



DPS News

Dorchester Primary School, Dorchester Road, Worcester Park, Surrey, KT4 8PG

telephone: 0208 330 1144, email: office@dorchesterprimary.com

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'If you get tired, learn to rest, not to quit.' *Banksy*

27th January, 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you: This week has flown by and been extremely busy with lots going on in all year groups, which the class pages will tell you about in more detail. One of the highlights for the whole school has been a visit from Nabhi - from the London Institute of Vedic Education - who led assemblies today for KS1 and KS2 about the Hindu festival of Holi, taking place on 8th March. As always it was wonderful to learn more about the faith and celebration of some of our families and thanks go to Miss Semmens, our RE lead, for organising this very special visit.

Curriculum: Year 5 represented the school absolutely brilliantly yesterday when they went to Hampton Court Palace. They participated in the kitchen workshops and had a tour of Henry VIII's apartments. As always, they were in awe at the grandeur of the palace, which cannot be understood in quite the same way as when you visit. Many thanks to Mrs Rankin and the Year 5 team for organising the trip, and to all the parents and carers who helped on the day.

Teachers' Industrial Action: A reminder that some classes will be closed on Wednesday 1st February due to the teachers' strike action. There have been many supportive messages about the strike action when parents and carers have spoken to us so thank you for those. I would like to say that our teachers are not taking the action lightly. They are, quite rightly, standing up for schools to be appropriately funded in relation to teachers' pay rises. Currently, any increments have to be provided from the school budget, and whilst teachers' salaries are decided at government level, a rise for teachers without the appropriate government funding for school to pay for them means that a cut has to be decided from elsewhere, ultimately taking money from the children in other areas. This is something that we as school leaders find very difficult. What should be lost? Resources? Educational visitors? Curriculum enrichment? A member of support staff? The teachers at Dorchester and across the country are passionate about their jobs and care deeply about providing the very best for your children, therefore those striking are doing so to highlight the unfairness of the lack of funding for all our children. In addition to providing the highly skilled services that they do, many have the added stress of a below inflation increase meaning that in real terms, many teachers are challenged with the cost of living and being able to make ends meet for themselves and their families. There will be a picket line at the school gate on Wednesday, by some of our striking staff, and these teachers will have information about what the funding cuts mean to our children at Dorchester.

Classes closed: Bronze, Buttercup, Yellow, Emerald, Fern, Green, Nursery.

Classes with partial closure: Blue (afternoon only)

Classes open: Copper, Red, Rose, Amber, Orange, Saffron, Indigo, Sapphire, Amethyst, Lavender, Purple

Unknown: Topaz

11+ Tuition: We are delighted to now be able to offer 11+ tuition for children in Year 4 and 5 and thank you to those who have already responded to the Classlist message and signed up. Invoices will be sent out shortly and your place will be confirmed on receipt of payment.

I hope you have a wonderful weekend and look forward to seeing you on Monday,
Gemma Hall (Deputy Headteacher)

Christmas Tree Festival Thank You!

Hello,

I am writing to say a huge thank you to everyone at Dorchester Primary school 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.

I would be interested to hear any feedback from you, as sponsors and also to know whether it is something you might be happy to support again if we were to hold another festival.

Thank you for being part of this wonderful community event.

Best wishes

Isobel Penny (On behalf of Christ Church with St. Philip)

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)

30th January	U11 Utilita Football Cup 9am-1pm
2nd February	Boys league football vs The Avenue
3rd February	Red class assembly 9-9.30am
6th February	FODS committee meeting – everyone welcome! @7pm school music room
7th February	Year 3 / 4 Tag rugby festival @ John Fisher 9am-12pm
9th February	Last day of Spring 1 before half term break – FODS mufti day
10th February	INSET DAY
13th – 17th 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 happened to the animals when they had their race across the river?

In Nursery this week we have been learning all about the Lunar New Year and how it is celebrated in different Asian countries including mainland China, Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan, the festival is also celebrated in South Korea, Vietnam and amongst the large overseas Chinese communities in countries such as Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia. The children have been learning all about the story of The Great Race by Emily Hiles. This lovely rhyming book details the race that the animals had to see who they were going to name the new year after. The children have been retelling the story on our stage using the animal masks. We have also been mark making in glitter to try and write some mandarin numerals and develop our pen control. The children also wrote their own secret messages to put inside the fortune cookies that they made. Each child thought really carefully about the message that they wanted to portray through their marks. We also enjoyed a Lunar new year celebration where the children got to taste different Chinese food. For our maths learning we have started to learn all about the number 1.

What is a part-part-whole?

This week in Reception, we have started looking at part-part-wholes in Maths. We have been taking a number within 10, like 8, and trying to show it as a part-part-whole. For example, 2 is a part and 6 is a part, then the whole is 8! Or, 7 is a part, and 1 is a part, then the whole is 8! In Phonics, we have been looking at double letter words like 'bigger' 'digger' 'carrot' 'ribbon'. See if you can come up with a list like this with your children over the weekend.

It has been quite a wet week this week. Can we please remind all parents who have borrowed school clothes to wash and return them to school? We need all the spare clothes we have, and there must be lots at many peoples homes so please look around and ensure they are washed and returned!

What was your favourite part about the SeaLife Centre last week?

Year 1 had a brilliant week last week and have all enjoyed their trip to the SeaLife Centre. The children were all well-behaved and excited to go. They loved seeing all the different sea creatures and touching the starfish.

In English, we have been writing setting descriptions to describe the beach in 'Clean Up'. We discussed what we need to do to keep our environment clean. We then wrote so great recounts about our trip to London.

In Maths, we have been finding one more and one less of numbers to 20. We have been using number lines to order numbers to 20.

In Geography, we have been learning about the five oceans and in Science we have been looking at the properties of different materials.

What makes a great picture?

This week we have been writing a letter to Mayor Wibble Wobble in our English lessons. The children have used emotive language to persuade the mayor to fix the broken bridge in Toyland. The children came up with some very convincing ideas, so hopefully the bridge will be fixed in no time!

In Maths, we have moved on from multiplication and division and are now using those facts to help us identify what a fraction is, and specifically what a half is. The children were able to come up with interesting ways of showing us a half.

In our History lesson this week, we continued to compare past toys to the present. In Science, the children were able to explore food chains, and what an animal/ plant's role might be within that food chain. In RE, we talked about a Humanist's beliefs, and we created a list of importance – the children gave very thoughtful reasons as to which of the Humanist beliefs may be more important than others and listened very well to the opinions of others. In PSHE this week, we have talked about understanding and celebrating differences. In Computing, the children took pictures of their toys and used the StopMotion app on the iPads to put it into a sequence.



Class Notes

How can we spot potential hazards and how should we respond?

This week, we have been continuing to learn about role models in RE and have looked at how and why Christians see Jesus as the most important role model of all. In PSHE, we learnt about hazards and how to spot these. We also found out how best to respond in emergency situations if we are not able to spot the hazards in time. For our Science topic about the human body, we learnt about how muscles in the arm contract to help us move using elastic bands in our demonstrations. In Art, we created our own version of papyrus paper by placing strips on top of each other and at right angles. We can now decorate our paper with Egyptian symbols to create realistic versions of Ancient Egyptian art. Year 4 have been writing biographies about the author of Sulwe and have collected our own facts and organised them into paragraphs. For Maths, we have been applying our understanding of the formal written method for multiplication to worded problems.

What did you enjoy most about the trip to Hampton Court Palace?

This week in Year 5, we have been gearing up for the sensational visit to Hampton Court Palace – an iconic part of History. What a fantastic time we had there! The children were exceptionally well behaved and really showed themselves to be tremendous ambassadors for Dorchester. The children were particularly in admiration of the fantastic fire pit in the palace kitchens. In Maths, we have been practising multiplication using the formal method, and really ensuring accuracy with all individual steps, please test your children regularly at home with times tables practise as it is so important for these to be embedded in the short and long term memory. In English, we have been practising our reading skills, focussing on inference and deduction. In SPAG we are looking at different kinds of adverbials for time, e.g. whilst, a few moments later, as time passed...etc. We are looking forward to producing some great work all about Hampton Court very soon!

What surprised you about the location of some WW2 bombs in Sutton?

In History, the children loved exploring a website showing them the location, timing and type of bomb that fell in Sutton during the second world war. None fell on the site of our school, but many roads very close by did suffer direct hits. They were keen to find out if a bomb fell near to where they currently live - a number will be going for a walk to see the exact sites! It caused much discussion and the realisation that our locality was very much affected by the Blitz, hit home. This is one way we make our curriculum personal to our local area. In RE, children have been finding out how Jews worship at home. The Mezuzah, Shabbat and Kosher rules have all been explored this week. Amethyst Class had a fascinating trip to Wimbledon Synagogue, which really helped them to deepen their understanding of some of their in-school learning. Lavender and Purple Classes will be visiting after half-term. We have also paused to reflect on Holocaust Memorial Day (Fri 27th Jan). In Maths, we have begun the new area of learning of Algebra and the children have been getting to grips with a range of problems and challenges.



FODS

FODS Meeting Everyone Welcome!



Our next committee meeting is **7pm** on **Monday 6th 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. We are pleased to welcome **Clare** to the committee to help with events. Clare is the mother of Ora in Amber and Zain in Topaz. Welcome Clare and thanks for joining the team!





Safeguarding

Positive Parenting Tips

For pre-schoolers (age 3-5)

- Continue to read to your child. Nurture their love for books by taking them to the library or bookstore.
- Let your child help with simple chores.
- Encourage your child to play with other children. This helps them to learn the value of sharing and friendship.
- Be clear and consistent when disciplining your child. Explain and show the behavior that you expect from them. Whenever you tell them no, follow up with what they should be doing instead.
- Help your child develop good language skills by speaking to them in complete sentences and using “grown up” words. Help them to use the correct words and phrases.
- Help your child through the steps to solve problems when they are upset.
- Give your child a limited number of simple choices (for example, deciding what to wear, when to play, and what to eat for snack).

For middle primary (age 6-8)

- Show affection for your child. Recognise their accomplishments.
- Help your child develop a sense of responsibility—ask them to help with household tasks, such as setting the table.
- Talk with your child about respecting others. Encourage them to help people in need.
- Help your child set her own achievable goals—they’ll learn to take pride in themselves and rely less on approval or reward from others.
- Help your child learn patience by letting others go first or by finishing a task before going out to play. Encourage them to think about possible consequences before acting.
- Make clear rules and stick to them, such as how long your child can watch TV or when they have to go to bed. Be clear about what behaviour is okay and what is not okay.
- Do fun things together as a family, such as playing games, reading, and going to events in your community.
- Get involved with your child’s school. Meet the teachers and staff and get to understand their learning goals and how you and the school can work together to help your child do well.
- Continue reading to your child. As your child learns to read, take turns reading to each other.
- Use discipline to guide and protect your child, rather than punishment to make him feel bad about themselves. Follow up any discussion about what not to do with a discussion of what to do instead.

Further more detailed information for different aged children can be found here:

<https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/childdevelopment/positiveparenting/index.html>

Are you worried about the welfare of a child or young person?

<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

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>

Our overall value for the school is
Self-belief

"Self confidence is a super power. Once you start to believe in yourself, magic starts happening."

SUTTON WINTER 2022/SPRING 2023 MENU					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
WEEK ONE 31 Oct 21 Nov 12 Dec 16 Jan 6 Feb 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 Yoghurt Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit	Vanilla Shortbread with Yoghurt Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit	Yoghurt & Raisin Cake Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit	Banana Sponge with Custard Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit
WEEK TWO 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
WEEK THREE 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

* 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.

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

1st Feb (Wednesday strike day) the menu will be ROAST CHICKEN or QUORN FILLETS & BISCUITS

DPS Diary

30th January	U11 Utilita Football Cup 9am – 1pm
2nd February	Boys football vs The Avenue 2.45pm – 4.30pm
3rd February	Red class assembly 9-9.30am
6th February	FODS committee meeting – everyone welcome! @7pm school music room Year 4 / Year 5 Cheerleading Workshop @ Glenthorne 1.30pm – 4pm
7th February	Year 3 / 4 Tag rugby festival @ John Fisher 9am-12pm
9th February	Last day of Spring 1 before half term break – FODS mufti day
10th February	INSET DAY
13th – 17th February	HALF TERM
20th February	FIRST DAY OF SPRING TERM 2
24th February	Year 3 4 Egyptian virtual visit
28th February	Lavendar Class to Wimbledon Synagogue
1st March	SEND Coffee Afternoon 1pm
3rd March	World Book Day dress up
14th March	Purple Class to Wimbledon Synagogue
22nd – 23rd March	Parent Consultations
30th March	Last day of term for Nursery
31st March	LAST DAY OF SPRING 2 Term
3rd April – 14th April	EASTER HOLIDAYS
17th April	First day of Summer 1 Term
26th May	Last day of Summer 1 before Half term
29th May – 2nd June	HALF TERM
Monday 5th June	INSET Day
Tuesday 6th June	First day of Summer 2 term
Wednesday 19th	Last day of term for Nursery
Thursday 20th	Last day of term
Friday 21st July	INSET Day