

DANES CLASS INFORMATION



Spring Term 2024



WELCOME

It was lovely to welcome the children back to school after the Christmas break; we hope that you have all enjoyed the festivities and time together with your families and friends. We hope that your child is looking forward to the term ahead – we certainly have lots of exciting learning opportunities planned for the coming weeks. This letter provides further details about our curriculum coverage for the term ahead. This term is a very busy and important term. It is the final term in which to prepare Year Six as fully as possible for their tests in May; they will be working very hard and will benefit greatly from any additional support that can be offered at home. Maximum effort from the children (supported by both teachers and parents) during this period as well as good attendance can have a significant impact upon the results achieved. Should you wish to speak to me about your child or their learning, please catch me on the playground before or after school or, alternatively, make an appointment via the school office.

Mrs Branagan, Mrs Dean and Mrs Avis

YEAR SIX STANDARD ASSESSMENT TESTS

Year Six children will be taking their SATs tests between:

Monday 13th May 2024 – Thursday 16th May 2024

Tests include: Reading, Maths (Arithmetic and Reasoning), Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling.

**Further information to be shared at a meeting for Year Six parents at
3:20pm on Thursday 18th January.**

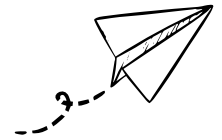


WEBSITE

Please see our class page on the school website to see our planned curriculum coverage, updates about our learning, etc :

<https://www.astonmarys.herts.sch.uk/danes-2/>

HOME LEARNING



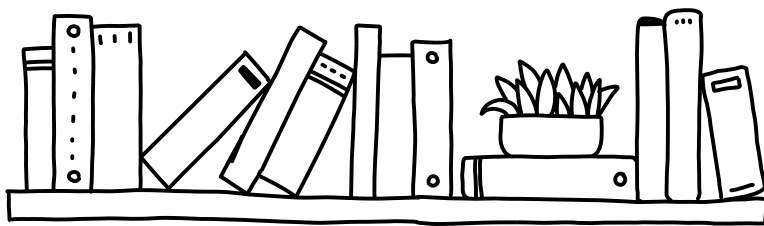
The arrangements for home learning in Danes class are changing slightly this term. Our aims are to:

- ensure that the Year Six children are prepared as fully as possible for their tests in May
- to establish good routines before their move to secondary school. By setting different homework tasks on different days and asking for work to be handed in at different times, we hope that the children will get used to planning their time carefully and organising themselves to have the appropriate tasks completed by different deadlines. The table outlines the new arrangements for weekly homework.

Subject	Day Set	Due In
English	Monday	Friday
Maths	Friday	Thursday
Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (Year Six only)	Thursday	Tuesday
Times Tables Rock Stars (15 minutes)	Wednesday	Wednesday
Reading and Spelling	Daily	

Home Learning projects will continue to be set half-termly (see separate sheet) – these are optional for Year Six this term to allow for the additional demands outlined above. We have been so impressed by the range of work produced by the children last term and are looking forward to seeing what they produce next!

READING

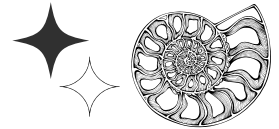


*'A book is a dream
that you hold in your
hands'*

-Neil Gaiman

It continues to be very important for all children to maintain a regular reading habit. It is important that your child has their **reading book in school each day** as well as taking it home to **read every evening**. Please support your child by encouraging them to read independently as well as reading with them regularly and discussing their reading. Children should be reading as widely as possible **choosing books from a range of different genres and authors**. I have been delighted by the number of children choosing to read the recommended texts which have prompted much discussion in school.

CURRICULUM



In **Geography** this term, we will complete our learning about '**North America**' and then move onto studying '**Rivers**'. Our work will also link to other curriculum areas.

English: Biographical recounts and discussion based around palaeontologist Mary Anning to link with our learning in Science. We will be reading 'Tom's Midnight Garden' by Philippa Pearce as our class text.

Maths: Arithmetic skills, algebra, fractions, decimals and percentages, ration and proportion, 2D and 3D shape and angles.



Science: Evolution and Inheritance.

French: Regular verbs and healthy lifestyles.

Computing: Film making and PowerPoint skills.

TRIP TO LONDON TOWER BRIDGE

To support our learning in Geography, we will be visiting Tower Bridge on **Monday 4th March**. See separate letter for further details.

RE: We will be thinking about the question: 'Creation and Science: conflicting or complementary?' After half term, we will be thinking about the question: 'What difference does the resurrection make for Christians?'

Music: Easter songs. Recorders, reading music and recognising musical terms. We Will Rock You.

PSHE: Health and Wellbeing: Growing up, Puberty and Reproduction.

Design Technology: Cam Toys and Bridges.



Art: Drawing: The Human Form (Leonardo Da Vinci) and Bodies in Motion.

PE: Gymnastics, Dance, Unihoc and Tennis.

EQUIPMENT



WATER BOTTLES

All children need to bring a named water bottle into school each day. They will keep these next to their table for use throughout the day. Please note, these should contain only water.

PE

PE lessons will take place on Mondays and Fridays. Please ensure appropriate kits are in school and items clearly labelled (this should include both shorts and long trousers). Trainers will be needed EVERY DAY for the 'Daily Mile'.