



3rd September 2023

Dear Parent/carer

Welcome back to the new school year. A particular welcome to those who are new to our school community. We hope you settle in quickly. If you have any questions about anything, do not hesitate to ask. Most of the classes in school have Parent WhatsApp groups which can be invaluable for keeping up to date – do speak to the other parents to find out how to be included in these groups.

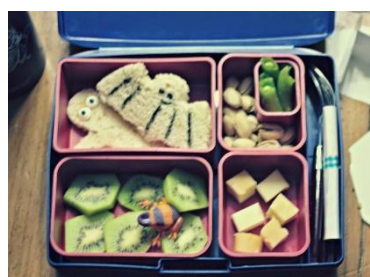
Start of School

The classroom doors open at 8.40am and all children should be in school by **8.45am** which is the official start of school. If children arrive after this time, they will be marked as late on the register. Key skills in maths, handwriting and spelling are taught at the start of the day, so it is important that all children are in school and ready to learn by 8.45am each morning. We understand that sometimes circumstances mean that your child may arrive after the gates have been closed – in this situation, please take your child to the office.

Coming on to site

Please enter the school grounds through any of the pedestrian accesses. Children can make their way to the classroom from either direction, whichever is most convenient. At the end of the day, the Y5/6 children will be led round the side of school past the Early Years classroom. Parents of Y5 and 6 children should wait on the playground for their child. The Y4 children will be led out of school via the hall end of the building. Please wait for your child either on the playground or on the small carpark. Please tell your child where you will be waiting for them. If you need to speak to the teacher, please do so at the end of the school day or come to the outside classroom door with your child in the morning.

Lunchtimes



New menus for this term can be found on the website [Meals and Snacks – Lord Deramore's Primary School \(lordderamores.com\)](https://lordderamores.com). The daily charge for a school meal is £2.50 per child. All payments for school meals need to be made through ParentPay. There is a weekly minimum charge of £12.50. This will cover either five meals per week or one meal per week for five weeks or any other combination. You will get reminders from ParentPay when your account balance needs replenishing together with an email from school to say if you owe any

money.

Alternatively, your child may want to bring a packed lunch. Please ensure the packed lunches are well-balanced and healthy. There should be no sweets, chocolate bars or fizzy drinks and all packaging and boxes should be plastic – no glass please. Your child will need a drink in their packed lunch (water or juice only please). We are a **nut free** school so please ensure there are no nuts in any of the food you provide. Lunch boxes should be placed on the correct trolley, at the front of school, at the start of the day and collected from the trolleys at home time.

The Curriculum

Details of our curriculum and the topics we are covering in each area can be found on our school website: [Curriculum Planning & Progression – Lord Deramore's Primary School \(lordderamores.com\)](http://lordderamores.com) – we are following Year B.

Our topic title is Heslington Past and Present and we will be studying the local area - school, Heslington and York and comparing what it is like now to what it was like in Victorian times when the first school was built. At the end of term, there will be an opportunity to come in to school and experience a Victorian Christmas and see the work we will have done over the term,

History	Creating a timeline from the first school to present day Life in Victorian Britain - Queen Victoria as monarch Schools - the difference between schools then and now Rich and Poor - how the rich and poor had very different lives Famous Victorian Inventions Exploring a Victorian Christmas
Geography	Learning about physical and human features as shown on maps of the UK and York, label key features Local study of Heslington and looking at a local Ordnance Survey Map - learning about the symbols and coordinates Map making and reading Exploring land use of Heslington
Computing	Making music - elements of music: Pulse, Rhythm, Tempo, Pitch, Texture, experiment with rhythm and tempo, create a melodic phrase, compose a piece of electronic music Coding - using loops, nested loops, creating sprites and simulations
PE	Football - dribbling, kicking, tactics, control, rules Netball/Basketball – throwing and catching, control, tactics, rules Dance - partner/group work, creation and sequencing
PSHE	Being Me in My World - 'Who am I and how do I fit?' - working as a team, democracy in school, playing my part Celebrating Difference Respect for similarity and difference. Anti-bullying and being unique
Music	Y4 Reading a 2-line staff to show the notes mi, so and la. Violins: Learn how to hold the violin and bow correctly in rest position and playing position. Learn to play tunes using open strings on the violin. Y5 Stick notation for ta, te te, ti ri ti ri and z. Pentatonic scale (do, re, mi, so, and la). Ukulele: Learn how to hold the ukulele in rest and playing position. Learn how to strum and play individual strings on the ukulele. Learn chords C and Am Y6 Stick notation, dot notation and the 5-line stave. Percussion: Play simple melodies / accompaniments on chime bars. Play pieces in two or more parts on chime bars.
French	Use songs, games and activities to learn French words, phrases and sentences linked to Y4 All About Me, Playground games Y5 All Aboard, At the toy shop Y6 Enjoy your meal, I am the Musicman
Art	Focus on Printing exploring the life and works of William and May Morris Experimenting with different types of printing Producing work based on nature

RE	<p>Y4: Why is Jesus inspiring? Looking at the life of Jesus through stories in the bible and exploring why He is an important figure to Christians</p> <p>Y5 Why do some people believe God exists? Looking at key beliefs in the Christian faith - specifically creation and how their beliefs differ to those of other faiths including humanists</p> <p>Y6 What can be done to reduce racism? Can religion help? Explore how beliefs in different religions affect the way people are treated and the lessons that can be learnt from those rules and attitudes.</p>
DT	<p>Mechanical systems - pulleys, gears and cams</p> <p>Exploring how mechanical systems aid movement</p> <p>Exploring Victorian style toys that incorporate mechanical systems</p> <p>Designing and making a Victorian style toy</p> <p>Years 5 and 6 will be taking part in the ROAR project which involves researching, designing, making and advertising a product.</p>
Science	<p>Y4, Electricity & Sound - appliance hunt, safety posters, building circuits, Sound - biology of the ear, drum and rice vibrations, distance and sound experiment</p> <p>Y5, Earth & Space - solar system models, time zones, scientific evidence for the solar system, Forces - ramps and surfaces - friction, parachutes, boats,</p> <p>Y6 Electricity - the history of electricity, how circuits are drawn, investigating circuits - brightness of bulbs, loudness of buzzers ,Light - how we see, reflection with mirrors, creating and changing shadows,</p>
English	<p>Class books, set in Victorian England, - Cogheart by Peter Bunzl</p> <p>Guided reading sessions will involve studying and responding to our class books as well as reading other, short pieces of writing, including non-fiction, story and poetry.</p> <p>Writing - narrative (story) with a focus on direct speech, complex sentences and correct punctuation; poetry and newspaper articles with a focus on the use of language and structure appropriate to the genre.</p> <p>We will also write in other curriculum areas.</p> <p>Our work on spelling, grammar and punctuation will continue, looking at various spelling patterns and rules and the extended use of grammar and punctuation linked to our English work.</p>
Maths	<p>We will continue to follow the Power Maths Scheme with topics as follows:</p> <p>Y4 – place value (4-digit numbers), addition and subtraction, area, multiplication and division</p> <p>Y5 – place value (numbers to 1,000,000), addition and subtraction, multiplication and division, fractions</p> <p>Y6 – place value (numbers up to 10,000,000), 4 operations, fractions, measures (imperial and metric)</p>

Music, MFL and PE

Music will be taught by Mrs Martin. Each class will also be taught games by Mr Holmes and French (Modern Foreign Languages) by Madam Lawrence.

Forest and PE days



Year Group	PE days	Forest Day
Year 4	Tuesday and Thursday	Friday
Year 5	Monday and Tuesday	Monday
Year 6	Tuesday and Thursday	Friday



Please ensure FULL PE kit (**named**) is in school at **all times**. We will send it home at half term or earlier if it needs washing.

Please provide clothing and footwear suitable for the forest (wellies or walking boots, waterproof trousers and coat, hat and gloves when it is cold). Forest kit will be sent home each week if it has been wet during the session. Please note that Forest sessions will **not be every week** but you will be informed when they are happening.

Homework

The purpose of homework is to encourage independent learning and to practise skills taught in school. We recognise that families and children are busy both after school and the weekends and so we endeavour to keep homework to a minimum. The activities we ask children to do are open ended and so those who wish to take their home learning further are free to do so.

Research shows that the most effective homework at primary age are activities that practise key skills such as reading and times tables recall.

Details of the homework is as follows:

Reading	Children should read their reading book. Encourage them to read at least some of it aloud, ask them questions and talk about what they have read. Children also hugely benefit from being read to by an adult so continue to enjoy sharing books that you read to your child. Research shows that future academic success is directly linked to the amount of time spent reading or being read to.
Maths	<p>TTRockstars</p> <p>Times tables knowledge and quick recall is extremely useful for mathematical confidence, spotting patterns and fluency in calculating. TTRockstars is a fun but effective way of teaching, practising and speedily recalling multiplication facts.</p> <p>End of Unit Activity</p> <p>Our maths curriculum is taught in units which cover different aspects of maths (e.g. place value, multiplication, fractions etc). At the end of each unit, your child will bring home an activity which practises the skills taught over that unit. They should be able to complete the activity fairly independently as the work will have been taught and practised in school. Work should be returned within one week to be checked by staff in school. Units are of a different length so this homework will be sent at different times and intervals for each class.</p>
Menu	The menu will contain some ideas for activities that link to our learning in school. The aim is to help parents and carers know what children are learning about in school and encourage children to be independent and creative as they explore new ways of learning. There is no expectation for anything to be handed in but we always enjoy seeing models, pictures, videos etc if any children so want to share what they have done.

Changes to the Planner

This year, due to rising costs, we will not be having the planners. Each phase has a simple replacement, mainly to record reading in. The Phase 3 reading record has space for children to respond to books they have read. These can be initialed or signed by an adult

each time your child reads at home. When they have finished each book, they will be asked to write a very short response to the book to indicate their enjoyment.

As there is no longer space to record daily events and things to remember, Phase 3 will be sending home weekly newsletters like the rest of school. This will be short notes which highlight key learning for the week so you can talk to your child about what they are learning. They will also include regular routines, equipment that is needed and special events. The notes will be sent home via Parentpay during the day on a Monday. Please ensure you read these notes so that you know what is happening in your child's class and so that they have everything they need that week.

Welcome Meetings

There will be a welcome meeting for each class in school from next week onwards. Meetings have been arranged on different days for those parents who have children in more than one class. They will take place at 2.45pm on the allocated day. The presentation for the meeting will be sent to all parents after the meeting for those who cannot attend. During the meeting, we will go over key routines, an overview of our learning and key dates. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions.

Year 4: Thursday 14th September, 2.45-3.10pm

Year 5: Friday 15th September, 2.45-3.10pm

Year 6: Monday 18th September, 2.45-3.10pm

If you have a specific question concerning your child, either speak to the class teacher before or after school or email on:

Mr Richards mrichards@lordderamores.com

Mrs Carr rcarr@lordderamores.com

Miss Smith hsmith@lordderamores.com

Y6 Visit to Robinwood

The Year 6 class will be visiting Robinwood from 25th-27th September. You will receive all the necessary details from Miss Smith at the Meet the Teacher meeting on 18th September.

Dates for the Diary

Below are some important dates for the term:

Tuesday 5 th September	Return to school for all year groups
Thursday 14th September, 2.45-3.10pm	Year 4 Welcome meeting
Friday 15th September, 2.45-3.10pm	Year 5 Welcome meeting
Monday 18th September, 2.45-3.10pm	Year 6 Welcome meeting
Monday 25 th - Wednesday 27 th September	Year 6 visit to Robinwood
Friday 13 th October	Harvest Festival
Monday 16 th and Thursday 19 th October	Parent consultations
Thursday 26 th October	Halloween disco
Friday 27 th October	School closes for half term
Monday 6th November	School reopens after half term
Friday 17 th November	Non-uniform day for Children In Need
Friday 1 st December	FoLD Christmas Fair
Tuesday 19 th December	Visit to the Pantomime
Wednesday 20 th December	Christmas Dinner
Thursday 21 st December	Christmas party

Dates for
the Diary:

Friday 22 nd December	Christmas Carols in the church School closes for Christmas
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If you have any questions, please speak to or email your class teacher.

Rachel Carr, Mark Richards, Helen Smith, Emma Havercroft, Annette Lee

Phase 3 Team