



DPS News

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"A flower does not think of competing with the flower next to it. It just blooms". Sensei Ogui

11th February, 2022

Dear Parents and carers,

The mornings and evenings are becoming lighter; it has been lovely to see a bit of sunshine and I am sure I actually felt some warmth in the sun this week - spring must be on the way!

We have spent some time this week in assembly thinking about our School Value of Empathy. We thought about how we could show others how much we care about them by 'walking in their shoes' and sharing their feelings. The children, of course, came up with some brilliant suggestions and examples of where they have shown Empathy. Please continue these conversations at home – it is such an important value and one that contributes enormously to our motto of '*Achieving Excellence Together in a Caring Community*'.

Our Caring Community was certainly in evidence on Thursday on our Inclusion Day. It was amazing to see the children come to school wearing colours to represent their chosen area and, more importantly, it was wonderful to hear the children talk about why they had chosen the colour they wore and what it meant to them. Although the day was primarily about raising awareness you also generously donated money for Place2Be, the charity that supports children's mental health in schools – thank you.

I can't believe we have come to the end of another half term already. It has been lovely to look back at everything the children have achieved in their learning – they have thoroughly enjoyed their learning across the curriculum and immersed themselves in their topics, which are designed to carefully build on children's previous learning and provide them with new knowledge and experiences to ensure they become enthusiastic and lifelong learners.

We wish you all a lovely half term break. Let's hope the sun shines. We look forward to seeing the children back at school on Monday 21st February.

Kind regards

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.**

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.

Eco News

Daisy from Fuchsia Class has been spreading her environmental message locally this week. These young activists are definitely leading the way.

“I was on Browning Avenue and then I was on the edge of the pavement and I was showing cars that were driving down the hill. I was holding the poster up and they saw it, smiled and some put their thumbs up and waved at me. People in front and behind of me were reading it, smiling and saying well done. I was learning about not polluting at Brownies and I decided to make the poster and show lots of people on the way then they can read it and pass the message on to other people.”

Well done Daisy. Dorchester are proud of you.





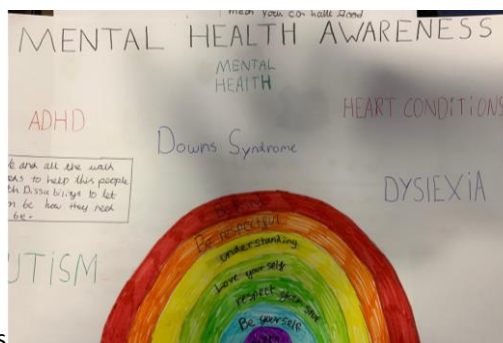
DPS Notices

Inclusion Day

Inclusion day was very successful, the children knew why they were wearing a particular colour and could explain it as well. There were so many interesting conversations taking place in each class, it was a great way to celebrate and learn about all our various differences. All the year groups and the children really did impress us with their awareness of needs and disabilities. The teachers all did something special in their classes to raise awareness of it as well. Thanks for participating everyone!



←Ella and Evie→, Year 5 Indigo Class



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Sports Results



We played at Carshalton Boys Sport College and came third in our group stage, which unfortunately means we didn't make it into the semi-final, but we still did very well. It didn't help that the goalkeeper forgot her gloves! Thank you to FODS for the shiny new kits too – we really looked professional!

Kiki, Year 6.

Second Hand Uniform School Donations from Yippee

Our marvellous, sensational and ever glamorous lollipop lady, Yippee, has recently donated **£174.50** from the second hand uniform sales which she puts so much effort into day in day out. We are forever grateful to her for the enthusiasm and dedication she brings to our second hand uniform shop, so a huge thank you must go to Yippee!

Bike unclaimed

There is a small bike which has been left in the school shed for two weeks now. It is a Switch Apollo navy blue, white and black bike. If this is your child's, please come and collect it! Thanks



DPS Notices



Applications for the 8th series of **Junior Bake Off** have begun; a Channel 4 programme that celebrates the culinary talent and ambition of the younger generation in Britain.

The team at Love Productions, the company behind The Great British Bake Off, The Great British Sewing Bee and The Great Pottery Throw Down, are contacting schools in the hope that you can help us spread the word regarding this exciting opportunity.

They are looking for young budding bakers between **9-12 years old**.

Filming would take place from July 2022, but **applications close on Sunday 13th March 2022**.

Interested bakers can apply online at - www.applyforjuniorbakeoff.co.uk

Please do feel free to contact us on **0207 067 4833**, should you have any questions regarding the above.

Maybe one of Dorchester Primary's finest will be on the big screen for the next series!



Duke Awards



We were overwhelmed this week by all the unbelievable progress our Junior Dukes shared with us. Mr Dennis has had Dukes from all over the school visiting him with their booklets, and we have been thoroughly impressed with how much everyone has achieved so far. The effort that has gone in to these exciting home challenges has been so lovely to see.

Lots of children are starting to have their Junior Duke Challenges signed off by different assessors around the school – it has been wonderful seeing so many Dukes exploring the school and finding the relevant adult to sign off their challenge – Miss Flint has been particularly enjoying being the 'Cookery Assessor' for Year 3/4...cup cake tasting as a job is certainly popular job to have!

If you are interested in taking part in the Junior Duke awards this September, then you will have the opportunity to do so. This is an awards scheme which we will be running every year and we really hope that many more pupils will take on the challenge in their next academic year.

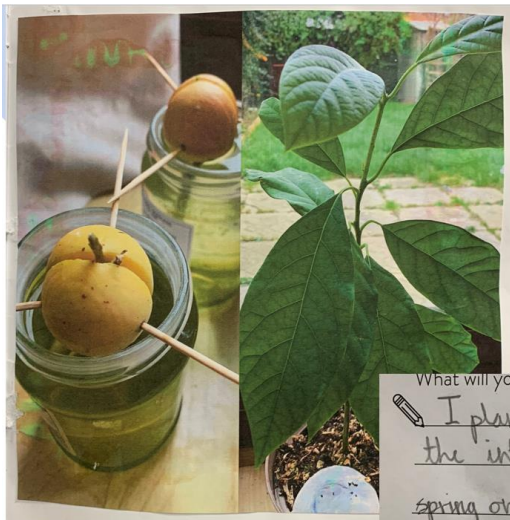
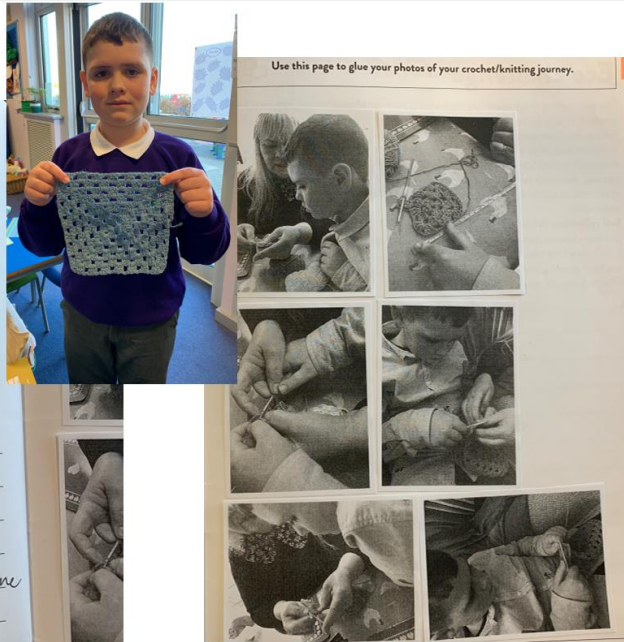
Toby – Year 5, Indigo

GOLD JUNIOR DUKE
Caring for Others

There are many people in the world who are not as lucky as we are. They are cold and in need of cosy blankets. You can help orphaned or vulnerable children in Africa by **learning how to knit or crochet a SQUARE measuring 20cm** (which is almost as wide as this page) which will be added to other squares to be made into a blanket. Once your square is finished, please take it to your teacher who will then send it on to Dawn at Junior Duke HQ who will post it off to Africa. You can learn from skilful friends or by looking for 'crochet for beginners' on YouTube. If you and your 'helper' make more than one, all squares will be most welcome.

Self reflection: Did you knit or crochet? Have you done it before? How long did it take to make your square? Who helped you/how did you learn? What would you like to be able to make next? How do you feel knowing that you have helped someone to be warmer?

My Nanna helped me crochet my square. I had not done this before. I would like to be able to crochet a Pokemon toy. I feel happy that I have helped someone in need. Crochet is tricky



Summer – Year 5, Blue

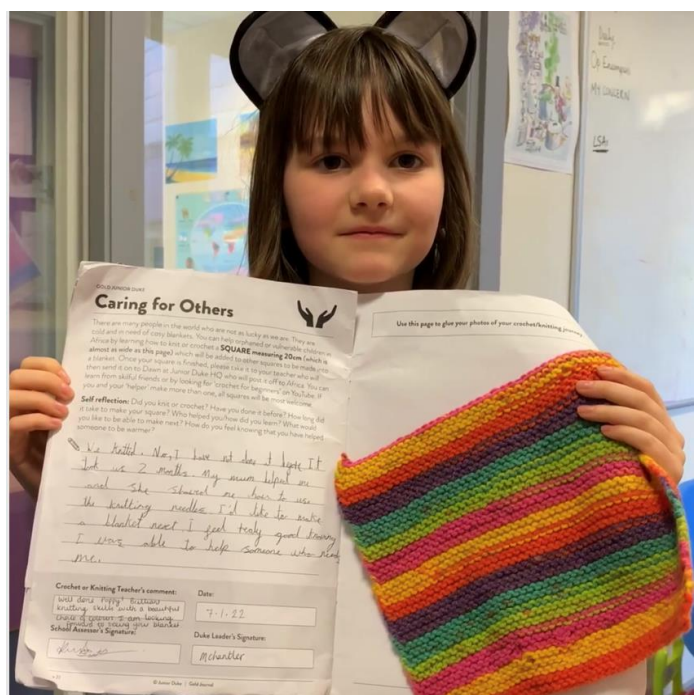
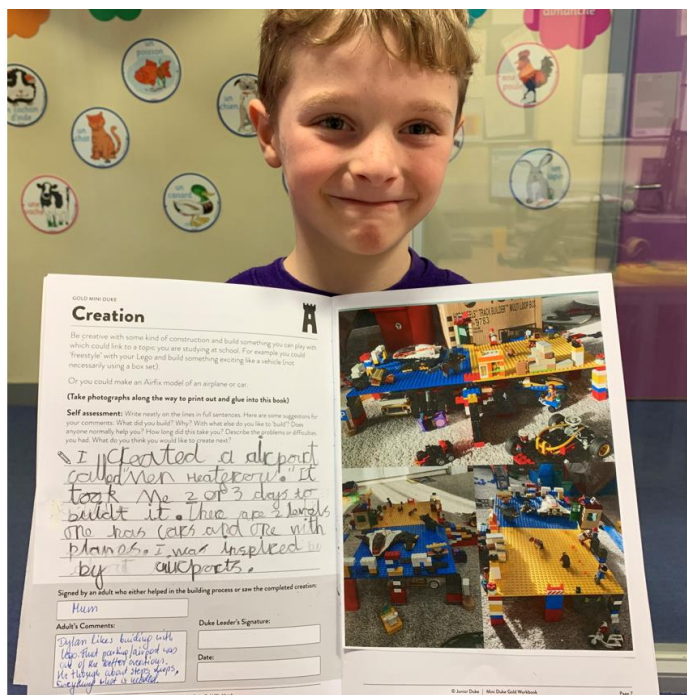
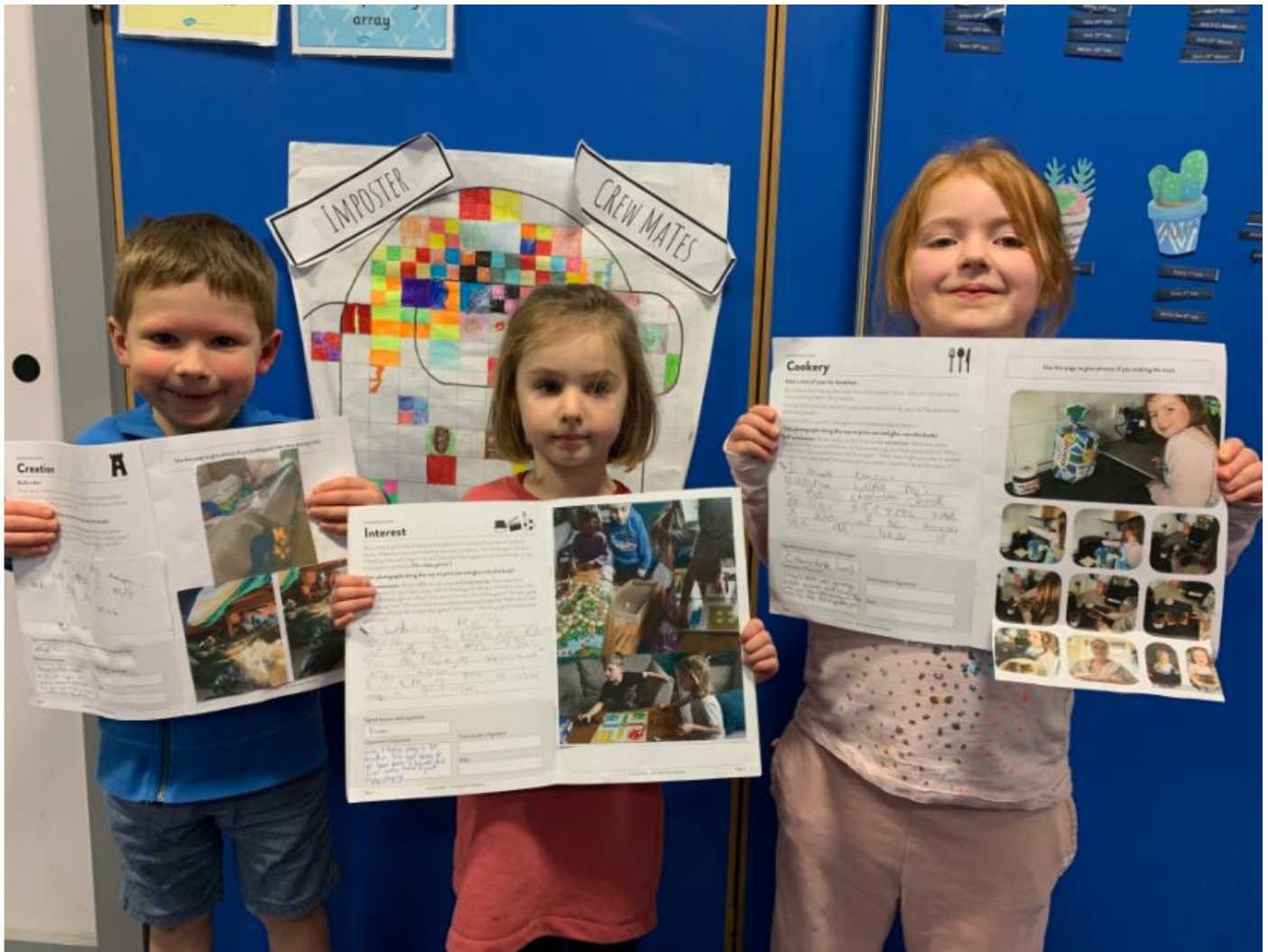


What will you plant next?

I planted an avocado. I love avocados. On the internet. We plant, raspberry, strawberry, tomatoes, spring onions and more. Almost 10-11 months. I feel happy and proud. I think I will plant a bell pepper next.



Duke Awards



From top left going clockwise – Joshua, Lisa and Rosie (Year1), Dylan (Year 2) and Poppy (Year 5)



Class Notes



What can you do to make yourself feel relaxed and happy?

This week has been Children's Mental Health Week. In Nursery, we have been thinking about different ways that we can help ourselves to relax and feel calm. We have been experimenting making different sensory bottles with different ingredients. These have made different effects and it is lovely to shake them and watch the ingredients mix and move. We have decided that we will keep these and watch them when we need to calm down. We have also been trying to do different Yoga exercises to relax our bodies. We have read the story of 'The Cow tripped Over the Moon' by Tony Wilson. This story is based upon the Hey diddle diddle nursery rhyme. When we read the story we discovered that at first the cow couldn't jump over the moon and she has to keep trying to achieve what she planned to do. The little dog and the dish and the spoon also help her to try and achieve her goal. We have been thinking about some of the things that we would like to do and how we can help each other to achieve our goals.



Who has the biggest feet in your family, and how can you measure them?

This week the children in Reception have been reading *The Dot*, by Peter H Reynolds. Vashti does not think she can draw but, by showing that whatever she does is valued, her art teacher inspires her to take her 'dot' and do an even better one! So our theme for this week has been to have a go at anything and to realise that we 'can do' many things. We have been creative with our own dots and even done some early chromatography, using coffee filters, felt pens and water. We are also thinking about our well-being and have enjoyed some Cosmic Yoga sessions. Thursday was Inclusion Day, so the children wore a rainbow of colours to school, and we talked about how different we all are but how everyone is important.

In Maths we have compared our heights, thought about how we can record our different heights and used blocks to measure and compare the length of our feet with our friends.



Class Notes

What are the features of a postcard?



The children have had a busy last week of half-term and enjoyed finishing their topic 'Commotion in the Ocean.'

In Literacy, the children continued to use the story 'The Snail and The Whale' to support them with their writing. They worked hard writing postcards pretending they were the snail or the whale and told their friends all about their adventures. The children tried hard to remember their capital letters, full stops and finger spaces. This half-term we have been working on asking questions and using 'and' in our sentences and lots of the children remembered this when they were writing their postcard.

In Maths, we have been looking at adding through 10 and the children have spent time using ten frames to help them show the answer. This half-term we have been looking at number bonds to 20 and the children are trying hard to remember all the number facts to help them.

We have spent time looking at how to stay safe on the Internet and the children spent time thinking about the right and wrong thing to do. We discussed not sharing any details with people and making sure we don't say unkind things.

How can we stay safe online?

This week in Year 2 we have been learning about how to stay safe online. We discussed what information is safe to share and what information we should keep private.

In History we looked at the Victorian game 'cup and ball'. We then made our own versions and had competitions with each other to see who could catch the ball the most times. In Computing we learnt how to edit photos using cropping, changing the contrast and brightness and rotate them.

In English we looked at the features of instruction texts. We then followed instructions, gave instructions and then wrote our own. In Maths we recapped how to add, subtract, multiply, divide and find fractions of amounts.

After a very busy term, we hope you all have a relaxing half term.





Class Notes

How can you stay safe online?

This week, we have been learning about mental health as it is children's mental health week. This also included learning all about inclusion and how/why it is important to help everyone feel part of our community. We have been learning about lots of different countries in Africa and creating posters and Google slides to show what we have learnt. We also looked at Mali and combined RE and Geography by looking at the mosques that are built there and created our own mini replicas out of clay. In English, we have been looking at the story of The Lion King and we have created our own shadow puppets to help us retell parts of the story, focusing on the emotions of each of the characters. For our Art project, we have been learning about 2 African artists Gakonga and Edward Tingatinga and have been using their artistic styles to inspire our own printing blocks that we will print with onto fabric. In Computing, we have been focusing on Internet safety as this Thursday was 'Safer Internet Day' and have also been continuing our project on creating a piece of music on Soundtrap.

What did you find most interesting about inclusion day and why?

This week in Year 5, we have been practising adding and subtracting fractions in maths. We have been using our knowledge of equivalents and common denominators to convert fractions so they may be easily added or subtracted – by getting the denominators the same! This of course is not the only way to add or subtract fractions, but it is extremely useful to know as forms the foundation of fractions knowledge which will support their further learning on this topic. In English, we have written up our recounts of the visit to Hampton Court Palace last week – the focus has been: fronted adverbials, relative clauses and parenthesis. Ask your children how many of these features they included and whether or not they can remember any they used!

We LOVED inclusion day, and had some fascinating learning conversations about 'invisible needs' and the importance of tolerance and understanding. We even had some brave individuals share their own personal diagnoses and how these impact on their everyday lives.

All of year 5 also found out what roles they would be undertaking for the Easter production – we are very excited to start rehearsals now.

Thank you all for such hard work this term, it has been a really memorable one for sure, and we hope that you rest up, relax but most of all enjoy your well-earned half term break. See you after half term

What will your WW2 Day costume look like on Tuesday 22nd February?

This week, Year 6 have been continuing to explore Electricity, In Science, and enjoyed drawing their own circuit diagrams for others to build and test out. As it is Mental Health week, we have also been exploring how we can look after our own. We found out more about the importance of sleep, limiting screen time, empathy towards others, physical exercise and being creative as a means of helping our minds and bodies to feel better. It is also E-Safety week, so we spent time considering how to create safe usernames and passwords, as well as being very careful about online chats. We discussed the importance of leaving a situation online, if it makes you feel uncomfortable and telling an adult - taking a screenshot could be a good idea as evidence. In History, the children have been creating dramatic pictures of the Blitz, using a backwash and then a silhouette of the London skyline over the top. This week, the children have really impressed us by showing us what they know in Reading, Writing, Maths and Grammar.



Safeguarding

Supporting our children's safety

Practical ways to support children on screen time

Influence a change in how they use screens

Be aware of what they do online and specifically why they enjoy it to build up your awareness of the risks and rewards these activities can offer.

Model the behaviour that you'd like to see in them – children tend to do what you do, not necessarily what you say.

Actively engage with them on some of the activities they do online; whether it's playing a game online together, watching their favourite vlogger or asking them about what their recent post.

Take time to unplug from tech as a family to encourage them to have a balanced view of using tech. Apps like Forest which build beautiful forests the longer you stay off devices are a great help.

Together find apps, site, and games that will help give kids a way to explore their passions, enhance their skills and discover their identity in a safe way.

Establish a family agreement together to manage expectations of how screens and online platforms should be used and why.

For younger children find ways to combine touchscreen use with creative or active play

Children's screen time does not have to be passive, look for apps that encourage and complement physical activity.

Set some simple tools to manage screen time

[Make use of parental control tools](#) on their devices and the platforms they use to set digital boundaries together to ensure they get the best out of their screen time

Use night settings – some phones have blue light filters to help reduce the amount of blue light given off by the screen during night-time hours which may help children sleep.

[Switch off notifications](#) on their phone to limit the distraction this can cause when they are doing other activities

[Turn off autoplay](#) on the platforms they use to help them self-regulate how long they spend on certain apps.

If your child is an Android user, you'll be able to use the '[Digital Wellbeing](#)' feature to review the time they spend on different apps on their phone.

Managing screen time on social media and video streaming apps

Review and manage the amount of time they spend on YouTube and YouTube Kids with these tools on the platforms '[Take a break reminder](#)', '[Time watched profile](#)' and [Set a Timer](#).

Help children be purpose-driven about what they watch, see this article to [learn how to help them pick great age-appropriate content](#).

Make your child aware of the '[Your Activity](#)' feature on Instagram to see how much time they spend on the app and set a time limit on how much time they'd like to spend on the app.

Encourage teens to use '[Your Time](#)' feature on Facebook to see how much time they've spent on the app and set a daily reminder to alert them when they've reached the amount of time they want to spend on the app.

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

"Talk to yourself like you would to someone you love."

| | | Spring Menu 2022 | | | | |
|---|------------|---|---------------------------------------|---|--|---|
| | | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| Week One 03/01 24/01 21/02 14/03 | Option 1 | Cheese & Tomato Pizza | Pork Sausages * with Potato Wedges | Roast Beef * with Roast Potatoes and Gravy | Beef Chili * with 50/50 Rice | MSC Fish in Batter with Chips and Tomato Sauce |
| | Option 2 | Lentil & Sweet Potato Curry 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 | Vegetable & Bean Fajita 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

- 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.



DPS Diary

| | |
|--|---|
| 14th – 18th Feb | Half term |
| 21st February | First day of Spring 2 term |
| 24th February | Year 3/4 Climbing Festival |
| 4th March | World Book Day |
| 8th March | International Women's Day |
| 14th - 18th March | Science Week |
| 21st March | Parents Evening Week |
| 23rd March | Reading Meeting for Parents 1.30 – 2.30 |
| 25th March | Year 3/4 New Age Kurling SEND event |
| 31st March | Nursery end of term |
| 1st April | End of Spring 2 term |
| 4th – 18th April | Easter Holidays |
| Tuesday 19th April | First day of Summer 1 term |
| Thursday 5th May | Polling Day – Year 6 in school |
| 9th – 11th May | SATS Week + Year 5 Residential |
| 23rd - 27th May | Year 6 Residential |
| 27th May | Last day of term |
| 30th May – 3rd June | Half term |
| 6th June | INSET DAY |
| 7th June | First day of Summer 2 term |
| 19th July | Nursery end of term |
| 20st July | End of Summer 2 term |
| 21st July | INSET Day |