

Danes Class Information

Spring Term 2025-2026

It was lovely to welcome the children back to school after the Christmas break; we hope that you have enjoyed the festivities and time together with your families and friends. We have lots of exciting learning opportunities planned for the coming weeks and hope that your child is looking forward to the term ahead. 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.

Miss Branagan and Mrs Avis

Staffing

Miss Branagan - Class Teacher

Mrs Avis - supports in class every day

Mrs Brazier - supports in class

Wednesday - Friday

Ms Maddock - supports in class Monday and Tuesday mornings

Mrs Branagan - teaches Science on Wednesday afternoon

Mrs Newman-Sanders - teaches French on Monday afternoon

Rising Stars - teaches PE on Monday afternoon

Class Reader



Recommended Read



School Trip

Trip to the Bayfordbury Observatory

Wednesday 21st January 2026

5pm-7pm



Details were sent out on 1st December.

← → ↻ 🔍 <https://www.astonmarys.herts.sch.uk/danes-2/>

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/>

dream big

Curriculum

Subject	Autumn	
	1	2
English	Thematic texts linked to our science learning, Classic Fiction, Discussion and Poetry	
Maths	Areas of learning will include algebra, 2D and 3D shape, percentages, area, perimeter and volume and fractions. Year six will be well-prepared for their SATs assessments next term through regular practise of key skills and test questions.	
French	Healthy Lifestyle	
Geography	Everybody's Earth	
Science	Evolution and Inheritance	Animals Including Humans
Design Technology	Electric Vehicles	
Art	What Does It Mean To Be Free? (Printing - Elizabeth Catlett)	
Music	Climate Change (The Time is Now)	Grime
RE	Creation and science: conflicting or complimentary? (Christianity)	What difference does the resurrection make for Christians? (Christianity)
PSHE	Health and Wellbeing - Growing Up, Puberty and Reproduction	
PE	Netball & Gymnastics	Orienteering & Tennis
Computing	Blogging	Text Adventures

Year Six Standard Assessments

Year Six children will be taking their SATs tests between:

Monday 11th May 2026 - Thursday 14th May 2026

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

Further information about the tests and expectations will be shared at a meeting for parents on

Wednesday 14th January at 2.50pm.

Equipment

PE Kit

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

Recorder

All children need to have their own recorder in school every Tuesday. These are available to purchase from the school office.

Water bottle

All children need to bring a named water bottle into school each day. (we have a few children needing to use disposable cups on a regular basis). Please note, these should contain only water.

Pencil case

All children were provided with a named writing pen, purple pen and ruler at the beginning of the year; these must be looked after (if a child loses their pen, they will need to bring £1 in for a replacement). In addition to these resources that the school have provided, children should have a small pencil case which will fit easily into their tray. This should contain the following items: two pencils, a rubber, a sharpener and a few coloured pencils. You may also wish to have a ruler, some scissors, a highlighter pen and a glue stick. It is important that children look after their equipment carefully.

Home Learning

The arrangements for home learning in Danes class are changing slightly this term.

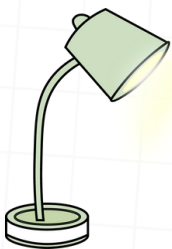
Our aims are to:

- 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		Daily
Spelling		Daily



Homework is designed to be part of our home/school agreement, where children and parents work together to reinforce concepts learnt in class. In Years Five and Six, homework is also important preparation for the expectations of secondary school. Should your child experience any difficulties with their homework, please remind them that we are always happy to help them in school or online before the submission deadline.

Reading

A book is a gift you can open again and again.

-Garrison Keillor



It is very important for all children to maintain regular reading throughout the year. In school, regular guided reading sessions will take place and the children will also have opportunities to read independently. 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.

