



DPS News

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"A flower cannot blossom without sunshine, and person cannot live without love." Max Muller

22nd April, 2022

Dear Parents and carers,

It has been wonderful to welcome the children back to school this week following the Easter break. We hope you managed some wonderful family time together over the holiday – I'm sure you agree that a bit of sunshine made a huge difference – long may it continue....

The children have already thrown themselves into their learning with their usual levels of boundless enthusiasm – please check out the class notes below to find out what has been going on in each year group. I am continually impressed by the high level of ambition our teachers have for each and every child at our school and it is wonderful to see our children happy and thriving in their learning environments. Evidence tells us that children's learning progresses most rapidly in the summer term so please keep up daily reading and mental maths practice at home – we have re-stocked our mental maths badge supply to keep up with demand following the success of our mental maths challenge programme. We are also looking forward to hosting our first Spelling Bee, with our final being held on Friday May 6th. Improvement in spelling is a key target for many of our children and creating some excitement and fun around spelling will, over time, support our children in developing a positive attitude towards it.

The summer term is always a busy one – with lots of trips and visits, visitors, special projects and sports events planned. More about these as the term goes on, but please do keep checking the school calendar regularly for any dates that are relevant to you. **A date you need to note (if you haven't already) is that on Thursday May 5th the school will be closed to most children as the building is required for use as a Polling Station.** As we are able to secure part of the building from the general public who are coming in to vote, we will be opening for children in **Year 6 only** on this day. Remember also that Monday 2nd May is a Bank Holiday and school will be closed on that day.

Have a lovely weekend.

Cathy Bell
Headteacher



DPS Notices

Polling Day Thursday 5th 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.**

Year 6 Climbing Festival

On Thursday a group of Year 6 children went to Carshalton Boys' Sports College to spend some time Bouldering on the indoor climbing wall.

The festival gave them an introduction to Bouldering, which focuses on traversing the wall, through a variety of challenges and games. The children really engaged with the sessions and had a fun afternoon. Some were definitely keen to try their skills at a greater height too so that might be something for us to aim for in the future!



Congratulations to Emelie in Sapphire class for producing such a sophisticated and beautifully made poster presentation about the hugely influential scientist Maggie Aderin-Pocock. Emelie received an over and above star for the stunning piece of work which she said took her in total around 2 hours to complete – real hard work and dedication, well done Emelie!



DPS Notices

Popular Suncream now contains Almond oil – allergy warning

WARNING:

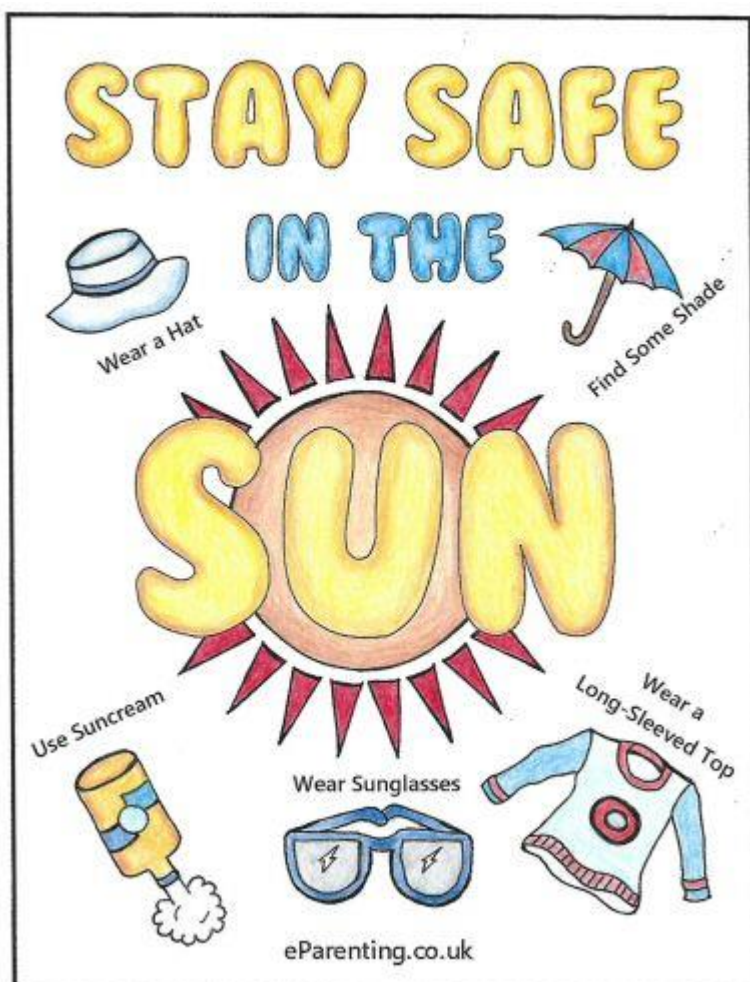
Contains Almond Oil - please check ingredients for sensitivities



★★★★★ (36)

KIDS PROTECT & CARE COLOURED SPRAY SPF 50+

Suncream is so important to wear at this time of year, and specifically for young children with far more delicate skin. Suncream products like this Nivea one above is a very popular product – however, it is extremely important that you read the list of ingredients if you have any concerns at all with allergies your child has, as this suncream now contains almond oil which of course could pose a potentially life threatening risk to some children with nut allergies.



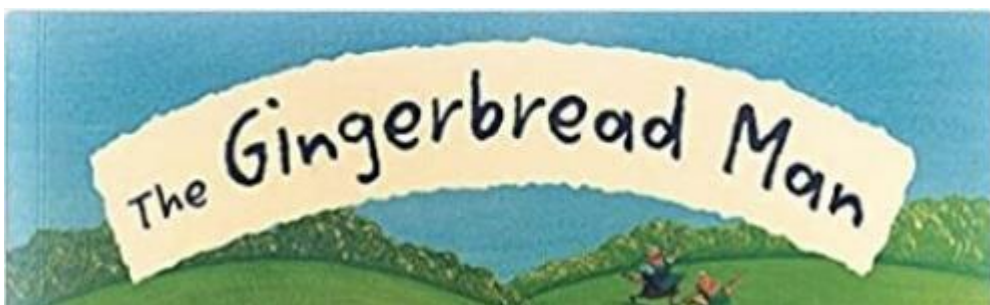


Class Notes



What is your favourite part of our new outside area and why?

Our new outside area for Nursery was completed this week, just in time for the good weather. The children have all enjoyed exploring each of the new areas. They have made some fantastic dens, enjoyed 'cooking' in the mud kitchen and of course they have enjoyed the climbing frame. They have also been fascinated by the different colours shining through from all of our lovely rainbow shelters. The children have continued to be fascinated by all the work that the builders did and we have used this to stimulate an exploration into different jobs that people do. We have read a great story called 'A Super Hero Like You' by Dr. Ranj which details lots of different jobs that people do to help others. We are looking forward to finding out more about these different jobs next week.



Where do you think the Gingerbread Men have gone, and how did they get there?

The children have returned to school full of enthusiasm and energy. This week we have been reading the story of The Gingerbread Man and the familiar phrase of 'Run, run as fast as you can. You can't catch me, I'm the Gingerbread Man', has been ringing out in both Reception classrooms. The children have been retelling the story using props. On our first day back we made our own Gingerbread Men and, would you believe it, the largest Gingerbread Man on the baking tray, from both reception classes, had disappeared before the biscuits made their way back to the classrooms! A search ensued. The children scoured the main building and the playground but neither of the runaway biscuits has been found so Missing Posters have been made with pictures and details of what the Gingerbread Men look like, in the hope that they can be found and returned to us soon. In Maths we have been learning what it means to double a number. The children chose a number and built a tower of that number, using Unifix bricks. They doubled the number by making another tower with the same number of bricks and then adding together the bricks from both towers. The children have shown that they can not only double a number but can explain how they did it. What an exciting term this is going to be!



Class Notes

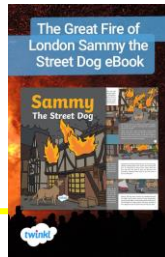
What do you think about Sammy the Street Dog?

It has been lovely to have all the children back after the Easter holidays. We have been impressed at how quickly they have settled back into class.

In year 2 in English we have been reading Sammy the Street Dog. It tells the story of the Great Fire of London through the eyes of Sammy. We have been using suffix words to up-level our writing, using a range of conjunctions and using possessive apostrophes.

In Maths we have been looking at capacity and volume. We have been learning how to read scales and measure in millilitres and litres.

In RE we have begun learning about Islam and have learnt that there are 99 names for Allah. In Science we have been learning about what plants need in order to grow and in Computing we learnt about how to program a sprite.



What have you learnt so far about electricity?

This week in year 3/4, we have come back refreshed and ready for learning! In English, we have started reading a new book called Moon Man. We looked at different types of poetry all about the moon and started to discover some ambitious and interesting vocabulary that we used to write descriptions of a spooky forest at night! We also started our new topic called 'It's electrifying'. We found out all about how electricity is made and learned about renewable and non-renewable sources. For PSHE this half-term, we are going to be learning all about how to keep ourselves happy and healthy. This week, we focused on our happiness and how to deal with situations that might make use uncomfortable. Our next DT project will be to design a rocket for Moon Man to return home, so we researched rockets this week to find out what we should include in our own designs. In RE, we looked at our world view and all the different things that may have shaped how we view our world, our values and our opinions.

What is the story of the peppered moth?



What a lovely first week back! Year 5 have been busy reading 'Moth', a book about evolution and adaptation. The children dissected tulips in order to identify the male and female parts of the plant. In Maths, we have started our Decimals unit and in Computing we explored the Lady Bug Munch code on Scratch. We have started our Victorians topic in History, and we cannot wait for our Victorian Day on Monday!



Safeguarding

Supporting our children's safety

How much screen time is OK for my child?

Children are spending more time with digital devices -- and at younger ages -- than ever before. The World Health Organization (WHO) have guidelines to limit screen time. But the reality is there's no magic number that's "just right." What's more important is the quality of children's content, how it fits into your family's lifestyle, and how your children engage with it.

Simply calling all device use "screen time" can miss some important differences. Common Sense Research studies identify four main categories of screen time:

- **Passive:** mindlessly watching videos or shows, scrolling, vegging out
- **Interactive:** playing games, problem-solving
- **Communication:** video-chatting, using social media
- **Content creation:** making digital art or music, coding

Clearly, there are a lot of differences between these activities. And as valuable as many of them can be, it's still important for children's overall healthy development to balance their lives with enriching experiences away from screens. These tips can help:

- **Pay attention to how your children act during and after watching TV, playing video games, or hanging out online.** There's no need to worry as long as:
 - They're using high-quality and age-appropriate content.
 - Their behavior is positive.
 - Screen time is balanced with other parts of life like sleep, connecting with family and friends, and time outdoors.
- **If you're worried about too much time on devices, consider creating a schedule that works for your family.**
 - Include limits on how long children can use devices, the kinds of devices they can use, and the types of activities or programs they can choose.
 - Get children's input so the plan teaches critical thinking skills and self-regulation.
 - Find out what they like to watch, introduce new shows and apps for them to try, or plan a family movie night.

Guidelines generally allow for some screen time for children younger than 2. For this age group, parental involvement is essential. They recommend the following for parents and caregivers:

- **Under 18 months:** Avoid screen time other than video-chatting.
- **Age 18–24 months:** Find high-quality programming (if you choose to introduce screen time), and watch or play together.
- **Age 2–5:** Limit screen use to one hour per day of high-quality programs.
- Create a family media plan with consistent rules, and enforce them for older children.

The reality is that most families will go through periods of heavy and light screen use, but as long as there's a balance, children should be just fine.

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

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 values for this half term are

Enquiry & Creativity

Spring Menu 2022 <div> Added Plant Power Vegan Wholemeal </div>						
		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week One 03/01 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
* HALAL OPTION AVAILABLE						

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.



DPS Diary

27 th April	Junior Maths Challenge Year 5 and Year 6
29 th April	Year 3 and Year 4 Sleepover
2 nd May	Early May Bank Holiday
Wednesday 4 th May	Young Voices Choir Concert at the O2
Thursday 5 th May	Polling Day – YEAR 6 IN SCHOOL ONLY
6 th May	Spelling Bee Final
9 th – 11 th May	SATS Week + Year 5 Residential
18 th May	Year 6 Police Talks
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 Sutton School Works assembly
28 th June	Year 6 transition talk in school
1 st July	District Sports Day
4 th July	Planetarium trip Year 5
5 th July	Year 3/4 Fairfield's Hall Ukelele 12 – 7pm
7 th July	New Nursery Parents Evening 7-8.15pm Reports to parents
11 th July Week	Personal Bests week
11 th July	Parents evening drop in session to discuss reports
19 th July	Nursery end of term
20 st July	End of Summer 2 term
21 st July	INSET Day