



DPS News

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“ Life’s most persistent and urgent question is, ‘What are you doing for others?’ ” Dr Martin Luther King Jnr

21st January, 2021

Dear Parents and carers,

This morning one of our assembly prefects, Jamie-Leigh, expressed surprise that we were already on the 21st of January as she put up the slides for this morning’s celebration assembly. I agree with her; the month is hurtling by in the usual ‘busyness’ that is school life. There is lots of fantastic learning going on – and the fact that I had a record 18 children at ‘Out of this World’ chocolate milk tea this afternoon is testament to our children’s ability to go over and above our high expectations of them.

This week we have been focused on the next steps in developing our curriculum. Our curriculum includes everything the children experience during their time in school, going beyond their lesson time, into what we call the ‘hidden curriculum’ – the things they learn through all their time at school – interactions with adults and children, the experiences they share, the after school clubs they attend and so much more. Our curriculum at DPS is structured around 5 pillars – **Collaboration, Connectivity, Enquiry, Learning for Life and Ambition and Fairness for all**; in all we teach we intend to develop the children’s ability and understanding in these areas across their time with us. I have met with many of our subject leaders this week to consider how we further develop our planning so that children’s learning experiences continue to get better and better every day.

I wish you all a wonderful weekend.

Kind regards

Cathy Bell
Headteacher



DPS Notices

White Rose Maths App



White Rose Maths have created an amazing, free app to support number sense in EYFS and KS1. The app, called '1-Minute Maths', has a variety of levels to support children's number sense in Subitising (recognising numbers), Addition and Subtraction. The children have 1 minute to answer as many questions as possible, giving them the chance to keep trying to beat their score. Early number sense and mental maths strategies are so vital to prepare children for more demanding maths concepts further up the school and this app is a wonderful way to reinforce this at home! Just one or two minutes a day would have a positive impact on your child's maths.

Chinese New Year 1st February



Chinese New Year is fast approaching! It takes place on the 1st of February, and we thought it would be wonderful to include a variety of learning opportunities for our pupils on or before that day arrives. If any parents who celebrate Chinese New Year would be interested in coming in to share some of their wonderful knowledge it would be very much appreciated. This could be for example: coming in to your child's class and talking about Chinese New Year, speaking in assembly about Chinese New Year, sharing Chinese artefacts or working with the children to take part in traditional Chinese New Year activities – or whatever you think you might be capable and/or brave enough to do with a class of children! If you are interested, please do contact the school office or your child's class teacher and we will of course help with any preparation towards this.

Sports Results



Huge congratulations to Maiya, Julia, Connor, Fung, Juhon and Archie. An excellent result on your first competition for the school. 😊

Our Year 5/6 basketball team played in a 3vs3 Basketball Tournament at Carshalton Boys Sports College this week and came home with silver medals! Apparently they should have won the last game, but the rub of the green didn't quite go their way and they lost by only one hoop. Team Dorchester are extremely proud of their achievement and so is their coach, Riad!



Class Notes



Why are the birds building a nest in our trees?

This week in Nursery we have been really excited to join in with The RSPB Big Bird watch. This is a national initiative to encourage school children to see which birds they can see at school. At the start of the week the children made seed balls using lard to encourage the birds into the garden. We also enjoyed making edible bird pictures by painting with lard and sprinkling seeds on. The children decided to make lots of happy faces and rainbows to make our garden welcoming to the birds. The children also made binoculars to help them to look for the birds. We were very excited on Friday when we saw a magpie, pigeons, crows and a robin visit our outside area. The children attempted to use ticks to record which birds they had seen. We have linked lots of our learning to one of our '3 a day' stories 'Handa's Hen' where Handa finds lots of birds when she is in search of her hen Mondie. In phonics, we have been focusing on rhyming words this week and the children enjoyed playing Silly Soup. For our maths learning we have been finding out all about the number 2 and how to represent it. We have been reading the story of Noah's Ark and counting the animals into the ark in pairs.

Which birds can you identify through your binoculars?

This week the children in Reception have been looking for local birds. They have taken to ornithology enthusiastically and have enjoyed preparing for a bird census, which took place on Wednesday afternoon. There have been some very excited children as they have spotted magpies with their distinctive black and white colouring, seagulls and some blue and grey pigeons. We scoured the skies and trees for blue tits and swallows and some even saw a wagtail this morning. There was a buzz of preparation at the beginning of the week as binoculars were crafted and phonics was used to write about which bird each child was looking forward to spotting.

In maths the children were learning about weight and capacity. They were describing what the balance scales would do when weighing objects from around the classroom and then weighing them to see if they were right.

Much rice was used to test the capacity of numerous small cups and bowls as well as some tall measuring cylinders. There were a few surprises when comparing the capacity of tall cylinders with the cups and bowls.



Class Notes

What are the 7 continents?

The children have had a busy week completing lots of independent challenges and focus group activities.

In Literacy, the children have enjoyed the story 'Duffy's Lucky Escape' and used their inference skills to discuss what the book might be about. We have spent time looking at nouns and seeing what nouns we could find in our environment.

In Maths, we have been comparing our numbers to 20. We have used dienes to show how we can represent the numbers. We have spent time ordering numbers and showing how we know which is the greater number and which is the smallest.

In Geography, we have spent time looking at the globe and identifying the 7 continents. They enjoyed using puzzle pieces to create their own world map and labelling it.

In Computing, we have spent time creating our own algorithms using scratch jr. Next week the children will be recording their sprite following the algorithm they have created.

How are materials recycled?

Year 2 have had a great week and have produced some fantastic work. In English they continued reading The Old Toy Room. We wrote character descriptions and setting descriptions and finished the week with brilliant retellings. The children showed off everything they have learnt so far this year in their writing!

In Maths we have been working on fractions and recognising and finding quarters and thirds. We have also looked at unit fractions and what they are.

In History Year 2 have been comparing past and present objects. We have described the differences and similarities. In RE we have looked at what a non-religious world view is. The children produced some amazing pieces of art this week while creating work in the style of Andy Warhol. They designed toys on a template and used it to create repeated patterns while changing the colours they used.

In PSHE we have been looking at self-belief. We discussed what things they are good at. We then looked at 'the power of YET'. The children identified things that they found hard and can't do YET but with practise they will be able to do before long.

How could you find out the perimeter of a football pitch? How would this compare to a netball pitch?

This week, we have continued to learn more about the Masai tribe and how they live. We wrote our own non-chronological reports about them and included interesting facts about their homes, cows and their clothing. In Year 3 Maths, we have learned about money including the value of each coin and note and how to add and subtract different amounts. In Year 4 Maths, we have been learning about perimeter and how to find the lengths of rectilinear shapes. During our PSHE lessons, we have discussed trust and how to build and repair it with our friends and family. We have thoroughly enjoyed the start of our Computing project and we explored all the different features on Soundtrap. We also connected Science, Music and Computing this week as we were learning about the range of pitches and how these are made then used our knowledge practically. In Geography, we explored the country of Morocco including human and physical features. We created some excellent fact files in our books to show all the new information we have learned.



Class Notes

Why were Romeo and Juliet forbidden to be together?

This week in Year 5 we have been studying Shakespeare... serious cultural capital! We are writing our own newspaper articles, which we have been studying for nearly two weeks now, all about the fated couple, Romeo and Juliet – everyone in Year 5 has been utterly enthralled! In Maths, we have been practising converting improper to mixed fractions, and vice versa as well as starting to explore number sequences using fractions – who knew fractions could be so fun! We carried out a fantastic investigation on Thursday exploring the notions of weight and mass, using Newton meters, scales and all sorts of different weird and wonderful items to weigh. In PSHE, we discussed what peer pressure meant, and how it can have both positive and negative effects on individuals and friendship groups – but importantly, we want to equip and empower our pupils with the tools to recognise the potential for peer pressure to have a negative effect, and at this point be the voice of reason – standing up for yourself or for others to avoid any sort of harm. In computing, we researched all about Tudor buildings and even started sketching some in 3D on our Chromebooks, watch this space for our final architectural drawings. We are now eagerly looking forward to our trip to Hampton Court Palace next week!

Which rationed food would you have missed the most?

The children have been very interested to find out about Rationing this week - including what it was, why it had to happen and how the government ensure that everyone was treated fairly. They were quite shocked to find out that even sweets were rationed. This provoked a lively debate about whether they would save their sweet rations for a month or eat them weekly. The discussion about whether or not to share them, was a whole new conversation! In Maths, the children have had the opportunity to show us all that they know about percentages. We have now moved onto Algebra - a subject that the children were surprised to find out that they had actually been doing it for years, without realising! Year 6 have also been completing their Star Writing this week, based on the story 'Rose Blanche' and are proud of all they have achieved.



Safeguarding

Supporting our children's safety

What are tantrums?

As babies develop into toddlers, they find new ways to test boundaries and express themselves. So when your toddler gets upset, they might scream, cry or even kick, hit or bite. The first time this happens can be upsetting and if it happens in public it can be embarrassing. All children misbehave at times. It's a normal part of learning the rules. And sometimes they simply don't know what's good or bad behaviour.

How to respond to tantrums

If you're feeling at the end of your tether, take 5 and follow these simple steps: **Stop. Breathe. React calmly.**

When they start screaming in the supermarket or having a meltdown at meal times, it's normal to feel frustrated. But reacting angrily could lead to emotional and physical harm. And this is never OK. Children respond to how we react, which can affect their behaviour in the future. So try to react calmly.

If you can't find an immediate reason for the tantrum (maybe they're hungry, tired or need a little tender loving care), there are things you can try to calm them down.

Things to try to calm them down

- Create a distraction using something like a book.
- Draw their attention to something else happening nearby.
- If they're angry, tell them you know how they feel.

Things to avoid

- If they're asking for something and you've said no, don't give in.
- Don't bribe them with sweets.

Set clear rules

Your child's behaviour will improve when they know what the rules are, so they can stick to them. So try to respond in the same way every time. Say what you want your child to do, clearly and in a way they'll understand. Repeat it if necessary. And if your child doesn't do as you wish give them an appropriate consequence – so they'll know not to do it again.

Explain your actions

Choose a consequence that fits the situation, for example, if your children are arguing over a toy, take away the toy. Explain why you are taking the toy away. Stick to what you said, and when 5 minutes has passed give them back the toy so they can show you they can behave in the way you want.

Use a calm voice

When they misbehave take a deep breath and use a quiet and calm voice. Your child is far more likely to listen to you if you are in control - shouting will only make you angrier and upset your child.

Don't compare your child to others

Every child is different and it's important not to compare your child to others. You know your child best and you can help them understand good behaviour by setting rules and creating boundaries.

Show affection

Show affection. Whether it's a hug, a kiss or a wink; all forms of affection can help children feel cared for, loved and build their confidence. Enjoy being with your child. Spending time together and doing different activities like reading and playing will help you form a healthy relationship with your child. And don't forget to praise good behaviour. If you praise the behaviour you want, your child is more likely to repeat this.



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

Payment link for school dinners and class trips
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 **Self-belief**

Believe in you

Because your voice is important,
Because your dreams matter,
Because there is only one you,
Because you are worth it.

		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
Week One							Added Plant Power Vegan Wholemeal Available Daily: - Freshly cooked Jacket potatoes with a choice of fillings (where advertised) - Bread freshly baked on site daily - Daily salad selection ALLERGY INFORMATION: If your child has an allergy or intolerance, please ask the school 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. We use a large variety of ingredients in the preparation of our meals and due to the nature of our kitchens it is not possible to completely remove the risk of cross-contamination.
03/01	Option 1	Lentil & Sweet Potato Curry with 50/50 Rice	Pork Sausages * with Potato Wedges	Roast Beef * with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Beef Chilli * with 50/50 Rice	MSC Fish in Batter with Chips Chips and Tomato Sauce	
24/01	Option 2	Vegetable & Bean Fajitas with 50/50 Rice	Vegan Sausages with Potato Wedges	Quorn Roast Fillet with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Vegetable Lasagne with Garlic Bread	Wholemeal Cheese & Tomato Quiche with Chips	
21/02	Vegetables	Peas Mixed Peppers	Baked Tomatoes Sweetcorn	Carrots Cabbage	Green Beans Cauliflower	Baked Beans Garden Peas	
14/03	Dessert	Pear & Strawberry Crumble with Custard	Rice Pudding with Berries	Fruit & Yoghurt Station	Ice Cream with Mandarins	Chocolate Cake with Chocolate Sauce	
Week Two							
10/01	Option 1	Cheese & Tomato Pizza with Potato Wedges	Beef Bolognese * with Pasta	Roast Pork * with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	BBQ Chicken * with 50/50 Rice	MSC Fish Fingers with Chips and Tomato Sauce	
31/01	Option 2	Vegan Meatballs in Tomato Sauce with Pasta	Shepherdess Pie with Gravy	Vegetable Pasty with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Cheese and Pepper Frittata with New Potatoes	Mexican Bean Roll with Chips	
28/02	Vegetables	Sweetcorn Broccoli	Carrots Peas	Fresh Mixed Vegetables	Sweetcorn Cauliflower	Baked Beans Garden Peas	
21/03	Dessert	Mixed Fruit Crumble with Custard	Fruit & Yoghurt Station	Vanilla Shortbread with Yoghurt	Apple Cake with Custard	Chocolate & Mandarin Brownie	
Week Three							
17/01	Option 1	Macaroni Cheese	Beef Burger in a Bun * with Wedges	Roast Chicken * with Stuffing, Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Chicken Tikka * with 50/50 Rice	MSC Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips and Tomato Sauce	
07/02	Option 2	Roasted Cauliflower Curry with 50/50 Rice	Quorn Burger in a Bun with Wedges	Vegetable Wellington with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Tomato and Lentil Pasta	Cheese & Tomato Pizza with Chips	
07/03	Vegetables	Broccoli Sweetcorn	Baked Tomatoes Green Beans	Carrots Cauliflower	Roasted Vegetables Sweetcorn	Baked Beans Garden Peas	
28/03	Dessert	Lemon Drizzle Cake	Pear & Chocolate Crumble with Custard	Fruit & Yoghurt Station	Peach Upside Down Cake with Custard	Raspberry Jelly with Peaches	

* HALAL OPTION AVAILABLE



DPS Diary

25 th January	UKMT Challenge @school - selected pupils from Year 4-6
26 th January	Year 3/4 Sports Hall Athletic at Wallington Girls
2 nd February	Year 5 trip to Hampton Court Palace
3 rd February	Year 5/6 Climbing Festival at Carshalton Boys
4 th February	Ruby Class Assembly
11 th February	Last day of Spring 1 term
14 th – 18 th Feb	Half term
21 st February	First day of Spring 2 term
24 th February	Year 3/4 Climbing Festival
14 th - 18 th March	Science Week
25 th March	Year 3/4 New Age Kurling SEND event
30 th March	Nursery end of term
31 st March	End of Spring 2 term
1 st – 18 th April	Easter Holidays
Tuesday 19 th April	First day of Summer 1 term
9 th – 11 th May	SATS Week + Year 5 Residential
23 rd - 27 th May	Year 6 Residential
27 th May	Last day of term
30 th May – 3 rd June	Half term
6 th June	INSET DAY
7 th June	First day of Summer 2 term
19 th July	Nursery end of term
20 st July	End of Summer 2 term
21 st July	INSET Day

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 www.childnet.com www.saferinternet.org.uk www.parentinfo.org
www.internetmatters.org www.nspcc.org.uk/onlinesafety www.commonsensemedia.org