

A decorative border of various school supplies and items surrounds the central text. At the top, there is a yellow pencil, a ruler, a globe, a pink backpack, a magnifying glass, a blue pencil, a red pencil, a green pencil, a red and white football, a paint palette, a black graduation cap, and a green chalkboard with the text 'BACK TO SCHOOL'. On the right side, there is a green alarm clock, a red apple, a blue flask with blue liquid, a blue and white paper airplane, a globe, and a pair of scissors. On the left side, there is a yellow pencil, a red pencil, a green pencil, a red and white football, a paint palette, and a blue backpack. At the bottom, there are eight cartoon children of various ethnicities and genders, all smiling and holding school supplies.

Welcome to Grade 4 2021





Subjects:

English- Miss Birkett

Mathematics- Mr Devereux

Afrikaans-Ms. Lues

Natural Science and Technology- Miss Maia

Social Science- Miss Maia

Life Skills-

- a. Creative Arts(C.A)- Mr Devereux
- b. Physical and Social Well Being(PSW)- Miss Maia
- c. Physical Education(P.E)- Mrs Van In





English:

- The best possible English language skills are very important for all subjects.
- All subjects (except Afrikaans) are learnt through the medium of English.
- The most "painless" way of improving language skills is through reading and learning spelling daily.
- Children will not want to read unless they **SEE** their parents reading, "Monkey see - monkey do"
- If your child is reluctant to read when you supervise homework, try the three step approach:
 - 1) Read to your child while your child follows the text with you.
 - 2) Do paired reading together (you both reading the same text simultaneously).
 - 3) Child reads the text alone (repetition is helpful) By the time the child reads alone, the text is familiar. This relieves stress and builds confidence.





English:

Spelling

- We have introduced a new spelling workbook which lists the new spelling words each week, as well as giving the learners fun activities to improve language skills. The spelling workbook also gives each child space to practise the weekly spelling words.
- Written spelling drill needs to be done every day, Monday to Thursday to prepare for the spelling test every second week.
- Please supervise the spelling drill daily, sign the weekly tests and ensure that corrections are done.
- The GDE English book is to be worked on each week.
- Assessments are ongoing, exams take place in June and November.
- Speeches are different to show and tell. No posters or props are needed unless stated in the rubric.

Marks

- Learners need to obtain 50% or above in order to pass the year.





Mathematics:

- Mathematics is a language. The more you use a language the better you become at it.
- Practicing timestables everyday is very important. For the four operations give your child mental sums to do while in the car, shop etc. For practice in measurement, bake with them so they get use to mass and capacity. While in the car you can ask them how far in metres is the distance you travelled in kilometres.
- For fractions ask them to cut up fruit or a chocolate or cake in halves, quarters, eighths so they can see the value of each.
- You might see that we are using other methods that you are used to for the four operations. Children may use any method as long as they get the right answer. They need to practise each method.





Afrikaans:

Spoken Language-Needs Phonics/Vocabulary

- Daily Translations-to continually extend vocabulary(NB)
- Hearing/Listening-Comprehension and group activities
- Speaking-acting out stories or retelling stories
- Poetry-exploring poetry, for example rhyming words, alliteration, assonance, rhythm.

Reading/Writing Language-Needs Phonics/vocabulary/spelling(Daily spelling Drill=NB)

- Reading-comprehension
- Reading different texts; Stories, Dramas, Poems, Information texts, Social texts, Media texts

Writing- own sentences and paragraphs

- Arranging facts in the correct order(sequencing)
- Complete crossword puzzles and play word games
- Use punctuation, parts of speech correctly in sentence construction.





Natural Science:

- This is a fun, hands-on subject in which we explore the world around us.
- In NS in Term 1, we discover the differences between living and non-living things.
- We look at the structures of plants and animals.
- We will be doing an activity (which forms part of an assessment) in which learners will grow beans in the class and will bring one home to "grow" in the fridge and on to grow on the window ledge.
- As we work through the material in general, I will try to give them skills and techniques for learning the work (eg. using mind maps and using acronyms to help them learn the work.)
- Please check the assessment letters and diaries for test dates and help your child prepare well for each test.
- In Technology the children will be taught and guided on how to work through the technology processes of investigating, designing, making and evaluating. They will be asked to bring some items from home but will need to make the objects in class.



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Social Science:

- Made up of History and Geography
- Split the term in two so that the children focus on one aspect of SS at a time-I.E 4 weeks Geography followed by 4 weeks History..
- History (50%) of term mark and Geography(50%)
- Pass mark is 40%
- Many different types of assessments (comprehensions style assessments, sources based, etc.). Your children must go through the work regularly as there is lots of information to be studied.
- Social Science is a study subject- the more preparation put in the better the result.



Life Skills:

- Life Skills is split up into three sections: Creative Arts, Personal Social Well-being and Physical Education.
- The section Creative Arts counts for 40 marks out of 100 for Life Skills. It has three sections: drama, art and music. We may ask you to help us collect recycled material for art projects, boxes, tins etc.
- It is also interpreting art, learning musical notes and rhythms.
- The section Personal Social Well-Being counts for 30 marks out of 100 for Life Skills. In this section the child is taught skills for Personal and Social Well being. Some personal skills taught are strengths, correct eating, road safety rules, religions and culture. Some social skills are dealing with conflicts, working in a group, identifying strengths in others and respecting other people's beliefs.
- The section Physical Education counts for 30 marks out of the 100 for Life skills. In this section the child is taught various physical skills and sports. It is very important that Physical Education clothes are brought to every lesson. Towel and swimming costume need to be bought as well in summer months. Part of the physical education mark is given for bringing clothes to the lesson. If there is a problem please write a note to the teacher. Mrs Van In will be doing PE.






How can you help:

- BE ORGANIZED!
- Clearly mark every single piece of stationery and clothing. When these items get lost, valuable time is wasted trying to find out who the items belong to and this can be disruptive. (You may use the labels given to you)
- Always pack books and P.E bags the NIGHT BEFORE. Don't leave anything for the morning rush.
- Children will leave most books in class. They need to not leave any books at home.
- Check bags regularly to make sure newsletters and other items aren't left in their bags. (Sign reader everyday)
- Complete all work given! Homework is very important and cannot be missed.





Homework:

- Homework is given on a daily basis and is essential for the learning process. It is almost always reinforcement of the work done in class. Please use the LRS diary provided.
 - **GENERAL HOMEWORK**—Every Monday and Tuesday the Grade 4s get a weekly homework sheet. Reading, spelling, reminders etc. This needs to be checked and signed daily.
 - **SPECIFIC HOMEWORK**—The learners will also, at times, be required to write down their homework for a specific learning area on a specific day. This also needs to be signed daily.
 - Homework Help—
 - ❖ Allow learners to do their homework at their own pace.
 - ❖ You can assist them but **please don't do the work for them**. Don't forget to check the work and sign their diaries. If your child is struggling, let them do what they can. Do not let them sit all night doing their homework. Write a note in the diary.
 - ❖ All formal assessments are to be completed at school.
 - ❖ Every learner is different and so homework times may vary.
 - ❖ If your child is unable to complete homework due to circumstances out of your control. Please write a note and your child will be excused. Please ensure that it is completed at a later stage.
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Homework:

- The diary is also an excellent form of communication between you and the teacher. Please don't write notes in the workbooks. Feel free to use Friday, Saturday and Sunday spaces in the diary to communicate any concerns/questions/appointment requests that you may have. Once read, the teacher will reply and sign to acknowledge that the note has been received.
- It is up to the child to hand the diary to the teacher. Due to time constraints teachers cannot check diaries everyday.



A decorative border surrounds the central text. At the top, there is a row of school supplies including a yellow book, a ruler, a globe, a pink backpack, a magnifying glass, colored pencils, a football, a paint palette, a graduation cap, and a chalkboard with the words 'YAB' and '1000' written on it. On the left side, there is a vertical stack of a basketball, a pink book, a yellow banana, a blue book, a green book, a football, and a paint palette. On the right side, there is a vertical stack of a green alarm clock, a red apple, a blue hourglass, a blue book, a globe, and a pair of scissors. At the bottom, there is a row of eight cartoon children: a boy with brown hair in a green shirt and orange shorts, a girl with blonde hair in a green shirt and blue skirt, a boy with brown hair and glasses in a yellow shirt and brown shorts, a girl with black hair in a blue dress and red shoes, a boy with brown hair in a yellow shirt and purple shorts, a girl with red hair in a red shirt and pink skirt, a boy with blonde hair in a green shirt and blue overalls, and a girl with brown hair in an orange dress and purple shoes.

Tests and Assessments:

- Formal assessments are required to be completed in class. At times research at home may be required.
- Please ensure that learners are well prepared for this as well as for any other assessments and activities that have be indicated on the assessment programme for this term.
- The learners will attended a study skills course and will learn some studying techniques that may assist them. These, like any other skills, need to be practised.
- Learners should make study notes and keep a study file so that they can be prepared for their assessments and/or exams.



General:

- No messages can be sent via Whatsapp to any teachers, unless it is an extreme emergency.
- Please use the school homework diary or feel free to email the relevant teacher.

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