

# 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: outdoor PE kits (Monday), swimming kit (Wednesday), Forest School (Wednesday). Homework completed each week (Monday).
- 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 and work to achieve their target. We expect a weekly comment from an adult at home in the children's diaries. This does not have to be when your child has finished their book.
- Spellings and Times Tables will be given out on Mondays and quizzed the following Monday.
- Maths and SPaG homework in our Year 4 booklets. This is assigned on a Monday to be returned and marked in class the following Monday. Your child can put their homework in the box at any time in that week.
- 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:

- Reading books and diaries must be in school each day
- A named water bottle.

# Dates for the Diary



Date	Event
6th September	Start of Autumn term
29th September	Coffee Morning
2nd October	Harvest Festival
16th October	School Photographer
18th October	Flu Immunisations
w/c 23rd October	Parents Consultations
w/c 30th October	Half Term
27th November	Occasional Day
22nd December	End of Autumn term

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



## AUTUMN TERM 2023



# YEAR 4



**Dunston Hill**  
Community Primary School

Ready



Respect



Kind



## Welcome



Welcome to Year 4! We would like to take this opportunity to share with you the fun-filled learning we have ahead of us this term and introduce the Year 4 team: Mrs McLean, Mrs Burn, Mrs Neve and Mrs Donaldson!

## English Overview



This term we begin our exciting new "Ready Steady Write" writing lessons. These will allow the children to be immersed, analyse, plan, draft, write and edit different narratives, newspaper reports and information texts based around the books 'The Whale' and another text which will be revealed later in the term (we don't want to spoil the surprise!). Every lesson begins with a short sentence accuracy task. Children will be thinking about their word choice and effect, spelling, handwriting, appropriate punctuation and reading their work aloud. These sentences will allow your child to practise a variety of grammatical features such as expanded noun phrases. We are very excited about our first text, 'The Whale' which was revealed to the children through a series of clues and objects. This allowed the children to make predictions before actually finding out what the book was. This is a wordless picture book, meaning the children are having to infer and tell the story in their own words. Because of this, each child's has created their very own understanding of what actually happens in the story!

## Maths Overview



We will begin the year with a revision of addition and subtraction, focusing on setting out written methods correctly and revising our mental strategies, including doubles and number bonds to 10. We will continue with our 'Mastery' approach to Maths, which the children are familiar with from Year 3. First, we will use concrete resources before moving to pictorial and then abstract methods in order to apply our knowledge to fluency, reasoning and problem solving. Next, we will move on to number and place value up to 1,000 and understand how to partition larger numbers (splitting them into hundreds, tens and ones). Once we are secure with place value, we will apply our knowledge of addition and subtraction to finding the perimeter and finding missing sides of different shapes. Times tables are extremely important in Year 4, in particular as we are preparing for the Multiplication Check in Summer term. We will conclude Autumn term by focusing on the 3, 4, 6 and 9 times tables to ensure we can recall them fluently. Alongside our daily Maths lessons, we will revise methods taught and times tables during a daily 'Hi 5' session, to support the children's work on TT Rockstars at home, which will hugely benefit your child this year. We look forward to seeing their times table knowledge develop! Each child has their own username and password for TT Rockstars, which can be found in their reading diary.

## Science Overview



We begin our science curriculum looking at states of matter - solids, liquids and gases - and how these states can change. Later we will be learning about sound and how it travels to our ears. We will be conducting a variety of investigations to help us understand these scientific concepts.

## Our Curriculum



**RE/PSHE:** We will be looking at the enquiry question 'How special is the relationship Jews have with God' at the start of term then investigating the most significant parts of the Nativity story for Christians. Our focus this half-term will be 'Health and Wellbeing'. We will begin by identifying our own strengths and areas for improvement in order to achieve our goals.

**History/Geography:** In Geography we will be considering different Geographical features to locate places, including the Equator, hemispheres and Tropics, as well as climate zones and biomes. Our first history topic is 'Ruthless Romans' which will begin after half term. The children will be learning about where and when the Roman empire originated, as well as where they invaded and why, putting our previous geographical learning to good use. We will also be comparing this time in history with other significant events and civilisations. Our focus will be to consider the significance of the Romans.

**Art/Music/DT:** In Art, we will be exploring the work of the artist L.S.Lowry and developing our drawing skills with a range of media. Design Technology will see us designing and making model cars considering the shape of the chassis and air resistance. In Music, we have the exciting opportunity to learn how to play the ukulele in school.

**Computing:** We will reinforce the importance of Internet Safety and learn how we can stay safe online by thinking about screen time and safe and responsible strategies for using technology. We will also explore how to write for different purposes using technology, as well as discussing self-image and identify online.

**PE:** Our PE sessions will be on a Monday. We will be focusing on netball over the next few weeks and will learn the skills required to compete in a netball match. Our swimming lessons will take place every Wednesday, as the children will develop their confidence swimming different strokes and understanding pool safety.

**French:** We will learn vocabulary relating to describing ourselves and others, before practising how to ask and answer questions. We will continue to improve our pronunciation throughout!

## Homework



It is very important that the Year 4 children strive to complete their homework and this term, our focus is on basic skills in reading, writing and Maths. Each week, the children are to complete **3** sessions of Reading Plus/Lexia, **1** piece of Maths and **1** piece of SPaG homework assigned in their homework booklets (to be returned by Monday morning at the latest). In addition, in order to prepare the children fully for their Times Table Check this 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. Accelerated Reader targets are for each half term.