



# DPS News

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*"Success is not final, failure is not fatal: It is the courage to continue that counts." – Winston Churchill*

18<sup>th</sup> March, 2022

Dear Parents,

This morning we were all truly inspired by our assembly visitor, Leah Wilkinson. Leah is a Wales and Team GB hockey player, who recounted the amazing story of how she grew from a schoolgirl who enjoyed playing hockey to an Olympic bronze medal winner. As I'm sure the children will tell you, it was a journey that was far from plain sailing – she used the analogy of a slinky to describe the ups and downs she went through on the way. The children were gripped, with our juniors bursting into spontaneous applause when things finally seemed to start going her way, culminating in her being part of team GB at the Tokyo Olympics 2020.



Leah holds the record as the most capped Welsh sports person across all sports, and will represent Wales in the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham later this year. We look forward to following her progress and maybe even having her back in school later in the year.

Leah's visit was part of our programme to kick off our Personal Bests Week, which is taking place for all children in Years 1-6 next week. In their PE lessons the children will be taking part in Personal Best Challenges as well as participate in House Competitions in their new House Teams – more about that next week! The week will promote this half term's value of perseverance as well as ensuring all children are striving to achieve their very best. I look forward to announcing the winners of the House Cup and include some pictures of House Captains holding their shiny trophy aloft in next week's newsletter.

Have a lovely, sunny weekend.

Cathy Bell  
Headteacher



# DPS Notices

## **Polling Day Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May – Year 6 in school**

On **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> 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.**

## **Free Easter Camp Sessions!**

Here at Mensah Edusport, we are working alongside the local borough to provide a free camp for children from 8-16 years old. It will run for 8 days from the 4<sup>th</sup> to the 7<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> of April until the 14<sup>th</sup>, and it is a perfect opportunity for children and young people to have some fun with us.

The venue is within a 0.2 to a 2-mile radius from Dorchester and really think your students will benefit from our service. We will be doing sessions that will focus on sports, enrichment such as healthy eating, arts and crafts, and this will run alongside our R.E.A.L. Mentorship programme that ran over summer and Christmas.

There will be two sessions a day 9am – 1pm and 2pm – 6pm depending on age. Email [admin@mensahedusport.com](mailto:admin@mensahedusport.com) or call us on 07956479095

## **Would your child like the opportunity to become Sutton United's mascot at the Papa Johns EFL Trophy Final?**

Enter the special Sutton United Youth & Community Foundation raffle, for the chance to win this once in a lifetime prize and see your child on the pitch at Wembley Stadium on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2022! Mascot must be aged 4 - 14. All money raised will be donated to PlayWise, Sutton United's Charity of the Season for 2021-22. Based at Sutton Central Library, PlayWise Learning CIC (Community Interest Company) was launched in April 2019 to offer parents and carers of young disabled children up to the age of 8, and the professionals that support them, a wider range of services to help reduce the impact of disability and SEND (Special Educational Needs & Disability) and support families on their journey. PlayWise offers new, innovative and bespoke interventions for families either at home, at community hub, or in their learning setting. For more information about PlayWise, contact them via: [info@playwise.org.uk](mailto:info@playwise.org.uk) or phone 07736 338707, while more on their work can be found at [www.playwise.org.uk](http://www.playwise.org.uk). <https://raffall.com/293614/enter-affle-to-win-sutton-united-mascot-hosted-by-sutton-united>







# DPS Notices



**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2.00pm to 4.00pm.**

St Oswald's Church, Brocks Drive, SM3 9UW

A service for the whole family with crafts, activities, celebration and food.



Spaces are limited so booking is advised, book online:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/messy-church-tickets-276521101057>



**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2pm – 4pm**

St Philip Churchyard, off Cheam Common Road, Worcester Park

An outside, hands on, exploration of the Easter Story for all ages.

## GOOD FRIDAY ALL AGE SERVICE

Friday 15th April 10.30am at Christ Church with St Philip Worcester Park

A service exploring the Easter story for all ages.





# DPS Notices

**YOUR SCHOOL LOTTERY**

**WIN**  
**A WHEELIE AWESOME PRIZE!**

**WIN A**  
**£500**  
**BIKE**  
**VOUCHER**

- Help give our fundraising a much needed boost
- Tickets cost £1 each
- Cash prize every week
- Win up to £25,000

**PLAY NOW**

Players must be 16 years of age or older. Offer ends 23rd Apr 2022. T&Cs apply (see website for details).

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/dorchester-primary-school>





# DPS Sport

## Girl's Football vs Cheam Park Farm

For the Girls football match we went to Cheam Park Farm and we lost 3-0 but even though we were defeated, we still carried on and were very perseverant throughout the match - especially when Kiki our goalkeeper wasn't feeling the best.

Zoe (Captain)

## Boy's football vs Cheam Common

Today we played against Cheam common who are a very competitive team with some good players. We had lost 9-3 previously to this team only 2 weeks ago. Our boys played fantastically well today; very competitively throughout and really showed high standards. I was incredibly proud today of both individual and team performances.

Dorchester took the lead with a quick team move finished off exquisitely by Cameron, placing it in the top corner. Cheam equalised with a fortunate goal bouncing over a number of players and finding its way into our goal. After Dorchester continued to apply pressure for the winning goal, Cheam scored a 2nd then a 3<sup>rd</sup> – Sadly, we lost the game 3-1 in the end. The Dorchester boys played fantastically, showed great character and willingness to achieve.

George





# Class Notes



**What would you like to build in our school?**

Wow! What a week of excitement in Nursery this week. Many of you will have seen that the building work has started in our Nursery outside area and the highlight of our week was watching lots of the big pieces of play equipment being craned over the fence. The children have been fascinated watching the 'real builders' and this has enabled us to talk about teamwork. We have been reading the book 'If I Built a School' by Chris Van Dusen in which a boy uses his imagination to design a magnificent school with a zoo, flying cars and a playground with a zip line, a swimming pool and other fun elements. The children have used this as inspiration to design what they would like to be added to our outside area. They have drawn some lovely pictures to show the builders what they would like and they have been making 3D models too. They have also been making purposeful marks and creating signs using symbols to make sure the builders are being safe. For our Maths learning we have been thinking about and using the vocabulary of size. We have talked about how important it is for builders to measure objects to make sure that they make things the correct size to fit into a space. Some of the children have also attempted to measure objects using unifix cubes. [t for your news story here.](#)



**Which was your favourite place to visit with Emma-Jane, and why?**

This week Reception children have been travelling the world in an aeroplane. We read the book 'Emma Jane's Aeroplane' by Katie Haworth. Every morning, all the children and staff boarded a plane and read the next part of the book to see where we were going to go that day. We looked at live cam footage of the different cities, where it was available, and sampled some local delicacies to celebrate our visit. First stop was London, then on to Paris. Next was Venice, then New York, Beijing and finally Sydney. The children loved our daily take-off and landing simulations. All the children made their own passports for the trips and wrote about their personal characteristics, such as eye and hair colour. They took some very serious passport photographs of each other. We have had some wonderful, closely observed paintings of the flags from the countries we visited.

In Maths we have been looking at the properties of 3D shapes. We collected recycled materials in various shapes and sizes and used the cuboid boxes, cylindrical toilet rolls and other cartons to construct a variety of vehicles that we can use to travel both locally and around the world.



# Class Notes

## Who is Tu Youyou?

The children have had another busy week and this week completed their maths booklets.

In Literacy, we have continued to compare the stories of 'Little Red Riding Hood' and 'The Deep Dark Wood'. The children have spent time planning their story, creating their own character and retelling the story. They have all worked really hard and produced some great stories.

In Maths, we have had booklet week and the children have all worked really hard and completed the booklets well. We have continued thinking about our numbers to 50, compared to number sentences to show which is greater than or less than and reminded ourselves of 2D and 3D shapes.

This week it has been Science week and the children have spent time looking at the stereotypes of scientists. We have created equipment for scientists to use, designed a uniform for them, learnt about the work of Tu Youyou and completed exciting experiments.

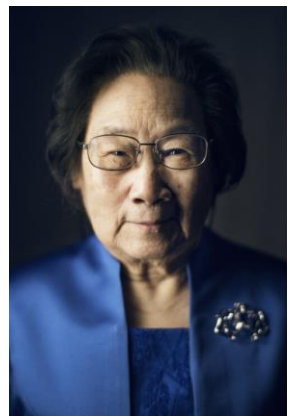
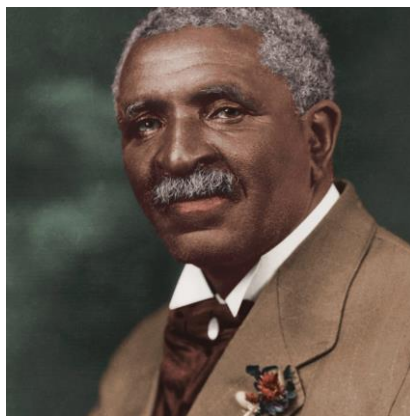
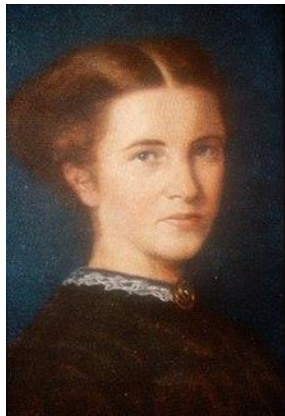
## Can you name a scientist who has overcome stereotypes?

This week the children have all worked very hard to complete their maths booklets on arithmetic and reasoning. We have been impressed with their resilience to trying new challenges.

In Maths, we have continued to work on telling the time and find and comparing durations of time. In English, we have been reading The Runaway Wok. We have worked on using conjunctions 'if', 'when' and 'that', used a range of adverbs and then applied these skills to planning and writing a diary entry.

In Computing the children loved creating a Google Slide and learning how to insert text. They then learnt how to edit the font, size and colour. They even changed the background and created new slides.

In Science, we have been researching scientists who have overcome stereotypes. Can you name any of these scientists and what they did?





# Class Notes

## What did you enjoy most about science week?

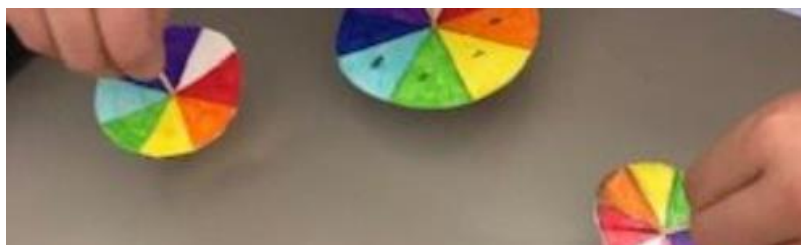
This week was Science week and we talked about all the different types of scientist such as palaeontologists and astronomers. We looked at one particular scientist Jane Goodall and learned all about her work and how this has helped us to understand much more about animal behaviours. We created our own presentations to show what we had learned with some of us creating posters and others choosing to talk about her. In English, we wrote our own 'Just so' stories where we created a reason for an animal to have its distinctive features. We used fronted adverbials, old-fashioned language and magic in our stories. In PSHE, we have continued to study the lives of children in other countries and tried to think about how we would feel if we were in their situation and to justify our opinions. While learning about habitats, we have looked at the different types of plants and animals that live in a variety of regions all over the world. We are continuing to learn about Christianity in RE and all about the holy trinity.

## How is hydroelectric power renewable?

This week, it was Science week! We learned all about challenging stereotypes of what scientists can be like, and how there are so many successful scientists who are of every gender, skin colour and religion. Anyone can do science! In Geography, we had a big science link this week, and we have been continuing on our journey of rivers, but this week focussing on how rivers can be used sustainably as a renewable energy resource. Next week, we will be making our own hydroelectric dam models and still request as many 4 or 8 pint milk bottles so that as many of us can do this experiment as possible.

Year 5 have also been completing their Mathematics booklets - testing their knowledge in arithmetic and reasoning. We have been busily practising our Easter production, and the singing and acting is really taking shape, we are all extremely excited to perform for you all in the last week of term! We still have a few children left to complete some due to various illnesses last week, but we are really so proud of all the hard work the children have put in to these booklets, and we look forward to discussing these with you at parents evening next week.

## What are the colours of the rainbow in order?



In Science, this week, the children have been exploring how white light is actually made up of 7 colours, which are the colours of the rainbow. They found out how a prism can split white light into the 7 colours and many already knew how raindrops act as a natural prism when sunlight shines through them - creating rainbows. We made colour spinners to try to show this. In English, the children have been learning about explanation texts, in preparation for our next Star Writing linked to world War Two. The children are genuinely looking forward to writing about this topic, as we bring it to an end, giving them an opportunity to showcase all their knowledge in a fantastic piece of writing. They have also been showcasing their Maths knowledge this week, and we are impressed with their progress and their determination. In PE, the children have been developing their volleyball skills and have enjoyed playing small games, allowing them to put into place all they are practising.





# Safeguarding

## Supporting our children's safety - Helping your child through friendship issues

*Did you hear what they said to him about what she told her after school today?*

*Or, did you hear that they are not going to play with them because of what they told them about liking someone?*

No? Well, your child may have done! And, chances are, they're just as confused as you are.

It is true, some social drama can start early. Without warning, there are cliques, friendship groups, unwritten rules and expectations about who-can-say-what-to-whom. As a parent, you have a right to be concerned. Sometimes groups or individuals can end up being unkind to one another, or make certain children feel left out. Entering the world of school-age-friendship drama can be a complicated task for parents. Here is a list of do's and don'ts to help you work together with your child to navigate through their social world.

### Do:

**Listen:** This means, undivided attention given to your child without a response. Give visual cues that you are listening, such as nodding your head or looking confused. Use verbal phrases such as, "hmm..." or "I see..." or "Wow!"

**Ask questions:** These questions are open-ended, exploratory questions that will help you learn more about the situation. "How did you feel when she said that?" or "What happened next?" or "What were you hoping would happen?"

**Empathise:** Find an emotion or a way to let your child know that you are listening. "That must have felt horrible!" or "I can't believe you were able to stay in class after that happened!" or "How sad that your best friend would say that."

**Ask how you can help:** Rather than jumping in with a suggestion or picking up the phone to "fix it," ask your child what they need from you. For example, "Do you want to hear what I think?" or "Do you need help coming up with a solution?"

**Mind map together:** If your child wants to find a solution, work towards an answer together, rather than forcing her to do what you think is best. Role play different scenarios and help your child find one that she feels comfortable trying.

**Keep the conversation open:** Friendship changes can occur rapidly; your child may need to talk often. Encourage open communication in the future by ending the conversation with, "If you ever want to talk more about this, I'm here for you."

**Talk regularly about friendships:** Find ways to use books, TV programmes or examples from your own life to talk about how to be a good friend, how to stand up for victims of bullying or how to be confident when faced with peer pressure.

### Don't:

**Try to fix the problem yourself:** It may seem easier to jump in and solve the problem for your child. However, your solution may make things worse. Encourage your child to brainstorm, role play and eventually handle the problem herself.

**Force your child to stay with or change friends:** Talk about the pros and cons of remaining with a certain group of friends. Review qualities of healthy, good friendships. This is a great learning opportunity for your child.

**Assume your child is the victim:** Your child may appear to be the one being picked on, but there may be more to the story. Use role play to help your child tell you the rest of the story, "Ok, what did Jaden do after you took the pencil..."

**Ignore hurtful comments:** If your child reports something hurtful, don't brush it aside or tell them that it is "nothing." You don't have to dwell on it, but empathise with them, and then turn the conversation to something positive about your child.

**Allow bullying:** If you know or suspect that your child or their group of friends is acting in a way that is bullying other students, speak up. Talk with your child about bullying and explore how the other children may feel; encourage them to make amends.

You may never be able to keep up with who likes who now, or understand why someone gave someone a 'dirty look' in P.E. and that's ok. The important thing is that your child knows they can count on you to help them navigate and feel confident in the midst of the ever-changing friendship drama.

## **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

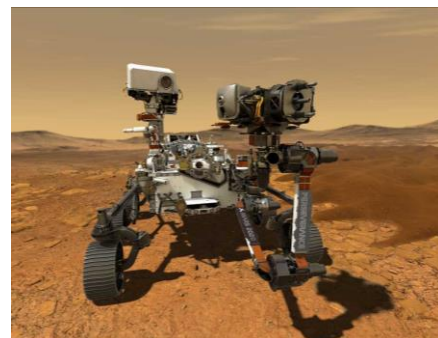
[www.pay360educationpayments.com/Home](http://www.pay360educationpayments.com/Home)

Our website <http://www.dorchesterprimary.com/>

Use the website for our Twitter @DorchesterP

Our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/dorchesterprimary>

## The value for this half term is Perseverance



caterlink feeding the imagination						
Spring Menu 2022						
		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Week One</b> 03/01 24/01 21/02 14/03	Option 1	Lentil & Sweet Potato Curry with 50/50 Rice	Pork Sausages * with Potato Wedges	Roast Beef * with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Beef Chilli * with 50/50 Rice	MSC Fish in Batter with Chips and Tomato Sauce
	Option 2	Vegetable & Bean Fajitas with 50/50 Rice	Vegan Sausages with Potato Wedges	Quorn Roast Fillet with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Vegetable Lasagne with Garlic Bread	Wholemeal Cheese & Tomato Quiche with Chips
	Vegetables	Peas Mixed Peppers	Baked Tomatoes Sweetcorn	Carrots Cabbage	Green Beans Cauliflower	Baked Beans Garden Peas
	Dessert	Pear & Strawberry Crumble with Custard	Rice Pudding with Berries	Fruit & Yoghurt Station	Ice Cream with Mandarins	Chocolate Cake with Chocolate Sauce
<b>Week Two</b> 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
<b>Week Three</b> 17/01 07/02 07/03 28/03	Option 1	Macaroni Cheese	Beef Burger in a Bun * with Wedges	Roast Chicken * with Stuffing, Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Chicken Tikka * with 50/50 Rice	MSC Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips and Tomato Sauce
	Option 2	Roasted Cauliflower Curry with 50/50 Rice	Quorn Burger in a Bun with Wedges	Vegetable Wellington with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Tomato and Lentil Pasta	Cheese & Tomato Pizza with Chips
	Vegetables	Broccoli Sweetcorn	Baked Tomatoes Green Beans	Carrots Cauliflower	Roasted Vegetables Sweetcorn	Baked Beans Garden Peas
	Dessert	Lemon Drizzle Cake	Pear & Chocolate Crumble with Custard	Fruit & Yoghurt Station	Peach Upside Down Cake with Custard	Raspberry Jelly with Peaches
* HALAL OPTION AVAILABLE						

- 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

<b>21<sup>st</sup> March</b>	<b>World Poetry Day</b>
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> March</b>	<b>Parents evening 3.30pm – 7pm</b>
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> March</b>	<b>Reading Meeting for Parents 1.30 – 2.30</b> <b>Parents evening 3.30pm – 7pm</b>
<b>25<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Year 3/4 New Age Kurling event</b> <b>Rose class assembly</b>
<b>28<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Easter Pause Day</b> <b>ASD Awareness Week</b>
<b>29<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Year 5 Easter Performance to parents (1) 2pm-3pm</b>
<b>30<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Easter Egg Hunt</b>
<b>31<sup>st</sup> March</b>	<b>Nursery end of term</b> <b>Whole School Spring Festival and Easter Bunny visit</b> <b>Year 5 Easter Performance to parents (2) 6pm-7pm</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> April</b>	<b>End of Spring 2 term – Finish at 1.30pm</b>
<b>4<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Easter Holidays</b>
<b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>First day of Summer 1 term</b>
<b>20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> April</b>	<b>School Class Photos – schedule to follow</b>
<b>27<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Junior Maths Challenge Year 5 and Year 6</b>
<b>29<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Year 3 and Year 4 Sleepover</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> May</b>	<b>Early May Bank Holiday</b>
<b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Polling Day – YEAR 6 IN SCHOOL ONLY</b>
<b>6<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Spelling Bee Final</b>
<b>9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>SATS Week + Year 5 Residential</b>
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Year 6 Residential</b>
<b>27<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Last day of term – Mufti Day – donate bottle for summer fair</b>
<b>30<sup>th</sup> May – 3<sup>rd</sup> June</b>	<b>Half term</b>
<b>6<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>INSET DAY</b>
<b>7<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>First day of Summer 2 term</b>
<b>15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Father's Day craft (£2)</b>



<b>1<sup>st</sup> July</b>	<b>Cake donations for Summer fair</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> July</b>	<b>Summer Fair</b>
<b>5<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>Year 34 Fairfields Hall Ukelele 12 – 7pm</b>
<b>18<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>Disco (details after half term)</b>
<b>19<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>Nursery end of term – Leavers Prom (details and timings tbc with Y6 parents)</b>
<b>20<sup>st</sup> July</b>	<b>End of Summer 2 term</b>
<b>21<sup>st</sup> July</b>	<b>INSET Day</b>