



# DPS News

Dorchester Primary School, Dorchester Road, Worcester Park, Surrey, KT4 8PG  
telephone: 0208 330 1144, email: [office@dorchesterprimary.com](mailto:office@dorchesterprimary.com)



dorchester\_primary\_school



@DorchesterP



@dorchesterprimary

“For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; and the government will rest on His shoulders; and His name will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.” Isaiah 9:6

3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2021

Dear Parents

In assembly on Monday we marked the start of Advent by thinking about the time of preparation in the lead up to Christmas. We thought about all the practical things that need doing, as well as how we can use the time to make sure our hearts and minds are ready for Christmas. The children talked about the importance of being kind, looking after one another and being helpful – I hope this has reflected in their actions at home too as the countdown to Christmas begins.

I am looking forward to seeing lots of you at the Christmas Fair tomorrow (10am-1pm). Our FODS team have put an enormous amount of work (and heart and soul!) into organising the event which I am sure will be fantastic. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to help – you are amazing and we couldn't do it without you. Do come along, and bring friends and family too, to enjoy all the stalls and attractions on offer – I understand we will be joined by a special visitor from the North Pole too.

Don't forget that it is our Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day next Friday, when the children can wear Christmas jumpers with their uniform in place of their school jumper in return for a donation (recommended donation £2) for Save the Children.

Whatever you are up to this weekend, I hope you have a fantastic one.

Kind regards,

Cathy Bell  
Headteacher



# DPS Notices

## Tidiest Classroom Award

Is back! Two members of school council will walk around each week and decide which class is looking the best presented and cared for. This week, the winning class was **Lavender** – so well done to them for taking pride in not only the appearance of their classroom but of course pride for looking after the resources and equipment which belong to the school. So many of what we are given for free in school can easily be taken for granted, let's hope there is a new and even more impressive winner next week!

## New House Names

Our house captains have been busy creating a google form for all of the Dorchester community to share their ideas for what the new house names should be. If you followed the link on classlist and it didn't work, try again here, it should work now!

<https://forms.gle/bWUf6pkFg4kdBsJP9>

Our house captains, Kiki, Dylan, Louie and Isaac will be reviewing the finalist entries and deciding once and for all the new house names in the last week of term and this will be announced in the last assembly before the holidays – get voting everyone!

## Easy Fundraising

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/dorchesterpswp/>

For any last minute purchases, holiday bookings or even a new washing machine – look no further than easy fundraising! How wonderful to know that whilst also buying what you need or want that you can be donating cash to our school at the same time. Please remember to buy online through Dorchester Primary School's easy fundraising page!



# Eco News

## Eco Council Poster Competition

Calling all Dorchester Pupils with a desire to help our planet!

Design your own poster to educate and encourage people to take action to help tackle the climate crisis. Every child can take part. You could hand draw or use the computer to design your poster.

Bring your posters into school before **9th December** and the Eco Council will choose a winner that day during our next Eco Council meeting.

**Get designing, as the winner will receive a £15 Amazon voucher!**

We look forward to seeing your fantastic designs.

Diane Thackwell (Eco Lead)





# Class Notes



## Who were the main characters in the Christmas story?

The children have all been really excited this week as we finalise our preparations for our Nativity performances next Tuesday. We have been finding out all about the Nativity story and enjoyed reading a rhyming book called 'The story of Christmas' by Hayley Down. This book helped us to find out all about the events that led up to Jesus' birth in the stable. We have been retelling the story using a nativity set and the children have enjoyed making masks for the different characters. They have then been able to act out some of the story by themselves.

## Who was born in a stable and who came to visit him?

This week Reception children have been learning the Nativity Story and practising the First Nativity for their performance next week. We read the Usborne Nativity book and the children realised that this was the same story they were going to be performing to their parents. We had our Nativity schemes out in the classrooms and have been retelling the story. We have combined our Maths learning with our Nativity scene as we are learning about positional maths so - Where is the baby? He is **in** the manger. Can you tell me where the star is? It is **on top** of the stable. Can you see Mary? She is standing **next to** Joseph. The children have been decorating their class Christmas trees and making paper chains to brighten the place up. They have also cut out pictures of the nativity story to sequence in the correct order.

Outside, a sprinkle of love, a scoop of oats and a dash of magic, were the ingredients needed to make reindeer food. Some children made magic wands to assist the magic. Bronze class dyed fabric using squashed berries which they squished themselves using hammers. Lots of fun and learning was had by all.

## What are the different groups of animals?

The children have worked really hard this week completing a range of 'Booklets' for English and Maths. They have enjoyed showing us all they have learnt so far.

In Geography, we have looked at the physical features of a jungle and compared them to the physical features of the United Kingdom. The children were able to notice a range of similarities and differences between the two. In Science, we looked at the different groups of animals and the special features they have. The children then spent time sorting the animals.

They have enjoyed using the Chromebook's this week where they have written facts about their favourite jungle animal. They had to choose a picture from the Internet and insert it into their Google slide.



# Class Notes

## What map symbols do you know?

We have been so impressed with how hard Year 2 have worked this week during Booklet Week. They have put lots of effort into their work and showed off what they have learnt so far this year.

They have learnt about map symbols and why they are used in Geography and have loved making some winter art.

We are getting very excited to show you our Nativity in just over a weeks' time! Please keep practising their lines and song with them at home.

## What did you enjoy most about your visit to Christchurch with St Philip?

This week, we have learned about money in PSHE and how we can look after it. We discussed the difference between things that we want and things that we need and how to spend our money wisely. In Geography, we learned what to do if an earthquake were to happen. We practised what to do in class using an earthquake siren by doing drop, cover and hold. Then we made posters to show what we had learned. In Maths, we continued learning about multiplication and used what we had learned to help us in our booklets. For RE, we walked down to Christchurch with St. Phillip and learned all about how the church supports the community and what the church means to Christians. In Science, we did an experiment to find out how all about how solids change into liquids by melting.

## What are you most proud about looking back over booklet week?

This week, **Year 5** took on their reading, SPAG and Maths booklets where they have had the opportunity to show what they have learnt this half term under timed conditions. The children approached the booklets with great maturity and hard work on the whole and we are looking forward to getting them all marked and share what pupils next targets need to be. This will also inform us specifically of exactly what gaps still need intervention work.

During one of our spelling revision activities, Connor, in Indigo, wrote this wonderful sentence using many of the spelling patterns we have been revising today.

"Although the vicious night had started, it was evidential that a substantial being that controlled the night was thinking his evil plan had begun." Thank you, Connor!

## What did you enjoy most about making your Rainforest café boxes?

This week, we have finally completed the first part of our D&T project for this term. The children have spent several weeks designing and practising various cardboard technology skills, which has culminated in their fabulous collaborative projects. The children are pleased with their finished models. [www.rainforestcafe.co.uk](http://www.rainforestcafe.co.uk) Also this week, the children have been showcasing their progress since the end of Year 5 in a series of Reading, SPAG and Maths booklets, as well as working on their star writing which was a newspaper article base on their class book 'A Series of Unfortunate Events'. The children have shown great perseverance this week throughout all of this hard work. In PE, some children have been honing their rugby skills whilst other players have been engaging in Adventurous and problem solving activities.



# Safeguarding

## Supporting our children's safety

### A parent's guide for challenging behaviour

Parenting is an incredibly rewarding and challenging experience. At times, it can feel like a real rollercoaster of emotions – particularly when your child is behaving in ways that are difficult to manage and understand.

Children's behaviour can be challenging in different ways at different stages. Often, this behaviour is developmentally 'normal', which means it fits with the age they have reached. Sometimes, however, a child's challenging behaviour becomes more frequent and difficult to manage. When this is the case, daily life can become exhausting for you as a parent.

Remember it is possible to come through this – with support, your child can find healthier ways to express and manage their feelings, and both of you can experience a more positive family life.

#### **How can I help my child?**

**Set clear boundaries and routines, and stick to these as much as you can.** You could do this by creating a family agreement covering things like screen-time limits, family meals and times for getting up and going to bed.

**Follow through on consequences.** Your child may respond better if you give a warning before the consequence, so they have an opportunity to change their behaviour. After the consequence has been given, it's important to chat together about what happened and return to positive interactions.

**Give your child positive praise.** Notice and encourage them when they demonstrate the kinds of behaviours you have asked for, and be specific about why you're praising them.

**Talk together about activities that help them to express their feelings and calm down.** This might be drawing or painting, doing something active like running, jumping or their favourite sport, reading a book, writing a story, baking or making something out of playdough or Lego.

**Help your child understand their feelings.** When you are curious about your child's feelings, this helps them understand and find words to describe them. You can also help them think about the signs that let them know they might be about to 'blow their top' – such as feeling hot, muscles clenching or breathing more heavily.

**Try to stay calm.** You may feel frustrated, angry or overwhelmed when your child is behaving in challenging ways – and this is completely normal. Try not to react or argue back when things are like this. Give yourself and your child a chance to have some space before you talk about it.

**Spend quality time with your child.** Find things you can enjoy together – such as going to the park, playing a board game, cooking something or watching a favourite film. As a parent you will often be juggling different things, so try to set aside time when you can be really present with your child.

**Talk to your child's school.** Share your concerns with their teacher and find out what their experience is. How does your child behave at school? Is it similar or different to the way they behave at home? If your child's teacher has found something that works, it may be helpful to try it at home to provide consistency.

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/a-z-guide/challenging-behaviour/> For further detailed information, please visit this link and do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher or Sheena Hindocha for more specific support if necessary – we are all here to help.

#### **Are you regularly checking yours and your children's privacy settings and phone, device or gaming usage?**

We encourage parents and carers to make regular use of the following websites with regards to keeping children safe online.

[www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents)

[www.childnet.com](http://www.childnet.com)

[www.saferinternet.org.uk](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk)

[www.parentinfo.org](http://www.parentinfo.org)

[www.internetmatters.org](http://www.internetmatters.org)

[www.nspcc.org.uk/onlinesafety](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/onlinesafety)

[www.common sense media.org](http://www.common sense media.org)



# DPS Links

## School Nursing Duty Line

We have set up a duty School Nurse line to enable telephone contact for parents and young people to offer support to replace some current face-to-face contact at this time.  
0208 770 5409

## Useful links

All school information and communication [www.classlist.com](http://www.classlist.com)

Payment link for school dinners and class trips

[www.pay360educationpayments.com/Home](http://www.pay360educationpayments.com/Home)

Our website <http://www.dorchesterprimary.com/>

Use the website for our Twitter @DorchesterP

Our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/dorchesterprimary>

The value for this half term is **Empathy.**



		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
<b>Week One</b>		Option 1 Macaroni Cheese	Pork Sausages with Potato Wedges	Roast Chicken with Stuffing, Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Beef Lasagne with Garlic Bread	MSC Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips and Tomato Sauce	<p>Added Plant Power</p> <p>Vegan</p> <p>Wholemeal</p> <p><b>Available Daily:</b> - Freshly cooked Jacket Potatoes with a choice of fillings (where advertised) - Bread freshly baked on site daily - Daily salad selection</p> <p><b>ALLERGY INFORMATION:</b> If your child has an allergy or intolerance please ask a member of the catering team for information. If your child has a school lunch and has a food allergy or intolerance you will be asked to complete a form to ensure we have the necessary information to cater for your child.</p>
30/08	Option 2	Vegetable and Bean Fajitas with 50/50 Rice	Vegan Sausage with Potato Wedges	Vegetable Wellington with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Tomato and Lentil Pasta with Garlic Bread	Homily Pie with Chips	
20/09	Vegetables	Green Beans Carrots	Baked Tomatoes Sweetcorn	Cauliflower Broccoli	Roasted Vegetables Sweetcorn	Baked Beans Garden Peas	
11/10	Dessert	Sticky Toffee Apple Crumble with Custard	Oaty Cookie	Fruit and Yoghurt Station	Mandarin Jelly	Carrot & Courgette Cake with Custard	
08/11	Option 1	Cheese and Tomato Pizza with New Potatoes	Macaroni Beef Bake	Roast Gammon with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Mediterranean Chicken with Rice	MSC Fish Fingers with Chips and Tomato Sauce	
29/11	Option 2	Vegetable Tagine with Couscous	Roasted Cauliflower Curry with Rice	Roasted Quorn with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Vegetarian Lasagne	Mexican Bean Roll with Chips	
	Vegetables	Sweetcorn Broccoli	Peppers Carrots	Carrots Cabbage	Green Beans Cauliflower	Baked Beans Garden Peas	
	Dessert	Pear Crumble with Custard	Chocolate Shortbread	Fruit and Yoghurt Station	Peach Upside Down Cake with Custard	Apple Flapjack	
<b>Week Two</b>		Option 1	Beef Burger with Wedges	Roast Turkey with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Chicken Arrabiata Pasta Bake	MSC Fish in Batter with Chips and Tomato Sauce	
06/09	Option 2	Vegan Meatballs in Tomato Sauce with Rice	Quorn Burger with jacket Wedges	Mixed Vegetable Loaf with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Wholemeal Vegetable Pasta Bake	BBQ Quorn with Chips	
27/09	Vegetables	Broccoli Sweetcorn	Garden Peas Carrots	Carrot and Swede Mash Cabbage	Green Beans Cauliflower	Baked Beans Garden Peas	
18/10	Dessert	Rice Pudding with Mixed Berries	Apple Cake with Custard	Pinwheel Cookie	Chocolate Cake with Chocolate Sauce	Fresh Fruit Salad	
15/11							
06/12							
<b>Week Three</b>							
13/09							
04/10							
01/11							
22/11							
13/12							

\* HALAL OPTION AVAILABLE



# DPS Diary

4 <sup>th</sup> December	FODS Christmas Fair & Christmas Tree Sale
5 <sup>th</sup> December	FODS Christmas Tree Sale
6 <sup>th</sup> December	Foundation Stage Nativity Dress Rehearsals
7 <sup>th</sup> December	Foundation Stage Nativities 9.15am & 2.15pm
9 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 5/6 Netball vs St Cecilia's
9 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 1 parents virtual phonics workshops 8.45 – 9.45
10 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 1 Hearing Screening
10 <sup>th</sup> December	Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day
13 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 2 Nativity Dress Rehearsals
13 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 1 Hearing screening
14 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 2 Nativity 9.30am & 1.30pm
15 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Lunch
16 <sup>th</sup> December	Nursery end of term
17 <sup>th</sup> December	End of Autumn 2 term School Finishes at 1.30pm
20 <sup>th</sup> Dec – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Jan	Christmas Holidays
4 <sup>th</sup> January	INSET DAY
5 <sup>th</sup> January	First day of Spring 1 term
12 <sup>th</sup> January	Nursery Open Morning 10.30-11.30 and EYFS Open Afternoon 2-3pm
14 <sup>th</sup> January	Young Voices Choir
11 <sup>th</sup> February	Last day of Spring 1 term
14 <sup>th</sup> – 18 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Half term
21 <sup>st</sup> February	First day of Spring 2 term
30 <sup>th</sup> March	Nursery end of term
31 <sup>st</sup> March	End of Spring 2 term
1 <sup>st</sup> – 18 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Holidays
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	First day of Summer 1 term
9 <sup>th</sup> – 11 <sup>th</sup> May	SATS Week + Year 5 Residential
23 <sup>rd</sup> - 27 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 Residential
27 <sup>th</sup> May	Last day of term
30 <sup>th</sup> May – 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Half term
6 <sup>th</sup> June	INSET DAY
7 <sup>th</sup> June	First day of Summer 2 term

<b>19<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>Nursery end of term</b>
<b>20<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>End of Summer Term</b>
<b>21<sup>st</sup> July</b>	<b>INSET day</b>