



24th April 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to the start of the summer term. We trust you all had a restful Easter break. As usual, this newsletter will outline information for the coming term.

### **Start of School**

A reminder that classroom doors open at 8.40 and all children should be in class by 8.45 which is the official start time. If children arrive after this time, they will be marked as late on the register. Please ensure your child is on time each morning. Key skills in maths, handwriting and spelling are taught at the start of the day so it is important that all children are in class and ready to learn by 8.45 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.

### **Lunchtimes**

The menus for this term can be found on the website [Meals and Snacks – Lord Deramore's Primary School \(lordderamores.com\)](http://lordderamores.com)

Please ensure 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. We are a **nut-free** school so please ensure there are no nuts or hidden nut products in any of the food you provide.

### **The Curriculum**

Our topic in Phase 3 this term is Chocolate – we will be learning about The Americas and the Ancient Maya. We will be visiting the Chocolate Story on 9<sup>th</sup> June where the children will learn more about the origins of chocolate, how it has changed over the years and the history of chocolate in York. We will travel to town on the service bus and the cost of the visit is £14.50 which includes access to The Chocolate Story, a guided tour and workshop plus the bus to and from town. For those in receipt of educational benefits, there will be no charge as school will fund their visit. Consent still needs to be given. Payments and consent can be made via ParentPay. If you are available to help on the visit, please email your child's class teacher.

History	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who were the Maya?</li> <li>• What did the Maya believe?</li> <li>• How did the Mayan people count?</li> <li>• What did the Mayan people discover?</li> <li>• How did the Mayan people write?</li> <li>• What did the Mayan people eat?</li> </ul>
Geography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where are the Americas?</li> <li>• What is the climate and weather like in the Americas?</li> <li>• How do the Americas compare to the UK?</li> <li>• What are the Wonders of the Americas?</li> <li>• What are the features of the rainforest?</li> <li>• What type of creatures live in the rainforest?</li> <li>• Comparison of the rainforest to a UK forest.</li> </ul>
Computing	<p>Online Safety - keeping safe, sharing information, dangers of the internet, advantages and disadvantages.</p> <p>Effective searching - how to search well, knowing if information is true.</p> <p>Coding - procedures, loops and nested loops, variables, simulations.</p> <p>Databases - how to search for information in a database, contributing to a class database, creating a database around a chosen topic.</p>
PE	<p>Swimming - Y4, Thursday afternoons at Archbishop Holgate's School.</p> <p>Athletics, striking and fielding skills.</p> <p>Dance - linked to the summer term show.</p>
PSHE	<p>Relationships – exploring friendships and how to ensure they are healthy.</p> <p>Changing Me – puberty, changes, changes throughout childhood, pregnancy.</p>
Music	<p>Y4 will continue to learn the violin and begin to read simple music.</p> <p>Y5 will learn two finger chords on the ukulele and learn to recognise different pitches.</p> <p>Y6 will explore music notation and continue to use percussion to perform songs and music.</p>
French	<p>Children will continue to use songs, games and activities to learn French words, phrases and sentences. Y4 the weather, compass points, French cities and summertime – beach activities and what to wear. Y5 musical instruments and musical likes/dislikes, clothing and accessories, sentences using a negative and the seasons Y6 naming &amp; describing the planets</p>
Art	<p>We will be developing various skills in drawing, collage and creating digital images. We will explore the genre of Pop Art, learning about the artist Andy Warhol and creating our own 'Pop Art' pictures.</p>
RE	<p>We will start our term with a visit to a Hindu Temple and a Sikh Gurdwara in Bradford.</p> <p>Y4 will study the question: What does it mean to be a Hindu?</p> <p>Learning about Hindu beliefs, the four aims of the Hindu life and the duties and responsibilities of a Hindu.</p>

	<p>Y5 will study the question: What does it mean to be a Muslim in Britain today? We will be learning about the 5 pillars of Islam, the Qu'ran and the Mosque in the Muslim faith.</p> <p>Y6 will study the question: What matters most to Christians and Humanists? We will explore key beliefs of Christians and Humanists, moral codes and values.</p>
DT	We will be learning how to create crumbles and designing a fruit crumble after tasting different summer fruits.
Science	<p>We will be studying living things and their habitats and animals including humans.</p> <p>Year 4 will group and classify living things and learn how changes to an environment could endanger living things. They will learn about teeth and tooth decay as part of learning about the digestive system and food chains.</p> <p>Year 5 will describe the changes as humans develop to old age (changes in life, babies, puberty, periods,) describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird, describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals. Year 6 will classify living things based on similarities and differences. They will learn about the human circulatory system (heart, blood vessels and blood) and the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on health.</p>
English	<p>Our class book will be Middleworld by J P Voelkel. In addition to this, we will also read the following books - Year 4 - Fortunately the Milk, Year 5 - Happy Here, Year 6 - The Final Year. Our 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>Our writing will include work on poetry and letters. We will also write in other curriculum areas, particularly science, history and geography.</p>
Maths	<p>We will continue to follow the Power Maths Scheme with topics as follows:</p> <p>Y4 – decimals, statistics, time, money, shape, angles, position and direction.</p> <p>Y5 – decimals and percentages, perimeter and area, tables and graphs, shape, position, direction, negative numbers and measures.</p> <p>Y6 – shape, position, direction, statistics and problem solving.</p>

### Forest and PE days



Year Group	PE days	Forest Day
Year 4	Tuesday and Thursday	Friday
Year 5	Monday and Friday	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 can be stored at school but will be sent home 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 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 children are activities that practise key skills such as reading and times tables recall.

Details of the homework is as follows:

Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10-15 mins daily.</li> <li>• Any age-appropriate reading material.</li> <li>• Some time reading aloud to an adult.</li> <li>• Chat about what they have read.</li> <li>• Sign the reading record.</li> <li>• Children to record their reading in the reading record.</li> </ul>
Maths - Times tables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 30 minutes a week.</li> <li>• TTRockstars or other online platforms (<a href="#">Tommy's Trek - Times Tables - Mathsframe</a>, <a href="#">Hit the Button - Quick fire maths practise for 6-11 year olds (topmarks.co.uk)</a> <a href="#">Times tables games - Timestables.co.uk</a>) The alternative games do not have the timed element of TTRockstars and are more game based.</li> <li>• End of unit recap activity sheet throughout the term.</li> </ul>
Menu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weekly activity ideas.</li> <li>• Designed to be practical and promote discussion.</li> <li>• Any work can be shared or described to their class each week.</li> </ul>

## Y4 visit to London

The Year 4 class will be visiting London on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May – we are sure they will have a wonderful time.

## Year 4 Multiplication Check

In Year 4, the children take a statutory times table check in the summer term, with results reported to the Local Education Authority. In school, we regularly work on times tables knowledge and recall, but spending time on TTRockstars or other times tables games at home supports the work we are doing in school.

## Dates for the Diary

Below are some important dates for the term:

Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	Drum workshop in school
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Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Year 4 visit to London
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	School closed - bank holiday Monday
WB Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	Y6 SATs week
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	Class Photographs
WB Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Outdoor Learning Week
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	School closes for Half Term
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	School reopens after half term break
2nd-13th June	Year 4 multiplication check during this period
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	School Music Concert – 4.30pm (more details to follow)
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	Visit to The Chocolate Story
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	FoLD summer fair (more details to follow)
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> June	Whole School fun sports morning (more details to follow)
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Big Talk Education Visit to deliver whole school Relationship and Sex Education Lessons (more details to follow)
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	AM Whole School Photo (more details to follow)
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	PM Years 2-6 Sports afternoon at the University (more details to follow)
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 Bikeability (more details to follow)
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	Phase 3 show - 5pm (more details to follow)
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	Annual reports sent home
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Transition days to visit new classes
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	FoLD Summer Disco (more details to follow)
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	2pm prompt Y6 leavers assembly (more details to follow) End of term

We are looking forward to an exciting term. If you have any questions, please speak to or email your class teacher.

Rachel Carr, Katy McNichol, Mark Richards, Helen Smith,  
Emma Havercroft and Julika Matravers

Phase 3 Team