

Meet the Teacher 2025



Opening Doors, Enriching Lives



Friends of Tanfield Lea Community Primary School

Please support 'The Friends of the school' who are a group of volunteers who raise money to fund activities for the children. These activities range from school trips, discos, Bingo nights and coffee afternoons to provide new resources throughout the school, which school may not necessarily be able to buy. You can support them for FREE by registering on easyfundraising.org.uk and following the Friends of the School.



Friends of Tanfield Lea Community
Primary School



Meetings take place termly to arrange our events – like our FB page to check for updates!

Welcome to Year 4

Staff: Mr MacDonald (Y4)
Miss Davis (Y3/4)

Care Value

Learn Value

School Values

Turn Up

Learn

Care

Persevere

Shine



Opening Doors, Enriching Lives

These are the Values of

Tanfield **L**ea **C**ommunity **P**rimary **S**chool

Reminders of daily life in school

- *PE will be with Mr Ashman. Children to come to school in their P.E. kits*
- **Home-learning** (which was homework) typically sent out on a **Wednesday** and **returned** on a **Monday**.

The organiser contains the mathematical methods we use in school and a list of grammatical terms that may be used in Homework.

- Children collect 3 **reading comments** a week in their organisers. This is alongside Accelerated Reader.
- **Spellings** are handed out on a **Tuesday** and **tested** the following week on a **Monday**. We now focus on a whole class set of spelling rules.
- **Privilege time** on a **Friday** is up to 30 minutes of a chosen activity. Dependent on home learning, reading comments, behaviour in school. Children can sign up to one terms worth of a club-based activity (e.g. Chess, Science, art etc).
- **Opal** – Children will need wellies in school during winter months to use OPAL activities. (When rota allows)
- **Handwriting** – *we will continue the new Handwriting scheme adopted in 2024-25.*

Communication

The School's main method of communication is via email.

Please ensure that your email address is up to date.

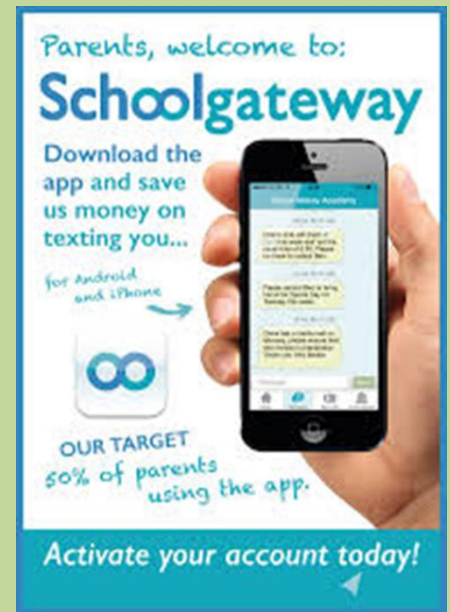
If we need to contact you urgently, we will phone.

Communication: School Gateway App

You will have already downloaded the free School Gateway app and registered for an account. Please ensure that if you change your email address or mobile number you let us know immediately.

This will allow:

- Online payments

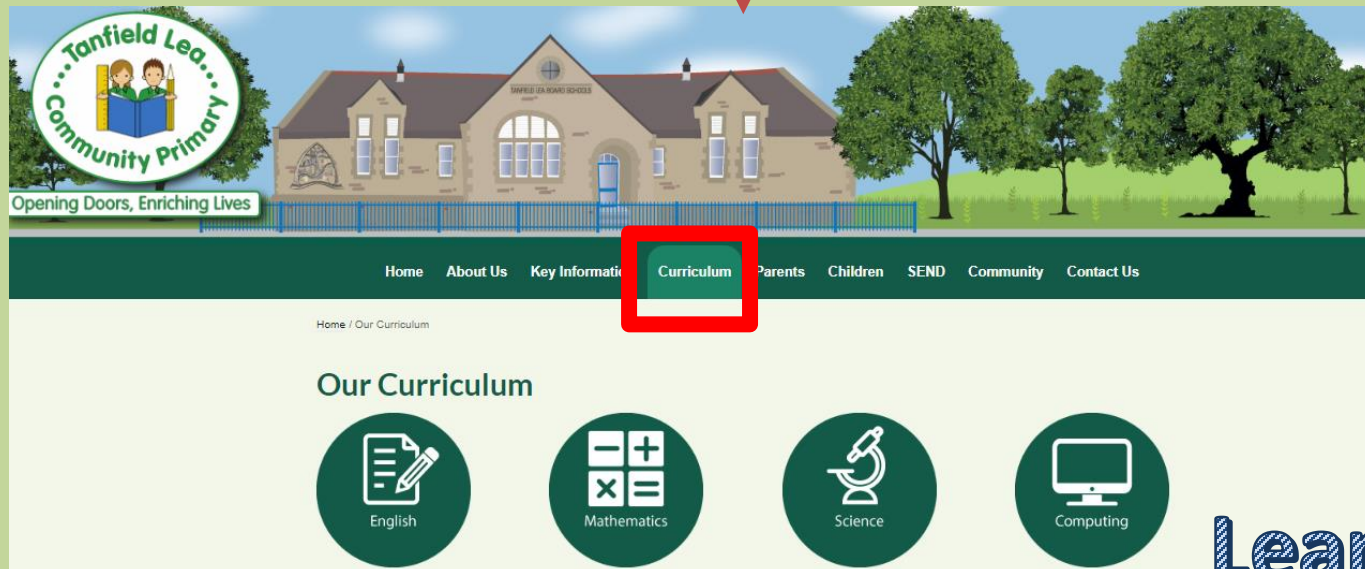


What We Will Be Learning

Year Group - Y3/4 Cycle A

Term and Topic	Autumn 1 The Iron Man	Autumn 2 Caribbean Dozen	Spring 1 Local History Tommy Armstrong	Spring 2 Charlie and the Chocolate Factory	Summer 1 Stig of the Dump (Stone Age to Iron age)	Summer 2 Fitness first Willy The Wizard.
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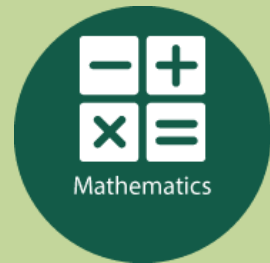
Yearly Overview



Learn Value

How we teach Maths



- We teach Maths in blocks which focus on a key area of maths. Sometimes these blocks can last for 3 weeks.
- This allows children time to get to grips with new and important skills as well as apply them to problems.
- We also **revisit** previously taught blocks to help the learning stick.
- **You can find all of the blocks in the 'curriculum' area of our website if you want to know what your child will be learning.**



Key Skills	CATCH UP	CATCH UP	ARITHMETIC	REVISIT—Y3 Shape	CATCH UP	CATCH UP	ARITHMETIC	REVISIT—Place Value	CATCH UP	CATCH UP	ARITHMETIC	REVISIT—Addition and Subtraction	CATCH UP	CATCH UP	ARITHMETIC
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	Number: Place Value				Number: Addition & Subtraction		Assessment	Number: Addition & Subtraction	Number: Multiplication & Division				Measure: Perimeter and Area		Consolidate

Big Maths - Total recall - Once a Week

- Rapid recall of times tables facts and simple addition is **essential** to mathematics.



Steps 11, 12 & 13

Name: _____
Class: _____
Date: _____

Step 11


$4 \times 4 =$	$6 \times 4 =$
$4 \times 2 =$	$4 \times 9 =$
$3 \times 4 =$	$4 \times 8 =$
$4 \times 1 =$	$7 \times 4 =$
$5 \times 4 =$	$4 \times 10 =$

Step 12

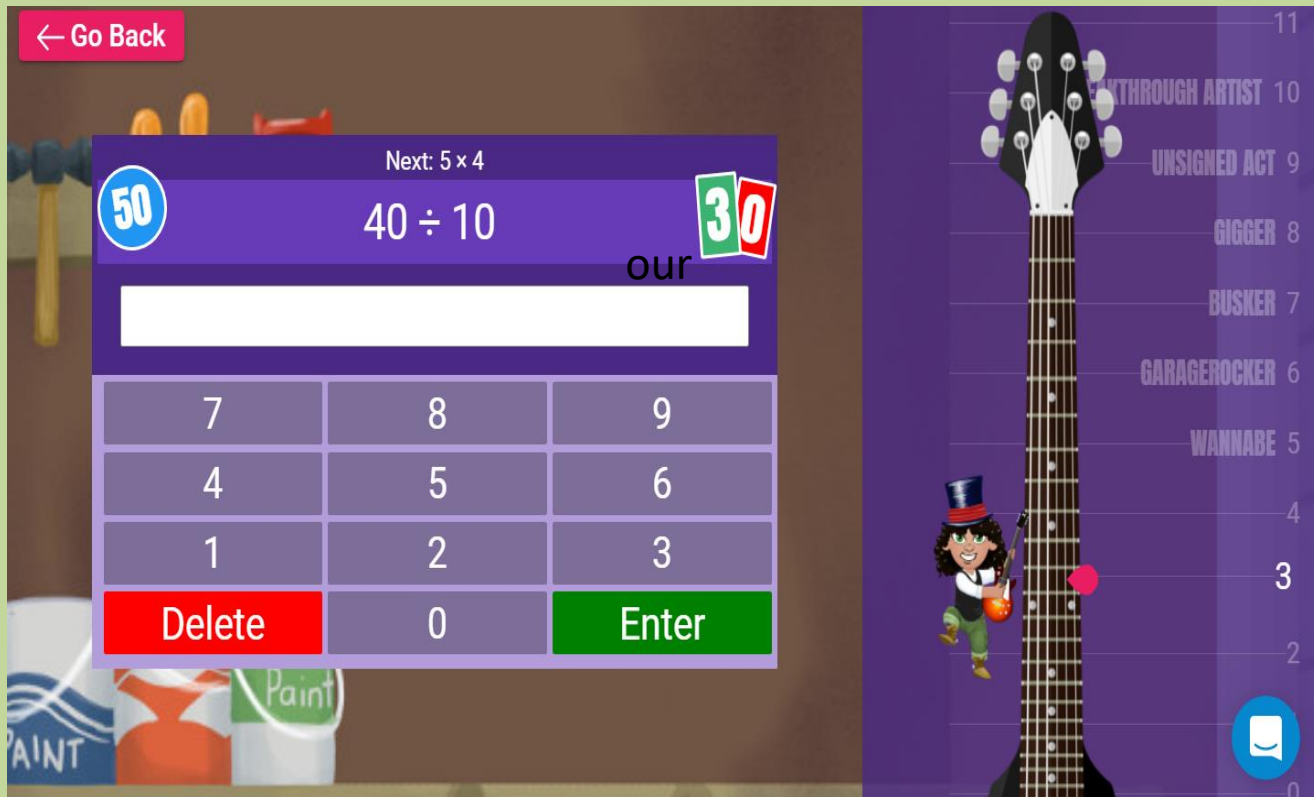
$1 \times 8 =$	$9 \times 8 =$
$8 \times 2 =$	$7 \times 8 =$
$10 \times 8 =$	$8 \times 8 =$
$8 \times 4 =$	$8 \times 6 =$
$8 \times 5 =$	$3 \times 8 =$

Step 13 - Six Fact Challenge!

$6 \times 6 =$	$6 \times 9 =$
$9 \times 9 =$	$9 \times 7 =$
$7 \times 7 =$	$6 \times 7 =$



Times Tables Rock-Stars – regular use is essential and a proven way to develop core Mathematical skills.
Please encourage your child to use Times Tables Rock Stars.



The Multiplication Tables Check

This is statutory for all Year 4 pupils in England. It is seen as the best way to support children in their general mathematics.

The test is online and usually made available to schools to complete in a week in June.

We use TTRS as the best preparation and practise for this test.

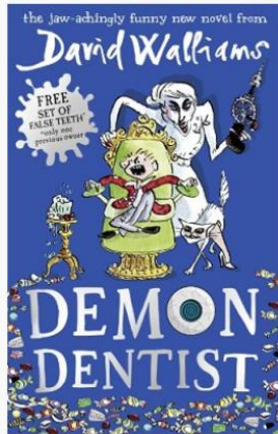
From the start (and even over the summer) encourage your child to access TTRS as much as possible to help them succeed.

Reading in Year 4

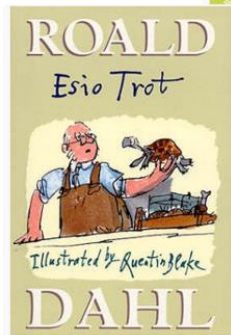
Reading fluency

Reading comprehension

What does 20 minutes reading a day look like?



and



My Circus Life

Interview by Kari Kamin



Some people might be good at their jobs, but performer Vladik Miagkostoupov was actually born to do his! Raised by two Moscow Circus performers, young Vladik was tutored early on by his juggler father. By age nine, he'd perfected enough of his natural acrobatic and juggling skills to work full time with the circus.

Combining a seamless mix of acrobatics, dance and juggling, the star has performed with a range of companies in Paris and Monte Carlo. Several years ago, Vladik – who is now 28, married and a dad – began as a character in Dralion, an epic performance piece.

What will most appeal to kids about this show?

For children, the clowns! The show itself, I'm sure the kids will love because there are a lot of acrobatics. There's a lot of movement. It's very colourful. It's an uplifting show. You leave feeling happy. There's always something going on onstage.

You've performed this character for many years, since 2006. How often does your routine in Dralion change?

I'm always changing it. This routine I've actually been doing for 14 years. Every time I look at it, I'm putting in a new trick or changing the choreography. It's constantly changing.

Questions 12–23 are about *My Circus Life* (pages 8–9)

12 When Vladik was still a child, he was so skilled that he was allowed to...

Tick **one**.

perform at the circus.

☐

go to Monte Carlo.

☐

give his parents advice.

☐

join the cast of *Dralion*.

☐

1 mark

13 What **two** skills did Vladik show a natural talent for as a child?

1. _____

2. _____

1 mark

Learn Value



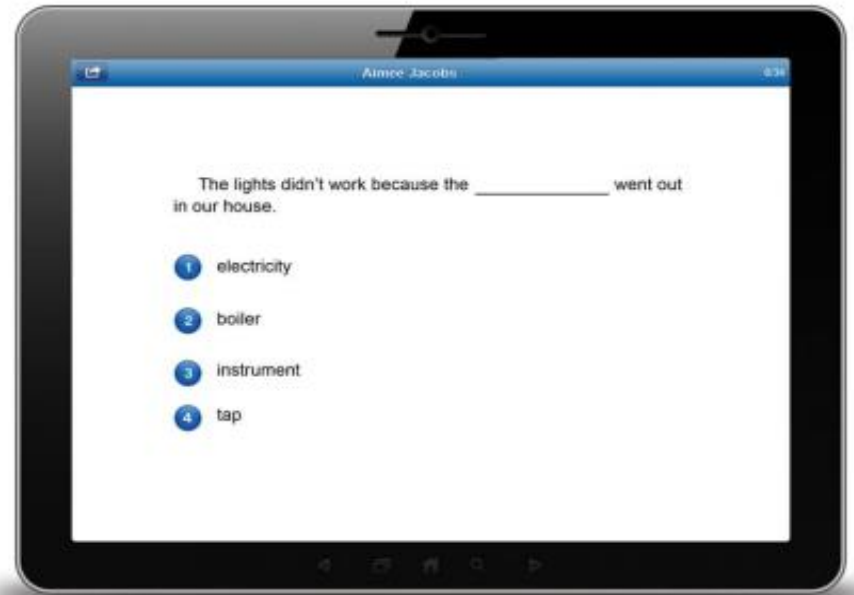
What parents need to know about RenaissanceTM Accelerated Reader

RENAISSANCE[®]

Learn Value

Star Reading

- 20 minute computer-adaptive test used to assess reading ability.
- Tracks reading growth.
- Provides students with a personalised reading range called the ZPD, and teachers with data to monitor student progress.



RENAISSANCE*

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- Your child has done a test, which has given them a ZPD (a Reading Range e.g. 2.5 – 3.1)

Learn Value

Accelerated Reader

- Accelerated Reader is a key and regular part of our school day.
- Children are given time to read independently each day and access to computers and ipads to complete quizzes once they have finished a book.
- Children have a **target of reading for 20mins per day** and aiming for **80% or higher on quizzes**.
- All children have a ZPD to help them achieve this which helps them to choose books that are challenging enough to help them develop without being too demanding.
- Children are given feedback each week to help them work towards their reading targets.

Zone of Proximal Development (ZPD)

A range of book levels recommended for each student based on their reading ability
The student has free rein to choose books from within their entire ZPD range



QUIZZES

- Children access quizzes through the AR website.
- There is a quick link on the school website under Children.



Encouraging Readers.

AR Reading targets. – Template

On target – Keep it up! (20mins + a day and more than 80%) accuracy

0



Target: Read for longer (less than 20mins a day) – **Show me Reading Comments.**

0



Target: Try a book that is easier to understand (ZPD needs to be lower)

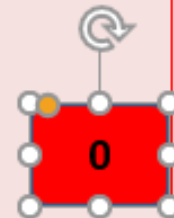
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Target: Read more and lower zpd!
Show me Reading Comments.

Target: **FINISH A BOOK!**

0



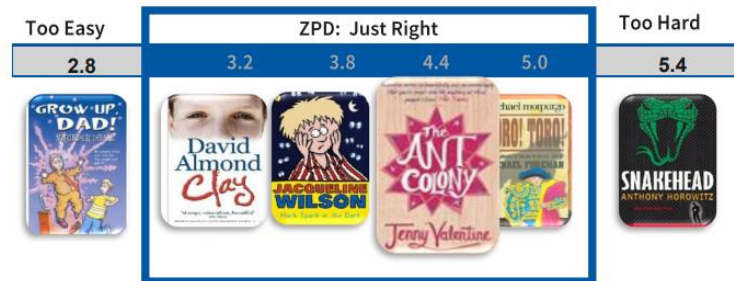
Shine Value

How you can help with reading?

- Continue to support your child with his / her reading.
- Encourage children to maintain 20 minutes a day through allocating a little time to reading at home (In Year 6 this may be your child reading independently rather than reading to an adult).
- Talk about their books and their quizzes.
- Support the AR section of our library (donations of unwanted books are always welcome.)

Zone of Proximal Development (ZPD)

A range of book levels recommended for each student based on their reading ability
The student has free rein to choose books from within their entire ZPD range



Reading Comments (checked on a Friday)

Reading can be completed by:

- reading to a carer
- reading for others
- reading quietly on their own



weekly reading record		
To help you become a fluent reader and to increase your knowledge, as well as your enjoyment, you need to read at home most nights. In addition to this you must ask an adult to hear you read at least three times a week and get them to complete this record.		
Week beginning: 2 nd September 2014		
1	1/9	Best Friends 7.28
2	3/9	Read Kindle
3	4/9	Read Kindle
Other comments		
Week beginning: 8 th September 2014		
1	9/9	BEST FRIENDS
2	10/9	BEST FRIENDS
3	11/9	BEST FRIENDS
Other comments		
Very good reading.		
Week beginning: 15 th September 2014		
1		
2		
3		
Other comments		

For the last point, carers could ask a few questions about what the children have read.

Handwriting

In 2024-25, we started a new Handwriting Scheme for Years 3 – 6 to teach the letter joins. Focussed teaching sessions take place in school from Wednesday to Friday on this.

Join 1: (Autumn term)

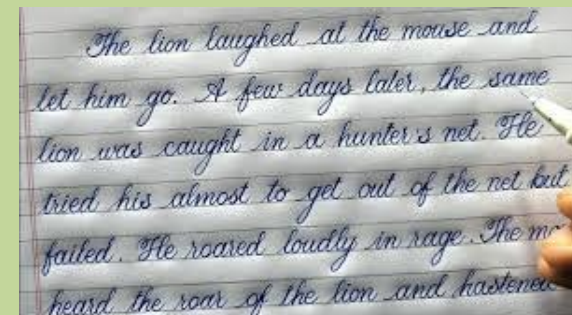
Week 1

ai au aw av ay
am an ap ar

Week 2

ac
ad ag agu
as ax

The letter formation will be shown in the organiser.





PARENT INFORMATION AUTUMN TERM UPDATE

Child's Name:	NEEDS FURTHER DEVELOPING	MEETS EXPECTATIONS	OUTSTANDING
Attitude to learning	Shows some interest in lessons	Shows interest in lessons	Shows additional interest – consistently makes links to experiences and goes and finds out more
Attitude to presentation of work	Work is not consistently well presented	Work is consistently well presented	Work is consistently very neat, or has made extra effort with presentation
Attitude to home learning	Doesn't complete all home learning or reading comments	Completes home learning/reading comments	Completes home learning/reading comments, including extra such as TTRS/Mathletics/additional challenges
Behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Can be distracted- Frequent loss of PT/reminders about behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Focuses on the teacher and own learning-Occasional loss of PT/some reminders about behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Always engaged-No loss of PT/Very few reminders from teachers about behaviour

Child's Name:	NEEDS FURTHER DEVELOPING	MEETS EXPECTATIONS	OUTSTANDING
Use of initiative	Often needs support/prompting	Completes age-appropriate tasks by themselves	Is pro-active at finding solutions and takes responsibility for their own learning
Participation in class	Reluctant to contribute to questions	Contributes answers and ideas	Always engaged and frequently makes contributions which further develop everyone's learning
Co-operation with others	Needs support to interact positively with others	Interacts positively with others	Interacts positively and supports others, including those beyond their friendship group



OPAL- Outdoor and Adventurous play

Children spend 20% of their time at school playing. With this mind, at Tanfield Lea Community Primary School, we believe that play is a fundamental part of childhood, enriching children's learning, development, and well-being. That's why we are proud to be an OPAL school. We are even prouder that we were recently awarded the Platinum School Award for the second time!

During lunchtime children can access many different areas across the school grounds including :-Digging areas, water play zones, planting areas, cosy cottage, sports zones, dress up, music areas, monkey bars, slides, swings, log play, sand pit, bikes and scooters as well as having access to many loose parts to play creatively or build dens.



We ask that all children bring wellies into school.

It does mean that sometimes we may come home a little dirtier than usual.

This probably means we've had a great time.

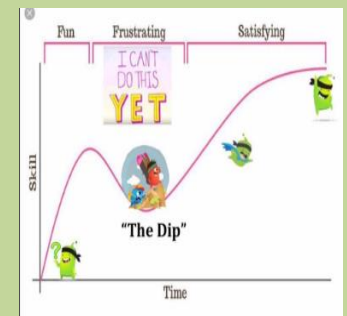
Donations of toys, scooters, cushions, pots and pans, sheets are always welcome!

Praise and Recognition

- **Success Cards**
 - Recognising consistency, resilience, growth mindset, progress, behaviour, commitment, being a good citizen
 - Collect country postcards, beginning with the United Kingdom
 - Recognised in Assembly

Hot Chocolate Reward Plus team points, stickers...

Shine Value



Growth Mindset



I can learn anything I want to.
When I'm frustrated, I persevere.
I want to challenge myself.
When I fail, I learn.
Tell me I try hard.
If you succeed, I'm inspired.
My effort and attitude determine everything.



I'm either good at it, or I'm not.
When I'm frustrated, I give up.
I don't like to be challenged.
When I fail, I'm no good.
Tell me I'm smart.
If you succeed, I feel threatened.
My abilities determine everything.

Persevere Value

Attendance



Opening Doors, Enriching Lives

Punctuality is important.

Late arrivals can affect attendance.

It is really important that your child attends school and arrives promptly for registration between 8:40am-8.50am.



Turn Up Value

Attendance Awards

We celebrate children's attendance every week in our Friday assembly:

- ✓ Attendance % for every class is shared
- ✓ Classes compete to win a half term cash prize of £20 for the class to spend on a treat

Points are awarded weekly on the following basis

- ✓ 95% or above class % - 1 point
 - ✓ 98% or above class % - 2 points
 - ✓ 100% for the class % - 4 points
-
- ✓ 100% award for one class member each week, names are selected in the random name spinner. Children receive a small prize.
-
- ✓ **New since 2024: Pupils who achieve 100% in the half-term receive a Success Card stamp. Children who have 98% or over for the year will be recognized in assembly and children with 99+% will receive a medal.**



Turn Up Value

Weekly spellings are based on the Year 4 word list and common spelling rules from Twinkl

Year 4 Term 1A Overview

Spelling that are in red are a Year 4 statutory requirement and statutory words highlighted in red are from the Year 4 statutory spelling list. The additional words are common spelling rules and spelling words from the Year 4 word list and common spelling rules from the Year 4 statutory spelling list.

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7
... (text continues with weekly word lists)

Year 4 Term 2A Overview

Spelling that are in red are a Year 4 statutory requirement and statutory words highlighted in red are from the Year 4 statutory spelling list. The additional words are common spelling rules and spelling words from the Year 4 word list and common spelling rules from the Year 4 statutory spelling list.

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7
... (text continues with weekly word lists)

Year 4 Term 3A Overview

Spelling that are in red are a Year 4 statutory requirement and statutory words highlighted in red are from the Year 4 statutory spelling list. The additional words are common spelling rules and spelling words from the Year 4 word list and common spelling rules from the Year 4 statutory spelling list.

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7
... (text continues with weekly word lists)

Year 4 Term 1B Overview

Spelling that are in red are a Year 4 statutory requirement and statutory words highlighted in red are from the Year 4 statutory spelling list. The additional words are common spelling rules and spelling words from the Year 4 word list and common spelling rules from the Year 4 statutory spelling list.

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7
... (text continues with weekly word lists)

Year 4 Term 2B Overview

Spelling that are in red are a Year 4 statutory requirement and statutory words highlighted in red are from the Year 4 statutory spelling list. The additional words are common spelling rules and spelling words from the Year 4 word list and common spelling rules from the Year 4 statutory spelling list.

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7
... (text continues with weekly word lists)

Year 4 Term 3B Overview

Spelling that are in red are a Year 4 statutory requirement and statutory words highlighted in red are from the Year 4 statutory spelling list. The additional words are common spelling rules and spelling words from the Year 4 word list and common spelling rules from the Year 4 statutory spelling list.

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7
... (text continues with weekly word lists)

Any questions?