



DPS News

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"You don't understand anything until you learn it more than one way." Marvin Minsky, American Scientist

4th February, 2022

Dear Parents and carers,

The enthusiasm our children, and indeed our staff, have for learning new things never ceases to amaze me. Whenever I go into a classroom the children are always so keen to share their learning with me – and even our youngest children are becoming experts at being able to tell the difference between what they are doing (for example, writing about Toy Story) and what they are learning (for example, writing a diary entry using the first person, including strong emotion words to bring our writing to life and conjunctions to make our sentences more interesting). That example is from a Year 2 child – most impressive!

Research tells us that the more opportunities we have to learn in different ways, the more quickly our brains will retain new knowledge, making sure it is firmly planted in our long term memories, rather than forgotten the next day. Our staff are brilliant at creatively ensuring that the children build on their learning to achieve just this, and you can help at home simply by asking the children what they have **learnt** (rather than what they have done) at school each day and discussing it with them. We know that a child has retained their learning really well if they are able to teach it to another person – so if you would like to brush up on your long division, Spanish vocabulary, understanding of the ocean, or anything else that has cropped up at school, ask the children – I know they would be thrilled to be your teacher and it would be a fun way for you to support their learning.

Another really simple way to support your child's learning is to read with them each day. As you know, we introduced our Big Cat Reading Scheme and our new phonics scheme, Little Wandle Letters and Sounds, back in September. The children are doing an amazing job of developing their enthusiasm for reading and their reading comprehension skills at school and it is so important that they see reading as a positive experience at home too. Make some time every day to cuddle up and share a book – such special family time that makes such a difference to your child's learning. As you are aware, our English Lead, Miss Butler, is hosting reading meetings on the 16th and 23rd March. If you haven't yet let us know which meeting you will attend please do so on [this form](#). We will be sharing lots of tips so you can make the most of reading with your child/ren and so we expect every child in the school to have a parent or carer attend one of the meetings. If you cannot make either date, please let us know on the same form so that we can contact you to arrange a mutually convenient day and time.

Thank you for your support, and have a lovely weekend

Kind regards

Cathy Bell
Headteacher



DPS Notices

Holiday Club

Our popular Holiday Club is running throughout the February half term break (Monday 14th February to Friday 18th February). The club runs from 8:30am to 5:00pm, or there is an option for a morning only session (8:30am to 12:30pm) or an afternoon session (1:00pm to 5:00pm).

Children will be provided with breakfast between 8:30am and 9:00am, and with a hot snack between 3:30pm and 4:00pm. Children bring a packed lunch (containing no nuts or fizzy drinks) if they are staying at the club all day.

Holiday Club costs £30 per day, £15 per half day, with a 10% discount applied for siblings. To book places please visit the [Wrap Around Care pages](#) on our website.

Ruby Class Assembly

It was lovely to host parents for our second 'in-person' class assembly this year as this morning Ruby Class re-told their story, *Commotion in the Ocean*. Although the classic, 'Baby Shark' has been going round in our heads all day it was a wonderful assembly with the children showing us just how well they knew the story and how much they had learnt about sea creatures. Well done Ruby Class.



Junior Duke Awards



If you have taken part in the Junior Duke awards this year, we would love to see your progress! Please bring in your booklets to school next week so that we can check how you are all doing and share our successes with others in the school.

Your class teachers (Duke leaders) may well be able to sign off some of the challenges you have already completed. It will be great to see which different challenges other pupils have completed too, and compare and see which ones you have left to complete.

When you have completed all your challenges, you will receive your certificate and corresponding badge to be presented in assembly. Who will be the first person to get their badges! Will it be you?

Football Results

The Year 5 football team played in a cup match this week against AS Benhilton. It was a thrilling match, but we ended up losing 4-2. Huge credit to the whole team for playing with such courage and determination.

All Saint Benhilton 4 – 2 Dorchester Primary

We played AS Benhilton and we lost 4-2. We were playing at Nescot and we played 9-a-side and the offside rule.

We got the opening goal with Owen so it was 1-0 to us. 10mins later when the other team got their goal and another just before half time it was 2-1, we had a lot of chances though!

In the second half the other team got another goal (3-1) and then 5 mins later we got another one (3-2) with Owen scoring again. Jack made a big save and me taking a free kick but again was saved! But in the end they got their 4th.

Reported by Harrison (Year5)

Top of the Form

Congratulations to our year 6 TOTF Quiz Team who won their first round match 61-67 against All Saints Benhilton.

The team performed strongly in their Maths, Spelling and Geography rounds but found the Pot Luck and General Knowledge questions more challenging - stumbling on questions like 'Who was Fred Flintstones wife?'

Well done to Kiki, Harshavi, Ben and Dragan for winning their first round quiz competition.





Class Notes

Can you name all the animals from The Great Race story?



This week in Nursery we have been reading the story of The Great Race by Emily Hiles. This is a lovely rhyming story that tells children all about the great animal race which was used to decide how to name the Chinese New Year. The children have enjoyed being animals using masks and small world animals to retell the story. We have been finding out about how Chinese new year is celebrated all over the world. The children have been creating their own dragon dances and we have all had lots of fun trying to pick up noodles with chopsticks. On Thursday the children all drew their own symbols to show kindness to someone else and we put these inside fortune cookies. In phonics we have been listening to the initial phonemes in words and for our Maths learning we have been learning all about the number 3.

What did you enjoy most about learning about Chinese New Year?



We have had such a fun week celebrating Chinese New Year in Reception. Archie's Mum came in on Monday to read the story The Great Race by Emily Hiles that was great at explaining all about the story behind Chinese New Year. She then told the children all about her own family celebrations for Chinese New Year. Reception have spent the week making Chinese lanterns, dragons, New Year cards, animal puppets to retell the story and using their fine motor skills exploring noodles with chopsticks. The children learnt how to write some Chinese words which they have written on red envelopes that they made. They are all hoping that they will get some money in their red envelopes at the end of the week! On Wednesday we had a fantastic Chinese banquet. The children tasted seaweed and prawn crackers and cooked stir-fry noodles with soy sauce, all very popular. We finished our banquet off learning about and performing a Chinese dragon dance. Both dancers and musicians were fantastic and very authentic.



Class Notes

Why do some animals migrate when the season changes?

The children have had another busy and exciting week. Well done to Ruby Class on their great class assembly, sharing the story 'Commotion in the Ocean.'

The children have enjoyed learning all about Chinese New Year and on Tuesday enjoyed making cards, dragons, writing Chinese numbers and writing facts about what they had learnt.

In Literacy, we started a new story 'The Snail and the Whale' and thought about how we can write questions to the characters in the story. The children remembered to include a question mark at the end and used the question words, how, what, where, when and why to ask their questions.

In Maths, we have been looking at our number bonds to 20 and partitioning numbers. The children have explored different numbers and used cubes to show how they can partition the number.

In RE, we have looked at Judaism and the importance of the Torah. The children were able to recall important facts about the Torah and spent time making their own.



How is Chinese New Year celebrated?

Year 2 loved learning about the Chinese New Year this week. They looked at different symbols and in Buttercup class they created New Year signs.

In English the children produced some fantastic Star Writes. They wrote diary entries inspired by Toy Story and retold Woody's exciting adventure.

In Maths we have been learning about data handling. We have recorded data using tallies, pictograms and block graphs and interpreted data in different forms.

In Computing we learnt how to take photos and how to upload them. We're looking forward to editing them next week.

In Art we produced lovely PopArt in the style of Roy Lichtenstein. We ordered toys on a timeline in History and in PSHE we learnt who can help us in different emergencies.





Class Notes

What did you enjoy most about Chinese new year?

This week, we have learned all about Chinese New Year and all the different customs and traditions. Did you know that Chinese New Year actually lasts 15 days, not just 1? We watched some footage of the lantern festival that marks the end of the new year celebrations. In Geography, we have looked closely at another African country and learned about the physical and human features of that particular country to help us understand what it would be like to live there. We continued to investigate sound in Science by using our knowledge of materials to help us dampen the sound from an iPad. In our Computing lessons, we used sounds to create beats and different rhythms using a variety of percussion sounds. In English, we have completed a star write using persuasive language and ambitious vocabulary that is trying to convince our reader to visit our safari lodges. We also included a paragraph about the excursions and exciting activities that you can do whilst on safari in Africa.

What was your favourite part of the trip to Hampton Court Palace?

This week, our main highlight was our superb trip to Hampton Court Palace! We visited the Tudor kitchens, the magnificent gardens, the court yard, the chapel room, the feasting hall to name just a few wonderful places. In English, we have been preparing our recounts so that we can create a beautifully crafted write up of this magnificent trip. Mr Dennis' favourite fact was that before the arrival of Catherine Howard, the word 'orange' was not in the English language. Bonus points for those who can remember why! What was our favourite fact of the day?

In Maths, we have been recapping on our fractions knowledge before moving onto more problem solving and reasoning with fractions. In Science, we completed a fantastic air resistance investigation where we created parachutes with different sized canopies and logged and analysed how differently they fell through the air. In PE, we have been continuing with dynamic balance exercises, focussing on jumping from point to point with either two feet or one, and varying the difficulty of our jumps by adding spins or body positions.



How will your version of the 'Rose Blanche' story end?

We spent Tuesday afternoon exploring Chinese New Year, when we began by learning about some of the geographical facts about China. We then found out more details about how the festival is celebrated. Making Chinese dragons tested cutting and folding skills as well as following instructions, but we got there in the end! In History, we have begun finding out about the Blitz. Listening to an air raid siren caused Amethyst Class to take shelter under the tables! But it was watching a genuine news report from World War Two that brought it home to them just how terrifying being in the Blitz must have been. In Science, we have continued learning about electricity and built on our previous knowledge to investigate how to change the speed of a motor or the pitch of a buzzer, which the children really enjoyed. In English, we have been practising for our Star Writing, which we will be doing next week.



Safeguarding

Supporting our children's safety

Not everyone online is always kind and friendly. People can say and do things which might upset or worry you – but you should never have to feel that way. It's important to know what to do if someone is being mean online.

What is online bullying?

Online bullying or cyberbullying is bullying behaviour that takes place online or using technology.

An argument between two friends is not cyberbullying, but repeated name-calling, exclusion or other unkind messages could be.

Bullying in any form, online or offline, is never okay.

An example:

'Another player in the game keeps targeting me over and over. They destroy the things I build and stop me from making any progress.'

This kind of behaviour, where another player on a game seems to enjoy disrupting gameplay, is called griefing or trolling. It can be very frustrating and difficult to cope with.

Firstly, try to remember that griefers are normally looking to get a reaction – so don't let them win by retaliating or losing your temper in the messages. Instead stay calm and note down their username. This can be used to block them or report them via the game's reporting systems.

For more information about reporting [click here](#).

Top Tips

It's really important you tell someone about what is going on and it will make you feel better too. An adult at home or at school can help you figure out what to do next.

- Try the report and block buttons. These can be found in most games and on social media and it's a good idea to see if you can spot them. For more information visit our page on [what does the report button do?](#)
- You may want to delete a mean message as soon as you read it but remember it's helpful to take a screenshot or save it as evidence you can take to an adult.
- Don't retaliate or respond unkindly. This can make things worse or sometimes even lead to you getting in trouble. Try and stay calm and get support from an adult you trust instead.
- We're often told that the best way to stop bullies is to ignore them, but remember you should always speak to someone about what's been going on so that you can get support and advice.

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/online-safety 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

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



Spring Menu 2022						
		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week One 03/01 24/01 21/02 14/03	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 and Tomato Sauce
	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
	Vegetables	Peas Mixed Peppers	Baked Tomatoes Sweetcorn	Carrots Cabbage	Green Beans Cauliflower	Baked Beans Garden Peas
	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 31/01 28/02 21/03	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
	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
	Vegetables	Sweetcorn Broccoli	Carrots Peas	Fresh Mixed Vegetables	Sweetcorn Cauliflower	Baked Beans Garden Peas
	Dessert	Mixed Fruit Crumble with Custard	Fruit & Yoghurt Station	Vanilla Shortbread with Yoghurt	Apple Cake with Custard	Chocolate & Mandarin Brownie
Week Three 17/01 07/02 07/03 28/03	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
	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
	Vegetables	Broccoli Sweetcorn	Baked Tomatoes Green Beans	Carrots Cauliflower	Roasted Vegetables Sweetcorn	Baked Beans Garden Peas
	Dessert	Lemon Drizzle Cake	Pear & Chocolate Crumble with Custard	Fruit & Yoghurt Station	Peach Upside Down Cake with Custard	Raspberry Jelly with Peaches

- 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.

* HALAL OPTION AVAILABLE



DPS Diary

8 th February	Safer Internet Day
10 th February	Inclusion Mufti Day
11 th February	Last day of Spring 1 term – Magenta class assembly
14 th – 18 th Feb	Half term
21 st February	First day of Spring 2 term
24 th February	Year 3/4 Climbing Festival
3 rd March	World Book Day
8 th March	International Women's Day
14 th - 18 th March	Science Week
21 st March	Parents Evening Week
23 rd March	Reading Meeting for Parents 1.30 – 2.30
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