

How to Help at Home



Support at home is **invaluable** to your children's progress and much appreciated.

Please encourage your child to:

- Be correctly dressed for school in full uniform including all black shoes / trainers.
- Be responsible for their own organisation: PE kits (worn on Tuesdays and Wednesdays), homework completed each week (due on a Monday), and reading books and diaries in school every day.
- Be on time for school - we open the doors at 8:45am to start our morning sessions.

Homework each week:

- Reading - at least 15 minutes each night . Please encourage your child to read to you. We expect a **weekly comment** from an adult at home in the children's diaries. Each child is aware of their Accelerated Reader Personalised quiz target—can you help them to achieve their goal?
- Spellings and Number facts will be given out on Mondays and quizzed the following Monday, you will find these in the back of your child's diary.
- Other homework of Times Table Rockstars, Accelerated Reader and Reading Plus are all online. If you cannot access this at home, please speak to a member of the Year 4 team!

Items to have in school:

- P.E kits – On Tuesday and Wednesday, please ensure your child has outdoor trainers, jogging bottoms, a white t-shirt and a black, warm hoody. As we are outside, gloves and a hat are a good idea!
- Reading diaries each day so the Y4 team can add comments after working with your child.
- A named water bottle.

Dates for the Diary



Date	Event	Date	Event
Tuesday 10 Jan	Return to school	Mon 27 Feb	Back to school
		Thursday 2 Mar	World Book Day
WC 6 Feb	Children's Mental Health Week	WC 10 Mar	British Science Week
Tues 7 Feb	Safer Internet Day	Mon 17 Mar	Comic Relief
Thur 9 Feb	Multiplication Check workshop		
WC 14 Feb	Parent Consultations	Fri 31 Mar	Break up for Easter
Friday 17 Feb	Break Up for half term	Mon 17 April	Back to school

We regularly use Facebook, text and email to update and remind parents of events.
Please ensure that the office have your current mobile and email address.

Curriculum Overview



SPRING TERM 2023



YEAR 4



Dunston Hill
Community Primary School

Ready



Respect



Kind



Welcome



We would like to wish you all a fantastic New Year and welcome back to Year 4! We are looking forward to the children continuing on their journey in Lower Key Stage 2 and maturing and growing, as they did last term! We would like to thank you for your continued support.

Mr Chung, Mrs Donaldson, Mrs Harris and Mrs McLean

English Overview



Our English lessons will continue to follow our Literacy and Language programme. We have begun the Spring term with some non-fiction work on note-making and explanations. The children have thoroughly enjoyed looking at different types of evidence and evaluating the reliability of it before trying to solve the crime by presenting our conclusions in explanation form for the court. Next up, we will be using videos as stimuli for writing dialogue. We will be working on correct use of inverted commas (speech marks) and using a comma and other punctuation in the correct places to demarcate speech, e.g. *John said, "How did she do that?"* We will then develop our use of complex sentences, using fronted adverbials and subordinate clauses within sentences to make our writing more interesting.

Later in the term we will be exploring poetry through the Literacy and Language programme. We will be reading a range of poems of differing styles, including *My Sari* by Debjane Chatterji and *At the End of a School Day* by Wes Magee. We will be reading them aloud to the class and then developing our own poems based on the imagery, similes, metaphors and language that we've learnt from them. We will then be moving on to some more non-fiction work, looking at newspaper recounts and how to write in this style.

We will be completing a number of Author Sessions during the term where we can practise the skills we've learnt and let our imaginations run free with some independent, longer pieces of writing.

Maths Overview



We are continuing to apply the 'Mastery' approach to Maths which strengthens our fluency, reasoning and problem solving skills. This term, our Maths curriculum will include: multiplication and division, area, fractions and decimals.

First, we will be using our times table knowledge to help us with our written methods for multiplication and division. We will begin the term by looking at our 3-, 6- then 9-times tables and ensuring that we are confident to recall and apply our knowledge of these times tables. We will also look for patterns and links between these times tables to ensure we have strategies for recalling them fluently. Next, we will learn our 7-times table—a new times table but one that we know lots of facts for already due to our other table facts.

Later in the term, we will deepen our understanding of the concept of multiplication and division to know how to multiply and divide by 10 and 100, before moving on to coordinates. Our work on coordinates will see us move objects, including polygons on a grid and draw polygons specified by translations.

To quicken our times table recall, we are using Times Table Rock Stars to practice this whilst making it fun and competitive. We are also reviewing key facts such as identifying square numbers and knowing the relationship between units of measure e.g. 10mm = 1cm.

Science Overview



We continue our Science curriculum by investigating electricity to begin with. We will discover more about mains and battery electricity and where it comes from. We will move on to explore how to make a complete circuit to make a bulb light, a buzzer buzz and a motor turn. Later, we will be looking at the Human body—specifically understanding the basic main parts and functions of the human digestive system and the role of the teeth in this system. We will investigate the best ways to care for our teeth and look forward to doing some wonderfully disgusting experiments to prove it!

Our Curriculum



RE/PHSE: Religious studies will see Y4 continue to explore the religion of Judaism, with particular emphasis on the Seder Meal and special foods. We will then be learning more about Easter and the theme of forgiveness. In PSHE, we will be moving on to our 'relationships' unit of work. We will consider the differences between confidential and private and when it is okay to break a secret. We will learn skills to resolve conflicts and listen to others respectfully, whilst accepting that we can all have different views.

Geography : Following on from our in-depth study of the Romans in Autumn term, we will be turning our attention to Geography and considering different Geographical features to locate places, including the Equator, hemispheres and Tropics, as well as climate zones and biomes. Next, we will consider mountains and how they are formed and identified on a map. Finally, our studies will look to consider mountains in different parts of the world, comparing those located in England to those located in Ecuador.

Art / Music / DT: In Art, we will be working with clay this term to produce 3D animal sculptures. In DT, we will be exploring how we can adapt a recipe to make our own. We are lucky to continue with our Ukulele lessons in the Spring term and will be looking at folk music from around the world as well as reinforcing our understanding of pitch, rhythm, pulse, tempo, dynamics, timbre and texture.

Computing: We will begin the term focusing on Computer Science and using Purple Mash programme '2Code' to improve our confidence coding. Our work on online safety will continue to be a priority, as we consider online reputations and how to manage online information.

French: In French, we will be increasing our vocabulary knowledge and continue to perfect our pronunciation. We will continue to grow in confidence conjugating the verbs 'to be' and 'to have' in order to say simple sentences, as well as ask questions. We will then move on to further verbs, ending in 'er.'

PE: This half term our PE lessons are on Tuesdays, for football, and Wednesdays, for hockey. At the beginning of term, we will continue to develop our hockey skills such as dribbling, tackling, attacking, defending and shooting, in order to apply these skills in a game scenario. We will also maintain our stamina through our daily mile run. During football sessions, we will ensure we can pass and receive the ball with accuracy as well as work as a team when it comes to attacking and defending.

Homework



This term, our homework focus is reading and times tables. Each week, the children are to complete 4 sessions of Reading Plus, which is accessed through our website. If required, the site code is **rpduinst**. In addition, in order to prepare the children fully for their Times Table Check in Summer term, 3 sessions of Times-Table Rockstars is expected per week. The children will also have a reading book to enjoy and quiz on, using Accelerated Reader. They already have their first target to work towards!