DALMAIN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Helping your child at home

Simple ideas for maths, reading and writing

YEAR 4

Talk every day

Talking is where reading, writing and maths begin. Children who can explain their thinking learn more deeply.

"How do you know?"
Ask them to explain, not just give the answer.

Talk about the news
Share a child-friendly story and ask what they think.

Build on ideas
"I'd like to add to that…" keeps a conversation going.

Maths

All tables to 12 × 12
Children take the Multiplication Tables Check in June. A few minutes daily is the best preparation.

Ask the division too
"7 × 8 = 56, so what is 56 ÷ 8?"

Money and decimals
"£1.50 is 150p. How much would three cost?"

Estimate first
Round prices when shopping to estimate the total, then check the receipt.

KEY FACTS TO KNOW THIS YEAR (KIRFS)

AUTUMN 1
Count in multiples of 25 and 1000

AUTUMN 2
The 7 times table

SPRING 1
The 9 times table

SPRING 2
The 12 times table

SUMMER 1
Decimal equivalents of common fractions

SUMMER 2
Multiply and divide by 10 and 100

TALK LIKE A MATHEMATICIAN – ENCOURAGE FULL SENTENCES

"34 is nearer to 30. 34 rounded to the nearest ten is 30."

"3 tenths are the same as 3 out of 10 equal parts."

KEY MATHS WORDS TO USE AT HOME

thousands · rounding · negative number · Roman numerals · factor · product · short multiplication · short division · decimal point · tenths · hundredths · equivalent

Little and often – just 10 minutes a day makes a real difference.

Reading

Read every day

About 20 minutes of independent reading, plus time to talk about it.

Mix it up

Stories, poems, non-fiction and children's news all build different skills.

Collect new words

Keep a list of new words they find and try to use them in conversation.

Read together

Take turns reading pages aloud, focusing on pace and expression.

TALK ABOUT THE BOOK

"What is this part mainly about?"

"Why do you think the author chose that word?"

"Can you find the evidence in the text?"

Writing

Talk it through

Plan out loud: "What happens first? How will you start?"

Paint a picture

Add detail to nouns: "the old, creaky door with a rusty handle".

Start sentences differently

"Later that day, …" or "Without a sound, …" – remember the comma.

Speech marks

Write a short conversation and check the inverted commas are in the right place.

YEAR 3 AND 4 SPELLINGS TO PRACTISE

accidentally · business · century · exercise · grammar · minute · occasionally · possession · probably · surprise · therefore · although

Try **look, say, cover, write, check** with a few words each week. Ask your class teacher for the full list.

More ideas to try at home

Quick, free activities that fit into everyday life. Pick one or two a week – no worksheets needed.

MATHS **One-minute challenge**
Ask mixed times-table questions for a minute. Can they beat their score?

MATHS **Plan a day out**
Use bus or train times and opening hours to plan the day together.

MATHS **Roman numeral hunt**
Spot them on clocks, buildings and film credits. What do they say?

MATHS **Estimate the shop**
Round each price to the nearest pound and estimate the total.

READING **Follow a passion**
Find fact books about something they love – football, space, animals.

READING **Children's news**
Read a child-friendly news story together and talk about it.

READING **Record a reading**
Record them reading a page with expression, then listen back.

WRITING **Be a reviewer**
Write a review of a film, game or book – with a star rating.

WRITING **Sandwich test**
Write instructions for making a sandwich – then follow them exactly!

WRITING **Picture prompts**
Choose an interesting photo and write the opening of a story.

TALK **Family debate**
"Should homework be banned?" Take sides and give reasons.

TALK **Teach the teacher**
Ask them to teach you something from their topic at school.

Why reading matters

Reading for pleasure is one of the best ways to help your child do well at school. It builds vocabulary, imagination and empathy.

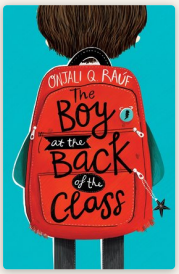
Keep reading aloud to them, even now. Let them see you reading too!

Visit your local library

- Joining is **free** and children can borrow books at no cost.
- Let them choose their own books – comics and fact books count.
- Look out for free events and the Summer Reading Challenge.

☆ Recommended reads for Year 4

Stories, facts, poems and comics from many voices and places. Look out for them at your local library.

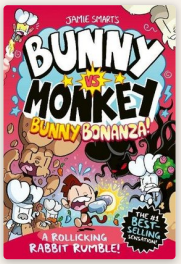


FICTION

The Boy at the Back of the Class

Onjali Q. Raúf

A group of friends make a plan to help Ahmet, a refugee boy new to their class.

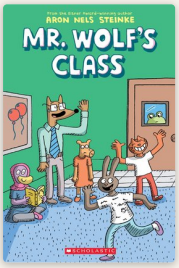


GRAPHIC NOVEL

Bunny vs Monkey

Jamie Smart

Monkey's mad inventions cause chaos in the woods. Can Bunny save the day?

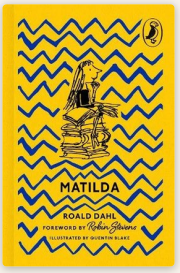


GRAPHIC NOVEL

Mr Wolf's Class

Aron Nels Steinke

Mr Wolf is a new teacher, and his class of animal pupils are full of surprises.

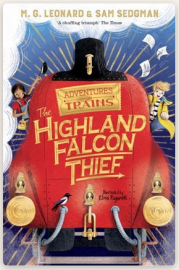


CLASSIC STORY

Matilda

Roald Dahl & Quentin Blake

Book-loving Matilda discovers a special power – and stands up to Miss Trunchbull.

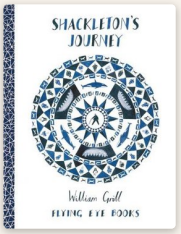


MYSTERY

The Highland Falcon Thief

M. G. Leonard & Sam Sedgman

Hal must solve a jewel theft on board a famous steam train before it reaches the end of the line.

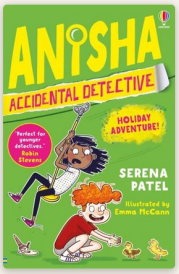


NON-FICTION

Shackleton's Journey

William Grill

The true story of an incredible Antarctic expedition, told in beautiful drawings.

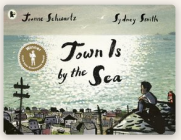


MYSTERY

Anisha, Accidental Detective

Serena Patel & Emma McCann

When her auntie's groom goes missing, Anisha must find him before the wedding.



PICTURE BOOK

Town Is by the Sea

Joanne Schwartz & Sydney Smith

A boy's day by the sea, while his father works in the coal mine deep below.

Find 50 more top reads

Scan the code or visit **booksfortopics.com** and choose **Recommended Reads › Year 4**.