> <li>Programming B: Repetition in Games</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Data &amp; Information: Data Logging</li> <li>Computing Systems &amp; Networks: The Internet</li> </ul>
<b>CUSP Design and Technology</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Food and Nutrition Block A</li> <li>Mechanisms Block B</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Textiles Block C</li> <li>Structures Block D</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Electrical systems Block E</li> <li>Home - Planning</li> <li>Food and Nutrition Block F</li> <li>Home - Developing Planning</li> </ul>

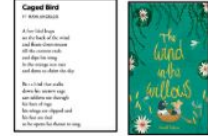
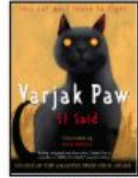
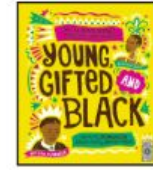
# Curriculum

Our Year 4 year on a page will be uploaded to our class page on the school website.

Year Four

Home >> School Life >> Year Four

# Reading - Spine books



Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
<b>Block 1:</b> The Queen's Nose	<b>Block 4:</b> The Girl Who Stole an Elephant	<b>Block 7:</b> Varjak Paw	<b>Block 10:</b> The Boy at the Back of the class	<b>Block 13:</b> Young, Gifted and Black	<b>Block 16:</b> The Wind in the Willows
<b>Block 2:</b> The Queen's Nose	<b>Block 5:</b> The Girl Who Stole an Elephant	<b>Block 8:</b> Varjak Paw	<b>Block 11:</b> The Boy at the Back of the class	<b>Block 14:</b> Young, Gifted and Black & Caged Bird Maya Angelou	<b>Block 17:</b> The Wind in the Willows & The Walrus and the Carpenter Lewis Carroll
<b>Block 3:</b> What a Waste	<b>Block 6:</b> The Girl Who Stole an Elephant	<b>Block 9:</b> Varjak Paw	<b>Block 12:</b> The Boy at the Back of the class	<b>Block 15:</b> Young, Gifted and Black	<b>Block 18:</b> The Wind in the Willows



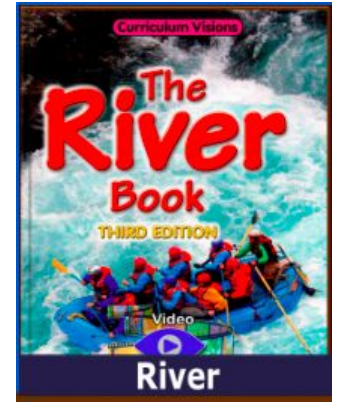
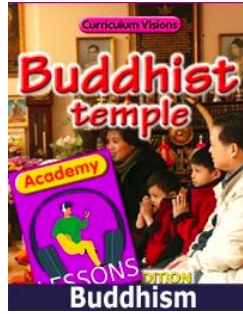
# Updates

## Books:

The school has invested thousands of pounds in books over the past few years including resourcing the Little Wandle scheme, reading curriculum and libraries

If a book is returned to school damaged or not returned at all, the school will write to parents/carers requesting payment for a replacement book.

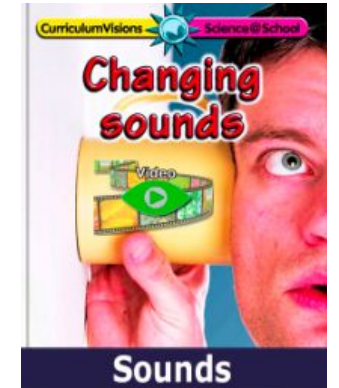
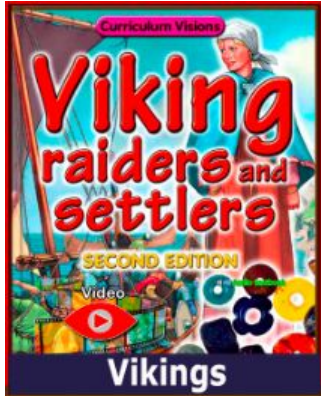
Thank you for your support and understanding.



Curriculum Visions  
<https://www.curriculumvisions.com/>

Username: Applecroft  
Password: AL86JZ (No gaps)

A list of core texts will be uploaded to  
Google Classroom.



CB

# Year 4 Trip to a Hindu Temple

Friday 6th March 2026

This will be a fantastic opportunity for the children to experience aspects of life as a Hindu. Activities include:

- See the shrine
- Wear traditional Hindu clothes
- Faces painted
- Talks about Hindu culture
- Feeding the cows
- Exploring the George Harrison Garden
- Try traditional hindu food
- Oxen cart ride

This is a memorable and exciting experience to learn more about our topic.



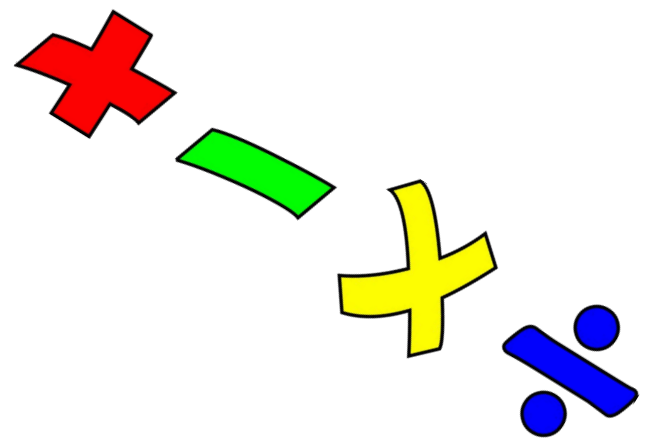
**George Harrison Garden**  
A woodland dell for contemplation

When the late Beatle George Harrison bought the Manor for the Krishna devotees, he particularly wanted them to have the benefit of the peaceful garden surroundings to meditate on Krishna. Hence, when George passed away at the age of 58 on 29th November 2001, the Manor decided to create a special garden in his memory, which would be set aside for quiet prayer and contemplation.

The woodland is a shady woodland and which George himself had designed the garden was owned by his wife, Chris Harrison. The path and the garden were designed by his wife, Chris Harrison and features the parrot tree, the Weeping Blue Cedar. During his many visits to the Manor, George often visited by foot to the community, joining the temple as a monk. The Prahara's replied, "There are no monks here, you are a monk, and you can write songs about Krishna." The result was a collection of songs including "Remembering", "The Lord Loves the Dove", "Oh Through the Clouds" and "My Sweet Lord".

CB

	8.45 Regist ration 8.50 - 9.00	Assembly /Morning work 8.50-9.05	9.10-9.15	9.20 - 10.20	Brea k 10.20 -10.3 5	10.40-11.10	11.10 - 12.15	Lunch 12.15- 13.15	13.20 - 14.20	14.25 - 15.05	15.0 5-15. 15		
Mon	Timesta bles practice	Music / OPAL Assembly	Timestables practice	Maths		Reading	Writing		CUSP	CUSP	S t o r y  t i m e / H o m e t i m e		
Tues	Handwr iting	Leader in Me	Handwriting	Maths		Reading	Writing		PE	CUSP			
Wed	Timesta bles practice	Curriculum Assembly	Timestables practice	Maths		Reading	Writing		CUSP	CUSP			
Thurs	Handwr iting	Spellings	Handwriting	Maths	Duty	Reading	Writing		Music	French			
Fri	Achievement Assembly 8.50-9.15		RE 9.20 - 10.20				PE 10.40-11.40	Writing 11.40 -12.15		Reading	Maths Reasoning	PSHE	Leader in Me



## Home Learning

Home Learning each week will be put onto Classroom. This will consist of:

- Reading
- Maths activity (inc. Times Tables Rock Stars )
- Spelling practise
- Other curricular activities

Home Learning is set on a Friday and due in the following Friday.

We will be reviewing this in the autumn term and will update you of any changes

## **The Importance of Daily Reading at Home**

### **Read Every Day**

Even just 10-15 minutes a day can make a big difference in your child's progress and confidence.

### **Re-read Scheme Books**

Re-reading school books builds fluency, understanding, and boosts your child's confidence.

### **Explore Other Books Too!**

Enjoy any books you have at home - picture books, storybooks, non-fiction, comics...

All reading counts!

### **Focus on the Joy of Reading**

Reading should be fun! Help your child discover books they love and enjoy the time together.

Remember, let your child see you enjoying reading too - it sets a powerful example!



## New for September 2025:

- No longer using Boom Reader
- Still striving for every child to read for pleasure at home every day
- Moving to an 'in house' child led approach, linking to leadership skills
- Using the document to the left, children will 'self register' their name onto the open book, if they read the previous night
- Reading Society members will add up the scores daily and at the end of the week, weekly totals for each class will be displayed in the main corridor

A love of reading is the single biggest indicator of future academic success (OECD)