

Meet the Teacher 2026



Opening Doors, Enriching Lives


We are now on Facebook:



Tanfield Lea Community Primary School

216 followers • 2 following

Opening Doors, Enriching Lives

 School



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](https://www.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 (4MAC)

Miss Davis – mixed Y3 and Y4 (3/4D)

Lower Key Stage 2 teachers:

Mr MacDonald

Miss Davis

Miss Keith

Care Value

Learn Value



Opening Doors, Enriching Lives

Our School Values.



Turn Up

Attendance at school is so important. We want you to turn up to school physically but also turn up with the right attitude, ready to learn.



Learn

We really want you to learn lots of new things in school.



Care

As well as learning new skills, we want the you to care about your progress, care about others and care about your community.



Persevere

We want you to develop a 'Growth Mindset' to keep going when facing difficulties so that in the end you can shine!



Shine

We want you to succeed, both in school work and as a young person. We will celebrate your successes and enjoy watching you develop from Pre-School through to Year 6 and beyond!

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 have a class lesson on **Wednesday** and then daily practice on **Thursday** and **Friday**
- *Xtables* - we have daily practice on xtables

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: Arbor App

You will have already downloaded the free Arbor app and registered for an account.

Please ensure that if you change your email address or mobile number you let us know immediately, or update it via the Arbor app.

This system allows you access at any time to:

- receive messages from school
- make payments for dinner money;
- make payments for school visits etc;
- track how much you have paid/what is outstanding;
- view your child's records.



What We Will Be Learning

Tanfield Lea Community Primary School
Foundation Yearly Overview
Cycle B
Year Group 3/4



Term and Topic	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
	Charlotte's Web	Mighty Mountains	How to Train your Dragon	Romans	There is a Pharaoh in the bath	The Impossibly Possible Bookshop

A screenshot of the school's website. The header features the school logo and a banner image of the school building with trees. Below the banner is a navigation menu with the following items: Home, About Us, Key Information, Curriculum (highlighted with a red box), Parents, Children, SEND, Community, and Contact Us. The main content area is titled "Our Curriculum" and contains four circular icons representing different subjects: English (with a notepad and pencil), Mathematics (with mathematical symbols like +, -, x, =), Science (with a microscope), and Computing (with a computer monitor).

Home / Our Curriculum

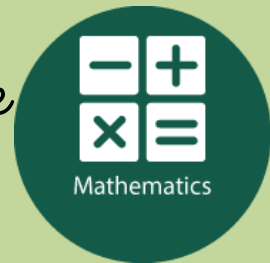
Our Curriculum

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Computing

Learn Value

How we teach Maths

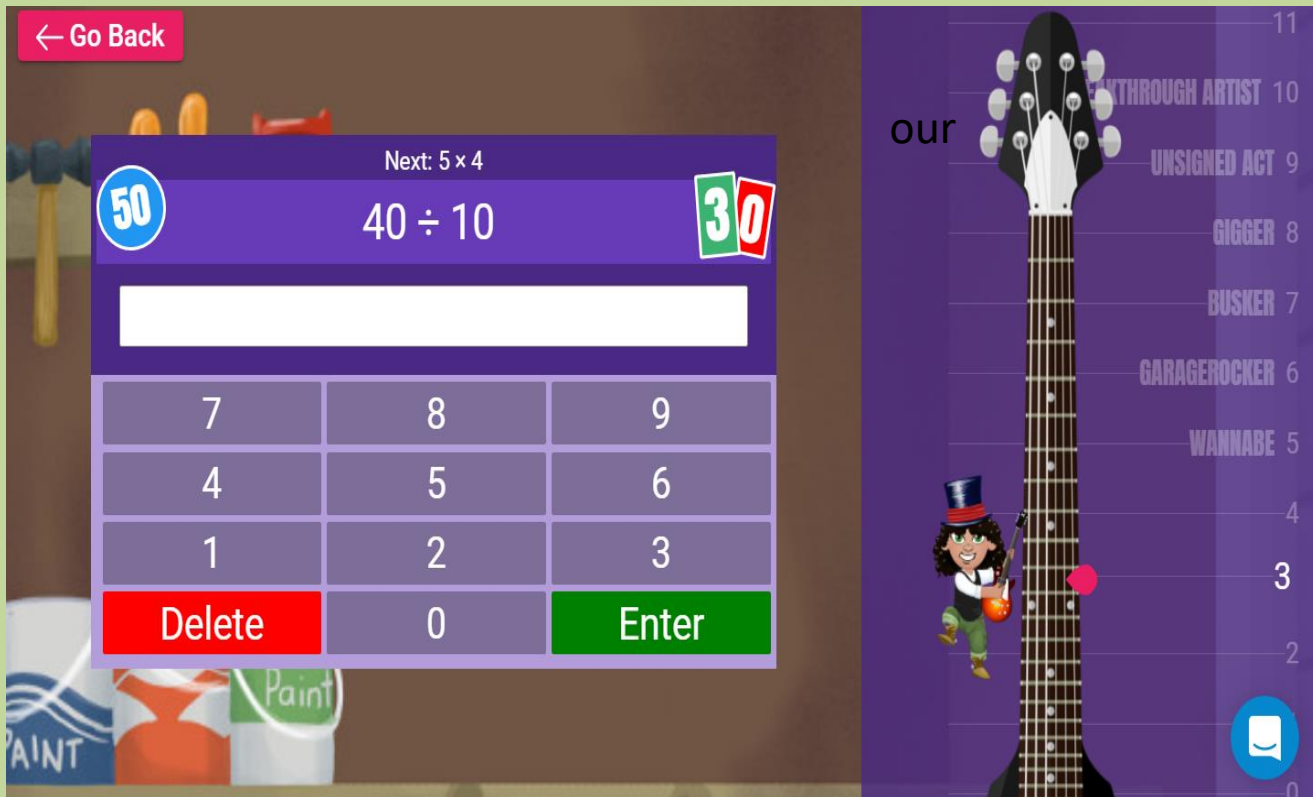
- We teach Maths in blocks which focus on a key area of maths. Sometimes these blocks can last for 3 weeks.
- This allows children time to get to grips with new and important skills as well as apply them to problems.
- We also **revisit** previously taught blocks to help the learning stick.
- You can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



Tanfield Lea Community Primary School - Maths Long Term Plan—Year 4—Autumn

Key Skills	CATCH UP	CATCH UP	ARITHMETIC	REVISIT—Y3 Shape	CATCH UP	CATCH UP	ARITHMETIC
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Number: Place Value				Number: Addition & Subtraction		Assessment
	Recognise the place value of each digit in a four-digit number Order and compare numbers beyond 1000	Recognise the place value of each digit in a four-digit number Identify, represent and estimate numbers using different representations	Round any number to the nearest 10, 100 or 1000	Count in multiples of 6, 7, 9, 25 and 1000. Find 1000 more or less than a given number	Add numbers with up to 4 digits using the formal written subtraction where appropriate.	Subtract numbers with up to 4 digits using the formal written subtraction where appropriate	Time allocate for assessment. May occur at a different time of the term as indicated.

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.

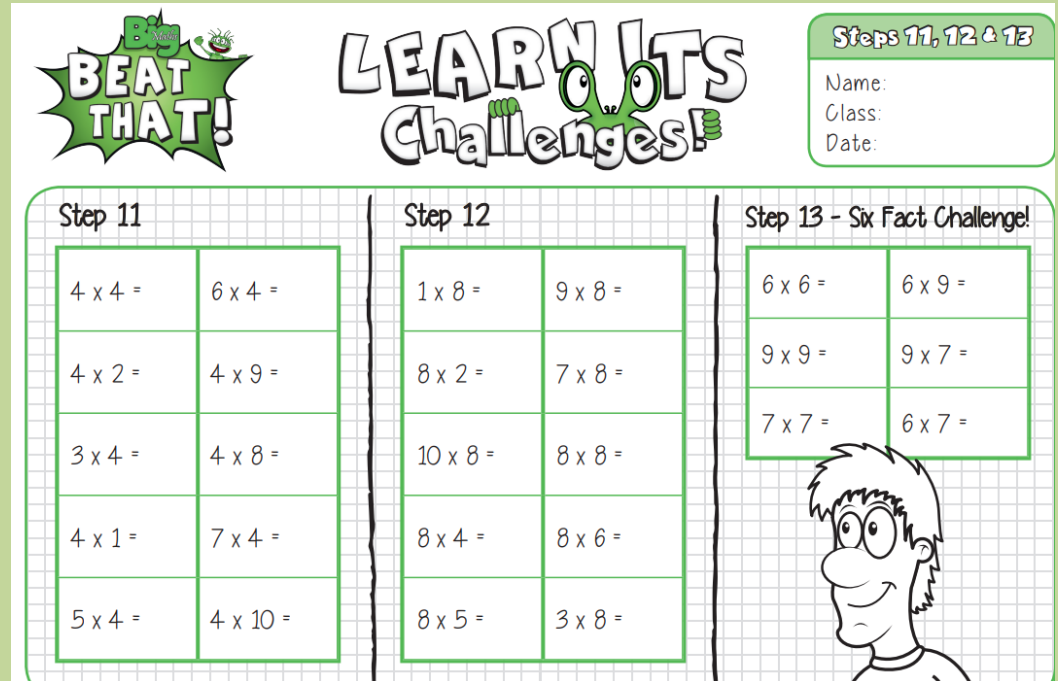


TTRS is a major tool in preparing children for the national times table tests in June.

Learn Value

Big Maths - Once a Week

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



BEAT THAT!

LEARN ITS Challenges!

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!

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



Arithmetic practice – 30 minutes – 36 questions

Ranging from more straight-forward to complex questions, we will regularly practise arithmetic questions in smaller chunks or by completing sample arithmetic papers.

1	$39 + 673 =$	<input type="text"/> 1 mark
[Grid area for working out]		

2	$\frac{9}{11} - \frac{4}{11} =$	<input type="text"/> 1 mark
[Grid area for working out]		

32	$9^2 - 36 \div 9 =$	<input type="text"/> 1 mark
[Grid area for working out]		

34	28% of 650 =	<input type="text"/> 1 mark
[Grid area for working out]		

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 at the start of 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.

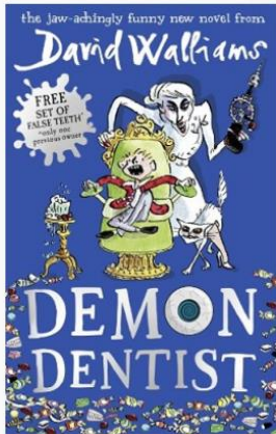
Reading in Year 4

Reading fluency

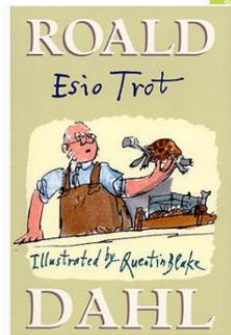
Reading comprehension

What does 20minutes reading a day

look like?



and



My Circus Life

Interview by Kari Kamin



Some people might be good at their jobs, but performer Vladik Miagkostouпов 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

A young child with blonde hair, wearing a light blue short-sleeved shirt, is sitting at a desk and looking intently at a colorful book. A teacher with long brown hair is visible in the background, looking on. The scene is set in a classroom with a computer monitor and shelves in the background.

What parents need to know about Renaissance Accelerated ReaderTM

RENAISSANCE[®]

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



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*

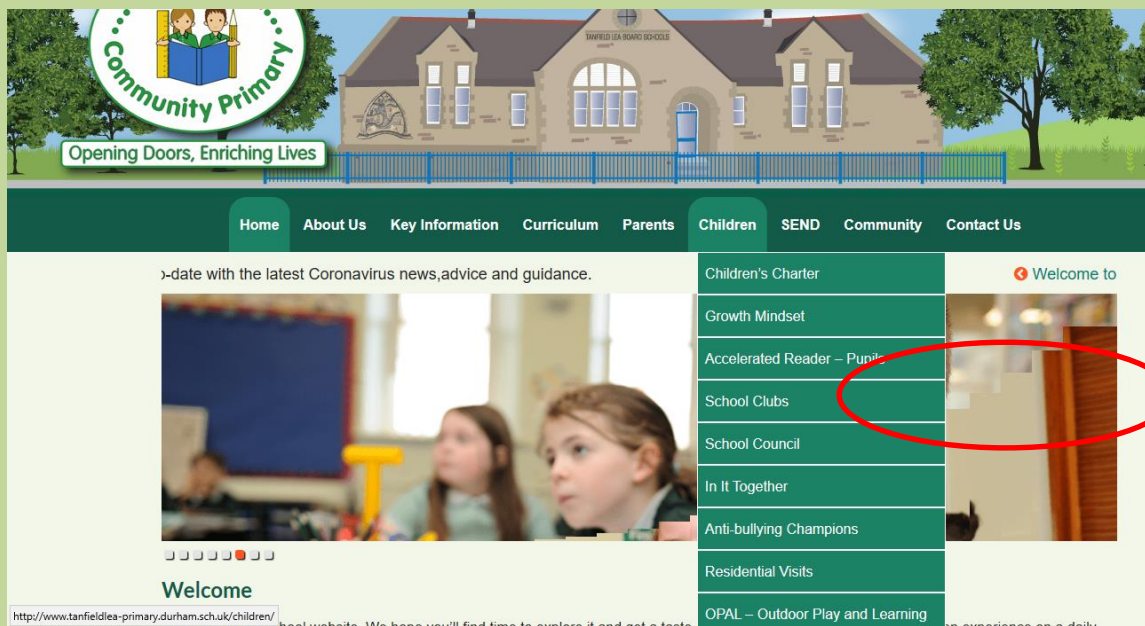
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- Your child has done a test, which has given them a ZPD (a Reading Range e.g. 2.5 – 3.1)

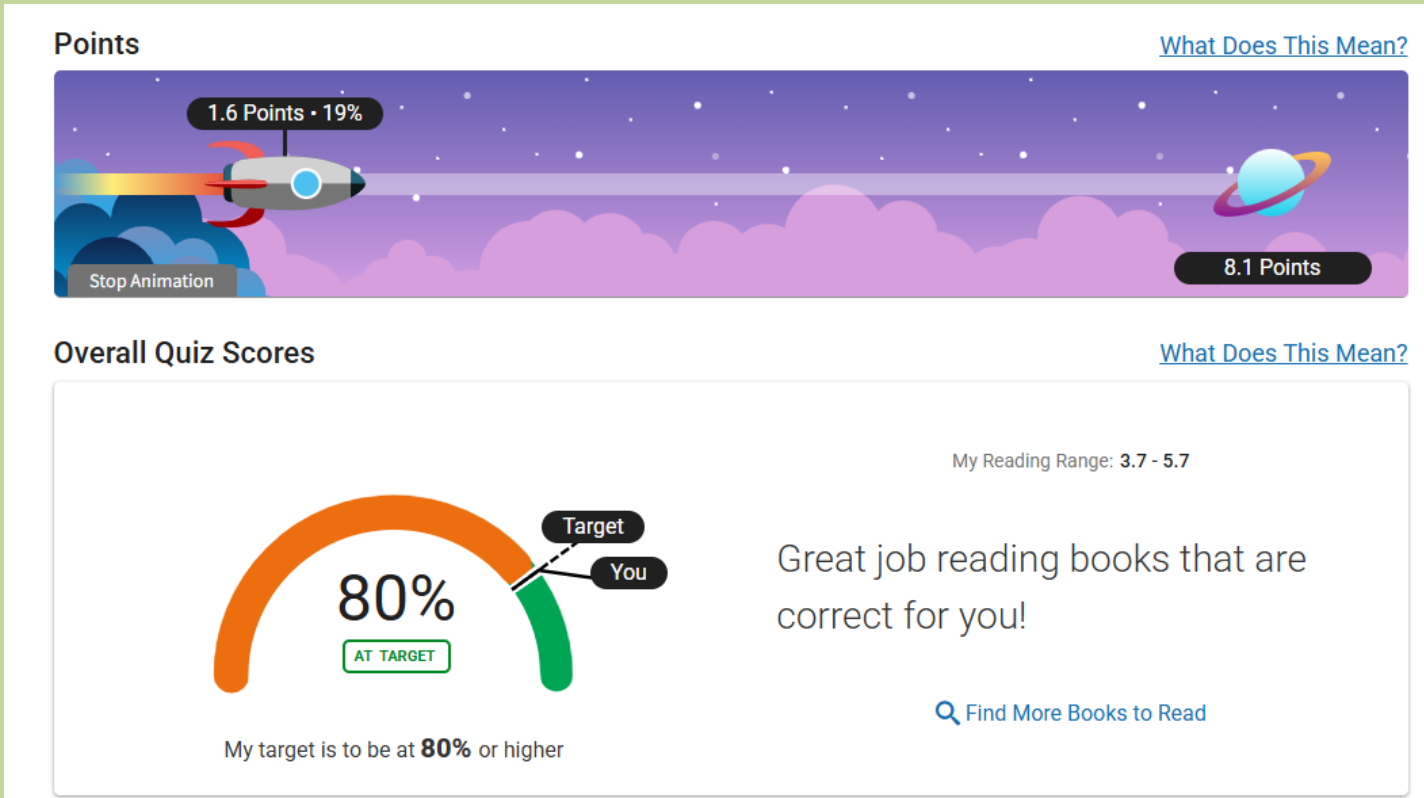
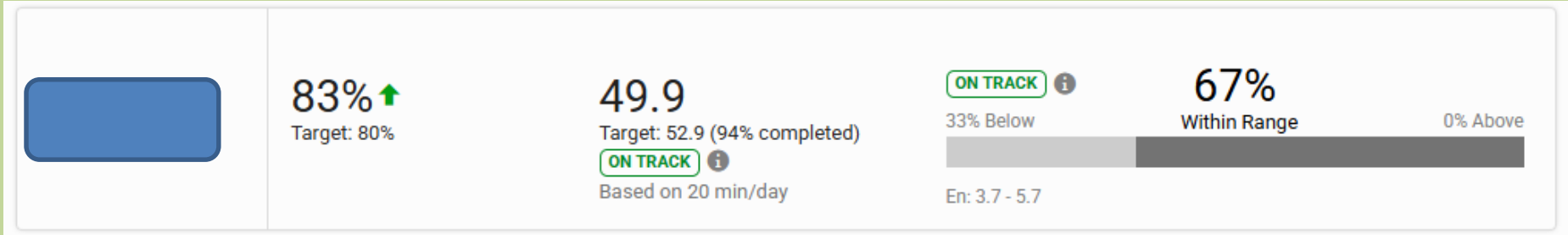
Learn Value

QUIZZES

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



Encouraging Readers.



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.)



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 enjoyment, you need to read at home most nights. In addition to this you must read to 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	Reach for the Stars
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 Remains.		
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.

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

The image displays six tables, each representing a term's spelling schedule. Each table includes a title (e.g., 'Year 4 Term 1A Overview'), a brief description of the word list, and a grid of columns for each week. The columns contain words and their corresponding spelling rules. A 'Save' button is located in the top right corner of the grid, and a 'PROUDLY' logo is in the bottom left corner.

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

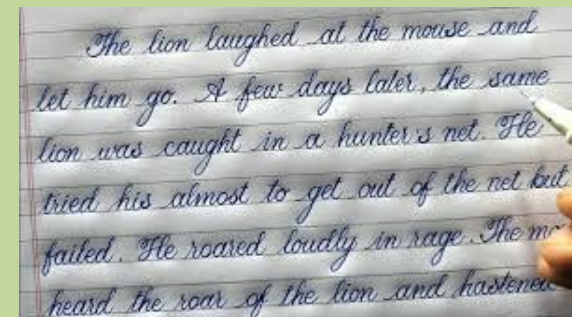
Week 2

ac

ad ag aqu

as ax

The letter formation will be shown in the organiser.



Learn Value



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 ccess 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.

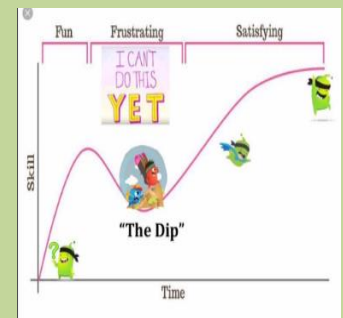
This probably means we've had a great time.

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
 - Collecting countries, beginning with the United Kingdom
 - Recognised in Assembly and with a follow up postcard
- **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

Any questions?

Tanfield Lea Community Primary
are excited

to share the news that we are

EXTENDING OUR PRE-SCHOOL

to offer **two year old places.**

Our Pre-School is an **engaging learning environment** offering children the opportunities to **grow and develop** in a nurturing, caring and loving environment providing the best **strong foundations.**



We have places available for

2 year old children

3 year old children

4 year old children



Please call to arrange a visit on

01207234500

Meet the Head Teacher

After the session, Mr Temple and Mrs Sparkes (PSHE) will hold a short information session at 4.30pm in the Lower School Hall.

The topic is the new Relationships, Sex and Health Education Policy.

We would encourage you to attend.

