



DPS News

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"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." – Helen Keller

24th June, 2022

Dear Parents,

This week in school has been even busier than usual, but so fruitful in lots of ways.

Staffing

We have been busily working on staffing for the 2022/23 academic year. Leaving us this year, very sadly, are Mrs Pearson (EYFS Lead), Mrs Williams (Year 1 Lead), Mrs Daniels (Year 3 Teacher), Miss Garnett (Year 5 Teacher) and Tracy Mullins (School Business Manager).

Mrs Pearson is moving to a school closer to her home in West Sussex, avoiding a long commute each day. She has been instrumental in improving our EYFS provision, making sure that our Nursery and Reception children are happily engaged in deep learning every day.

Mrs Williams has worked at Dorchester Primary for 18 years and felt it was time for a change. We are grateful to her for her huge contribution to the school over many years, latterly as Year 1 Lead and EAL (English as an Additional Language) Lead, as well as her role ensuring all our trips and visits are risk assessed carefully to ensure everyone's safety.

Miss Garnett is also relocating. Her current commute from her home in Derbyshire is, understandably, a bit much! Miss Garnett has made such an enormous contribution, not only as class teacher but also as PE Lead – her care for the children's physical wellbeing is demonstrated in all she has achieved in this area.

We wish you all the very best of luck in your new schools.

Mrs Daniels' story is quite remarkable. She started working at Dorchester Primary in January 1977 – which gives her a quite astonishing 45+ years of service here – the number of children she has positively influenced over that time is just incredible. Di is taking a very well deserved retirement. We will miss her very much – but something tells me she will be popping in from time to time to check up on us all.

Tracy Mullins has worked in our School Office since 2003, and was associated with our school as a parent before that. Tracy is superbly organised; her financial planning with tight budgets is second to none, and most importantly of all, she keeps the needs of the children here at the forefront of all she does. We will miss her terribly but wish her well as she embarks on a new chapter in her life.

We are delighted to welcome some new staff to our team for the new academic year.

Miss Munaza Ahmad is joining us as Class Teacher in Copper Class – parents who were at our Reception Induction meeting on Thursday have already met her – she is a skilled teacher with a lovely, calm approach and experience of teaching in Early Years and Key Stage 1 settings.

Mr Joe Williams is also joining us as a Class Teacher. Joe is an energetic and committed teacher who is very excited about coming to work with us. He has experience of teaching in both Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2.

We know that both of these members of staff will bring some great ideas to our school – it is always lovely to welcome new members to our team who see things with fresh eyes and have new and exciting ideas to share.

I am also delighted to share that Mrs Annabel Glover has been appointed as our EYFS Lead and Mrs Wesson as Year Lead for next academic year. We will confirm all of the class teacher and class arrangements to you over the coming weeks. Congratulations to both – very well deserved promotions.

Monitoring our School

This week we had a visit from our School Improvement Partner. His role is to ensure that the school continuously improves and that we meet the aims and objectives we set ourselves. He looked carefully at Early Reading during the morning of his visit, observing phonics and reading lessons and hearing children read, as well as visiting classrooms and talking to children about their reading experiences. He also spent time in the afternoon looking at our Design and Technology curriculum and Teaching. We were thrilled that there were so many strengths in what he saw and we were delighted with the way the children talked to him so confidently and enthusiastically about their reading experiences – and were able to carefully define the difference between retrieval and inference, among other technical questions they were asked. Of course, we strive for continual improvement and have plenty we still want to put in place and achieve, but it is always lovely to have external people giving us such lovely feedback about our staff, children and ethos.

We have also had a visit this week from a team of trained moderators who came to see our Year 6 writing. They were hugely impressed by the range and quality of the writing our children have produced and agreed with the writing judgements that our teachers have made about the quality of writing. Another successful visit.

Welcoming Reception 2022

It was lovely to welcome our new parents to our Welcome Meeting on Thursday evening. It is always a privilege to talk about our amazing school and to share our successes and plans for the future with parents and carers. They were able to meet their child's new class teacher and learning support assistants and ask any questions they had about settling in, the curriculum, clubs etc. We certainly had to pull together when we had a pigeon visit one of the classrooms during the evening – but thankfully it was safely freed in the end.

Please do take a look at everything the children have been learning later in the newsletter to give you a full view of all that is going on in our classrooms. Many of the children have completed summer term booklets this week and we are really impressed with what we have seen so far in terms of their learning; we look forward to sharing your children's reports with you later this term.

Have a lovely weekend.

Cathy Bell

Headteacher



Notices

Summer League Netball vs Green Wrythe

Won 6-1

It was a hot afternoon but the girls put in another measured performance to win this game. It was a technically tidy match from both teams and was played in really good spirit. Turnover was good from Dorchester throughout the game and led to lots of chances for us to score and extend our 3-1 lead in the second half. A well-deserved win but a lovely game of netball to watch and umpire.

The girls were asked to stay on to play a short friendly against the Green Wrythe B team so this gave us an opportunity to play with a little versatility which means all our players moved out of position to play. This is a great thing to do for all-round netball understanding and the girls performed really well to win 5-0, showing how their confidence and competence has grown over the course of the year. Well done girls!

Team: Alice, Martha, Kiki, Isla, Jayme Leigh, Maya, Amany.



Junior Duke Awards

Date Change Reminder!

Duke Awards winners garden party will now take place on the 14th July! It will be in school at 2.15pm - 3.15pm. Parents or carers wanting to attend may then take their children with them after the party finishes which will also be the end of school day.



Congratulations to

Bailey, Harry and Tiffany who achieved their Silver Mini Duke Award

Joshua M who achieved his Bronze Duke Award

Ella and Mille F who achieved their Silver Duke Award

Zoe and Siddhant who achieved their Platinum Duke Award



Class Notes

What pet would you like to have and why?



In Nursery this week we have read the story 'Some Pets' by Angela Diterlizza. We have found out that pets can come in all different shapes and sizes. We have been thinking about what pets need to stay healthy and finding out about what different pets eat. We have had a pet shop in our maths area and the children have been finding different ways to make numbers to five in order to pay for their pets. The children have also enjoyed using pastels to draw different pets. These have inspired them to think really carefully about the colours that they have used and I hope that you will agree they have created some very realistic pictures.

What pet would you like and why?



This week the children in Reception have been reading Dear Zoo by Rod Campbell. In it, a child writes to a zoo to send them a pet and then rejects most of the animals that are sent for a variety of reasons. Our children have been writing their own letters to a zoo to choose their favourite pet and explain why they want that animal. They have also been using recycling materials to create their own animals and insects. In the outside area, the children continue to hunt and care for insects, creating homes for them.

In Maths, we have been reading the book How Many Legs by Kes Gray and Jim Field. It is a funny book about how many legs are in a room as more and more creatures come to a party! The children have been adding up the legs on toy animals to write number sentences.



Class Notes

What is a wild plant?

The children have had an enjoyable week at school and have been busy enjoying their topic 'Enchanted Woodlands.'

In Literacy, the children have worked really hard on their summer term booklets. They have completed a reading, spelling and grammar booklet. We have looked at improving sentences, adding adjectives and conjunctions to our sentences and using the correct punctuation.

In Maths, we have introduced the children to fractions. They have spent time finding $\frac{1}{2}$ of a shape and number and $\frac{1}{4}$ of a shape and number. The children used the shapes in the classroom and looked at how they could split them into equal parts.

In Science, we have continued to look at plants and the different types of plants we have around the school grounds.

In Geography, we looked at our school grounds and the human and physical features there are. The children then spent time creating a map of the school and included a key.

Can you recall the events of the day the dragon came to visit?



This week in Year 2, we had special visitor on Monday. They had left us some sparkly, shiny eggs and we had to investigate what creature had come to Dorchester. After, we wrote recounts of our day using time adverbs.

In Maths, we recapped money, 2D and 3D shapes and finding fractions of shape and numbers.

In Science, we explored habitats and why they are important. In Geography, we compared the physical geographical features of Southern Africa and the UK.



Class Notes

How do we stay safe online?



Although this week has been booklet week, we have still been learning some really exciting things. The children have done incredibly well revising their reading and maths skills, and have been very supportive with each other to learn different methods of solving problems. In P.S.H.E. we looked at the importance of online safety and how to be careful when interacting with strangers online. In P.E. the children have been practising different skills by creating team games and preparing for sports day. In History, we have been investigating the daily life of an ancient Greek and revisiting the gods and goddesses, and in Science we have been researching key scientists throughout history, and beginning to think about our own scientific tests.

What are the most important elements of phone safety do you think?



This week in Year 5, we have had some really useful and important sessions on the topic of phone safety and cyber bullying, and learning all about just how the internet actually works. Please do speak to your children about their mobile phone or device usage – be involved with what they are doing online and take responsibility for monitoring this also.

We have also been running some revision sessions in Maths and English to give all pupils the best possible opportunity to to their very best in their booklets this week.

In English, the children have been busy planning their letters which they will be writing from the perspective of a chosen character from the story 'The Girl of Ink and Stars'.

Who do you think Kensuke is?

Rehearsals are in full swing, for our end-of-year production of 'Peter Pan'. Children are getting more confident with their lines, the songs and their acting. Props are being created by the children, along with advertising posters, tickets and a programme. We are all working hard to make this an amazing production, which we very much hope the audience will enjoy. In English, we have begun reading 'Kensuke's Kingdom' by Michael Morpurgo and the children have been considering what it would be like to live on an isolated island. Survival skills have been discussed, and we have been drawing our own versions of what we think the island actually looked like. In PE, the children have been developing their Volleyball skills and they are getting much better at controlling the ball and their accuracy of shots is improving. Our Science topic, about the circulatory system, has involved understanding the function of blood, to follow on from learning about the heart and the lungs.



Safeguarding

Supporting our children's safety - Temper tantrums

Temper tantrums usually start at around 18 months and are very common in toddlers. Hitting and biting are common, too. One reason for this is toddlers want to express themselves, but find it difficult. They feel frustrated, and the frustration comes out as a tantrum. Once a child can talk more, they're less likely to have tantrums. By the age of 4, tantrums are far less common. These ideas may help you cope with tantrums when they happen.

Find out why the tantrum is happening - Your child may be tired or hungry, in which case the solution is simple. They could be feeling frustrated or jealous, maybe of another child. They may need time, attention and love, even though they're not being very loveable.

Understand and accept your child's anger - You probably feel the same way yourself at times, but you can express it in other ways.

Find a distraction - If you think your child is starting a tantrum, find something to distract them with straight away. This could be something you can see out of the window. For example, you could say, "Look! A cat". Make yourself sound as surprised and interested as you can.

Wait for it to stop - Losing your temper or shouting back won't end the tantrum. Ignore the looks you get from people around you and concentrate on staying calm.

Don't change your mind - Giving in won't help in the long term. If you've said no, don't change your mind and say yes just to end the tantrum. Otherwise, your child will start to think tantrums can get them what they want. For the same reason, it doesn't help to bribe them with sweets or treats.

If you're at home, try going into another room for a while. Make sure your child can't hurt themselves first.

Be prepared when you're out shopping

Tantrums often happen in shops. This can be embarrassing, and embarrassment makes it harder to stay calm. Keep shopping trips as short as possible. Involve your child in the shopping by talking about what you need and letting them help you.

Try holding your child firmly until the tantrum passes

Some parents find this helpful, but it can be hard to hold a struggling child. It usually works when your child is more upset than angry, and when you're feeling calm enough to talk to them gently and reassure them.

Hitting, biting, kicking and fighting

Most young children occasionally bite, hit or push another child. Toddlers are curious and may not understand that biting or pulling hair hurts. This doesn't mean your child will grow up to be aggressive. Here are ways to teach your child that this behaviour is unacceptable:

Don't hit, bite or kick back - This could make your child think it's acceptable to do this. Instead, make it clear that what they're doing hurts and you won't allow it.

Talk to them - Children often go through phases of being upset or insecure and express their feelings by being aggressive. Finding out what's worrying them is the first step to being able to help.

Show them you love them, but not their behaviour - Children may be behaving badly because they need more attention. Show them you love them by praising good behaviour and giving them plenty of cuddles when they're not behaving badly.

Help them let their feelings out in another way - Find a big space, such as a park, and encourage your child to run and shout. Letting your child know that you recognise their feelings will make it easier for them to express themselves without hurting anyone else.

You could try saying things like: "I know you're feeling angry about ... ". As well as showing you recognise their frustration, it will help them be able to name their own feelings and think about them.

For more help If you're seriously concerned about your child's behaviour and well being, talk to us at school, a health visitor or GP. You could also visit the Family Lives website for [more advice on tantrums](https://familylives.org.uk/advice-and-support/child-behaviour-problems/tantrums/), or phone their free helpline for parents on 0808 800 2222.

For families with English as an additional language, the following website has translated support

<https://emtas.hias.hants.gov.uk/mod/folder/view.php?id=1133>



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,
Togetherness

Together we can face any challenges as deep as the ocean and as high as the sky.

— Sonia Gandhi —

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

- Added Plant Power
- Vegan
- Wholemeal

Available Daily:
- Freshly cooked Jacket potatoes with a choice of fillings (where advertised)
- Bread freshly baked on site daily
- Daily salad selection

*** Halal Option Available**

ALLERGY INFORMATION: If your child has an allergy or intolerance, please ask the school for information. If your child has a school lunch and has a food allergy or intolerance, you will be asked to complete a form to ensure we have the necessary information to cater for your child. We use a large variety of ingredients in the preparation of our meals and due to the nature of our kitchens it is not possible to completely remove the risk of cross-contamination.



DPS Diary

28 th June	Year 6 transition talk in school Year 5 Dynamos Cricket Beddington Cricket Club
29 th June	Summer League Netball vs St Marys
30 th June	Year 6 Production evening timings tbc
1 st July	District Sports Day – <i>cancelled</i>
4 th July	Planetarium trip Year 5 Year 6 Residential Week
5 th July	Year 3/4 Fairfields Hall Ukelele 12 – 7pm Reception trip to Bocketts Farm Y1 trip to Nonsuch park
6 th July	School Royal Quiz Reception ALL ABOUT ME sessions
7 th July	New Nursery Parents Evening 7-8.15pm Reports to parents Sutton Music Service Fairfield concert
8 th July	Infants/KS1 Sports Day
11 th July Week	Personal Bests week Move up day – time in next year's classes for the morning
11 th July	Parents evening drop in session to discuss reports
12 th July	Yellow class to pizza express
13 th July	Platinum and Gold Reading Prizes
14 th July	Junior Duke Winners Celebration Party 2.15pm – 3.15pm
15 th July	Juniors Sports Day
18 th July	Talent Show Year 5 Prefects Applications and Presentation R-Y5 Discos timings TBC
19 th July	Nursery end of term Den Day! – Build A Palace Year 6 Prom timings tbc
20 st July	End of Summer 2 term
21 st July	INSET Day



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

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

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

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