

Welcome to Year 4

Meet the team:



Mrs Thomas
Kingfisher



Mrs Boot
Kingfisher



Mrs Hartnell - Robin





Mrs Alex Thomas - Kingfisher (Mon-Tue)

I started my career as a Year 4 teacher in Reading in 2015, where I was the PE Coordinator. This is an area of the curriculum that I particularly enjoy teaching, as it allows children to be active and learn creatively. In 2017, I joined Shiphay Learning Academy and have had the pleasure of teaching in Year 5, Year 3, and Year 1/Reception. In 2022, I became the Math Subject Lead. I have always had a passion for mathematics, as I love seeing children beam with pride and excitement when they discover patterns and make connections. These learning opportunities ignite children's curiosity and lead to those wonderful "eureka" moments that make learning so memorable. I strongly believe that such experiences spark a love of learning across the curriculum and help to create lifelong learners.

When I'm not teaching, I enjoy spending time with my family. My eldest daughter is two years old, and my youngest will be turning one very soon. We seem to spend much of our time visiting the zoo or enjoying family walks together.

I am looking forward to getting to know each child in Kingfisher Class (Monday–Tuesday) and Elm Class (Wednesdays), and discovering what makes learning exciting for them. I always strive to create a welcoming and safe environment that encourages children to share and explore their ideas. I believe it is essential that all children feel confident to have a go, take risks in their learning, and develop the skills needed to become resilient learners.



Mrs Jannice Boot - Kingfisher (Wed-Fri)

I have been a class teacher here at Shiphay since I qualified in 1990, which seems like a very long time ago! However, my love for teaching grows year on year and I really enjoy finding out about each child in my class.

In my time at Shiphay I have enjoyed teaching in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. I'm really looking forward to teaching in Year 4 this year with some very familiar faces! It will be exciting to see the children at a different stage of their learning journey and to see them continue to grow and learn in Kingfisher.

I enjoy teaching all areas of the curriculum but especially Literacy, as I have a real love for books and stories. I am also very interested in the Natural World and take every opportunity to include my love for nature and Art into our themed work.

I like to make my classroom a welcoming and friendly place where children are encouraged to explore and investigate together within an engaging curriculum. I am passionate about providing every child with the opportunity, encouragement and support to achieve their full potential, providing the children with the skills they need to become independent, confident and aspirational learners. Outside of the classroom, I love to go on walks with my family and spend time in my garden.



Mrs Kim Hartnell - Robin

I began my teaching career in 2014 and I thoroughly enjoy working in Key Stage Two and supporting the children both academically and developmentally. I have thoroughly enjoyed this year in Year Four and am looking forward to another year in this year group! Alongside teaching, I am our Personal Development lead at Shiphay Learning Academy and am very passionate about supporting the children's development in all aspects, as well as promoting careers and real-life opportunities for our children. During my career, I have also led Reading, Writing, PSHE, RSHE and British Values.

My areas of interest within education are pupil development, reading and writing. I am very interested in understanding the stages of development and how we can best support children socially and emotionally in all aspects of their lives. Through my interest in these areas I have become a Specialist in Personal Development and work closely alongside Public Health to promote and create the best opportunities for the children and young people in Torbay. In addition to this, I am also very passionate about Careers Education. I continue to plan and create opportunities for the children to explore and learn about a wide range of career opportunities within Torbay and further afield.

I aim to create a classroom where the children enjoy their learning experiences, build resilience in all areas of their learning and have opportunities to develop both personally and academically. I hope all children in Woodpecker enjoy their time in class, develop their understanding of the world and learn through exciting and engaging learning activities. In turn, I believe they will all be confident, independent and resilient individuals.

Entrance to Year 4

The entrance to Year 4 is from the lower playground. Robin will need to come in through the Children's Entrance. Kingfisher will come in via the veranda.



Veranda & Cloakroom

Head to the Middle School Team veranda and put your coat and bag on your named peg. Place your lunch box in your Class's lunch basket.



Kingfisher and Robin Classrooms



The classrooms tables are in rows and you will each have a learning pack for your desk. In each classroom we have a lovely range of books from the 100 recommended reads.



The Hall

At lunchtime, you will walk down the corridor to eat your lunch in the hall. Hot lunches are served from the hatch. Once you have collected your lunch, you will sit down at one of the tables to eat it. Just as you did in Year 3.



Toilets

Just as you did in Year 3, you will use the toilets in the main corridor near your classroom.

The Lower Playground



Just as it was in Year 3, your playtimes and lunchtimes will be on the lower playground. There is lots of space for you to play with your friends.

When the weather is good, you may be able to have playtimes on the field as well.

The Year Middle School Library

You will choose a reading book from our lovely library where we have a selection of fiction and non-fiction books.



The Sensory Room

There is a special room, just like the Burrow, where you can go to have some sensory time or if you need some space away from the classroom.



Learning in Year 4

In Year 3, you will continue to use your Core Values to reach for the stars in all areas of your learning! You will also be able to earn House Points and Praise Postcards when you are spotted being brilliant!



You will be building on your Maths, Writing, Reading and SPaG skills as well as lots of other exciting areas of the curriculum such as Art, Music, History, Geography and Swimming.



My Thoughts

Please use this space to write down or draw any questions you have or things you want to talk to your teacher about in September.

