



Maidwell Primary School

www.maidwellprimary.net



Newsletter No 137

Summer.2 2026

Diary Dates

Start of Term:
1st June

End of Term:
17th July

Our website includes a diary/calendar function which is maintained as our central point of information for all dates of events and activities in school.

There is also an option to download entries from the website into your own diary / calendar.

<https://www.maidwellprimary.net/Diary/>

Medication before school.



If you give your child any medication before school, (i.e. inhaler, nurofen...) please ensure a member of staff is verbally informed **AND** the online form is completed:

<https://www.maidwellprimary.net/Forms/>

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the final term of this school year. I do hope you and your family have had an opportunity to enjoy the weather during the half-term holiday.

It seems incredible that we are now only 7 weeks away from the end of this school year - but we have a full diary to pack in between now and then: sports day, whole school performance of Shrek and the KS2 residential to name just a few.

In addition, there will of course be the opportunity for the children to spend some time in their new classes getting to know their new teachers when we have our shuffle-up afternoon & morning.

Mr Woods

WATER BOTTLES

Water bottles should always be brought in to school and should only contain unflavoured water please.

Significant damage can be caused to teeth if children drink sugary drinks (even no-added sugar drinks) without the opportunity to clean their teeth soon after drinking. We encourage the children to drink all through the day so if they are regularly drinking a sugar based drink, their teeth could potentially be exposed to sugar throughout the day.

If your child does not have a bottle in school, they will be provided with a loan bottle. Please can any bottle borrowed be washed and returned. *Thank you.*



PARKING REMINDER

Thank you for parking with care and consideration in the vicinity of the school:

- Our neighbours experience difficulties when exiting/entering their driveways if cars are parked opposite them.
- Please do not use the entrance to the staff car park as a turning area as staff are often leaving/arriving at the same time as pupils.
- Please remember that the lane by the church is vehicular access for residential driveways and houses and should be kept clear at all times.

Please ensure any grandparents/childminders are also aware of these pointers.

Thank you



All electronic documents: newsletters, letters, forms and policies are available in printed form - please ask at the school office.

Food Allergies

Please remember that we are a **nut-free school** due to having children with **SEVERE** nut allergies in our classes. **Please ensure packed lunches are nut free.**
Thank you for your consideration.



Birthday sweets, cakes and other edible celebratory treats.

Please do not send any edible sweets or treats into school for other children to share.
This includes birthdays, festivals or other celebrations. Instead, we would welcome an inscribed book donation for the school library. **** Thank you for the books we have recently received. ****

Whilst I can understand the disappointment and frustration with the above request, I do hope you can understand why this has to be the case. If you are unsure and would like further clarification or just to share your thoughts on this, please feel free to contact me. Mr Woods

Term Dates

Full academic year dates are published on the school website and include the school's five Staff Training Days. **Training days are not detailed on the calendar on West Northamptonshire Council's website.**

Open Library Sessions

Open Library Sessions continue on a Tuesday after school.

In addition to the children being able to access our library, our adults' library is also permanently available adjacent to the main school entrance - please feel free to browse.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Please remember that we need 48 hours' notice if you wish to book an ad-hoc place. If you wish to cancel your pre-booked commitment, the school needs a term's notice to enable us to adjust staffing provision. Breakfast Club costs £5.80 per session, is available from 8am and includes a breakfast and activities until the start of the school day at 9am.

Notice Period Reminder

Please remember that all sessions charged by the school (Breakfast Club and Get Outside Club) require a **FULL TERM'S NOTICE** (ie: two half terms) if you no longer wish for your child to use the facilities.

Please remember that **PE Kit in school colours** is to be worn in school **ALL DAY** on a Monday and Thursday. On colder days, **children are asked to wear tracksuit bottoms** for the day. It would be appreciated if PE kit did not include printed / overly colourful T-shirts or other items of fashion clothing. Plain clothing (or PE kit with the school logo) would be preferred.
Outdoor trainers (in addition to the footwear being worn indoors) would also be appreciated if the ground outdoors is wet / muddy.



PE (including year 4 swimming) is a statutory, not optional, part of the school curriculum and as such every step possible must be taken to ensure your child can take part - please speak to us if you are concerned about your child's participation in their PE lessons.

Safeguarding at Maidwell Primary School

- **Safeguarding is given the highest priority at Maidwell Primary School.**
- Safeguarding is everyone's business.
- ***It could happen here.***
- Designated Lead for Safeguarding (DSL): **Mr Geoff Woods**
- Deputy Designated Lead for Safeguarding (DDSL): **Mrs Tracey Wake**
- Please find Maidwell Primary School's Safeguarding Policy on the school website.
- If you have any concerns please report your concern to the DSL or DDSL.

Road safety:

Please can we remind you that children should be accompanied onto the playground before school and back to cars at the end of the day. Draughton Road is narrow, does not have a footpath, and is often used by large vehicles so, despite being a village lane, our road does have a significant number of hazards.

When dropping off children for breakfast club, please ensure they are **escorted** to the breakfast club entrance by an adult.

Please use the path from the playground and never use the car park entrance.

Picking up at the end of the school day / after a school club:

Can we please remind you that if your child is being picked up by someone other than yourself, we require you to inform us in advance. Doing so will avoid delay at the end of the school day. Please be mindful to avoid telephoning with regular changes close to the end of the school day, particularly on a Thursday or Friday when the school office is not permanently covered. The end of the school day is an especially busy time for all the school staff and you may experience your call not being answered in time.

Bumped Heads

Please remember that the school will inform you if your child has had a head bump by placing a head-bump wristband on their wrist. Details of the bump will be recorded on the wristband.

If your child is wearing a head-bump wristband when they come home, please refer to the school website for further head-bump advice. <https://www.maidwellprimary.net/Information/Health-and-Medical/>

If you are in any doubt concerning your child's health as a result of their head-bump, please do not delay in seeking medical assistance for your child.

Please take time to review your ParentPay account on a regular basis and ensure any payments are made in a timely fashion. We don't always send out separate reminders for payments due.



IRIS Please take time to review your ParentMail account on a regular basis to ensure your contact details are up to date **including a mobile phone number to receive SMS text messages.**

Please also detail any changes in emergency contact details **SEPARATELY and DIRECTLY** to the school office.



Martin Young will be joining us via Zoom on **Monday 8th June** to support us by creating images to further illustrate our stories and provide the children with writing stimuli for the term.

Thank you to the Maidwell with Draughton Parish Council who have generously supported us with a financial grant towards replacing our applifier and speakers in the hall.



We are looking forward to no more hiss, crackle or interference when the new equipment is installed.

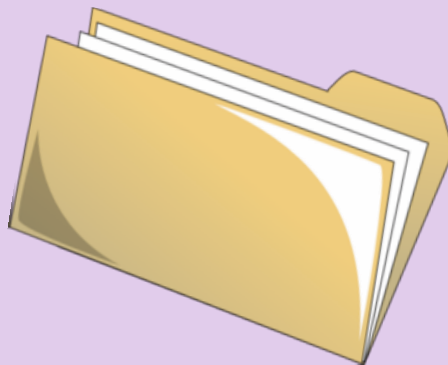
AFTERSCHOOL CLUBS (All years including Reception)

- ❖ If you would like to book a space for your child at the school's Get Outside Club (Tuesday) please contact the school office.
- ❖ For all our sports clubs (Mon, Wed & Thurs) please visit:
www.freestylegroup.co.uk
- ❖ For our Science club (Friday) please visit:
www.atomicscience.org/online-bookings

SHUFFLE UP DAYS: 22nd June (PM) 2nd July (AM)

IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS

The following policies are significant documents that can always be found on our [website](#):



- School Behaviour Policy
- Attendance Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

All of our other policies can also be found in the same area of the website. Policies can be provided in hard copy printed format if you would prefer. Please ask at the office.

The following forms are particular forms that you may find useful and these can always be found on our [website](#):



- Leave of Absence request
- Off-site Visit - Parental Consent
- Medical and medication forms

All of our other forms can also be found in the same area of the website. Forms can be provided in hard copy printed format if you would prefer. Please ask at the office.

Online Safety: In school we use a number of defences to ensure both our computer systems, staff and children are safe when we use the internet. These include:

- Exa Networks provide our internet filtering through a product called SurfProtect. This protection is always on and cannot be bypassed.
- Ashby Computers manage our network updates including Windows OS updates and our anti-virus, a product called ESET.

All of these systems are monitored by school staff and governors.



Medication before school

If your child is given some medication before school, such as Calpol, please ensure this is detailed to us via the form:

[Medication administered before school notification](#)

Medication administered before school notification



Maidwell Primary School
 (01604) 686240
busar@maidwell.northants-scl.gov.uk
www.maidwellprimary.net
 Draughton Road
 Maidwell
 Northants
 NN6 9JF
 Headteacher: Mr Geoff Woods

Information entered on this form is stored securely on the Cognito Forms platform until we download your submission. Submissions are then immediately deleted from the Cognito platform. For your information and GDPR compliance, please note the Cognito Forms platform is hosted outside of the UK / Europe.

Child's FIRST Name and Surname INITIAL (do not include your child's full surname) *

Child's class: *

☐ Reception ☐ Class 1 ☐ Class 2 ☐ Class 3

Medication: *

Reason for medication: *

Administration details (time, quantity, how):
Please detail WHEN the medication was administered and HOW much was administered.

Date administered: *

I can confirm that the medication detailed above was administered to my child as specified.

Signed (enter full name as signature) * Date *

If your child is taken ill suddenly during the day and we need to consult with a doctor or the ambulance service in your absence, it is essential we can detail what medication your child may have received that day.

Likewise, if your child takes regular medication or has a change in their medication, please ensure we are updated as soon as possible.

Routine Medical Appointments.

Wherever possible, please try and schedule routine doctors, dentist and optician appointments outside of core school time (9am to 3:30pm). School absences for medical appointments should be notified via: [Application for Leave of Absence](#)

Documentation of the appointment can also be provided via the link on the form which can prove useful should the DfE / WNC later challenge your request.

Our attendance registers are continually monitored (DfE / WNC) for regular patterns of absence and numerous routine medical appointments may well be flagged as unauthorised rather than authorised.

An authorised absence (medical) will not be granted for appointments across an entire day without prior discussion.

Thank You

Attendance

At Maidwell Primary School we know that good attendance is the key to successful schooling. We believe that all our pupils are entitled to the highest standard of education and are capable of achieving great things. However, this is only possible if children attend school every day.



All schools are obliged to rigorously monitor and challenge poor pupil attendance including **regular lateness**.

Regular absence is identified by considering those children who may be below the threshold of 96% attendance.

Persistent absence (below 90%) will often trigger involvement with the WNC attendance officers where further support can be discussed and offered.

The law states that children should attend school every day and there is no entitlement for parents to take their child on holiday during term time. It makes it clear that Headteachers cannot authorise any absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

I hope you can appreciate from the details above that attendance is very closely monitored, not just by school, but also by WNC and the DfE - our registers are electronically uploaded to the WNC and DfE on a daily basis.

I urge you to contact me and discuss any potential reasons for an absence or regular lateness to see if we can help in anyway to avoid further problems. Likewise, if you are concerned about your child's current attendance record, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you, *Mr Woods*

TIMES-TABLES



Times-tables are an essential tool for any child to be successful in maths.

So many aspects of maths can be hampered without sufficient times-tables knowledge but how can we encourage our children to learn them?

Whole class times-tables 'teaching' in school has a very limited effect.

Children need to 'rote learn' their tables, individually - this means committing them to memory as a known fact - something they can recall instantly.

Deriving tables by finger counting, using patterns, counting up in multiples are all excellent methods for practising their tables BUT cannot replace long-term the need for tables to be committed to memory.

We would always recommend a range of learning strategies:

- Verbally chanting,
- Mixed questioning,
- Computer timed games and activities such as RockStars,
- Poems,
- Songs.

No one technique will work for all children. However, what we do know from research is that regular and often is the best approach. **In reality, we have found over the years that 3 minutes daily practise (and it really does mean every day!) is the best way of learning our times-tables.**

If you need further advice on which tables your child should be practising, please contact your child's teacher. Also, if your child's RockStars login isn't working, please contact your child's teacher.

Finally, children in Year 4 sit the national Multiplication Tables Check in June each year. This is a computer based test of 25 random questions from any of the tables up to 12x12 with each individual answer having a time limit of just 6 seconds.

SWIMMING (YEAR 4, SPRING TERM)

Our swimming lessons form an integral part of our core PE curriculum and as such, participation is not optional.



Generally, if children are well enough to attend school then we believe they are well enough to attend their swimming lessons.

However, we appreciate sometimes children may need to miss an isolated lesson as they are recovering from an illness however we would ask that you discuss any longer term problems with a member of staff rather than allowing your child to persistently miss their swimming lessons.

If your child does need to miss their swimming lesson, please detail this in writing (via bursar@maidwell.northants-ecl.gov.uk).

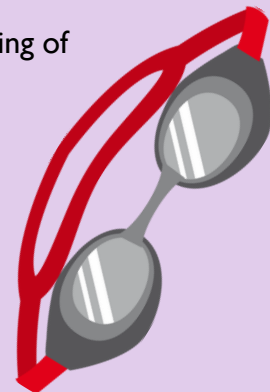
Children need a swimming hat, swimming costume and towel to swim.

Children do not need their own armbands, floats or other swimming aids as these are all provided by the school.

Please also refer to our [information on our website](#) regarding the wearing of goggles as this is not appropriate for all children.

We often find we need to correct children not following the safe procedure for fitting and removing their goggles.

To avoid any eye injuries, please can you review the safety information detailed above and confirm with your child they are confident on how to use their goggles.



HANDGEL

Due to the obvious close proximity between children when in school, bugs and infections can potentially spread quite easily and quickly through a single class / the entire school.

Hand hygiene is an important factor in school as this can limit the spread of infections. Please can we ask that your child(ren) are actively encouraged to use the handgel situated at our doors.

EYFS STORY MORNING

We hold regular Talk for Writing mornings in our EYFS class. Parents of children in Reception are welcome to attend and see how we develop your child's story telling and Talk for Writing skills.

Please refer to our online diary for the date of our next story morning.

ONLINE SAFETY

Online safety is one particular area of our children's lives that is changing on an almost daily basis.

Fortunately, there are a number of particularly good resources available for parents to help navigate the dangers online:



Further information and many of these links can also be found on our school website [online-safety](#) page.

Spotlight: Learning Points

Your child may have mentioned recently that we have updated our Learning Points system using a platform called Criter-Coins.

Our Learning Points remain the same and are given out to children at numerous times throughout the day. Any point of specific learning, attention to detail, insightful comments, close focus on work - in fact anything that demonstrates commitment to their learning.

However, these learning points are now also collected on an online platform so that each class can see their progress against the other two classes.

At the end of the half-term we then calculate a 'winning' class by working out a pro-rata for each class so we can compare the three classes fairly.

The school council discussed a suitable reward and decided that the winning class should receive an extra break-time, on their own.



Message from the NHS School Nurse Team



Did you know that every school has an NHS School Nurse team? We are a team of Qualified School Nurses, Community Staff Nurses, Healthy Child Practitioners and School Nurse Assistants. We work all year-round Monday to Friday (excluding Bank Holidays). We are happy to provide information, advice and guidance on a range of health needs from Reception to Year 13.

We can be contacted:

- By phone - 0800 170 7055 option 4
- Live chat: <https://www.nhft.nhs.uk/0-19>
- www.nhft.nhs.uk/childrenshub
- Chat-Health - our text-based School Nurse messaging service for parents and young people aged 11 and over, Monday to Friday 8:30 to 4:30 - 07507 329600
- On 'X' (twitter) SchoolNursesNHFT

You can also contact us for school aged immunisation queries:

- By phone - 0800 170 7055 option 5
- [Children's resources, tips and advice hub \(NHFT\)](#)

Do I need to keep my child off school?



Chicken Pox Until all spots have crusted over	Conjunctivitis No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Diarrhoea & Vomiting 48 hours from last episode	Glandular Fever No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Hand, foot & mouth No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Impetigo Until lesions are crusted & healed or 48 Hours after commencing antibiotics
Measles or German Measles 4 days from onset of rash	Mumps 5 days from onset of swelling	Scabies Until after first treatment	Scarlet Fever 24 hours after commencing antibiotics	Slapped Cheek No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Whooping Cough 48 Hours after commencing antibiotics
Flu Until recovered	Head Lice No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Threadworms No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Tonsillitis No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed		

LOST PROPERTY

All lost property is kept in a box in the school entrance - please ask and it can be made available to you at any time.

At the end of each half-term, any remaining lost property is checked for names and then stored in a labelled bag. These bags can also be made available to you - please ask at the school office.

After two half-terms, any remaining lost property is disposed of.



Advance Dates



Check out the school diary on our website:

<https://www.maidwellprimary.net/Diary/> for up to date details.

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we move towards the end of the school year, I would like to share a few important updates on behalf of the Governing Body.

We are continuing our search for additional co-opted governors to join us. Maidwell Primary thrives when a broad range of voices and experiences help shape its direction, and we would warmly welcome anyone who may be interested. No prior governance experience is required; however, we would particularly benefit from individuals with experience in education, health and safety, or finance. If you, or someone you know, might be willing to contribute to the school in this way, we would be delighted to hear from you. Please contact the school office to arrange a conversation with me.

I recently attended a Maidwell Parish Council meeting to present a bid for funding on behalf of the school. I am very pleased to share that the Parish Council has generously agreed to fund a new PA system, which will make a significant difference to our assemblies, school performances, and wider events. We are extremely grateful for their support and for the positive relationship we continue to build with them. They have also expressed a willingness to assist with future projects, which is hugely encouraging for the school community.

I would also like to take this opportunity to again express our sincere thanks to Mr Woods, who leaves us at the end of this term. His commitment to the school and its pupils has been greatly appreciated, and we wish him every success in the future. At the same time, we are pleased to welcome Mrs De La Salle, who has already begun several visits to the school to ensure a smooth handover and transition into her new role.

Finally, I want to highlight that there are currently spaces available in each class. These places are important for the school's budget and long-term stability. If you know of any families considering a change of school or looking for a nurturing, high-quality primary setting, please do encourage them to arrange a tour. Word of mouth from our parent community is incredibly valuable.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support of Maidwell Primary School.

Yours faithfully,

Tom Wise

Chair of Governors Maidwell Primary School

Yoga

I love our yoga sessions because it really calms me and it helps me stay focused in our learning back in class. I have tried using the slow breathing we have learnt in yoga when I get home and this helps to calm me down at home. Thank you to our yoga teacher for being so kind and reminding us about the tortoise and hare story as this helps me to slow down. This has really helped me when I am writing sentences.

Archie

Reception Sports Event

We travelled on a small bus with lots of seats inside. I sat next to Mrs Lowther and on the way we saw lots of things out of the window - people walking, trees and other fun things. We played lots of games including jumping over hurdles, throwing a ball at cones on a bench, long jump and races with bean bags. I really liked the trip because it was fun and nice to make new friends.

Nell

Sharing Assembly

In the sharing assembly we showed our picture frames and royal portraits of ourselves. We had made the pictures by taking a photo of ourselves holding some precious items from home and then we edited our photos on the computer to add in royal clothes such as hats and jewellery. We also shared our writing which was a fantasy story with goblins, fairies and dragons. I enjoyed taking part in the sharing assembly as I like sharing everything I have done with my parents and the rest of the audience.

Finley

DT

We were trying to find out how the ancient Egyptians moved the large blocks of stone around when building their pyramids. So, we made models out of plastic bottles with wheels that we added using pegs to hold a wooden dowel and plastic reels. We needed to use tape and glue and this caused us problems because sometimes the tape wouldn't stick very well. I had to use quite a lot of tape but Mrs Smyth said this was OK.

I really enjoyed these lessons because it was really crafty and even though we had problems we still managed to solve them as we went along.

Clemmie

Reception

25/05/2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00 → 9:10 Handwriting				
9:10 → 9:30 Phonics				
Continuous Provision 9:30 → 10:10	Continuous Provision 9:30 → 10:10	Continuous Provision 9:30 → 10:10	Continuous Provision 9:30 → 10:10	Continuous Provision 9:30 → 10:10
English Input 10:10 → 10:30	English Input 10:10 → 10:30	English Input 10:10 → 10:30	English Input 10:10 → 10:30	English Input 10:10 → 10:30
10:30 → 10:45 Break				
Maths Input 10:45 → 11:05	Maths Input 10:45 → 11:05	Maths Input 10:45 → 11:05	Maths Input 10:45 → 11:05	Maths Input 10:45 → 11:05
Continuous Provision	Continuous Provision	Continuous Provision	Continuous Provision	Continuous Provision
Guided Reading 11:30 → 12:00	Guided Reading 11:30 → 12:00	Guided Reading 11:30 → 12:00	Guided Reading 11:30 → 12:00	Guided Reading 11:30 → 12:00
12:00 → 1:15 Lunch				
PE 1:15 → 2:00	Storytime 1:15 → 1:30	Adult-led Activity 1:30 → 2:30		Handwriting 2:30 → 3:00
		Continuous Provision 2:00 → 3:30	Continuous Provision	
Storytime 1:15 → 2:00	Adult-led Activity 1:30 → 2:00		Continuous Provision 2:15 → 3:00	Continuous Provision
	Continuous Provision 2:00 → 3:15		Book Club	

Class 1

25/05/2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday			
9:00 → 9:10 Handwriting							
9:10 → 9:30 Phonics / Spelling							
English 9:30 → 10:00	English 9:30 → 10:15	English 9:30 → 10:15	English 9:30 → 10:15	English 9:30 → 10:00			
Yoga 10:00 → 10:30	10:15 → 10:30 Assembly						
10:30 → 10:45 Break							
Grammar 11:00 → 11:30	Maths 10:45 → 11:30	Maths 10:45 → 11:30	Maths 10:45 → 11:30	Maths 10:45 → 11:30			
Guided Reading 11:30 → 12:00	Guided Reading 11:30 → 12:00	Guided Reading 11:30 → 12:00	Guided Reading 11:30 → 12:00	Guided Reading 11:30 → 12:00			
12:00 → 1:15 Lunch							
PE 1:15 → 2:00	Class Reader	RE 1:30 → 2:30	Handwriting & Booktalk 2:30 → 3:30				
Class Reader	Music 1:15 → 2:00		Class Reader	Computing & Online Safety 2:15 → 3:30			
History / Geography 1:15 → 2:30			Class Reader	PE 2:45 → 3:30			
Class Reader	PSHE/RHE 1:35 → 2:35			Handwriting 2:35 → 3:05			
Book Club							

Class 2

25/05/2026

Monday	Maths 9:00 → 10:00		Grammar 10:00 → 10:30	
Tuesday	9:00 → 9:15 Spelling & Handwriting	English 9:15 → 10:15		10:15 → 10:30 Assembly
Wednesday		English 9:15 → 10:15		
Thursday		English 9:15 → 10:15		
Friday		English 9:15 → 10:15		
10:30 → 10:45 Break				
		Class Reader	Maths 11:00 → 12:00	
		Reading 10:45 → 11:15	Maths 11:15 → 12:00	
		Reading 10:45 → 11:15	Maths 11:15 → 12:00	
		Reading 10:45 → 11:15	Maths 11:15 → 12:00	
12:00 → 1:15 Lunch				
RE 1:15 → 2:00		Spelling & Handwriting 2:00 → 2:45		PE 2:45 → 3:30
Homework 1:15 → 2:00		Computing & Online Safety 2:00 → 3:30		
Spanish 1:15 → 2:00		Music 2:00 → 2:45	PSHE/RHE 2:45 → 3:30	
PE 1:15 → 2:00		History / Geography 2:00 → 3:15		Class Reader
Class Reader	Reading 1:30 → 2:00	Science 2:00 → 3:30		

Class 3

25/05/2026

Monday	Reading 9:00 → 9:30		Maths 9:30 → 10:30		Break 10:30 → 10:45	Yoga 10:45 → 11:15		English 11:15 → 12:00		Lunch 12:00 → 1:15	Grammar 1:30 → 2:00		PE 2:00 → 2:45		RE 2:45 → 3:30		
Tuesday	9:00 → 9:15 Spelling & Handwriting			Maths 9:15 → 10:15		English 10:45 → 11:30		Reading 11:30 → 12:00			Reading 1:30 → 2:00		Science 2:00 → 3:30				
Wednesday				Maths 9:15 → 10:15		English 10:45 → 11:30		Reading 11:30 → 12:00			Grammar 1:30 → 2:00		Spanish 2:00 → 2:45		Music 2:45 → 3:30		
Thursday				Maths 9:15 → 10:15		English 10:45 → 11:30		Reading 11:30 → 12:00			Maths 1:30 → 2:00		PE 2:00 → 2:45		Maths 2:45 → 3:30		
Friday	Homework 9:30 → 10:30		English 9:30 → 10:30			History / Geography 10:45 → 12:00		Computing & Online Safety 1:30 → 2:30			PSHE/RHE 2:30 → 3:30						