



# DPS News

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“A children's story that can only be enjoyed by children is not a good children's story in the slightest.” C S Lewis

3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2022

Dear Parents and carers,

## World Book Day

What a fabulous effort for World Book Day 2022! The children looked amazing and it has been wonderful to see them advocating for their favourite book back in January through to dressing up as their favourite characters today. There is always some debate among education professionals as to whether dressing up as book characters really does encourage a love of reading; our view is that the more opportunities we take to talk to our children about books, the more interest they show. Thank you for your support with the children's reading – many of them are sharing books at home much more frequently since we launched our new reading scheme and it is just amazing to see how engaged the children are with their books.

## Peace and Tranquillity?

Is that how you would describe life in your home? Of course, where young children are around, they bring with them a good dose of noise, mess and challenges....and this is quite normal. But if you find that you are losing your temper with your children, or you find it difficult to get them ready to be at school on time, or they won't go to bed when you ask them to, or you face any other of the myriad of problems parenting brings, remember we now have a Home School Link Worker who can help you. You can contact Julie at [jenright3@suttonmail.org](mailto:jenright3@suttonmail.org). It is much better to ask for help before a situation gets out of hand so please do reach out – parenting doesn't come with an instruction manual as they say, and it is one of the hardest jobs we do.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Cathy Bell  
Headteacher



# DPS Notices

## **Polling Day Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May – Year 6 in school**

On **Thursday 5th May 2022**, the school has been identified as a polling station for local government elections. We are unable to open to the whole school due to the hall being in use and the volume of visitors that would be on site throughout the day. However, we have given some consideration to how we can best use the staff who will be available and the space which we can block public access to, whilst still accommodating voters and will remain open for **YEAR 6 ONLY** on this day. Further information will be sent specifically to Year 6 Parents closer to the time, but children will be able to work in small groups on this day using the expertise from across the school to help children with any individual gaps in their learning following lockdown, ready for them to go to Secondary School. **For all other year groups, including Nursery, the school will be closed.**



**Red Nose Day 18<sup>th</sup> March**



For Red nose day and Comic relief, we are asking all children to come to school dressed in any red clothes and bring a donation.

If children would like to wear red noses on this day this will be OK, but please can we ask that they write their names on their red nose so that we can minimise the risk of spreading germs.

Where does Red Nose Day money go? The money raised by Comic Relief is spent to help poor and disadvantaged people in the UK and the world's poorest communities, so whatever our Dorchester community can raise towards this will be extremely helpful indeed.

## **Pupil Premium Funding**

The School gets an additional £1345 per pupil for each child who is entitled to Free School Meals or has been recently. This is not the same as the Universal infant free school meals so please read carefully and see if the following applies to you.

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

If you think you may be eligible but have not applied, there are benefits to doing so for your child in school, including support with the cost of educational activities and additional classroom support. Please speak to Tina in the school office who can help you with the process of checking your eligibility.



# Class Notes

What have you enjoyed celebrating this week and why?



Wow! What a busy week it has been in Nursery this week! We have really enjoyed celebrating both Pancake day (Shrove Tuesday) and Book Week. We read the story Mr Wolf's Pancakes where Mr Wolf tries to get help to write his pancake recipe and make his pancakes. The children were all horrified that none of his neighbours would help him. However, we used Mr Wolf's recipe and the children have learnt how to make their own pancakes and of course we all enjoyed tasting them. The children have also been following recipes to make their own play dough and then they have made their own play dough pancakes. Whilst these are definitely not as tasty they are very good to use if you want to practise tossing them in a pan. To celebrate World Book Day, we have been focussing on the book chosen by the Early Years children in our school: The Gruffalo. The children have enjoyed retelling the story and they have been busy making Gruffalo Crumble. For our Maths learning we have been sponge printing Numberblocks and thinking about how the numbers 1-4 can be made.



# Class Notes

## How can we keep ourselves healthy?



The children have had a busy week and enjoyed exploring their sense of hearing.

This week in English we have introduced a new story to the children called 'The Deep Dark Wood'. We have spent time exploring the story and acting it out. The children met the wolf, the little girl and the monster who they enjoyed asking questions to. We have spent time using pictures to create our own story maps and looked at how it compares to the story of 'Little Red Riding Hood.' In Maths, we have continued with subtraction. We have looked at how to subtract through ten and used our knowledge of number bonds and partitioning to help us find the answer. The children have enjoyed working with their friends to create their own number sentences to solve. In Science, we have looked at our sense of hearing and the children enjoyed listening to the sounds they could hear around them and playing sound bingo on the Chrome books. In PSHE, we have been looking at how to have a healthy lifestyle and how to prevent ourselves from getting germs. The children were able to share what they needed to do to ensure they stayed healthy.

## What is a food chain?

This week the children have produced some fantastic retellings of 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. They have worked hard to include expanded noun phrases, conjunctions and a range of punctuation in their writing.

In Maths we have been looking at 3D shapes. We have looked at describing them using vocabulary such as vertices, edges and faces. We have also sorted them into different groups based on their features.

In DT we have been learning about sources of food. We have learnt about food hygiene and designed a stir-fry. Each class then made a stir-fry using noodles, broccoli, carrots, peppers and baby sweetcorn. The children all loved making them and tasting it.





# Class Notes

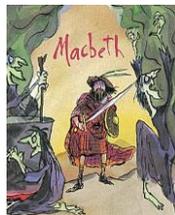
## Which 'Just so' story did you enjoy most and why?

This week in Literacy we have been reading a variety of 'Just so' stories that try to explain why animals have developed their distinctive features. We have read about how the camel got its hump and how the turtle got its shell. We are working towards creating our own 'Just so' story in the next few weeks. We have looked at the language and the structure of them to help us with our own. In PSHE, we have been learning about children's lives from other countries and have been comparing them to find similarities and differences. We focused on countries in Africa to continue our African adventure topic and also as part of this, we have been learning about the different habitats and animals that we would find there. In Science, we have learned about classifying animals and how scientists group them by different characteristics and features. We created our own Carroll diagram to sort animals by criteria that we set. Our new Computing project is to create a website. We will be using Google Sites to do this and have been gathering the information that we will need to make our websites. For our DT project, we have begun to design our zoo enclosures and have drawn a few possibilities that we can choose from for our final design.

## What questions do you still have about puberty and growing up?

This week in Year 5, we have had a particularly important PSHE lesson on developmental milestones and puberty. Year 5 were very mature throughout the session which was excellent to see; if any pupils have any further questions they would prefer to ask anonymously about growing up, they are more than welcome to do so ongoing as each class will have a question box they may add their questions to. In Maths, they are coming to the end of a fractions unit where they have been consolidating their learning through presenting how to solve multi step problems to their peers. This taught them the valuable lesson of first being able to solve a problem and find the answer or answers, but second, how best to explain how and why it has been solved in a specific way – this really challenged their understanding in a positive way. In English, they have been researching rivers from around the world in preparation for their non-chronological reports which they will be writing next week. In Science, the children had a tremendous time creating levers, pulleys and gears systems using the Knex building kits, learning how to transform a smaller force into a much stronger one through the use of these different mechanisms. We had a blast dressing up for world book day also, and The Midnight Gang characters were really brought to life!

## What have you enjoyed most about reading Murderous Macbeth!



We have been exploring the story of Macbeth, by William Shakespeare and the children have been fascinated by the famous tale of witchcraft, treason, murder and ghostly goings-on! Next week, we will be showing off our writing skills in a newspaper report about the murder of King Duncan, so we have been practising using formal language, the passive voice and relative clauses this week in preparation. In Math, we have been continuing learning about Area and Perimeter and solving some increasingly complex problems. The children have certainly had plenty of practice of our current school value of perseverance. They have had to think logically through problems, work collaboratively and call on a variety of mathematical skills, in order to solve the challenges. In History, we have been considering the role of women in World War Two and how they stepped up and took on jobs to support the war effort, learning many new, valuable skills - we considered and recognised their vital role in the war.



# Safeguarding

## Supporting our children's safety

### What is the Internet of Things?

The Internet of Things, often referred to as IoT, are everyday objects that connect to the internet. These connected devices can be activated using voice commands, or controlled by downloading and using an app or via a Bluetooth or Wi-Fi connection. Examples of the Internet of Things include:

- Smart speakers, Smart meters (for home electricity and heating) and wearables such as smart watches or fitness trackers.

### What is the Internet of Toys?

The Internet of Toys are toys that connect to the internet. Similar to the Internet of Things, these toys can be controlled using a smartphone app, voice commands or using a Bluetooth connection.

Connected toys are different from other toys because they collect, use, and share data via the internet. This data might range from personal details like user age or location, to microphones and cameras recording what users see and hear.

### What are the risks associated with the Internet of Things?

Although connected devices and toys provide children with opportunities for learning and interactive play, there are some associated risks. Concerns have been raised about whether these devices are collecting too much personal information from children. Some children (either accidentally or on purpose) are able to search for and access age-inappropriate material via a connected device such as a smart speaker. Children may make 'in-app purchases' and spend money, which is often taken from their parents' bank account without their knowledge or consent. Some of these devices may be more vulnerable to hacking and monitoring, as there are currently no security standards in place for connected devices.

Luckily, there are things you can do to minimise these risks.

### How can I make my connected home more secure?

There are things you can do to help make your connected home safer for your child:

1. Do your research: Research different products online and read reviews. This is a great way to find out more about a product including age restrictions and credibility, as well as hearing directly from other parents. Product manuals will also give you information about the privacy of the device and its use.
2. Set up parental controls: Make use of the [parental controls](#) available on your home broadband and any internet enabled device in your home. Enable the 'Safe Search' function on your connected device and search engines to limit the material your child can access online.
3. Update your privacy settings: When you buy a connected device or toy, change the default password. Use a strong password that cannot easily be guessed and do not share this with others. Set your Bluetooth-enabled devices to 'undiscoverable' so your child doesn't share data or pair with an unknown device.
4. Review and/or delete the data saved on devices: Some connected devices or toys work by listening to your child's voice commands, so these devices usually record and keep these audio files to work properly. Refer to the manual and find out how to review and/or delete audio files. If there's a microphone on your child's connected device, you can turn on the 'mute' button. This will stop the device from recording and storing audio files.
5. Talk to your child: Include connected devices in your online safety conversations, reinforcing the message that if your child sees or hears anything that makes them feel worried, they can speak to you or another adult they trust. Read further information on [starting the conversation about online safety](#).

For guidance on setting up parental controls or reviewing the privacy settings of a connected device or toy, you can find further information on the [NSPCC's online safety hub](#).

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

[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)



# 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 Perseverance

**PERSEVERANCE IS NOT A LONG RACE; IT IS MANY SHORT RACES ONE AFTER THE OTHER.**

Walter Elliot

		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
<b>Week One</b>							<p><b>Available Daily:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Freshly cooked Jacket potatoes with a choice of fillings (where advertised)</li> <li>- Bread freshly baked on site daily</li> <li>- Daily salad selection</li> </ul> <p><b>ALLERGY INFORMATION:</b> 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.</p>
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 Chili * 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	
<b>Week Two</b>							
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	
<b>Week Three</b>							
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

8 <sup>th</sup> March	International Women's Day
14 <sup>th</sup> - 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Science Week
16 <sup>th</sup> and 17 <sup>th</sup>	Class Photos
18 <sup>th</sup> March	Red Nose Day (donate to wear red!) Olympic Hockey winner Leah Wilkinson in for assembly
21 <sup>st</sup> March	Parents Evening Week
23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Reading Meeting for Parents 1.30 – 2.30
25 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 3/4 New Age Kurling SEND event Rose class assembly
29 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 5 Easter Performance to parents (1) 2pm-3pm
31 <sup>st</sup> March	Nursery end of term Whole School Spring Festival and Easter Bunny visit Year 5 Easter Performance to parents (2) 6pm-7pm
1 <sup>st</sup> April	End of Spring 2 term
4 <sup>th</sup> – 18 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Holidays
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	First day of Summer 1 term
27 <sup>th</sup> April	Junior Maths Challenge Year 5 and Year 6
29 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 3 and Year 4 Sleepover
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Polling Day – YEAR 6 IN SCHOOL ONLY
6 <sup>th</sup> May	Spelling Bee Final
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
5 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 34 Fairfield's Hall Ukelele 12 – 7pm
19 <sup>th</sup> July	Nursery end of term
20 <sup>st</sup> July	End of Summer 2 term

21<sup>st</sup> July

INSET Day