



# DPS News

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@dorchesterprimary

"Each day is a new beginning, I know that the only way to live my life is to try to do what is right, to take the long view, to give of my best in all that the day brings, and to put my trust in God." Queen Elizabeth II

16<sup>th</sup> September, 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been lovely to have our Reception children with us for full days this week, after starting out with shorter transition days last week. They have settled in beautifully with many of them already giving me a confident, 'Good morning Mrs Bell' at the gate and heading off to class with a good degree of independence to get on with their learning.

The teachers in Years 1-6 are looking forward to hosting our Parent Welcome Meetings at the end of the school day next week to give you an opportunity to find out about everything that is going on in your child's year group this year. You will also have an opportunity to see your child's classroom and meet their class teacher and Year Lead. These meetings take place at 3:30pm and are expected to take around half an hour, on the following dates:

Year Group	Date	Location for meeting (you will be able to visit your child's classroom after the meeting)
Year 1	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> September	Rose Classroom
Year 2	Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> September	Buttercup Classroom
Year 3	Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> September	Amber Classroom
Year 4	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September	Fern Classroom
Year 5	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> September	Indigo Classroom
Year 6	Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> September	Amethyst Classroom

In order that you can attend the meetings childfree, we will supervise children of those attending the meetings either on the playground or in the studio hall depending on the weather– please bring your child/ren to Ruby Class (in the Year1 and 2 area) where Mrs Hall and I will meet them and make sure they are well looked after while you attend your meeting. Mrs Glover will contact EYFS (Nursery and Reception) parents separately about meetings for them once the children have had a little longer to settle in.

Thank you to those who have already submitted applications and made further enquiries about the role of Parent Governor following my Classlist message earlier in the week. It is wonderful to see so many parents wishing to volunteer to help to make our school an even better place for everyone to learn. If you too would like to support the school but feel the parent governor role is not for you, we will shortly be recruiting Class Reps to support FODS (our PTA), additional people to help on the FODS

committee and with events and parent volunteers to help with reading and supporting learning in school. We are truly grateful for all the support our parents offer the school – we couldn't do it without you.

We had some amazing street dance lessons which took place all day last Friday called Urban Strides workshops – the children across the school had the most wonderful dance sessions and some hidden talents were made known to us! Thanks so much to Carol for organising these.



A reminder that school will be closed on Monday to mark the funeral of Queen Elizabeth II. I hope that you are able to spend some time watching the events of the day – it certainly feels like a bit piece of history to be part of; lots of children have told me that they have visited Buckingham Palace and laid flowers in Green Park which will make a fantastic memory for them.

We look forward to seeing the children in school as normal on Tuesday morning.

Kind regards

Cathy Bell  
Headteacher



# Upcoming Events

## Parent Welcome Meetings

Year Group	Date	Location for meeting (you will be able to visit your child's classroom after the meeting)
<b>Year 1</b>	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> September	Rose Classroom
<b>Year 2</b>	Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> September	Buttercup Classroom
<b>Year 3</b>	Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> September	Amber Classroom
<b>Year 4</b>	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September	Fern Classroom
<b>Year 5</b>	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> September	Indigo Classroom
<b>Year 6</b>	Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> September	Amethyst Classroom

## Jeans for Genes Day

During the week of 19th – 25th September we will be raising awareness of genetic disorders. On Friday 23rd September we will again participate in Jeans for Genes day, when the children are invited to come to school wearing jeans, with their school uniform tops as usual. In light of the cost of living crisis, we will focus this year on raising awareness rather than fundraising, although we will have buckets at the gate for donations should you wish, and be in position to, make one. All children are welcome to come in wearing jeans regardless of whether or not they give a donation.

## FODS Welcome Coffee Morning – all parents and carers invited!

30<sup>th</sup> September @ 9am in the assembly hall – see below for details!



# DPS FODS

## FODS Welcome Coffee morning 30<sup>th</sup> September



### **Who are FODS? Friends of Dorchester School (our PTA)**

We would like to warmly invite all parents and carers to first FODS coffee morning of the year – it will be a fantastic opportunity to develop new friendships and strengthen existing ones. There are so many different ways in which parents and carers from the school community can help out and provide crucial expertise and support to the school across the academic year and beyond. We will be there to discuss for instance, our FODS (PTA) activities and how to help out, community links, and much more!

All parents and carers are welcome to attend, and as of now, every parent and carer is officially a member of FODS! We want as many people as possible on board, and would encourage you please to come along on the 30<sup>th</sup> from 9am in the assembly hall for what should be a great morning.





# DPS Notices



**Saturday 1st October  
3pm-5pm**

@ Christ Church with St Philip Worcester Park,  
Ruskin Drive, KT4 8LG

**An hour of crafts and activities followed  
by stories, songs, prayer and food. Fun  
for all the family.**

Spaces are limited so booking is  
advised, book online:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/messy-church-tickets-407265059757>



**Everyone welcome.**

All Children must be accompanied by an adult.  
For more information contact Hannah: revhannaht@hotmail.com



# Class Notes

## What has been your favourite activity in Nursery this week?

All of the Nursery team are so proud of how well our new children have settled. They have been really busy exploring our Inside and Outside environments. We have seen lots of performances on our outside stage with groups of children singing and dancing to their favourite Nursery rhymes. We also have lots of budding artists who have been making lots of wonderful drawings. We are going to make an Art Gallery in the classroom and we are sure that parents are running out of fridge space at home! The children have also been learning lots of important safety rules and they are getting very good at remembering to put on a helmet when they ride a bike. We can't wait to see all the wonderful learning that they will engage in throughout the year.

## How have you enjoyed our First Full Week in Reception?

Wow! The Reception children have finished their first week as full time pupils. This week we have explored what we look like and how we differ from our friends. We have also thought about what it feels like to be happy or sad and what makes us have those feelings. In phonics, we have started to learn our first sounds and how to recognise them at the beginning of words. One of the classes has had their first experience of Forest School. They met the chickens and explored the environment. We have seen many children playing together, learning to share and inviting each other to join their games. Outside, they have been jumping in puddles, playing with the water pump and learning why we need aprons! Everyone has had a chance to make their own playdough, and it was lovely to see the expressions on some faces when they saw how flour, oil, salt and water transforms into a malleable dough. If this is the first week, we cannot wait to see what the children will do with the rest of this Reception Year!

## What are you thankful for?

In year 1 the children have all had another great week and have enjoyed starting our topic 'Digging for Dinosaurs'.

In English we have been reading 'Harry and the Bucketful of Dinosaurs' and writing simple sentences using capital letters, finger spaces and full stops.

In Maths we have been practising our counting and finding one more and one less.

We have been looking at how we know dinosaurs existed and learning about different fossils. In Science we have been learning how to group animals by their type. We have also looked at what it means to be thankful and why it is important to like yourself.







# Class Notes

## What makes a great piece of descriptive writing?

Another busy week in Year 2! In English we were looking at adjectives and practising how to describe different people, places and objects. This week we also started our Little Wandle reading groups, so the children should all have come home with a Little Wandle or Big Cat book at their banded level. Please read these with your children. We will have book swaps on Wednesdays when we are sure the children are fluent with their reading and comprehension of the book. Maths has been all about ordering and comparing numbers and the children really enjoyed learning about the < and > symbols to show 'greater than' and 'less than'. In Science this week we investigated materials in more detail and did some more describing – this time about the properties of the materials. Some of the children have practised logging into their Chromebooks for the first time in Year 2 and practised perseverance and patience to get it right! Others started to explore our RE topic and started to ask lots of key questions about Christianity. We are looking forward to another jam-packed week next week!

## What did you enjoy most about stoneage day?

This week, we have learnt so much about the Stone Age through our History lessons and our WOW day! We hunted and gathered our own food, did some cave painting and made clay pots. We have also continued to learn about rocks and soils in our Science lessons and found out how the main three types of rocks were formed as well as looking at different examples. In RE we have continued to learn about the life of Guru Nanak and his importance in Sikhism. Year 4 have been reading the story 'UG, Stone Age boy genius' and have been drawing comparisons between his life and ours. Year 3 have been thinking about how to improve our writing using different types of adverbs and conjunctions. We have also thought about how dictionaries and thesauri are used to help us improve our writing. In Maths, both year groups have been working on putting numbers accurately on a number line. Year 3 have been working towards 1000 whereas Year 4 have been working to 10,000.

## How do relative clauses add extra description to writing, and can you give an example?

We have had a wonderful second week in Year 5. Routines are becoming established and the hard and exciting work is really taking shape now!

In English, we have been focussing on creating expanded noun phrases and using relative clauses, all in the context of writing about the Vikings and the invasion of England. In Maths, we have continued on working on place value, looking at rounding, estimating, partitioning and comparing numbers up to 100,000.

In RE, we have learnt about who Brahman is and the history of Hinduism - we had some really lovely writing about how Brahman is everything and everything and everywhere - some wonderfully philosophical comments coming from so many pupils!

In PE, we have started playing some team ball games, specifically a great version of bench ball - ask your children about it (unless they are in Blue class) in which case ask them about how their swimming is going!

In Science, we investigated which materials were soluble or insoluble, and had some great discussions about their suitability as materials in real life contexts, like, why could you not make a sandcastle out of sugar and water if the beach was made of sugar?

## Which animal in 'The Great Kapok Tree' gives the most compelling argument against deforestation? Why?

Year 6 have started the new school year very positively with great attitudes to their learning in all subjects. Our Geography topic of 'Brilliant Brazil' has already included tasting homemade empanadas and exploring the Samba dance movements. We have been learning how to describe the location and physical features of Brazil in great detail and comparing the country with the UK. Our learning in English links well with our Geography topic. 'The Great Kapok Tree', whilst being a fairly simple book, has incredibly powerful messages against deforestation and is allowing the children to explore these concepts in a cross-curricular way. They are working on their first Star Writing, retelling the story in their own words. Some of our children have been trying out for the Primary Mathematics Challenge - a national competition in which the best primary mathematicians in the country, compete at various stages - a great opportunity for these children. In Science, our learning is based on Evolution and Inheritance - which we began exploring through the Mr Men and Little Miss characters! This really helped the children to understand the concepts involved, in quite an abstract topic. Well done Year 6 - a great start!



# Safeguarding

## Supporting our children's safety – Conflict Resolution

Conflict is an unavoidable part of life, and it can begin early. A toddler who takes away a toy from another youngster is an example of an interpersonal conflict. In older children, it often presents in disagreements, arguments, or other forms of confrontation.

Conflicts are also a natural part of growing up – and unkind, irritating or mean behaviour can at times exist in playgrounds, social events and online platforms. Teaching children to be able to manage conflict calmly and intelligently is an important and ongoing lesson for many. Managed properly, conflict can be constructive. Disagreements help students find ways to work together, gain new perspectives, re-think old ideas and conceptions, and strengthen interpersonal relationships.

But to keep arguments from boiling over into destructive events, conflict resolution skills for children should be kept top of mind as an educational goal. Those skills will serve students well throughout their lives. The first step in helping students master these skills is understanding their emotions and help them see how feelings can affect the outcome of a quarrel. Students who learn to control their emotions can resolve squabbles before they escalate into something worse.

Since no one can expect everything to go their way all the time, it is important to instill conflict resolution strategies for students early.

### 5 Steps to Conflict Resolution for Kids

The earlier that children can learn how to manage disputes, the sooner they begin cultivating their [emotional intelligence](#), which factors into conflict prevention and [tolerance](#). This model can help students resolve conflicts on their own:

**STOP.** Don't let things get out of control. Take a step back and try to calm down, since anger makes conflicts more difficult to resolve.

**SAY** what the conflict is about. Make sure you both have a clear understanding of what is causing the disagreement and clarify what each of you wants or doesn't want.

**THINK** of positive options. What's a fair solution that meets both of your needs?

**CHOOSE** a positive option that everyone can agree on.

**RESPECT** the opinions of others, even if you can't agree.

Effective conflict resolution also requires children to remain positive, patient, and sincere. **Some reminders on what NOT to do include:**

Resorting to name-calling, Using physical violence, Interrupting the other person, Refusing to listen, Insulting someone's intelligence.

### What Are Some Conflict Resolution Activities?

Family and peer activities can help students learn how to handle conflict in a controlled way. Some activities that can help children learn how empathy, communication, and self-esteem work in conflict prevention and emotional resilience include:

**Play games.** Games have rules, and rules are great for starting disputes. Working through a "questionable call" without getting emotional is the foundation of conflict resolution.

**Create something.** A writing or art exercise that involves a problem and solution encourages kids to share how they resolve conflicts and learn how other's do it.

**Put on a play.** Students can write their own scripts or collaborate on a story about what caused a dispute and how the various players contributed to its resolution.

**Always call 999 in an emergency.**

**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)

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

[www.nspcc.org.uk/online-safety](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/online-safety)

[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>

Our overall value for the school is  
**Responsibility**



**\*Please note- no GAMMON or BEEF on Wednesday it will always be CHICKEN**

		Summer/Autumn Menu 2022				
		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Week One</b> 06/06 27/06 18/07 12/09 03/10	Option 1	Cheesy Vegetable Pasta Bake	* Beef Burger in a Bun with Potato Wedges	* Roast Gammon with Roast New Potatoes and Gravy	* BBQ Chicken with Rice / Noodles	MSC Salmon Fingers with Chips and Tomato Sauce
	Option 2	Vegan Meatballs in Tomato Sauce with Rice	Vegetarian Burger (Quorn) in a Bun with Potato Wedges	Vegetable Loaf with Roasted New Potatoes and Gravy	Vegetable Lasagne with Garlic Bread	Mexican Bean Roll with Chips
	Vegetables	Peas Mixed Peppers	Baked Tomatoes Sweetcorn	Carrots Cabbage	Green Beans Cauliflower	Baked Beans Garden Peas
		Lemon & Berry Cake	Ice Cream with Fruit Salad	Chocolate Shortbread with Yoghurt	Sticky Toffee Apple Crumble & Custard	Jelly with Mandarins
<b>Week Two</b> 13/06 04/07 29/08 19/09 10/10	Option 1	Macaroni Cheese	* Pasta Bake (made with Beef)	* Roast Chicken with Roast Potatoes, Stuffing and Gravy	* Chicken Wraps with Rice	MSC Fish in Batter with Chips and Tomato Sauce
	Option 2	BBQ Quorn with Rice	Lentil & Basil Whirl with New Potatoes	Vegetable Wellington with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Tomato Pasta	Cheese & Vegetable Omelette with Chips
	Vegetables	Sweetcorn Broccoli	Carrots Cauliflower	Fresh Mixed Vegetables	Sweetcorn Broccoli	Baked Beans Garden Peas
	Dessert	Apple Crumble with Cream	Chocolate & Mandarin Cake with Chocolate Sauce	Jelly with Mandarins	Yoghurt & Raisin Cake	Ice Cream with Peaches
<b>Week Three</b> 20/06 11/07 05/09 26/09 17/10	Option 1	Cheese & Tomato Pizza	* Beef Lasagne with Garlic Bread	* Roast Beef with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	* Pork Sausages with Potato Wedges	MSC Fish Fingers with Chips and Tomato Sauce
	Option 2	Tomato Pasta	Vegetable Wraps with Rice	Quorn Roast with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Veggie Sausages with Potato Wedges	Cheese & Bean Pasty with Chips
	Vegetables	Broccoli Sweetcorn	Roasted Vegetables Green Beans	Carrots Roasted Parsnips	Sweetcorn Baked Tomatoes	Baked Beans Garden Peas
	Dessert	Lemon Drizzle Cake	Fresh Fruit Salad with Cream	Vanilla Shortbread with Yoghurt	Jelly with Peaches	Chocolate & Apple Cake with Chocolate Sauce

- 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

**\* Halal Option Available**

**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

<b>Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>School closed for the Queen's Funeral</b>
<b>Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Year 1 parent welcome meeting in Rose Classroom Year 5 parent welcome meeting in Indigo Classroom
<b>Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September</b>	Year 2 parent welcome meeting in Buttercup Classroom Year 6 parent welcome meeting in Amethyst Classroom
<b>Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September</b>	Year 3 parent welcome meeting in Amber Classroom
<b>Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September</b>	Year 4 parent welcome meeting in Fern Classroom
<b>26<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Open morning for prospective parents 9.30am – 11am
<b>30<sup>th</sup> September</b>	FODS welcome coffee morning and Macmillan Cake sale
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> October (all week)</b>	Year 6 Bikeability
<b>5<sup>th</sup> October</b>	FODS AGM and evening social meeting
<b>6<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Harvest Festival with a Harvest Festival menu for lunchtime
<b>12<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Open morning for prospective parents 9.30am – 11am
<b>14<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Diwali Assembly 1pm – 3pm
<b>17<sup>th</sup> October – 20<sup>th</sup></b>	Book Fair in school
<b>19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Parent Consultations
<b>20<sup>th</sup> October</b>	FODS Mufti – bring a bottle or filled jar for Christmas fair donation
<b>Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October</b>	INSET Day All Staff
<b>24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> October</b>	HALF TERM
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> November</b>	Open evening for prospective parents 7pm – 8pm
<b>7<sup>th</sup> November all week</b>	The great Dorchester clear out (FODStoy collection for fair donations)
<b>14<sup>th</sup> November all week</b>	Anti Bullying Week <b>14<sup>th</sup> November – Primary Maths Challenge Year 4-6</b>
<b>15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Individual and Sibling Photos
<b>24<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Flu Immunisation Reception – Y6
<b>9<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Open morning for prospective parents 9.30am – 11am
<b>10<sup>th</sup> December</b>	FODS Christmas Fair
<b>15<sup>th</sup> December</b>	FODS Christmas Discos 3.30pm – 6pm <b>Nursery Last Day of term</b>

16 <sup>th</sup> December	LAST DAY OF TERM FOR ALL PUPILS
19 <sup>th</sup> Dec – Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Jan	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
3 <sup>rd</sup> January	FIRST DAY OF SPRING TERM
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> June 2023	INSET Day
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2023	INSET Day

**Are you worried about the welfare of a child or young person?**

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/spotting-signs-child-abuse/>

If you think a child could be at risk of significant harm, you can call the children's social care team at the council in Sutton ([Go to their website](#))

[020 8770 6001](tel:02087706001) (Monday to Friday, 9am and 5pm) [020 8770 5000](tel:02087705000) (out of hours)

**Always call 999 in an emergency**



The Willow Club our Wrap Around Care Provision, which includes Breakfast Club, Morning Club, After School Club and Holiday Club. We hope you like our new branding!

Places are available for after school club for the remainder of this term. Just visit The Willow Club Wrap Around Care page on the school website

(<https://www.dorchesterprimary.com/page/?title=The+Willow+Club+Wrap%2Daround+Care&pid=64&action=saved>) to book.

***Please note that bookings need to be made and paid for in advance of the booking.*** We have had several children attending club without bookings which means we may have insufficient food, staff or resources for them. Thank you for your understanding.