

DAHL Class - 2024-2025

 Class Teachers Mrs A Gooderson & Mrs Bull

 TAs Mrs S Penny & Miss Holman



How to help your child make the best possible progress...

Reading

Every child should **read at home every day** - reading is a key life skill and this year we want to continue to promote reading for enjoyment. Last year, the whole school purchased new books to tempt all children to read and we will build on this, this year.

Please ensure your child reads their school reading book every day (or, indeed, a book of their own choice) for at least a few minutes. Please record the date your child has read (with your signature or initials) in the Reading Record, so that the teacher knows how often reading is taking place at home. This way your child can gain their reading gold stars. Your child needs to read at least 5/7 days in one week to gain a gold star and then 5 stars = a reading certificate; 5 certificates = a highly sought-after medal!

On some days, please ask your child questions about what they have just read, to check their understanding. (see attachment) This could include questions such as;

- What do you think will happen next? Why do you think this?
- Which words describe the character/setting? (encourage your child to find evidence from the text)
- Why did the character behave like this?
- How is the character feeling? How do you know this?

Children who struggle to decode will need to read their book again to focus on the comprehension before they can answer these questions.

Over these past few years, as a whole school, we have been focussing on reading fluency. Reading fluency is defined as the ability to read with speed, accuracy, and proper expression. In order to understand what they read, children must be

able to read fluently whether they are reading aloud or silently. When reading aloud, fluent readers read in phrases and add intonation appropriately. Fluency takes phonics or word recognition to the next level. Some children, whom still need extra phonic revision, will also receive extra 'Little Wandle' catch-up sessions with Mrs Penny.

Spellings

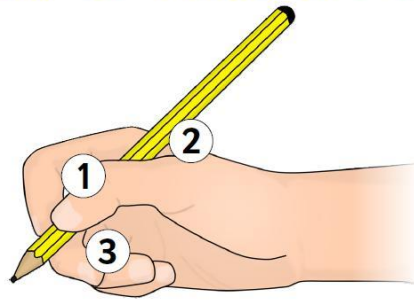
Alongside daily reading, asking your child to **practise spellings at home** is one of the most effective ways you can help them to make progress in their learning. They can practise at home in various ways: through oral/written rehearsal, through 'look, say, cover, write, check' sheets and through inclusion into sentences. In class, we will explore the various spelling rules to match the words on the spelling lists and other words which follow these rules. To extend children further, they can use a dictionary to find other words with the same letter patterns and/or meaning.

- Each child will have an orange book in their book bag where the weekly spelling focus will be stuck on **Thursdays** with Mrs Bull – this will also be their **testing day!**
- In addition, the weekly spellings and/or focus will be put on the class page of the website. Spelling tests will be given to your child in the following format;
- Either through dictations (where the child will be expected to spell the word in a sentence) or through rote tests (e.g. tricky words). Sometimes your child may need additional support through our TRACKs programme/Precision Teaching or revisiting phonics lessons to ensure they do not fall behind with their spelling progress.
- The core high frequency words your child should already know from years 1 and 2 are also in the front of their spelling books and on the website. Please revisit these periodically.

Handwriting

Handwriting letter formation and joining will be practised daily. Children will be encouraged to use the correct pen grip and the correct letter formation initially:

How to Hold a Pencil



1. Put your thumb and forefinger just above the cone shaped part of the pencil.
2. Let the pencil rest between your thumb and forefinger.
3. Then put your middle finger underneath for support.

Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff
Gg Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm
Nn Oo Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt
Uu Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz

twinkl
www.twinkl.co.uk

For more information on the year group expectation, please read the school's Handwriting Policy in the Non- Statutory Document section of the school's website.

Maths

Please practise at home:

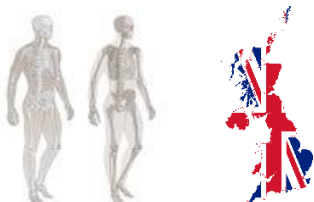
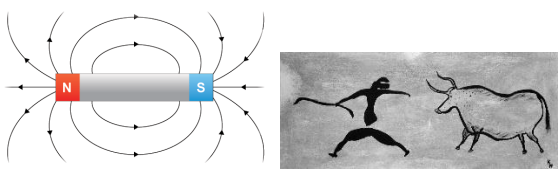
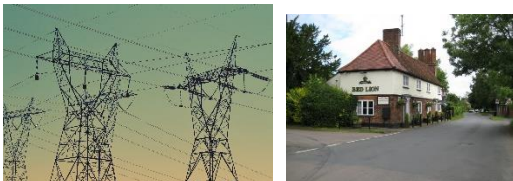
- **Year 3:** $\times 2/\times 5/\times 10/\times 3/\times 4/\times 6/\times 8$ tables and related division facts (fact families) - to enable rapid recall by end of academic year.
- **Year 4:** All of the times tables to $\times 12$ and related division facts (fact families) - to enable rapid recall in readiness for the Year 4 Times Table SAT in June.
- Counting forwards and backwards to 100 if not secure/1000 and beyond.
- Revise Number bonds to 100
- Reading scales with 2, 4, 5 or 10 intervals
- Recognising the names of 2d/3d shapes and identifying them in the world around us.
- Practising accurate measurement in m/cm/mm/g/kg/ml/l
- Telling the time on both digital and analogue watches to the nearest 5 minutes, including Roman numeral watches and the 24-hour clock.

- Money/coin counting and exchange in shops.

There will always be a maths fluency lesson, incorporating some of these aspects of maths and also the NCETM Times Table mastery programme. If you are unsure of any of the 'Maths mastery' calculation strategies used in class, please ask for a demonstration.

Finally, please ask your child to log into the 'TTRockstars' website and challenge themselves and others in times table recall. This also includes the related division facts. Your child will be re-issued their login details in September.

In KS2 each subject is taught separately as follows:

<u>Autumn term 2024:</u> 	• Science - Human body including teeth • Geography - the United Kingdom and counties
<u>Spring term 2025:</u> 	• Science - Forces & Magnets • History - Changes in Britain (Stone Age to Iron Age)
<u>Summer term 2025:</u> 	• Science - Electricity • History - Local History • Geography - Study of the local area - Weston

For more details of our broad and balanced curriculum. Please look on the school website for our curriculum overviews.

Optional Home Learning

Every term, your child can also complete a range of optional home learning tasks linked to the topic for the term (see topics above). Tasks are designed to be completed interactively by a parent/adult working with the child. We hope that this will give you an opportunity to discuss the term's topic with your child.

Some suggestions are:

- PowerPoint presentation
- Piece of art work
- Model
- Piece of writing e.g. newspaper report/diary entry/story
- Brochure
- Comic strip/storyboard
- Poster
- Poem/song
- Fact files
- Purple Mash activities
- Own idea

Please may we ask that it is kept to **A4/A3 size** so we can place it in the matching books and/or put it on our 'Pegs of Pride' in class - thank you!

PE

We have timetabled both PE lessons on **Thursdays and Fridays**, but days could change (for example, due to the weather or extra event). Therefore, please ensure your child has the correct PE kit (link) **at school every day**. Mrs Bull will be teaching Dahl class for both sessions.

Communication

Please refer to the school's Communication Summary

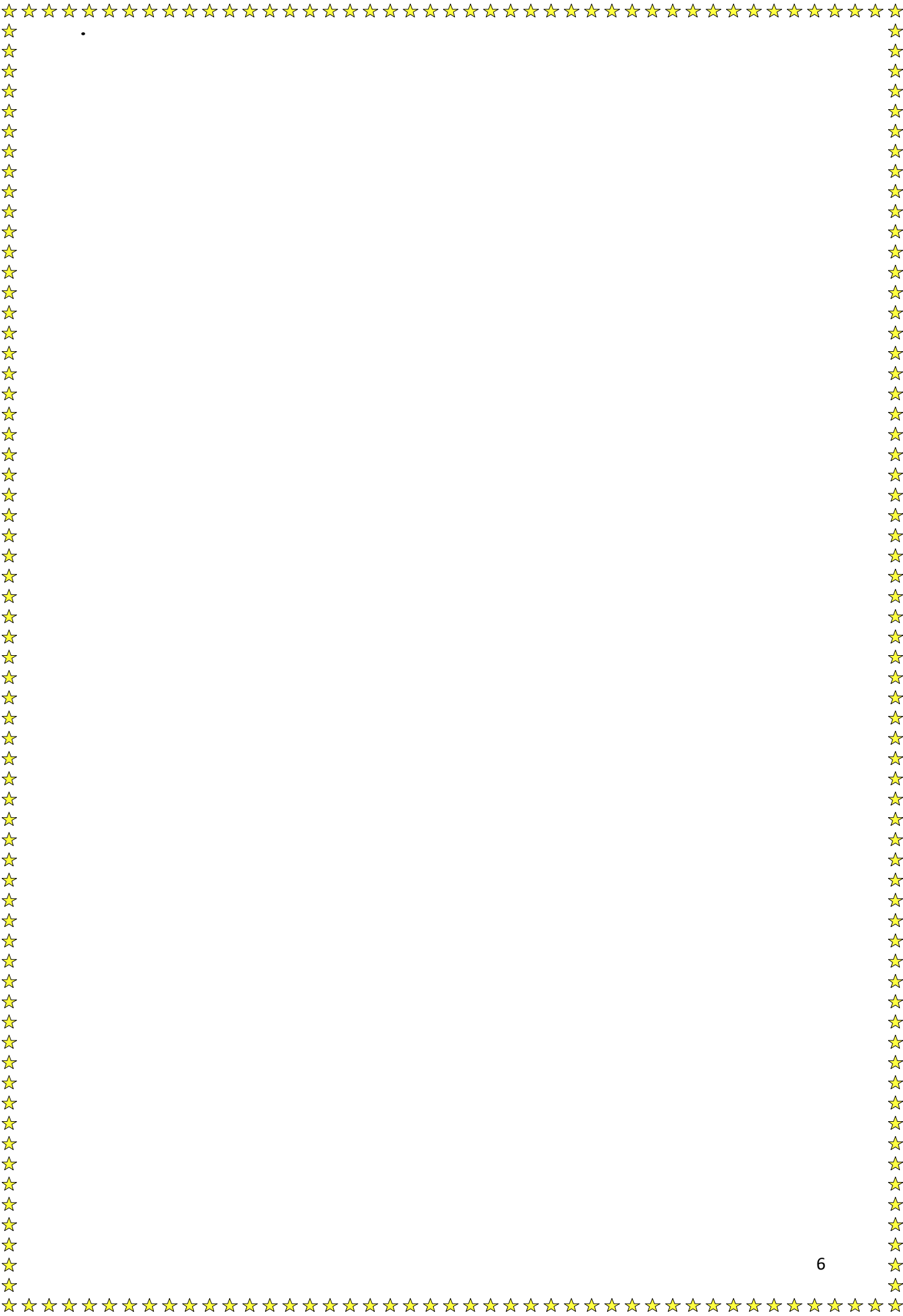
<https://www.weston.herts.sch.uk/parentschool-communication/>

Other

The school will provide the children with all the stationery they will need, so we please ask that all pencil cases and personal stationery are kept at home.

Best wishes

Mrs Alison Gooderson & Mrs Sally Bull



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