



**15<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Included in the newsletter this week is information about how families can support their child/ren at home.

Establishing basic skills (also known as transferable skills) prepare children with the skills they need to prosper in life. They are key to ensuring your child makes great progress in all areas of their learning in school.

We have included all the subscription's used in school with key information how families can access these and support their child at home.

Parents often worry that they don't have the knowledge to support their children with their homework. If you are not sure how you can help, please ask for support in school.

Research shows that you make a big difference to your child's attainment just by showing an interest in their work and encouraging them. You don't need to know the answers!

We have included information regarding:

Mathematics basic skills – Numbots and Times Tables Rockstars (see below)

Boom Reader – Digital Reading record (See attachment)

Spelling Shed – See below.

Handwriting – Letter join (See attachment)



We're excited that your child has both a Times Tables Rock Stars and NumBots account! If your child does not have or know their login details for TT rockstars please ask the class teacher.

It is important that ALL children go on TT rockstars daily, it gives children self-confidence, recognition, and motivation to improve. It is a fun way for the children to compete against their friends.

Practising Times tables is essential for helping develop your child's mental arithmetic skills. They help children to understand numbers and the relationships between numbers.



# Alexandra Park Junior School

To Learn, Be Happy and Achieve Our Best

Times Tables are fundamental to all maths topics, and these skills will help them master key concepts and move quickly and improve their fluency in maths.

The children can practice their speed, fluency, and accuracy on TT Rockstars. Sound-check is the most beneficial way to monitor your child's progress with their Times tables as it mimics the government check they complete in Year 4. They have 25 questions and 6 seconds to answer each one. They can collect coins and make their own avatars to play against their friends and even their teachers!

Every Friday in assembly the children in 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> place are announced.

Go to <https://play.numbots.com/#/account/school-login/3018> for NumBots

<https://play.ttrockstars.com/login/3018> for TT Rock Stars and enter your details.

**Please remind your child not to share their login details.**

If you have any difficulties logging in or questions about TT Rock Stars in general, please contact your child's class teacher (not Times Tables Rock Stars themselves) during normal school hours.

Rock and roll!

## FAQs

### **My child seems to be getting questions up to 12x12 - why is that?**

Assuming that's not intentional, make sure they're playing in the Garage or Arena to get the tables we've set for them.

### **Why can't we login?**

The most likely cause is that one of the three bits of information (school, username or password) hasn't been entered as above.

### **My child has chosen a rock name they're unhappy with - how do we change it?**

Ask your child's teacher to reset their rock name so they can choose again when they login.

### **My child is unhappy with the look of their avatar - what can be done?**

Everyone starts with the same avatar, no matter what rock name they've chosen. Simply change the hair, eyes and mouth to suit individual preferences.

### **Someone has logged in as my child and spent a load of their coins - what can we do?**

Let your child's teacher know so that they can refund your child and speak to the class about trust and online safety.

### **Where is your privacy notice?**

<https://ttrockstars.com/page/privacy>  
<https://numbots.com/privacy-notice/>

Letter-join 



For Boom Reader and Letter-join please see attached to this newsletter.



Spelling Shed's approach to spelling involves the relationship between sounds and written symbols and using morphology to help spell through meaning. Spelling Shed provides word lists for students in primary school that follow a systematic progression of phonics and word study skills typically addressed at each grade level. The carefully selected word lists and engaging activities allow opportunities to incorporate phonics and meaning to strengthen spelling skills and build vocabulary acquisition.

The digital platform is highly engaging for students. It provides multiple levels of support for those students who require it as they learn new words. In addition, they offer a variety of learning games to maintain student engagement.

### **Attendance**

Our attendance target for 2023-24 for all children at Alexandra Park Junior school is above 97%. Holidays taken during term time will not be authorised by the school. Please be aware that fixed penalty fines may be issued if children do not attend school.

**It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school, nursery, or playgroup when they're unwell. Please click this link for more information.**

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>



### **REMINDER - Parent Welcome Meeting**

We would like to welcome parents/carers to our welcome meeting. This will take place in the school hall on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September at 2pm.

This will be a general meeting and will also focus on our follow up meeting from our last PSHE meeting Miss Powers held at the end of Summer term.





Here is the cursive alphabet that we teach the children in school. This could be printed off and laminated to practice correct letter formation at home.

### Cursive Lower Case Letters





# Parent App Quick Start Guide

1

## Download



search:  
boomreader parents

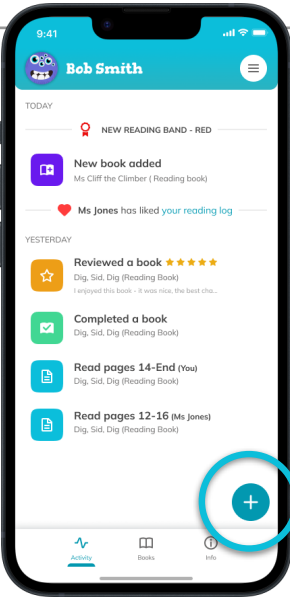
2

## Create Account

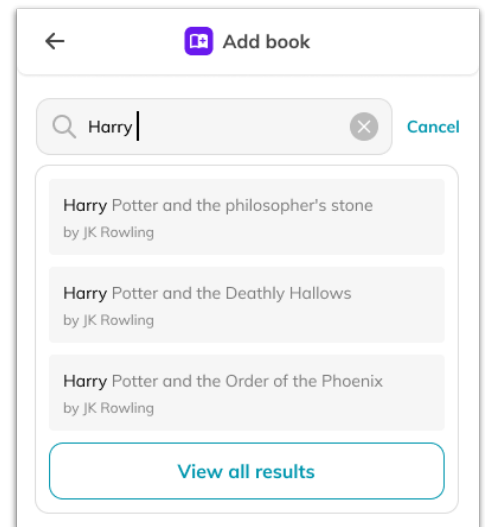
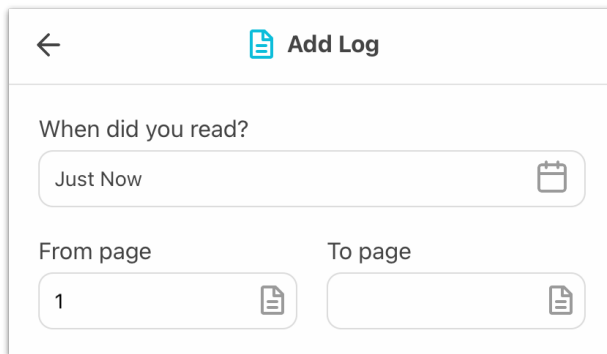
use your email to create  
your parent account

3

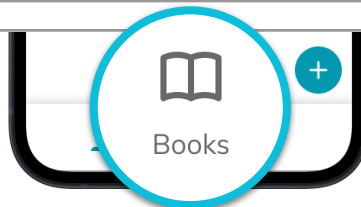
## Connect to Child



Add a new book or reading  
log just by tapping the plus  
button.



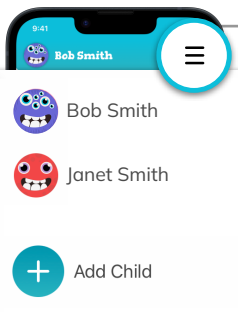
All the reading activity for  
your child.



See every book your child  
has read.



Add reminders and access  
your child's account



Connect to all your children's reading  
diaries in one app.

Effortlessly swap between each of your  
children's reading diaries.

Need help?  
[parents@boomhub.app](mailto:parents@boomhub.app)

Download the app and find out more at:  
[boomreader.co.uk/parents](http://boomreader.co.uk/parents)



SCAN ME