



Reception Parents' Meeting 2023

Monday 16th September



Key Staff

Monday – Wednesday: Mrs Harper

Thursday and Friday: Miss Anderson

Support Staff: Miss Shirley, Mrs Boyle, Miss Wawryka and Mrs Cox



Attendance

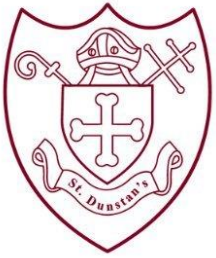
- It is essential that your child maintains good attendance so that they are not missing out on valuable learning content.
- We monitor attendance and punctuality starting in Reception and this is communicated by the amount of days off
 - Monitoring letters automatically sent out
 - Home visits on 3rd day regardless of whether we know a reason or not
- Gates open at 8.30am and the gates close at 8.50am.
- Please ensure that your child is punctual for school. Lessons in Reception will start at 8.50am



PE

- Children need PE kits in school at all times.
- Wednesday is EYFS's PE day, but opportunities for PE may arise on other days.
- PE kits will be sent home at the end of each half-term to be washed.





Topics / Subject Blocks

On our website you will find details of which subject blocks we are teaching and what your child is learning.

The over-arching Catholic teaching themes for each term are:

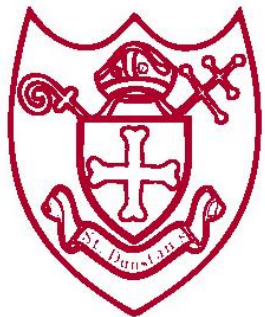
Autumn Term: Family and Community

Spring Term: Dignity of Work

Summer: Solidarity and the Common Good

W/B	Blocked Subject Focus
2.9.24	Welcome Week BTK – Families and Community
9.9.24	Science
16.9.24	Science
23.9.24	Art
30.09.24	Black History month Little Way Week – St Therese of Lisieux
7.10.24	Black history month Parent Exhibition - <u>Friday 11th</u>
14.10.24	Geography
21.10.24	Geography

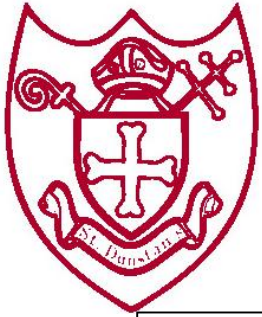
W/B	Blocked Subject Focus
4.11.24	Science
11.11.24	Science
18.11.24	Anti-Bullying Week Families and Community
25.11.24	Health and Well-being Assessment Week
2.12.24	History
9.12.24	History
16.12.24	Corporal Acts of Mercy – Advent DT



Trips

- Children will have a chance to attend trips, or have visitors into school throughout the year to enhance their learning.
- Further information will be sent once these have been confirmed.





In Reception Class, children and parents are expected to:

- Read every day – this can be sharing stories, making up stories in word free or picture books, spotting known words and letters, shared reading to model, independent reading as time goes on to listen to your child, then chat about the language and characters etc.
- Develop fine motor skills at home through play and focused activities (such as buttoning, sorting, gluing, using scissors, using playdough, drawing, tracing, copying, writing letters, names and labels using different types of pens/pencils to build finger strength)

- Practise handwriting regularly so that children start Year 1 with all of their letter and number shapes correct
- Practise phonics (phases 2–4) regularly with a big focus on the sounds they can hear in words and the corresponding letters/letter combinations that make those sounds
- Play counting games/activities regularly to support number fluency and confidence
- Developing independency in increasing aspects of their life (dressing and undressing, pouring, using cutlery, going to the toilet properly by themselves etc.)

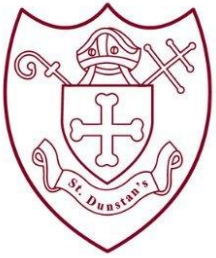


Homework

Reception

- KIRFs
- Numbots
- Reading
- Phonics
- Tricky Words





Reading

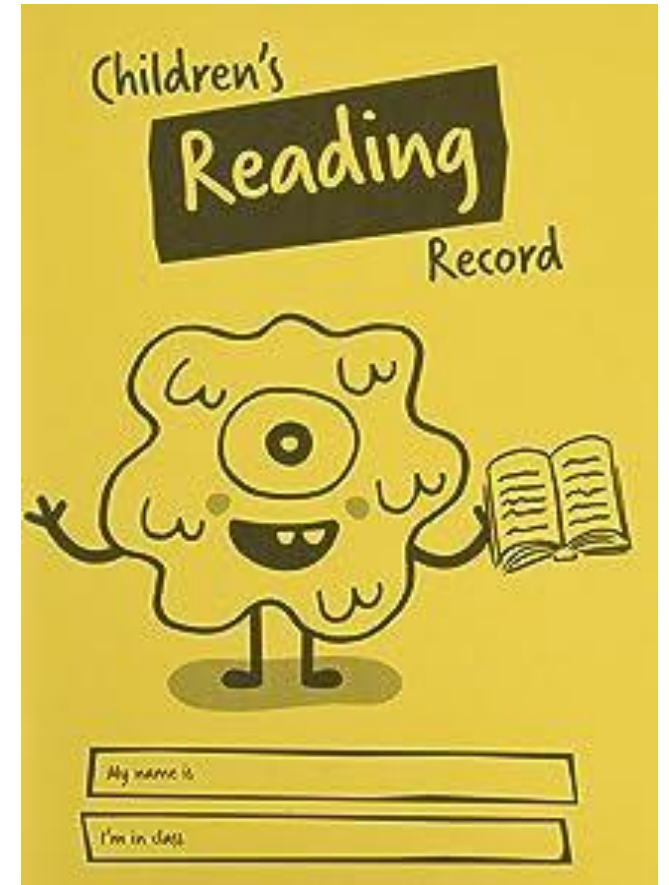
Reading is at the heart of what we do here at St Dunstan's.

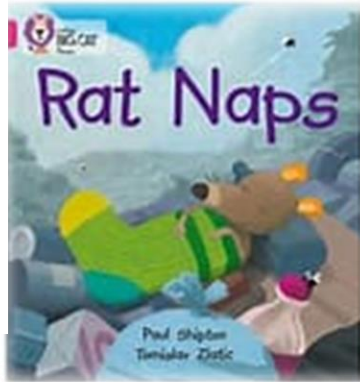
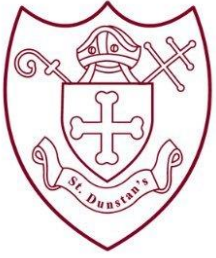
There are lots of opportunities for your child to read at school but we ask that each child reads for **ten minutes every day** when at home too.

As well as listening to your child's word reading, we ask that you support your child in developing their **comprehension** – the understanding of the text.

Big Cat books have questions on the inside cover of each book that you can ask to help guide your child's thinking skills.

Please record your child's reading in the provided record book. You may add comments of praise for your child and/or make note of any words/sounds/ideas that they found difficult.





Each child will be assigned a **Big Cat** book from the colour banded school library.

These books are used for our reading lessons and will only be sent home after the children are deemed confident with the text.



Your child has **free choice** of the unbanded books from their class library.

These books are simply to be enjoyed through sharing. They may be above or below the child's reading level but have been chosen by the children, based on their interests.

Your child must bring all books into school, in a school uniform bookbag **every day**.

Please keep books safe and well looked after when at home.

Lost or damaged school books will incur a replacement cost.



Phonics

Reception encounter daily phonics teaching at school – using a programme devised by **Little Wandle Phonics Scheme**. This is a fast-paced, well-structured sequence of lessons that develops your child into a confident reader.

During phonics, children learn the **pure sounds**. Currently, the children have learned 6 new phonemes – ‘satpin’.

Sometimes your child will come home with a phonics activity to do as 'homework' - we strongly encourage your support with this at home, on top of daily reading, to help your child keep up with the reading expectations at our school. Phonics keep-up interventions are offered daily to any child who needs additional support.



[Littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk](https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk) have helpful resources to help parents support their children at home with early reading.

Support for
phonics

How we teach

Books coming
home

Useful videos



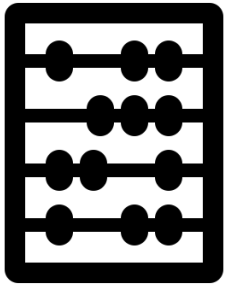
How we teach tricky words



How we teach blending



KIRFS are designed to support the development of the mental skills that underpin much of the maths work in schools. They are particularly useful when calculating, be it adding, subtracting, multiplying or dividing.



An important part of maths development has always been rote learning of certain maths facts, e.g. times tables and number bonds.

Each half term your child will be assessed on KIRFs which they are taught in school but these must be practised at home too. The aim is that they know their KIRFs **thoroughly** and can recall them **instantly**.

Parent Guides

I can recite the number names to 5.
I can touch count to 3.

By the end of this term, children should be able to say the number names to 5.
The aim is for them to recall these numbers **instantly**.

Children should say the following number names although they may not say them in order yet:

0 1 2
3 4 5

Touch counting

Children will sometimes count objects more than once or miss an object out that needs to be counted. Encourage your child to line up objects and touch each one as they count saying one number per object. This will also help to avoid children counting more quickly than they touch the objects which again shows they have not grasped one-to-one correspondence.



Take your finger, touch the object and count. Keep your finger on the object until you say the number. Touch and count each object you see.

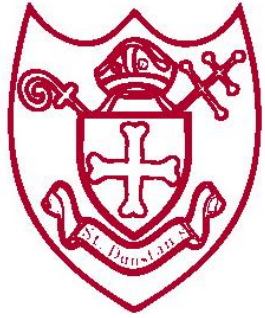
Tools to help at home:

Numbots for Reception, Daily Ten and Hit the button which can both be found through these web links.

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/daily10>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

(All links can be found on your parent guide)



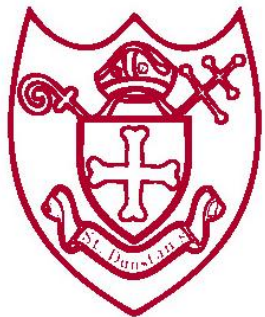
Marvellous Me



Marvellous Me is an app for you to download so that you can be informed about your child's learning and progress at school on a daily basis.

Children are awarded **badges** for a variety of reasons such as great effort, or beautiful manners and you will be notified of these via the App.

Teachers will also send an **activity** home daily which shares with you what they learnt that day. If you have misplaced Marvellous Me logins please let us know.



Enrichment Days

This year, we will be introducing '**Enrichment Days,**' which are days dedicated to celebrating extra-curricular activities. We aim to provide our pupils with a wealth of enrichment experiences throughout their time at St Dunstan's School.

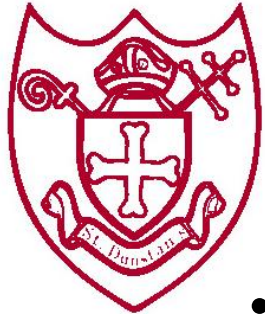
Autumn Term - 25th October – Enrichment Day of Sports, Arts and Crafts

Spring Term - 14th February– Enrichment Day of Sports, Arts and Crafts

- 11th April – 'No Pens Day'

Summer Term – 9th May – Cultural Day

- 19th May– St Dunstan's Day



Wellness Wednesdays

- Every Wednesday, children will have the opportunity to attend an after school club free of charge!
- Dates and details of the clubs for the Autumn term will be sent out shortly, with instructions about how to sign up to one of these clubs.
- Consent will need to be given and a commitment to attend every session.



Thank you for supporting your child with their learning.

All information shared with you today will also be available on our
school website