

Voices for Choices

When the children are not practising these essential skills, we encourage them to spend time enriching their lives with stimulating and memorable experiences.

See below Joy Lane's Voices for Choices characters, which encourage the children to be independent and reflective learners, in school and at home.



Be a Go For it Gorilla by contributing to debates, being part of a club, representing the school's 3Rs, helping out, voting, co-operating...

Be a Reflecting Rhino by learning from your mistakes, listening to all ideas, being calm in the face of a challenge...



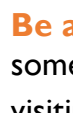
Be a Creative Chameleon by cooking, making art, dancing, playing an instrument, singing, writing...



Be a Persevering Parrot by taking a risk, facing new challenges, trying something new, volunteering...



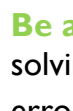
Be a Slinky Linky Snake by questioning different viewpoints, finding links to your learning in school in real life, being aware of current events, celebrating important occasions...



Be an Exploring Elephant by meeting different people, trying something new, reading a book, investigating the great outdoors, visiting places near and far...



Be a Proud Peacock by being part of a Production, Musical Show, Sporting Event, club...



Be an Analysing Alligator by focusing on something tricky, solving a problem, being curious, thinking ahead, trial and error...



Be a Choosing Chimp by setting yourself a goal, trying something new, being independent...

Be a Leaping Lizard by problem solving, facing a new challenge, being brave...



Which character will you be at home?



Joy Lane Primary School Years 3 & 4 Homework

2023-24

At Joy Lane, we aim to develop strong home-school links as we know that we can get the very best from every child when school and home work in partnership.

The home learning tasks set in Years 3 and 4 will focus on developing the fundamental skills that act as the foundations for learning in English and Maths. Your child will be asked to spend time each week reading and practising their spellings and times tables.

Your child will come home with a handy card with all the login details they need to access the online platforms outlined in this booklet.

Spellings

Class Spellings

Children learn a new spelling rule/pattern each week and learn these words in class through games and activities. In Years 3 and 4, children will receive a list of spellings based on the weekly rule (which you will find on ClassDojo) to practise in their Hocus Pocus-themed spelling journals, which provide a space for pupils to record and practise their spellings in varied and interesting ways.

Pupils will do their spelling work in their journal at school, and as a result, these books will become a personal record of their journey through spelling. We encourage pupils to practise their spellings using their preferred activities, whether it be traditional lists or colourful posters!



Spelling Shed



Spelling Shed is a dyslexia-friendly online platform that is aligned to the National Curriculum spelling rules that are taught in class. Your child has a unique login code and they can use this to access the tasks assigned by their class teachers, where they can then earn 'honey pots' to personalise their avatar.

Login here to play at home: <https://play.edshed.com/en-gb/login>

The online games function on all current desktops, laptops, tablets and mobile devices and there is an option to download the Spelling Shed/Maths Shed app onto a mobile or tablet at an additional cost, but this is not necessary to access the activities. We hope that the children enjoy practising their spellings online using this fun and engaging online platform. All of their spelling points work towards a weekly total that can boost their house points total!

Times Tables

At Joy Lane, we recognise and understand the importance of the fundamentals within Mathematics. Becoming fluent with multiplication and division facts is imperative to becoming secure with a range of topics across the Maths curriculum in each year group. With this in mind, we want to make this a key focus of the children's learning at home.

Times Tables Rock Stars is a carefully sequenced online program of daily times tables practice. It allows the child to earn rewards for practising their times tables, gaining new outfits, musical instruments and hairstyles for their avatar. There is also a competitive edge to the game as they can compete against other children from their class and across classes. Each week concentrates on a different times table with a recommended consolidation week for rehearsing recently learned tables every third week or so. We recommend ten to twenty minutes practice each day to maximise the benefits - but we are sure that once they start playing, they won't want to stop!

Your child will each have a personal login details so that they can access *Times Tables Rock Stars* (<https://ttrockstars.com/login>). They can access this via a computer or by downloading the app on a tablet or phone.



Maths Shed is another online learning platform we use to support learning at home. Closely aligned to the White Rose Maths curriculum we follow at Joy Lane, your child will be able to access quizzes and games matched to what they are learning in class. Similar to TTRS, they can build up 'honey pots' to gather new items to personalise their avatar. A maths assignment will be set once a week, but this is not compulsory and is there if you wanted a little extra for your child at home.

Your child will have a unique login code to access the assigned tasks here: <https://play.edshed.com/en-gb/login>



The online games function on all current desktops, laptops, tablets and mobile devices and there is an option to download the *Spelling Shed/Maths Shed* app on to a mobile or tablet at an additional cost, but this is not necessary to access the activities.

Multiplication and division facts will also be learned daily in class through **Kung Fu Maths** where we look at linked rules and patterns.

We believe that children learning their multiplication facts at home and in class will have a great benefit across their learning in Maths—and it can be great fun too!

Reading

Evidence suggests that reading for enjoyment...

- *increases attainment in literacy and numeracy*
- *improves general knowledge and vocabulary*
- *encourages imagination, empathy and mindfulness of others*
- *supports new reader to reader relationships and communities of readers*



As a result, we want to devote time at home to reading—and enjoying it! Research suggest that's that Reading for Pleasure should be **RIST**: 'Reader-led', 'Informal', 'Social' and involve 'Texts that Tempt'.

Book Banter is a special time every Friday to experience reading that ticks all of these boxes! Our teachers find out so much about the children's reading identities as they talk about the books they are reading and their reading habits and preferences.

Book Banter is how we track the children's reading engagement at home and school. We no longer rely on stamps, parental signatures and reward systems - *the reward is reading and being part of a community of readers.*

All we ask is that the children are reading regularly at home - *this may be alone at bedtime, aloud to a family member or listening to an audio book or one read by an adult.* And it can be anything—fiction, non-fiction, poetry, comics, magazines... They are then invited to share their reading experiences in school during our Book Banter sessions. Our aim is to get every child excited about reading!

Reading Books

Those children still developing their phonics knowledge will have access to the book they have been reading in their Little Wandle group online via Collins eBooks (for which they will be given login details). They can also choose from Band 2 to 6 books to take home and they have a Reading Record for parents/teachers to note progress.



After Band 6, children are transferred to a 'Lexile' range of books. Children will be given a range (rounded to 100) to choose from. The children will have a personal bookmark with their book ranges circled (e.g. 400L and 500L), so that they can refer to it to choose books independently. All children in Year 3 will have a Reading Record to take home with their reading book.

All children can choose another **Sharing Book**, which they will select themselves from the school library/book areas. Children may pick books which are too challenging to read independently but may want to share this book at home with an adult.

Recommended Reads

Stuck with finding what your child should read next? Why not check out our Recommended Reading lists for your child's year group. You can find them on our website.

