

Base 4

Autumn Newsletter

1st September 2026

Whole school theme: Roots

Base 4 focus: Local history study - Wrenbury

Class Story: By Ash, Oak and Thorn



A warm welcome back to the new school year. I hope you've all had a great summer holiday, enjoying the wonderful sunshine, travels and time with family and friends. Myself and our team, who include Mrs Smith, Mrs Davies, Miss Ashton and Miss Garfield, are really looking forward to sharing your Learning Journey with you this year and we can't wait to welcome you back to school for a fantastic year of exciting learning.

This autumn term, our whole-school theme is '**Roots**'. In Base 4, we'll be using a lovely book with nature and environmental themes, *By Ash, Oak and Thorn* by Melissa Harrison, as our key text. The book tells the story of three little people (Hidden Folk) who wake up from their winter sleep to find that the oldest of them is starting to fade away. The trio leave their home and set out on a journey to seek answers and find more of their kind. We'll use the book to support our learning about physical geography in our local area and the wider world and to inspire rich and meaningful writing. In Science, Year 4 pupils will explore *States of Matter* and *Living Things and Their Habitats*, while Year 5 will also deepen their learning about *Living Things and Their Habitats* and *Animals including Humans*. Our history work will centre around a Local History Study of Wrenbury. We hope to include a walk around Wrenbury as part of our learning about this. Art will see us experimenting with pattern and fluid landscapes, focusing on the local environment, while in DT we'll explore Thomas Telford and Isambard Kingdom Brunel.

Please see the curriculum overview for more details about the learning that is planned for this term.

Reading

As a fundamental skill that underpins all of our learning, we are extremely passionate about developing a love of reading. Our library in our classroom is full of exciting books of all types: picture books, poetry

books, fiction and non-fiction. We also have access to the library service, and we can order any books that you would like to read.

We will of course be continuing with our reading badges this year so make sure you read every day (diaries will continue to be checked daily) to earn all of the badges: bronze, silver, gold and platinum!

- 🏅 Bronze – 50 reads (achievable within the autumn term)
- 🏆 Silver – 100 reads (achievable within the spring term)
- 🏆 Gold – 150 reads (achievable within the summer term)
- ☆ Platinum- 200 reads
- Over 250 reads – an extra special reward from Mrs Charlesworth!

Please continue to support your child by reading with them at home each day. Being heard as they read really does make a huge difference to their confidence, fluency and understanding.

Base 4 Timetable

Our mornings will consist of SPaG (spelling, punctuation and grammar), Maths and English lessons. The afternoons will be led by our Learning Journey and will include Science, History, Geography, Computing, Art, DT, Music and RE—sometimes taught discretely and sometimes linked together through our core themes. Oracy will remain a whole school focus this year: children will be supported to express their ideas clearly, listen actively and communicate with confidence.

PE will be on Thursday mornings with Little Sports Coaching—children should come to school in their full PE kit on this day, including trainers. Year 5 will have swimming on Monday afternoons. We will also continue our weekly My Happy Mind sessions, supporting pupils' emotional well-being and resilience. Wellbeing Lunch Clubs will continue for children in Years 3 to 6, where they can meet in a safe, nurturing environment to share picture books, explore emotions and talk about anything they might be worried about. This has become a much-valued part of school life.

Day	8.40 – 9.00	9.00 – 9.30	9.30 – 10.45	10.30 – 10.45	10.45 – 12.00		12.00 – 1.00	1.00 – 1.30	1.30-2.00	2.00 – 2.30	2.30 – 3.00	3.00 – 3.30	
Monday	Morning Activities	Spellings Handwriting	English	Break	Arithmetic	Maths	Lunch	Reading	Curriculum	Curriculum	Curriculum	Assembly	
Tuesday	Morning Activities	Spellings Handwriting	English		Arithmetic	Maths		Science/My Happy Mind 1.10-2.50				French 2.55-3.30	
Wednesday	Morning Activities	Spellings Handwriting	English		Arithmetic	Maths		Reading	Curriculum	Curriculum	Curriculum	Assembly	
Thursday	Morning Activities	PE			PE			English		Maths		Assembly	
Friday	Morning Activities	Spellings Handwriting	English		Arithmetic	Maths		Reading	Curriculum	Curriculum	Spelling Test	Assembly	

Homework

This year, we will continue with our creative **homework journals**. A menu of task choices will be sent home each term. You can select as many of these as you would like and can even create some of your own! These homework projects will be checked at the end of each half term and then, at the end of the term, team points will be added up and prizes will be awarded to those who earned the most team points!

In addition, we ask children to:

- Play Times Table Rockstars as often as possible.
- Learn their weekly spellings (given on Fridays, tested the following Friday).
- Read daily and record it in their reading diaries.

Punctuality and Attendance

Our school gates open at **8:40am**, and children must be in school by **8:55am** at the latest. Morning learning begins straight away—being late disrupts not only the day's start for the child but also the learning of others. It's important that children arrive on time and are ready to learn.

Please also support us by ensuring **high attendance**—every day in school really does matter and helps ensure your child achieves their very best.

Uniform

A reminder that all children should come to school wearing the correct **school uniform**, including school shoes and appropriate PE kit. Hair accessories should be simple and suitable for school. The full uniform list is available on the school website:

[Uniform guidance here](https://www.wrenburyschool.org.uk/our-parents/uniform.html) (<https://www.wrenburyschool.org.uk/our-parents/uniform.html>)

As always, please make sure your child has suitable outerwear for the weather—coats, hats, gloves—or suncream, if the sun reappears.

Snacks and Drinks

To help children stay healthy and focused, we ask that all snacks are **healthy**—no sweets or chocolate, please. If these are brought in, they will be returned home and fruit will be offered instead.

Children must also bring a **water bottle** (water only, please). Water keeps our brains hydrated, protects teeth, and prevents sticky spills that can attract insects.

Base 4 Charity.

This year each class will be learning about another charity, learning about what they do and how they help people, specifically children this year. Our class charity is Cheshire Young Carers. Each class will give an assembly about their charity to the rest of the school, therefore we will all learn about several charities. This will give our children a better understanding of the amazing work that these special charities carry out and how they impact so many young lives. We look forward to getting to know all about Cheshire Young Carers and their work.

Key Dates

Here are some of the key dates for this term:

7th September – Swimming

8th September- KS1 Welcome Meeting 4.45pm

9th September- KS2 Welcome Meeting 4.45pm

25th September- Base 4 Theme Day

7th October – Flu Vaccines

9th October – Parent Online Safety Meeting 9am

13th October – Bikeability Year 5

21st October – Harvest Service –St Margaret's Church 9.30

21st October- Parents Evening (settling in)

22nd October- Parents Evening (settling in)

23rd October- Half term begins

2nd November - INSET DAY

3rd November – Return to School

16th November – School Photographs

9th December 1.30-2.30pm / 10th December 5.30pm - Christmas KS1 Nativity

11th December – Christmas Fair

16th December – KS2 Carol Service at church

Please do continue to check your texts and emails for further updates and additions to these dates throughout the term.

Open door

My door is always open, and I am always very happy to help should you have any concerns, wish to share information that is relevant to your child's well-being or require additional information regarding your child and their learning or progress. Your child's wellbeing is extremely important to us, and we want to be able to support your child in any way that we are able to. I will be at the door every morning, or you can contact the school office to arrange a meeting.

Best Wishes

Mrs Fowler, Mrs Smith and the Wrenbury Team