

DPS News

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"Do not give your past the power to define your future." Dhiren Prajapati

25th June, 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

It's been another very busy week in school this week as we begin to make plans for the next academic year. It was wonderful to be able to meet our new Reception parents online yesterday and share information about the Reception year with our Nursery families and the new families that are joining us in September. We are looking forward to doing the same for our new Nursery families next week. We are also delighted to have welcomed 11 new children to our school this week – several of these have moved to the UK from Hong Kong – I know you will join us in welcoming them, and their families, to our DPS community.

The children have really enjoyed their Sports Days this week as they engaged in activites from hurdles to wellie throwing! We are very sorry not to have been able to invite parents to these events again this year – it's not quite the same without you – but given the current situation with rising numbers of the Delta variant of Covid-19 and our absolute desire to keep our school fully open – this was the safest option.

Over the next few weeks the Leadership Team and Governors will be spending some time reviewing our provision and identifying key school improvement priorities for next year and beyond. We are blessed with great teachers and already offer an exciting and motivating curriculum, but we never rest on our laurels and always strive to further improve. In order to support us with this process we would really value your feedback. Please complete our Parent Survey available here by next Friday. Your views about our strengths and weaknesses and any comments you have to make will be really helpful to us as we look to the future together.

Finally, thank you so much for all your kind comments, wishes and gifts on Thank a Teacher Day. It was wonderful to see the children so grateful for all the staff at school do for them – and it is always good to have an excuse to wear sparkles to work!

Enjoy the weekend.

Kind regards

Cathy Bell Headteacher



DPS Notices

We warmly welcomes the following new children, and their families, to our school community:

Ho Yuet - Ruby Class Ho Ching - Emerald Class - Red Class Seerat Ching Hei - Amber Class Ching Fung - Sapphire Class **Emma** - Silver Class Etta - Topaz Class - Orange Class Darcie-Grace - Topaz Class Kelson Cayton - Rose Class Aston - Green Class

We are delighted to have you all with Us.





We have been continuing to discuss the meaning behind our new school rules in the school council. We then started working collaboratively - creating presentations on each of these the themes:

Ready

Respectful

Safe

We wanted to know how they could be visualised and brought to life so as a school council, we figured there is so much creative talent out there in our community, that we should hold a **design competition**!

And it is simple...it must include the new school rules! *Think, what could these three words look like?*

All entries to be submitted to your class teachers by Friday 9th July.

The best designs will be used in school as part of our new RRS displays!

Good luck!

Weekly PE Challenges

EYFS - Practise rolling a ball against a wall and explore different ways to jump over and avoid it. Don't forget to run after to collect it. (Ask a family member to help if you can't find a suitable wall).

Year 1 - See how many ways you can send and receive different objects.

Year 2 - With a friend, both try rolling a ball and then try to sit on each other's ball at the same time.

Year 3 - With a friend, find some lines or low walls and play a '1 v 1 balance game' that involves mirroring each other's movements. Come up with ways to make the activity competitive.

Year 4 - Find a low wall or similar and, with a partner, come up with different ways to challenge your balance.

Year 5 - Plank for 20 seconds. Every 5 seconds lift your right hand off the floor, then your left hand. Repeat for the duration.

Year 6 -. With a friend, develop and practise on your own 'Throlf Course', coming up with different types of shots and hazards to keep it challenging.



How many objects can you find in your house beginning with s?

This week in Nursery we have started to make an ice cream parlour for our role play area because who doesn't like an ice-cream at the seaside? The children have been making their own cardboard ice creams and ice lollies and they have also been using symbols to create a menu of the different flavours that they will sell. We can't wait to open our shop and may go into competition with the FODS ice lolly sale! Next week is Science week so we will be taking a break from our seaside topic as we explore innovating new ways for the Billy Goats Gruff to cross the river. However, the week after we are going to try and make some real ice cream and lollies.

In maths we have been learning about capacity and the children have been using the vocabulary to see how much sand and pasta that they can get into different containers. They are able to say whether the containers are empty, full or half full. In phonics the children have been trying to identify the initial phonemes in words.

The children have all been really excited this week as they have found out who their new Reception teachers will be. They can't wait to enjoy some of the transition activities that have been planned as we all support them with the next step of their learning journey.



How can you find out who has got the biggest head in your house?

This week in Reception we have been following the antics of Jim as he climbed the beanstalk and helped out a lonely Giant. We have been investigating how to measure things that are not straight, just as Jim did when he measured the Giant's head to help him get some glasses, new teeth and a wig! We even found a way to compare the size of our heads. We have also been exploring different ways to measure items in all the classrooms and our outside area and learning vocabulary such as; tall, tallest, height, wide and long. As this week is Sports week, we have been coming to school in our PE kits and practising the skills we will need for Sports Day - who knew that would include throwing a wellington boot across a playground? We have also been making medals to wear on Sports Day. On Wednesday everyone came dressed in their sparkliest outfits and there were lots of stars to be seen as the children thanked all their teachers for teaching them! The children wrote many messages of thanks to their teachers and gave them a lovely day. We were all Stars of the Day that day!



What are the differences between an evergreen and deciduous tree?

In Year 1 this week we have had booklet week and the children have enjoyed showing off their skills and what they can do. They have all tried really hard and persevered when they have found things a little tricky.

We have been developing our art skill this week and enjoyed exploring the trees and plants in our school environment. We have looked carefully at flowers and used water colours to paint them. We used the iPads to take photos of the trees around school and then recreated the pictures we took. We have also learnt about the different seasons and tried hard to paint a tree from each season.







Why do animals have different habitats?

In Year 2 this week, we have been very busy! We have had Booklet Week, and we have been showing off our skills in Maths, Reading and Spelling/ Grammar. Every child tried their hardest and showed resilience and perseverance. Well done Year 2.

We have also been learning about habitats in Science, exploring seasonal weather patterns in Geography, and using the VR headsets to explore Southern Africa. In DT, we have started to design a coconut shy for our carnival game. We have been thinking carefully about colour, form and texture, and we had to think about the best materials to make a life size coconut shy from! Sports Day on Friday was really fun, and we showed courage, honesty and perseverance.



What symbol should we look for to know the websites we are using are safe to use?

In Year 3 this week we have been continuing to learn to tell the time and use time to solve problems. In our topic of Saving Planet Earth, we thought about the importance of the 3 R's: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. We challenged the children with thoughts about how we can practice these in school and at home. Be prepared for lots of questions and thoughts about how more can be done in these vital areas. In Science we are starting to think about pollution and how it affects the world around us. Watch this space for the results of these investigations! We have started to learn the days of the week in French and in Computing we have thought about being safe when we are online. The children had a chance to show off their skills by building their own E-Safety Internaut. We have completed some of our booklet work as part of the end of year assessments, which will help with reporting back to you as parents in the end of year reports, which are due soon. We finished our week off with Sports Day, where we had lots of fun and special awards were given for Courage, Honesty and Perseverance.



How did you show sportsmanship on Sports Day?

This week, Year 4 have been learning all about Ancient Greek Gods, what was believed about them and what powers they had. The children created their own top-trump cards and played each other with different powers, such as strength and kindness. In core subjects, the children have been showing off their learning by trying their hardest to show us how much they have learned and remembered over this year in their booklets, which will help us share with you the children's progress over this year. On Sports Day, many children showed brilliant sportsmanship and perseverance. They cheered on children from other classes and supported each other well. Everyone took part in all the activities and showed great enthusiasm on the day despite the heat, they should all be very proud of themselves. A huge thank you to all of the children, parents and carers who got their children ready for sports day with coloured t-shirts, water bottles, sun cream and sunhats, which ultimately helped the event run smoothly.



What are complementary colours?

This week we have been so proud of everyone in Year 5 for their mature attitudes towards their learning booklets. The children really have tried their best and shown us what they have learnt in Year 5. How the children have scored in their learning booklets will be used alongside our ongoing teacher assessments to give each child an end of year grade, which you will find in their end of year report. Besides completing learning booklets, the children have engaged in a range of lessons this week, including swimming (in Blue class), art, French and computing. In computing lessons, the children learnt about how the internet works and discovered IP addresses. They checked connections between the school's IP address and their favourite websites' IP addresses. In Art, the children discovered the work of Peter Thorpe and looked in detail at his abstract space art which uses complementary colours before designing and painting their own piece of art in a similar style.

On Wednesday, we were overwhelmed by the thank you cards, stars, drawings, chocolate and gifts to mark 'Thank a teacher day'. Thank you very much. Sports Day was a huge success. We were so proud of the children's attitudes and sportsmanship.

Which Sports Day event is something you would like to pursue at high school?

In Year 6 this week, we have been focusing on writing an extended story, based on the mystery of Flannan Isle and the strange disappearance of the three lighthouse keepers. The children have been taking time to really consider each word, its meaning, its purpose in the sentence and the overall effect on the reader. The children have had to act as detectives to use evidence from the original facts and the poem that is based on the story, to infer what might have happened. Using suspense techniques, the children are practising 'hooking' the reader so they want to read more. Rehearsals are continuing for our end of year production, with prop design and costume suggestions being considered, as well as scene rehearsals and songs being practised. It has also been Year 6's final primary school Sports Day, with challenges to show sportsmanship, courage, honesty, respect and perseverance as well as physical skills. Our Junior Supremo children have also been helping out with other year groups' Sports Days too and have been excellent in their roles.





Nursery	AM Filip for developing his confidence when mark making. PM Emilia for always being kind and caring for her friends.
R Bronze	Dolly for continually doing the right thing and Teddie for trying so hard with his learning this week
R Copper	Taliyah for learning that trying hard helps her learning and for teaching her friends how to do the splits and cartwheels with patience and encouragement.
R Silver	Anya for always working hard with her learning and always listening well on the carpet.
1 Red	Seerat, for having a fantastic first week in Red Class!
1 Rose	Oscar for, preserving with his story writing.
1 Ruby	Adora for settling in so well today.
2 Buttercup	Sam, for excellent progress with his comprehension in Reading.
2 Topaz	Etta and Kelson for settling into Topaz Class and persevering in all lessons.
2 Yellow	All of Yellow Class have been superstars this week! They have been persevering with their booklets and showing their fantastic learning!
3 Amber	Hei for settling well into Amber class and making a really good effort in every lesson.
3 Orange	Oscar for being super helpful during Sports Day and supporting his classmates.
3 Saffron	Albion for always putting his absolute best into everything he tackles.
4 Emerald	Aston for joining in with sports day brilliantly well, despite it being his first day!
4 Fern	Oliver for trying exceptionally hard this week and pushing himself.
4 Green	Angel for trying her absolute best in the booklets.
5 Blue	Demi for her bravery and courage.
5 Indigo	Brooke for such a determined attitude this week.
5 Sapphire	Everyone is a star in Sapphire Class!
6 Amethyst	Ella for giving Mrs Wyman brilliant writing inspiration.
6 Lavender	Archie, Ryan and Libbie for their communication skills, either in the classroom or as a Junior Supremo.
6 Purple	Oliver and Archie for being responsible in their Junior Supremo role and helping with Sports Days.



Safeguarding

Supporting our children's safety

Parents and carers often appreciate extra advice and support. This might be about how to cope with a crying baby; working out whether a child is old enough to walk home from school alone; or thinking about how to keep their child safe online. Here, you will find weekly selected advice and information for you to access.

Social media scams

Talk to children about the issue using news stories to start conversations

When there is a story in the news about the latest online scam then share this with the whole family – don't just target young people as anyone can be affected by these things and the more we talk about online issues the more natural and normal it will become!

Encourage young people to check their privacy settings on their social media accounts

Most social media platforms and popular apps are public by default, but most will allow users to control their privacy for example choosing who can see their content or who can contact them. Once the privacy settings are in place it is still important to remind children and young people to think carefully before sharing too much information.

Encourage young people to be more critical about the ads they see on social media

Adverts on social media will often look genuine and encourage you to click to visit their website to make a purchase, it is especially important to make sure that you are on the site that you think you are on. If in doubt, then browse to the site yourself rather than relying on a link in the advert. Also, have a read of our online critical thinking guide to help young people learn how to make smarter choices online.

If you are in any doubt about whether an offer or a post is genuine then visit the website yourself

Encourage young people not to click on any links in a social media post or email – type in the address, login if necessary and see whether the offer or claim is indeed genuine.

Reinforce the importance of protecting personal data

Remind young people that their bank will NEVER ask them to provide online banking password details or a One-Time-Passcode if they are using two-factor authentication via an email or social media platform, nor will their bank ever ask them to transfer funds to a safe account or say their money is at risk.

Always report if something looks like a scam

If you or your children become aware of something that looks suspicious online, then it is important to act. Report it to the platform and you can also report it to Action Fraud. Action Fraud is the UK's national reporting centre for fraud and cybercrime and is the place where we should report scams if we live in England, Wales, or Northern Ireland. In Scotland this can be reported directly to the police.

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/onlinesafety www.commonsensemedia.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

https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/

Useful links

All school information and communication www.classlist.com

Payment link for school dinners and class trips http://www.sim-pay.co.uk/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 June is: 'Curiosity'







DPS Diary

Unfortunately, due to Social Distancing COVID restrictions we have had to change and reduce lots of our school activities. As a result, this diary and the school calendar dates can be subject to late changes so please do check regularly.

28 th June – 2 nd July	Science Week
1 st July	New Nursery Parents Induction Meeting – 7pm via Zoom
3 rd July	FODS Summer Fair - cancelled
9 th July	Reports go home
12 th July	Health and Relationships week
15 th July	Year 6 production – online viewing event
19 th July	Carnival
22 nd July	Last day of Summer term for Nursery School talent show
23 rd July	End of term - school finishes at 1:00-1:10pm for years 1 and 4, 1:10-1:20pm for years 2 and 5 and 1:20-1:30pm for years 3 and 6, 1:00-1:10pm for Reception

We endeavour to ensure the accuracy of dates and times, but please be aware that they may be subject to change and therefore check the school calendar for the most up-to-date information. Thank you. To access the school calendar, please go to the school website.



If you haven't yet signed up, please do. Every penny you spend online using this service means more free donations to our wonderful school. https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/dorchesterpswp/ Total Raised in the last 30 days

£47.13

Total supporters - 120

Total Raised for DPS

£865.94

Please join today and help us raise even more!