



13th April 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the start of summer term! We hope that you had a wonderful break over the Easter holidays and managed to enjoy some of the sunshine.

This term is always a busy one, particularly with our end of year production but we will always endeavour to communicate with you well in advance of any events. Please keep an eye on your email for letters and weekly notes. Thank you for your support.

**Year 4 Visit to London**

The Year 4 class will be visiting London on Monday 27th April. Please contact Mr Richards to ask any questions.

**Year 6 SATs Week**

Our Year 6 children will take their SATs tests in the week beginning Monday 11th May. It is essential they are in school this week.



**Dates for the Diary**

Monday 13th April	School reopens at 8:40am
Monday 13th April	Year 4 London Trip information meeting (online)
Wednesday 15th April	Year 6 SATs information meeting
Thursday 16th April	International Diversity Celebration
Monday 27th April	Year 4 London Trip
W/C Monday 11th May	Year 6 SATs week
W/C Monday 18th May	Outdoor Learning Week
Monday 18th May	VR session for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 £6
Friday 22nd May	Sports fun morning
Friday 22nd May	School closes at 3:15pm for half term
Monday 1st June	School reopens at 8:40am
W/C Monday 1st June	Year 4 multiplication check
Friday 5th June	Summer Fair
Tuesday 23rd June	University of York sports morning
Wednesday 8th & Thursday 9th July	Phase 3 show
Thursday 16th July	Summer discos
Friday 17th July	Leavers' assembly 2pm start School closes at 3:15pm for half term

## Start of School

Our classroom doors open at 8:40am and children should be in class by 8:45am which is the official start time of the school day. This is when the register will be taken by the teacher and key skills in English and Maths will begin.

We do appreciate that at times circumstances may mean your child arrives after the classroom doors or gates have been closed. In these instances, please take your child to the office where they will be signed in.

## Lunchtimes and Snacks

A reminder that we are no longer prebooking lunch selections via ParentPay. The children will select their meal on the day.

The menus for this term can be found at:

<https://lordderamores.com/information-for-parentscarers/lunches>

As a healthy eating school, sweets, chocolate bars and fizzy drinks are not allowed in packed lunches and containers must not be glass for health and safety reasons. We are also a nut-free school due to severe allergies. Please note this includes Nutella, peanut butter and bars that contain nuts.

Children in Phase 3 can bring a snack for break times. This can be fruit, vegetables or foods such as crackers and cheese. Please remind your child that they must not share their snack food due to dietary requirements and allergies. If your child would like milk at break times, this can be ordered through ParentPay.

Children in Phase 3 should also bring a named water bottle daily. These should only be used for water.

## The Curriculum

Our topic in Phase 3 this term is Greece. Further information is available on our [Curriculum](#) pages.

We are taking part in a VR experience which will enable the children to virtually visit the Acropolis and the Parthenon. This will take place on Monday 18th May (more information to follow).

History	<b>Exploring achievements, beliefs and power</b> Achievements of the earliest civilizations (Ancient Greece – alphabet, crafts, mathematics) Know about and can talk about the struggle between the Athenians and the Spartans. Know about some of the things the Greeks gave the world. Know that the Greeks were responsible for the birth of the Olympic Games. Know that the Greek Gods were an important part of Greek culture. Know how to locate Greece on a map.
Geography	<b>Latitude &amp; Longitude</b> - explain the significance of latitude and longitude <b>Europe Characteristics</b> - identify the key physical and human features of Europe, particularly those surrounding Greece and also including Russia <b>Wider UK Comparisons</b> - compare the physical and human characteristics of Greece, UK and an American country. <b>Grid references</b> - locate significant places in the wider world using grid references

Computing	<p><b>Blogging</b>  Understand blogs and their features.  Plan the theme, content and structure for a blog post.  Write and style a blog post.  Review and comment on blog posts with an understanding of online safety.</p>
PE	<p><b>Cricket</b>- striking, fielding, scoring, tactics, team play.  <b>Athletics</b> - stamina in running, types of hopping and jumping, types of throwing.  <b>Swimming</b> Y4 only  <b>Rugby</b> Year 5/6 - staying onside, attacking, defending.  <b>Tennis</b> Year 5/6 - forehand and backhand  <b>Sports Fun Morning</b> - Friday 22nd May  <b>University of York Sports Morning</b> - Tuesday 23rd June</p>
PSHE	<p><b>Relationships</b> – friendships, relationship changes, negotiation, self-esteem, online vs. offline, internet safety, influences, mental health, grief and loss  <b>Changing Me</b> – puberty, sanitary and personal hygiene, menstruation, conception, self-image, body image, social media, pregnancy, childbirth, romantic relationships, teenage years, mutual respect, pressure, transition to next class (or secondary school).</p>
Music	<p><b>Y4 Violin</b> - D major scale; 1st, 2nd and 3rd fingers; classical music - Beethoven and Florence Price  <b>Y5 Ukulele</b> - F, C7, and G7 chords; 12 bar blues; romantic music - Mussorgsky  <b>Y6 Percussion</b> - samba routine; folk music - Wellerman</p>
French	<p>Children will continue to use songs, games and activities to learn French words, phrases and sentences.  <b>Y4</b> will learn about the weather, compass points, French cities, beach activities and summer wear.  <b>Y5</b> will learn about playing an instrument, musical taste, clothing and accessories, sentences using a negative, and the seasons.  <b>Y6</b> will learn about naming and describing the planets, alongside consolidating their French learning into conversations and presentations.</p>
Art	<p>Children will be exploring Greek art, including patterns, statues, and pottery. They will then design and make their own Greek vase using a coil technique.</p>
RE	<p><b>Y4 What does it mean to be a Hindu in Britain today?</b> - Puja, beliefs, teachings, duties, aarti, bhajans, helping others, Gandhi's life, similarities and differences, and dharma.  <b>Y5 What does it mean to be a Muslim in Britain today?</b> - Five pillars of Islam, significance of the Holy Qur'an, forms of guidance, make connections between the mosque and beliefs, the value of prayer, fasting, charity, and celebrations.  <b>Y6 What matters most to Christians and Humanists?</b> - the image of God for Christians, what it means to be a Humanist, hidden messages of stories, moral codes, values, different points of view, comparing ideas and values.</p>
DT	<p>Children will be tasting, designing, and preparing a Greek picnic. They will research traditional recipes and learn about the health and safety of food preparation.</p>
Science	<p><b>Y4 Living things and animals, including humans</b> - human digestive system, teeth, and food chains, including producers, predators and prey.  <b>Y5 Living things and animals, including humans</b> - stages of human growth and life cycles.</p>

	<b>Y6 Living things and animals, including humans</b> - human circulatory system; impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on health; how nutrients and water are transported in animals.
English	<p>Our class book, based on Greece, will be <i>Shadow of the Minotaur</i> by Alan Gibbons.</p> <p><b>Y4</b> will also enjoy reading <i>Emil and the Detectives</i> by Erich Kästner.</p> <p><b>Y5</b> will read <i>Happy Here</i> by Shauna Jackson.</p> <p><b>Y6</b> will read <i>The First Year</i> by Matt Goodfellow.</p> <p>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, myths, legends, and poetry.</p> <p>Our writing will include work on a non-chronological report with a focus on adverbials, pronouns, and cohesion. We will also explore myths and legends with a focus on character description, clause structures, and dialogue.</p> <p>Our work on spelling, grammar and punctuation will continue, looking at various spelling patterns and applying a variety of punctuation to longer compositions.</p>
Maths	<p>We will continue to follow the Power Maths scheme with topics as follows:</p> <p><b>Y4</b> – ordering, comparing, and rounding decimals; decimal and fraction equivalents; money, including problem solving; units of time and time conversion; charts and tables; line graphs; angles; 2D shapes; and coordinates.</p> <p><b>Y5</b> - adding and subtracting decimals; problem solving with decimals; multiplying and dividing decimals by 10, 100, 1,000; measuring angles with a protractor; calculating angles; types of lines; reflection; translation units of length, mass, and capacity; and volume and capacity.</p> <p><b>Y6</b> - drawing shapes accurately using a protractor; nets; problem solving with four operations; problem solving with fractions, decimals, and percentages; pie charts; and line graphs.</p>

### Forest and PE Days

Please see below the days each class will be attending forest school and having PE lessons this term. Whilst teachers will endeavour to keep this consistent, it is essential for the children to have their fully-named kit in school everyday. They can be stored in lockers. Kit lists for Forest school and PE are available on the [school website](#).

	Forest	PE
<b>Year 4</b>	Wednesday	Thursday and Friday
<b>Year 5</b>	Tuesday	Wednesday and Thursday
<b>Year 6</b>	Friday	Thursday and Friday

For health and safety, children must be able to remove any earrings before PE lessons. If their ears have only recently been pierced, and the earrings cannot be removed, please send your child with medical tape.

## Reading and 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.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- 10-15 minutes daily</li><li>- Any reading material</li><li>- Some time reading aloud to an adult</li><li>- Discussions about what they have read</li><li>- Signing of reading record</li></ul>
Maths - times tables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- 30 minutes a week</li><li>- <a href="#">TTRockstars</a></li><li>- Other online platforms (<a href="#">Tommy's Trek</a>; <a href="#">Hit the Button</a>)</li><li>- End of unit recap activity sheets throughout the term</li></ul>
Homework menu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Open-ended activities based on school learning</li><li>- Designed to be practical and promote creativity</li><li>- Any work can be shared each week if desired</li><li>- Optional and children can pursue their own interests</li><li>- Shared via ParentPay and on our <a href="#">classroom page</a></li></ul>

## Library

Your child will have the chance to visit the school library most weeks.. They are welcome to take books to enjoy at home and return when completed. (These can be changed more regularly and children do not need to wait for their library slot.)

We are looking forward to the term ahead and we hope you and the children feel the same. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school office or send an email to your child's class teacher.

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Best wishes,  
The Phase 3 Team