



DPS News

Dorchester Primary School, Dorchester Road, Worcester Park, Surrey, KT4 8PG

telephone: 0208 330 1144, email: office@dorchesterprimary.com

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"And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn." Luke 2:7

9th December, 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Things are feeling just so festive at school now. This week we have enjoyed a wonderful 'Wriggly Nativity' presented by our Nursery and Reception children. They performed phenomenally as they spoke, sung and danced their way through the events of the first Christmas night. What superstars. We have also enjoyed two choir performances – they too performed brilliantly both at The Hamptons tree light switch on last Saturday and at the Christmas Tree Festival at Christ Church with St Philip today. Do pop into the festival tomorrow if you can after the fair – to vote for our 'Dorchester' Tree but also to visit the craft fair and look at the other amazing creations from businesses, charities and local community organisations. So with the Christmas Fayre tomorrow and the Year 2 Nativity, Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day (both on Wednesday 14th December still to look forward to next week, it is simply a wonderful time of year to be in a primary school.

On a less cheery note, we share your concern about the Strep A/Scarlet Fever outbreak that is currently prevalent. We have, once again, further increased our focus on personal hygiene, ensuring that children wash their hands regularly, cough into their elbow and dispose of used tissues carefully. The biggest challenge is knowing whether a child is unwell with one of the many winter viruses that are circulating at the moment or whether it is more serious. There is some useful advice from the NHS/Great Ormond Street Hospital at <https://www.gosh.nhs.uk/news/scarlet-fever-and-invasive-group-a-strep-advice-for-parents-and-carers/>, which tells you what to look out for and when to seek medical help.

We are very much looking forward to seeing you at our Christmas Fayre tomorrow. The event has been led by Louise (mum to Anya in Green Class), ably assisted by our FODS team and our amazing parent volunteers. Thank you so much to everyone who has stepped up for a shift on a stall – we truly appreciate your support.

The Fayre runs from 10am – 1pm – if you are there towards the end we would really appreciate your help in returning the school to its normal state, ready for the children to learn on Monday morning – so if you are able to shift some tables or are a dab hand with a broom and mop we would really appreciate it.

I look forward to seeing you there tomorrow.

Kind regards

Cathy Bell
Headteacher

Events which parents/carers may like to attend at school or be aware of



10th December	FODS Christmas Fair
12th December	Year 2 Nativity @ 9.30am
13th December	Year 2 Nativity @ 2pm
14th December	Christmas Jumper Day!
15th December	FODS Christmas Discos 3.30pm – 6pm Nursery Last Day of term
16th December	LAST DAY OF TERM FOR ALL PUPILS 1.30pm finish



Sport

Personal Bests Week

This week we had another very successful PB Week of Inter-House competitions to round off the term's work in PE. From Year 1 to Year 6 the children all competed in their House teams in benchball and/or basketball or football.

The conditions were festive to say the least but the level of competition was definitely hotter! The children, across the school, were excellent, with everyone taking part and everyone contributing to their team's performance. With our focus on the school value of empathy there were many examples of this from individuals who displayed this in their attitudes and approaches to other players, both in their own teams and on those they were playing against. The children should be very proud of the way they conducted themselves, their effort and their contribution to a very successful week of sport. Well done to everyone!

The overall winners in each year group were:

Year 1 **Rashford**

Year 2 **Rashford**

Year 3 **Rashford**

Year 4 **Attenborough**

Year 5 **Elizabeth**

Year 6 **Rashford**



A massive thank you must also go to our amazing Junior Supremo Sports Leaders, assisted by House Captains and prefects, who set up, led teams and officiated throughout the week. They were really exceptional and worked very hard to make every competition a success – thank you and well done!

Netball vs Robin Hood

Won 3-2

This was our last League match before the Christmas break and what a cold one it was! The beginning of the game did reflect this a little with a lot of game time before the first goal was scored; cold hands were definitely playing a part. At half time the score was 1-1 but both teams had started to warm up and the play became much tidier and competitive. Robin Hood were tough opponents and it proved to be a very close game with Dorchester holding on to a 3-2 lead at the final whistle.

The girls have had an excellent first term and as the competition increases after Christmas they should be extremely proud of the progress and results they have earned.

Team: Elenia, Elsa, Isla, Emelie, Ella, Lily, Antonia.



FODS

FODS Christmas Fair



Please come to our **Christmas Fair** this **Saturday 10th December from 10am-1pm**. There are many stalls where parents (and children) are kindly volunteering their time with lots of games, a tombola, toy stall, Christmas raffle, school choir singing, Father Christmas in his grotto, marshmallow toasting, cake stall and gift stall to enjoy. We hope you have fun.

Teddy Bears Picnic & Discos



The **Teddy Bear's Picnic** for nursery and reception children is on **Tuesday 13th December 3:30-4:15pm**. The **Discos** are on **Thursday 15th December 3:45-5pm** for years 1, 2, & 3 and **5:15-6:30pm** for years 4, 5, & 6. Drinks and snacks are provided. Please note, there will be no ticket sales on the door and the **last day for ticket sales is Friday 9th December** via pay360. We are seeking volunteers to help and we will have a sign up sheet available shortly. We hope the children enjoy these events.

If you paid for tickets last year, please remember that they will have been automatically rolled over to this year's event, unless you emailed FODS in time for a refund.



FODS

Easy Fundraising



It's Christmas shopping time so please remember that our school is registered with [#easyfundraising](#), which means over 7,000 brands, including Amazon, John Lewis and Argos will now donate to us for FREE every time you use [#easyfundraising](#) to shop with them. It would be great if more parents could sign up as this could raise so much for the school. These donations will help SO MUCH, especially in the current climate, so please sign up to support us – it's completely FREE and doesn't take long.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a.../step-1/...>

We have pinned the link to Easy Fundraising to our Facebook page (Friends of Dorchester School PTA) for ease of reference. Thank you for your support.



Class Notes

What was your favourite part of the Wriggly Nativity?

This week the children have had lots of fun performing the Wriggly Nativity. We were all so proud of them, they sang the songs beautifully and joined in with the Makaton actions. We also saw the stars and the animals showing off some of their funky dance moves. The children were able to experience what it is like to perform in front of an audience and this will do wonders for their self-confidence. I am sure we have some actors and dancers in the making! In Nursery, we have been finding out about how different people celebrate Christmas and we have loved using our Advent Calendar to count how many days until Christmas.

What is your favourite part of the Wriggly Nativity, and why?

This was a very exciting week for Reception as the children performed a dress rehearsal of their nativity performance - Wriggly Nativity - in front of the whole school and then, on Wednesday and Thursday they performed, alongside Nursery, to a packed hall of parents. It really was 'standing room only'! They held their own, handled the microphone with aplomb and sang songs using Makaton signing. Scene changes went without a hitch - almost - and they all did themselves proud. They have only been at school for 12 weeks! They were absolutely Reception Superheroes! And while all that was happening, they also learned about shapes with four sides and four angles - some with sides that were the same length and others with two long and two short sides - I wonder if they can remember what they are called? We drew around templates of the shapes and decorated them to hang on the class Christmas tree. The classes are beginning to look really festive. We read the book, Dear Santa by Rod Campbell and, using this as inspiration, we filled our sacks with pictures of toys that we would really like and used our phonics to write down what they are called. On Friday, both classes got together to go to Forest School and toast marshmallows around a fire! What a busy week! I expect everyone will sleep well this weekend!

What do pets need to stay happy and healthy?

This week in English we have been reading 'Little Tree', which is about seasons. We looked at how seasons effect trees and wrote sentences using adjectives to describe the changes.

In Maths we have been learning to subtract using a number line and counting backwards. We have also looked at fact families and writing 4 number sentences for each set of numbers.

In Computing we have been learning to add pages to Googles Slides and in PSHE we have been looking at why we are unique. In Geography we have been looking at maps symbols and creating our own maps of the school.



Class Notes

How many songs are there in our Nativity? Can you remember the names?

This week has included lots of Nativity practising, and the children are very excited to perform to the school this week (Friday 9th Dec) and to all the parents next week (12th and 13th December). They cannot stop singing the songs and speaking their lines, and we hope you will enjoy it as much as they seem to be.

In English, we have looked at some different stories about penguins, to compare similarities and differences between texts. In Maths, we have continued with money by looking at how to find change from different coins and notes. We have compared different values of money, and found many ways to make equal amounts using different coins and notes.

Finally, the children enjoyed their 'Discover Christmas' workshop. They watched a short version of the Nativity, which hopefully helped inspire them for their own version. They then spent some time with the performers in their classrooms, exploring the meaning behind the Wise Men's gifts, singing songs and exploring the emotions of people like Mary during the story.

What makes you unique?

This week in PSHE, we have been looking at what makes each of us unique and have learnt about how these things make us special. We have experimented with different types of magnets to determine whether they can have different strengths and why this may or may not be useful. In DT, we have been working on using nets to build our castles. We have looked at how to make our structures stronger and more stable. In our year groups, we all took part in personal bests week and worked hard to improve on our targets. Both Year 3 and 4 have been applying our knowledge of multiplication and division in order to solve worded problems. In English, Year 4 have continued to read the story of Ocean meets Sky, created our own islands similar to those in the story and used expanded noun phrases to describe them. In Year 3, we looked at retelling a section of The Lost Thing using descriptive phrases, prepositions and conjunctions.

What are gender stereotypes and how can we get rid of them?

We had some really interesting discussions this week about gender stereotypes and the importance of trying to remove them as far as possible to ensure we practise equality and equal opportunities for all. In Maths, we have been starting to add and order fractions, focussing on making denominators the same by making equivalent fractions. In English, we have started drafting our poems which are inspired by the Matchbox Diaries – some poetic structures we have been looking at have been sonnets, ABCB and anaphora. Ask your children this weekend about which they have chosen and have a discussion about similes and metaphors! We are writing up our final science investigations this week too, and have been preparing our flyers to hand out next week on our field trip to raise awareness of putting a stop to plastic pollution.

Who devised the scientific classification system we have today?

Year Six have had a busy week with lots of new learning! Our Junior Supremos have been busy helping every year group in P.E. during 'Personal Best' week; all year six children had a chance to push themselves to achieve their own bests earlier in the week! In Maths we have been focusing on plotting coordinates in four quadrants, reflecting and translating shapes and consolidated some learning with some festive challenges! Ever heard of 'Prep and Landing Elves'? Well, they have very important roles within the 'Elf world' - for which the children have been writing job descriptions and sets instructions to help them successfully execute Christmas Eve preparations for Santa! In P.S.H.E., as part of our 'Living in the Wider World' topic, we explored money sense and in Science, we learned all about the Linnaean Classification system. Finally, in D&T, the children have pinned their waistcoats and have practiced some stitches, ready for next week. The next time you need something mending, you know who to ask!



Safeguarding

Security and Strangers

Your child's class may have been spoken to today about strangers and an awareness of what to do if they are approached by someone. There was an incident earlier in the week before school where a year 6 pupil was approached and very sensibly ran towards another Dorchester family so that the driver in the van moved on. This has been reported to police and we have spoken to the older children as a precaution to encourage them that "Clever Never Goes" This means that they should never go with anyone, whether they know them or not, unless it is the person they are expecting.

Please have a conversation with your child about how they can keep themselves safe on their route to and from school if they go alone, including asking for help from a grownup with another Dorchester child, going back to school or shouting for help. Please reiterate that if something were to happen in the way to school, they should tell their class teacher or another school adult straight away when they arrive and that if they are early, it's ok to come straight to the office to ask for help.

We do not want anyone to be frightened or panicked - the child involved is absolutely fine and I am sharing this with the full permission of their parent. In order that our caring community can all be a little extra cautious over the coming days and weeks.



WE SPEND THE FIRST FEW YEARS DOING EVERYTHING WE CAN TO PROTECT OUR CHILDREN...

Then we have to learn how to give them some independence...

Teaching children simply to avoid strangers doesn't work. Most strangers will help rather than harm children. Conversely, it is often people known to children that pose the greatest threat. That's why we've invented Clever Never Goes.

Clever Never Goes teaches children to recognise when someone (anyone) is asking them to go with them. We call this 'Go Spotting'. It's about giving your child practical safety skills and confidence to engage with the outside world.

<https://clevernevergoes.org/parents-2/>

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



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>

Our overall value for the school is

Empathy

Think about how others less fortunate than you might be feeling in the lead up to the holidays.

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

SUTTON WINTER 2022/SPRING 2023 MENU					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
WEEK ONE 31 Oct 21 Nov 12 Dec 16 Jan 6 Feb 6 March 27 March	Option 1 Cheese & Tomato Pizza	Beef Lasagne* with Garlic Bread	Roast Gammon* with Roast New Potatoes & Gravy	BBQ or Lemon & Herb Chicken* with Potato Wedges	MSC Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips & Tomato Sauce
	Option 2 Veggie Chilli with Rice	Mexican Bean Roll with Rice	Crunchy Top Veg Bake with Roast New Potatoes	Rice BBQ or Lemon & Herb Quorn Fillets with Potato Wedges or Rice	Cheese Quiche with Chips
	Vegetables Carrots Green Beans	Broccoli Sweetcorn	Carrot & Swede Mash Cabbage	Sweetcorn Roasted Tomatoes	Garden Peas Baked Beans
	Dessert Pear & Chocolate Crumble with Custard Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit	Raspberry Jelly with Peaches Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit	Vanilla Shortbread with Yoghurt Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit	Yoghurt & Raisin Cake Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit	Banana Sponge with Custard Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit
WEEK TWO 7 Nov 28 Nov 2 Jan 23 Jan 20 Feb 13 March	Option 1 Macaroni Cheese	Spaghetti Bolognese* with Garlic Bread	Roast Beef* with Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Chicken* Tikka Masala Curry with Rice	Pork Sausages* with Chips & Tomato Sauce
	Option 2 Shepherdess Pie with Gravy	Lentil & Basil Whirl with New Potatoes	Cauliflower & Broccoli Cheese with Roast Potatoes	Vegetable Fajitas with Rice	Veggie Sausages with Chips & Tomato Sauce
	Vegetables Green Beans Roasted Vegetables	Broccoli Sweetcorn	Carrots Roasted Butternut Squash	Cauliflower Green Beans	Garden Peas Baked Beans
	Dessert Fresh Fruit Salad Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit	Peach Upside Down Cake with Custard Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit	Oaty Cookie with Yoghurt Fruit & Yoghurt Station	Marble Cake with Custard Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit	Fruit with Ice Cream Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit
WEEK THREE 14 Nov 5 Dec 9 Jan 30 Jan 27 Feb 20 March	Option 1 Cheese Swirls with New Potatoes	Beef Burger* in a Bun with Potato Wedges	Roast Chicken* with Stuffing, Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Sticky Chicken* Noodles or Rice	MSC Fish Fingers with Chips & Tomato Sauce
	Option 2 Tomato Pasta	Quorn Burger in a Bun with Potato Wedges	Vegetarian Wellington with Roast Potatoes	Veggie Wrap Stack with Rice	Cheese Omelette with Chips
	Vegetables Green Beans Carrots	Roasted Peppers Sweetcorn	Carrots Roasted Parsnips	Broccoli Sweetcorn	Garden Peas Baked Beans
	Dessert Rice Pudding with Berries Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit	Fresh Fruit Salad Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit	Orange Jelly with Mandarins Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit	Peach Crumble with Custard Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit	Chocolate & Apple Cake with Chocolate Sauce Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit

- 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



10 th December	FODS Christmas Fair 10-1pm Junior Choir @ Christmas Fair
12 th December	Year 2 Nativity @ 9.30am
13 th December	Year 2 Nativity @ 2pm FODS Teddy Bears Picnic 3.30pm-4.15pm
14 th December	Christmas Jumper Day
15 th December	FODS Christmas Discos 3.30pm – 6pm Nursery Last Day of term
16 th December	LAST DAY OF TERM FOR ALL PUPILS
19 th Dec – Monday 2 nd Jan	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
3 rd January 2023	FIRST DAY OF SPRING TERM 1
10 th January	Year 4 trip to Horniman Museum
11 th January	Year 3 trip to Horniman Museum
24 th January	Amethyst Class to Wimbledon Synagogue
10 th February	Last day of Spring 1 before half term break
13 th – 17 th February	HALF TERM
20 th February	FIRST DAY OF SPRING TERM 2
30 th March	Last day of term for Nursery
31 st March	LAST DAY OF SPRING 2 Term
3 rd April – 14 th April	EASTER HOLIDAYS
17 th April	First day of Summer 1 Term
26 th May	Last day of Summer 1 before Half term
29 th May – 2 nd June	HALF TERM
Monday 5 th June	INSET Day
Tuesday 6 th June	First day of Summer 2 term
Wednesday 19 th	Last day of term for Nursery
Thursday 20 th	Last day of term
Friday 21 st July	INSET Day



The Willow Club our Wrap Around Care Provision, which includes Breakfast Club, Morning Club, After School Club and Holiday Club.

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.

The new contact number for the club is 07597-382949.

Please note that bookings need to be made and paid for in advance of your child attending the sessions.

We have had several children attending the club without bookings which means we may have insufficient food, staff or resources for them. Thank you for your understanding.