



# DPS News

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"You may never know what results come of your actions, but if you do nothing, there will be no results."  
— Mahatma Gandhi

3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have been without Mrs Bell this week as she has been in Bolton at another school completing a peer review as part of our Challenge Partners work. Challenge Partners is a charity which helps schools work together across the country to share good practice, gather evidence of what is working well and give a fresh perspective for "Even better if..." We are due our next review visit in March and Mr Dennis and I will both, in the next few months, go out to participate in reviews at other schools. Mrs Bell and I have been in daily contact and I know she has had a fantastic experience with lots of ideas to bring back to Dorchester.

Red Class were fantastic this morning in their class assembly. The children shared their learning about their "Commotion in the Ocean" topic and they recalled their knowledge of the continents and their trip to the Sea Life Centre. They also did some lovely singing about the seasons. Well done Red Class!

100 Skips per day Challenge - I started my February 100 skips a day challenge on Wednesday and have been cheered on enthusiastically in the playground 3 times so far to raise money for Cancer Research UK. Thank you so much for the hugely generous contributions from parents and staff in sponsorship! Hopefully it won't take long before I can do all 100 without stopping too!

Teachers' Industrial Action: A big thank you for the supportive response to the teachers who were striking on Wednesday. They really appreciated the conversations that parents and carers had with them in the morning and the understanding that they were shown. Our school community are wonderful.

A reminder that next Friday is an INSET Day so the mufti day on Thursday 9th will be the last day of this half term before a well earned rest for the children. Staff are looking forward to some inspirational training from Shirley Clarke and Dr Angela Evans. Finished time on Thursday 9th is 3:15pm as normal.

I hope you have a wonderful weekend and look forward to seeing you on Monday,

Gemma Hall (Deputy Headteacher)

Upcoming events this term which parents/carers may like to attend at school or be aware of  
(See calendar at the end of the newsletter for full list of upcoming school events)

6 <sup>th</sup> February	FODS committee meeting – everyone welcome! @7pm school music room
7 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 3 / 4 Tag rugby festival @ John Fisher 9am-12pm
9 <sup>th</sup> February	Last day of Spring 1 before half term break – FODS mufti day
10 <sup>th</sup> February	INSET DAY
13 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> February	HALF TERM



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

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

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

The contact number for the club is 07597-382949.

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

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

Holiday club will run each day from Monday 13th February to Wednesday 15th February. There will be a range of festive outdoor and indoor play, craft activities and sports activities to keep the children entertained safely whilst you work - or just enjoy some downtime.

The club runs from 8:30 - 5:00 and costs £30 for a full day and £15 for a half day (8:30 - 12:30 or 1:00 - 5:00)

Please note that, due to the availability of appropriately qualified staff, we are unable to have nursery aged children on Monday 13th February

We look forward to welcoming your child/ren to the club. Please click the link below to take you to the HOLIDAY CLUB bookings.

<https://www.dorchesterprimary.com/club/?pid=64&catid=2>



# Class Notes

## **What kind of animals live in the Arctic? And how do they keep themselves warm?**

This week in Reception, we have started learning all about the Arctic, and the types of animals which reside in this habitat. There was a fantastic Arctic animal treasure hunt in the playground where the children had to find all the animals, match their number and write the name – quite challenging stuff! In Maths, we are discussing language around length, distance and height, furthest, shortest, tallest, longest etc. Try to practise using this language in your every day activities at home. In Phonics, we have been revising and consolidating lots of different digraphs like 'oa', 'er', 'or', 'ar', 'air', 'ure'. Please look at the phonics homework sheet which has gone home with children today and spend some time reading it together as well as reading their phonics books – it all helps when it comes to early reading, and we want all our children to be super readers as soon as possible!

## **What did you like about your puppet? How could you improve it?**

The children have all worked really hard this week on their Star Writes! We read 'Barry and the Fish with Fingers' and learnt about how to write in first person and how to write letters. We then made party invitations to celebrate that Barry had rescued Puffy. We have been really impressed by the progress they are making in their writing.

In Maths we have been learning to order numbers to 20 and add by counting on. In Computing we learnt how to turn a dance algorithm into a code for a sprite to follow. In Geography we have been learning about the Atlantic Ocean and its features. In RE we learnt about why the synagogue is a special place to Jewish people and discussed our own special places.

On Wednesday we did DT for the day and the children produced some brilliant puppets. The children can't wait to bring them home to show them to you.

Well done to Red Class for a brilliant assembly! They performed superbly and impressed everyone with how much they have learnt this half term.

## **How did you make sure your chairs were strong and sturdy?**

This week the children have been doing lots of designing and making. In Science, we planned our what our bug hotels will look like, ahead of next week's making. In DT, the children designed and used their junk materials to construct a chair for Baby Bear to replace the one Goldilocks broke!

As well as this, the children have worked hard to finish up their persuasive letters to Mayor Wibble Wobble, and have moved on to reviewing some core reading skills. The children impressed us with their inferences, and showed they could explain their thoughts on a text by finding and using evidence.

In Maths, the children have shown their understanding of halves and quarters, and have been able to explain where they might see and use fractions in the world around them. They could apply their division skills, sharing numbers by 2 or 4, in order to find a half or a quarter.

We spent Friday afternoon looking at computer images, and explored how we can edit them in different ways, as well as learning that images are made from pixels.



# Class Notes

## How can we make sure we have a healthy diet?

This week, we have continued to learn about the human body both in Science and PSHE. In PSHE, we looked at different food groups, their purpose/function in our diet and how to create a healthy, balanced diet. We designed our own healthy lunches and ensured that we had included all the food groups. In English, Year 3 have written non-chronological reports this week in English about Howard Carter and the significance of his discovery. Year 4 have started a new book called, 'My Shadow is Purple' and we have written a new blurb for the story. In Maths, both year groups have moved on to our measurement unit. Year 3 have been learning how to measure length and Year 4 have been using this knowledge to find the perimeter of different shapes. In Computing, we have been creating dialogues on Scratch using different coding blocks.

## What did you enjoy most about the D&T cookery day?

This week in Year 5, we have been creating leaflets, persuading members of the public to visit Hampton Court Palace. We have been focusing on persuasive devices and parenthesis, as well as publishing skills. In Maths, we have been dividing where there are remainders and solving division worded problems. We also had a really fun day on Tuesday, making and sampling a vegan bolognese! We cut all the vegetables ourselves before sautéing them on the hob in the Staff Room. Our mixtures were bubbling away in slow cookers, filling the school with the smells of healthy food! In Blue Class, 23 out of 29 children said it was absolutely delicious. We would say that's a success!

In RE, we have been learning about the Pagan origins of the Christian festival of Easter, following on from learning about the origins of Christmas last week. It is so interesting to discover that traditions and practices which we take part in year on year have roots in ancient history. In History, we have continued learning about the Black Tudors, discovering interesting information about key figures from this time period.

## How will your version of 'Rose Blanche' end?

In Maths this week, we have been continuing to explore Algebra and using the inverse to solve problems. The children have had to think carefully and use multiplication tables to succeed. Some have made excellent use of our learning partners to both support and challenge each other. We have begun work on our next piece of independent writing in English and the children are predicting the ending of our World War Two picture book, 'Rose Blanche'. They have many theories and are keen to retell the final stages of the story with their own, unique ending. We have been exploring how speech can be used to show characterisation and to advance the action. Some have also been exploring how speech can be used to create tension in a story. In Science, we have been continuing to explore Light and how the size of shadows can change. Working scientifically was a key part of this week's lesson and being able to record accurate measurements and then evaluate them was crucial. Amethyst Class have enjoyed Forest School this week, and have been using saws to begin creating their bird boxes.



# FODS

## Reminder: FODS Meeting, Everyone Welcome!



Our next committee meeting is **7pm on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February** in the school music room. Please come along to give your ideas and thoughts about past and new events. Particularly, we are interested to hear from you if you are able to join our committee, as are looking for new members: -

**Could you be our next Treasurer?** With a clear head for numbers, you will control our FODS funds in line with the Committee's decisions as well as charity law. You will also make sure upcoming events are affordable and profitable and report financial information to the rest of the team. The responsibilities of the Treasurer are to:

- Manage the day-to-day finances
- Keep a detailed and accurate record of FODS financial activity
- Report on the finances at meetings in a clear and concise way
- Ensure money is kept safely before and during events
- Bank the takings from events and fundraisers
- Implement procedures for making payments and claiming expenses
- Complete the Charity Commission annual return
- Prepare the financial report for the AGM

Whilst not essential, it would be helpful to have financial experience or an accountancy background. Handover and support will be provided by the outgoing FODS Treasurer and existing FODS members. This role will benefit your CV and is a rewarding volunteering experience where you will meet other parents and teachers and provide you with a unique holistic insight into the school. Please contact us at [dorchesterpta@gmail.com](mailto:dorchesterpta@gmail.com) to express your interest. We look forward to hearing from you and welcoming you to our FODS committee.





# FODS

## Valentines art competition!



FODS are really excited to invite all children to participate in our Valentines day art competition!

- ♥ **What?** Valentines card/ poem about something or someone you love, i.e. family member, friend, pet, hobby etc.
- ♥ **When?** Submit by 19 February 2023 by e-mail to [dorchesterpta@gmail.com](mailto:dorchesterpta@gmail.com) stating child's name and class
- ♥ **How much?** £2 per family payable by Pay360
- ♥ **Prizes?** Yes! All entries will be published on FODS facebook page and in a newsletter on 24 February 2023. Entries will also be assessed by the school committee in two separate categories: nursery + reception + KS1 and KS2. The winner in each category will receive a prize from our sponsor, Lower Morden Equestrian Centre: a pony walk out (nursery + reception + KS1 category prize) and "own a pony day" (KS2 category prize).



We are looking forward to receiving your creations!



# Safeguarding

## Supporting Children with Sensory Needs

### Turn Sensory Preferences into People Games

Once you determine the sensations that your child likes and dislikes, you can think of a People Game that might incorporate this for your child. Here are some examples of sensory preferences and a People Game that would satisfy that preference:

Child's Sensory Preference	Try This People Game
Running	Chase or racing games, grandmothers footsteps style stopping and starting walking or running game.
Rocking back and forth	Try singing Row Row Row your Boat while sitting across from your child on the floor, holding hands as you rock back and forth.
Looking at his fingers	Finger games such as "This Little Piggy" (played on fingers instead of toes), or "Where is Thumbkin?". Many other examples can be found on the internet by searching for "fingerplays".
Spinning	Ring Around the Rosie", or try spinning your child in a revolving chair.
Deep pressure or strong hugs	Try rolling them up in a blanket, then unrolling them (you can pretend they are a caterpillar going into their cocoon!). Or play chase, and when you catch them, give them a strong hug. They may also enjoy an adaptation of Peek-a-boo, where you hide them under a pile of pillows and then uncover them.
Jumping	Turn this into a People Game by holding their hands while they jumps on a trampoline or on the bed.
Swinging back and forth	Have your child lie in a blanket, while two adults hold the ends of the blanket, swinging it back and forth.
Feeling certain fabric/textures	If your child enjoys soft fabrics, play Peek-a-boo with a soft blanket or cloth, or swing them in a soft blanket.
Avoids certain movements and prefers slower, quieter activities	Try finger games (like "Thumbkin" or "Round Round the Garden") or Pat-a-cake, which can be done slowly and quietly while sitting.

Further information on different kinds of sensory games and play can be found below

<https://www.hanen.org/helpful-info/articles/helping-your-child-cope-with-his-sensory-needs.aspx>

### Are you worried about a child?

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/spotting-signs-child-abuse/>

If you think a child could be at risk of significant harm, you can call the children's social care team at the council in Sutton ([Go to their website](#))

[020 8770 6001](tel:02087706001) (Monday to Friday, 9am and 5pm) [020 8770 5000](tel:02087705000) (out of hours)

***Always call 999 in an emergency***





# DPS Links

## School Nursing Duty Line

We have set up a duty School Nurse line to enable telephone contact for parents and young people to offer support to replace some current face-to-face contact at this time.

0208 770 5409

## Useful links

All school information and communication [www.classlist.com](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>

Our overall value for the school this half term is

**Self-belief**

*'Confidence is something you create when you believe in yourself.'*

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

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

- Added Plant Power
- Vegan
- Wholemeal

**Available Daily**

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

**ALLERGY INFORMATION**

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

\* HALAL OPTION AVAILABLE

## MENU CHANGES for next week only :

**MONDAY 6<sup>th</sup> Feb - Macaroni Cheese / Shepherdess Pie / Jacket Potato**

**THURSDAY 9<sup>th</sup> Feb - Cheese and Tomato Pizza / Veggie Chilli & Rice / Jacket Potato**



Hello,

I am writing to say a huge thank you to you for supporting our Christmas Tree Festival, back in December. It was a great success, looked amazing and brought many of the community together which was a big reason why we held the festival again.

It was joyful to hear children from local schools singing with such gusto on the Friday afternoon and to see so many young families attending over the three days.

The decorations were amazing, every tree different, thoughtfully decorated with a range of themes. Thank you for all the effort you put into creating them.

The final total after expenses is **£1617** which will be put to good use by the church and St. Raphael's Hospice.

Thank you for being part of this wonderful community event.

Best wishes

*Isobel Penny*

On behalf of Christ Church with St. Philip

## DPS Diary

<b>6<sup>th</sup> February</b>	FODS committee meeting – everyone welcome! @7pm school music room Year 4 / Year 5 Cheerleading Workshop @ Glenthorne 1.30pm – 4pm
<b>7<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Year 3 / 4 Tag rugby festival @ John Fisher 9am-12pm
<b>9<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Last day of Spring 1 before half term break – FODS mufti day</b>
<b>10<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>INSET DAY</b>
<b>13<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>HALF TERM</b>
<b>20<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>FIRST DAY OF SPRING TERM 2</b>
<b>24<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Year 3 4 Egyptian virtual visit
<b>28<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Lavendar Class to Wimbledon Synagogue
<b>1<sup>st</sup> March</b>	SEND Coffee Afternoon 1pm
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> March</b>	World Book Day dress up
<b>14<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Purple Class to Wimbledon Synagogue
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> March</b>	Parent Consultations
<b>30<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Last day of term for Nursery</b>
<b>31<sup>st</sup> March</b>	<b>LAST DAY OF SPRING 2 Term</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> April – 14<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>EASTER HOLIDAYS</b>

<b>17<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>First day of Summer 1 Term</b>
<b>26<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Last day of Summer 1 before Half term</b>
<b>29<sup>th</sup> May – 2<sup>nd</sup> June</b>	<b>HALF TERM</b>
<b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>INSET Day</b>
<b>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>First day of Summer 2 term</b>
<b>Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Last day of term for Nursery</b>
<b>Thursday 20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Last day of term</b>
<b>Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July</b>	<b>INSET Day</b>