

DPS News

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"All I really need is love, but a little chocolate now and then doesn't hurt!" - Charles M. Schulz, Peanuts

Friday, 31 March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of term, it is always worth taking a moment to reflect on all the wonderful things our children have achieved over the past few months. They have certainly worked hard and it has been lovely to see them growing both academically and socially.

The children have tackled some impressively challenging new learning this term – everything from programming Micro:bits, creating 3D playground models, making a giant spider using art techniques, learning about fractions, decimals and percentages, some amazing star writes and lots more besides.

We are hugely impressed by improvements in children's writing, inspired by the wonderful books our teachers carefully select to motivate them. From outstanding non-chronological reports, to amazingly creative stories it is just lovely to see our children enjoying their writing so much.

Worth a special mention is the most impressive performance of 'Glint of Gold' that our Year 4 children presented so beautifully yesterday evening. They acted and sang their hearts out – and most impressive of all was the way they supported one another throughout the show. It was a fabulous way to make their learning about Ancient Egypt really memorable – it will stay with them for many years to come.

Outside the classroom the children have participated in lots of sporting events, always representing our school community brilliantly, showing great sportsmanship throughout. Again, please do read our sports page which gives you a round-up of this week's events.

Thanks go to our FODS volunteers for giving up their time on Wednesday for the children to participate in the Easter Egg Hunt and for providing Easter treats. It was lovely to see how much the children enjoyed the event. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to run one of our ever popular Friday cake sales — and thanks for supporting them. We are looking forward to raising enough money to improve the playtime experience for all our children through the Scrapstore Playpod project.

I also want to take a moment to thank you all for your continued support throughout another busy term. Your involvement in your child's education is greatly appreciated and it is wonderful to see so many of you attending events and volunteering your time to support the school.

I hope that you have an amazing Easter break – whatever your faith or beliefs it is a time of year when new life, the promise of new beginnings and hope abounds. May this Easter bring you joy, hope and peace.

We look forward to seeing our Holiday Club children next week, and everybody else back in school on Monday 17th April.

Kind regards,

Cathy Bell

Headteacher



Sport

Another very busy week on the Dorchester sports front this week!

A and B Netball vs St Cecilia's

A team won 8-2

B team won 3-1

These were the last games of the winter netball season and it was great to finish on such positive results. Both teams have had extremely successful seasons; the A team earning a place in the second highest pool for the latter part of the league which saw them against really tough opposition and the B team remaining unbeaten in their friendlies.

We saw great performances from both teams yesterday; excellent shooting from Isla, Elsa, Caleb and Carson in difficult, windy conditions led the way but every single player really contributed to the victories and showed how important that sense of 'team' is.

Well done to Isla, Elsa, Ella, Elenia, Summer, Lily, Antonia, Carson, Caleb, Evie, Olivia, Abi, Natalia and Hei.

Year 5 Borough Cup Semi-Final vs St Cecilia's

What a fantastic Cup run the boys have had! Sadly it came to an end on Monday in an exciting match against St Cecilia's and one that was much closer than the 3-1 score line may suggest. With so much riding on it, a Cup semifinal is always a tense game to play in and requires another level of composure but the boys managed to settle their nerves and showed their usual determination. Their performance was the performance of the season to date and Marco couldn't have been prouder of them. Reaching this stage of the competition is really something to be celebrated and the squad have represented Dorchester brilliantly.

This squad have so much potential and we are all so excited to see what they can achieve as they move into Year 6. Brilliant work from Dominic, Jake G, Jack, Archie, Jake S, Vihaan, Aishwin, Ronnie, Hei and Frankie.





Sport

Borough Gym and Dance Festival Show at Sutton High

The Dorchester Gymnastics Squad sparkled at the Festival Show on Tuesday where schools across the Borough showcased their gym and dance performances to a large audience of parents, carers and relatives. Mrs Jones and the girls have worked tirelessly to produce what was a fabulous routine. The discipline, control, skill-level and teamwork really were of an excellent standard and the choreography by Mrs Jones and her atmospheric music choice created a very impressive performance. All who were able to watch the show were extremely proud, as was Mrs Jones who we must give a huge thank you to for bringing her expertise and enthusiasm to the gym club this year and helping the girls gain this wonderful experience.

Congratulations to Naveena, Scarlett, Mariana, Charlotte, Evie, Isla, Zante, Kalyna, Tia, Jessica, Saoirse, Noha, Lottie, Amelie and Megan.

Year 4 Rackets Festival

A group of Year 4 children were invited to a Rackets Festival hosted at Nonsuch High School on Monday.

This was an opportunity for the children to take part in a range of badminton themed fun activities and develop their racket skills. It was great to be able to take them to try something slightly different and all of the children showed great effort throughout and were great ambassadors for the school.

Well done to Frankie, Alex, Bethany, Valerie and Nuwaira.





Sport

Personal Bests Week

This term's PB Inter-House Competitions have been very well contested and extremely exciting across the year groups!

Year 1 went head to head in some team race activities, Years 2, 3 and 4 played football and Years 5 and 6 did a combination of basketball/handball/benchball.

Some great teamwork and perseverance was on show throughout the competitions and the sense of pride the Houses showed in their results and the positive approach to working together and supporting each other really was excellent. Well done to everyone!

This term we saw a range of House Champions with the honours being shared across three houses with Attenboroughcoming out on top overall.

Year 1 - Rashford

Year 2 - Rashford

Year 3 - Attenborough

Year 4 - Attenborough

Year 5 - Elizabeth

Year 6 – Attenborough

A huge thank you and well done must also go to our fabulous Year 6 Junior Supremo sports leaders who have been simply brilliant throughout and without whom this would just not be possible. They have organised equipment, officiated, coached and encouraged children in all the younger year groups. They have been an absolute credit to us all.

Thank you to Taylor, Elsa, Elenia, Zita, Owen, Bailey, Alex, Ayan, Emma and Jack.



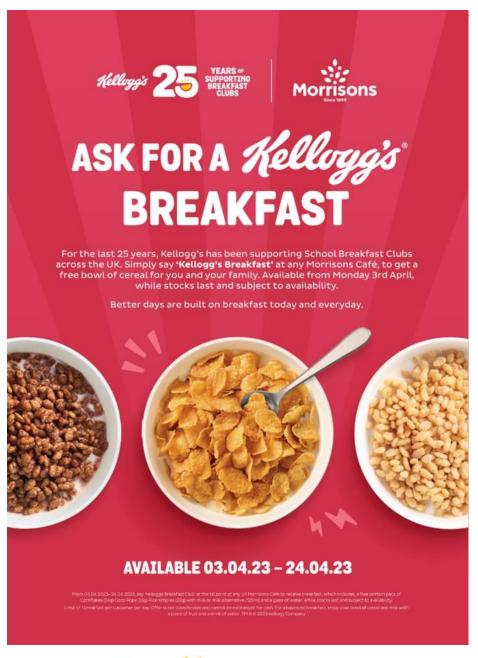
We wanted to let you know that this Easter, Kellogg's has partnered with Morrisons to launch a breakfast club where the whole family can request a free bowl of cereal.

Both adults and children can choose from a bowl of Cornflakes, Rice Krispies or Coco Pops, with a choice of dairy and non-dairy milk, when they order a 'Kellogg's breakfast' before 11am, in any of Morrisons 397 cafés.

The joint initiative will run from 3rd to 24th April, while stock lasts, and aims to support families during the Easter holidays when many school breakfast clubs are unavailable. Please do feel free to share the below information with families at your school, helping to address holiday hunger in your local community.

Best wishes

The Kellogg's Breakfast Club Team







FODS

Easter Egg Hunt







Thank you to all the parents who kindly volunteered their time to help with the FODS Easter egg hunt on Wednesday. Thank you also to Mrs Bell for helping FODS with the planning of the egg hunts and for creating an 'eggcellent' brain teaser scavenger hunt for year 6. We had some great feedback from the children and parents, so we hope they all enjoyed an end of term treat.

We understand the Easter bunny had a lot of fun receiving high fives, fist bumps and millions of cuddles from the children.



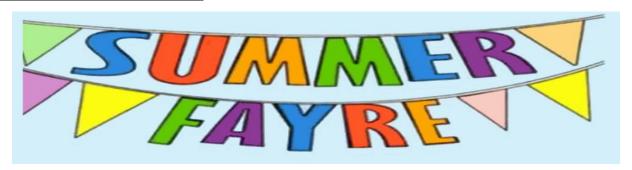
FODS

Year 3 Cake Sale



Please note that the class cake sales will continue after the Easter break. Year 3 parents and carers are kindly running the cake stall after school on **Friday 21**st **April** with their donated cakes.

External Stalls at the Summer Fayre



We are welcoming suitable external stalls and advertising material at the summer fayre this year on **Saturday 24th June**. If you have, or are involved in a business or organisation that would like to have a stall selling items at the summer fayre (£30 donation), or you would like to be able to leave advertising material (£10 donation), please contact us at dorchesterpta@gmail.com as we would love to hear from you.

Mother's Day Shop: Correction





We would like to correct an error in the previous newsletter, as the Mother's Day Shop raised approximately £600 (rather than £300).



Safeguarding

Supporting Children's Safety

Snapchat - New Parental Controls

Snapchat have updated Family Center again, this time adding controls that block 'sensitive' and 'suggestive' content from viewing by under 18's. To enable this feature, parents can toggle on the 'Restrict Sensitive Content' filter within Snapchat's Family Center and once enabled under 18's should not be able to see the blocked content, although this is only on Stories and Spotlight (short videos). It has no effect on content shared in Chat, Snaps and Search, so it is pretty limited. More information for parents about this new feature can be found HERE and an explanation in regards to what Snapchat considers sensitive content can be found HERE.

Find the Fake

Research consistently shows that people over-estimate how good they are at spotting fakes. It is important that we all know how to recognise misinformation, so Internet Matters have put a great guide together, including explanations on trusted sources of information, types of fake news and even a Find the Fake quiz. Great for the classroom or for parents at home. You can find all the information HERE.

Social Media - Parental Consent for Under 18's

Utah has become the first state in the US which has passed a law that requires social media companies to obtain explicit consent from parents of under 18's before an account can be created. This is really interesting, how effective it will be and how it will be policed we have no idea, but more and more states/countries around the world are starting to take a more proactive stance against big tech due to their continual appalling failings. As well as explicit consent, the new law also imposes a curfew which blocks access between 2230 and 0630. You can read more on the BBC website HERE.

New Research - Decreasing Young People's Vulnerabilities Online

Digitally Empowering Young People is a project which is led by researchers at the University of Warwick, exploring how we can all decrease the vulnerabilities of children and young people online. Some of the key outcomes were:

- Online safety education included little acknowledgement of the opportunities.
- Historical approaches and language used may enhance vulnerabilities and reinforce a culture of victim blaming.
- There is a need for educational change you can read the research **HERE**.

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 (<u>Go to their</u> website)

<u>020 8770 6001</u> (Monday to Friday, 9am and 5pm) <u>020 8770 5000</u> (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/

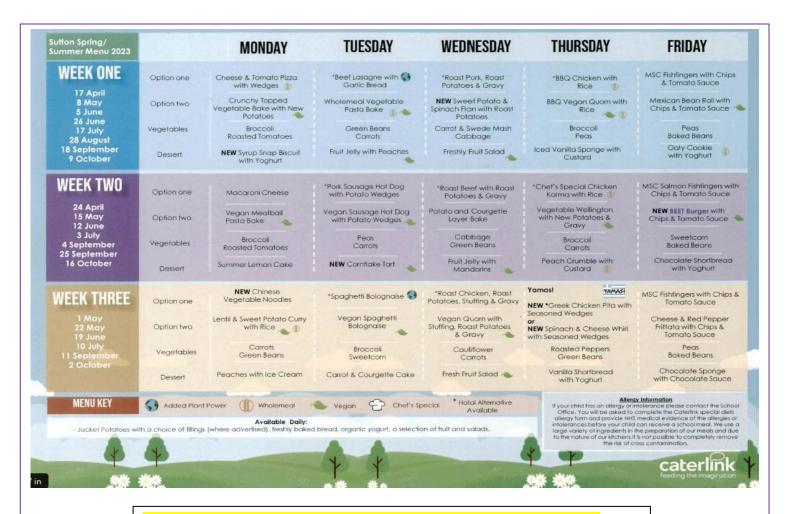
Use the website for our Twitter @DorchesterP

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

Our overall value for the school this half term is

Perseverance

"Energy and persistence conquer all things." Benjamin Franklin.



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

DPS Diary

3 rd April – 14 th April	EASTER HOLIDAYS
17 th April	First day of Summer 1 Term
20 th April	Rose Class – Yr1 – Tower of London Trip
Saturday 22 nd April	Borough Netball Tournament @ Overton
24 th April	Mixed football vs St Cecilias @ Nescot
26 th April	Red Class – Yr1 – Tower of London Trip
26 th April	Class photos day 1
27 th April	Class photos day 2 Year 6 Junior Maths Challenge General Knowledge Quiz Semi Final
28 th April	Spelling Bee
1 st May	Early May Bank Holiday
8 th May	Bank Holiday for King's Coronation
9 th – 11 th May	Year 5 Kingswood Residential Trip
9 th – 12 th May	Year 6 SATS days
12 th May	FODS Mufti Day – bring a filled jar for Summer fair donation
15 th May	Year 5 Victorian Day
5 th May	School Parliament meet Lords online
23 rd May	Year 2 Tower of London trip 1
24 th May	Year 2 Tower of London trip 2
25 th May	Year 2 Tower of London trip 3
26 th May	Last day of Summer 1 before Half term
29 th May – 2 nd June	HALF TERM
Monday 5 th June	INSET Day
Tuesday 6 th June	First day of Summer 2 term
Thursday 6 th July	Junior Juke Winners Gala Party 2 – 3pm
Wednesday 19 th July	Last day of term for Nursery
Thursday 20 th July	Last day of term
Friday 21 st July	INSET Day



HOLIDAY CLUB IN APRIL 2023

The holiday club will run each day from Monday 3rd April to Thursday 6th April inclusive. There will be a range of outdoor and indoor play, spring craft activities and sports 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)

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

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.