



DPS News

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"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." —Nelson Mandela

23rd June, 2023

Dear Parents

It well and truly feels like summer is here now, and the bunting is up for our Summer Fair tomorrow.

The FODS committee and class reps have worked so hard to make sure that we have volunteers for all the stalls, that there is a fantastic variety of stuff to do (and stuff to eat and drink!), and that the children and adults will have a fabulous time.

I already gave these reminders to children in assembly today and I am sure they will remember to tell you, but please note the following:

- the stalls will accept cash. Please bring cash with you – most games cost 50p or £1 so a good opportunity for the children to raid their piggy banks.
- children will not be allowed on the bouncy castle and bungee run after they have had their face painted, or hair chalks, or any other decoration that might 'melt' on to the rubber. The volunteers on the stalls know this and children will be asked if they have been on the bouncy castle/bungee run before they can have their faces painted or adorned with glitter.

A huge thank you to everyone who has volunteered to set up, help on stalls, baked cakes, offered to help clear up, to everyone who donated bottles and jars, toys and any other items. I am looking forward to an amazing day that is fun for everyone, as well as raising some funds to improve playtimes for our children.

The Fair begins at 11am, so do come along for a BBQ lunch, glass of Pimms and lots of fun.

I look forward to seeing you there tomorrow.

Kind regards

Cathy Bell
Headteacher



DPS Eco

Wardrobes full of unused clothing?

Want to help raise some money for the school?

Dorchester Primary are now offering an easy way for you to regularly keep on top of your wardrobes. We now have our own permanent clothing recycling bank which is now placed **outside the school office**. We are taking donations of **good quality clothing**. The bank will be emptied every 2 weeks and the school will get money for the clothing donated. Just bring your donations in a bag and drop into the clothing bank at school drop off or collection times.

We accept the following:

YES PLEASE TO:

- All men's, ladies and children's clothing including plain school uniform
- Paired Shoes
- Handbags, bags, ties and belts
- Bed clothes, towels, soft toys

NO THANK YOU TO:

- Duvets both synthetic and feathered
- Pillows & cushions
- Carpets & Rugs
- Soiled or wet clothing
- Workwear
- Shredded or mutilated textile material
- Textile offcuts, yarns or threaded material





DPS Eco



Eco Club this week learnt about endangered species then enjoyed learning about different endangered animals by playing Top Trumps!



DPS Sport

Borough Athletics

Team Dorchester were in action last Friday, taking on the other large schools (3/4 form entry schools,) at the David Weir Centre in the Borough Athletics.

The event involves runners from Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 competing in either an individual sprint or middle distance run and then also combining in a sprint relay team. The weather meant it was extremely hot on the track and the action came thick and fast with some athletes running their events in quite quick succession, but all of our squad were focused and determined to do their best. Everyone that took part really stepped up to what was a high level of competition and contributed towards the Dorchester results.

We did also have one Borough Champion!

Congratulations to Aiya who won the Year 3 girls' sprint, easing comfortably through her Heat and then fighting hard to win an extremely fast final – a very well-deserved gold medal!

The Year 3 Girls' Relay Team were also very unlucky not to come away with the winners' shield for their event – the final positions were decided on times taken from both of the Heats and, despite winning their race comfortably, unfortunately the winners from the other Heat came in faster and so literally pipped us to the post.

A great performance nonetheless that the girls should be very proud of.

Very well done to all our runners!

Year 3: Aiya, Cleo, Mariana, Nela, Austin, Teddy, Archie, Logan

Year 4: Harry, Paul, Kieran, Nathan, Gkalena, Macey, Neve, Hannah

Year 5: Macey, Megan, Parisa, Emilia, Archie, Jordan, Jack, Dominic

Year 6: Harrison, Tommy, Alex, Jahvarni, Demi, Antonia, Elissa, Shravya





DPS Sport

Year 5 Mixed Dynamos Cricket

The Year 5 mixed cricket team played in the B division of the Borough Dynamos competition this week. In terms of rules, this is much the same as the recent girls' and year 6 events where the players bat in pairs, all facing the same amount of overs, and then all take a turn to bowl during their fielding innings. This makes it a real team effort to get a result. The weather was hot, as was the cricket by all accounts, with our players pulling together to prove unbeaten across the afternoon. Their first victory was against Hackbridge, with Hackbridge making 67 to our 71. Dorchester then followed up with a 92 to 85 win against St Dunstan's.

Really well done on a great performance to Jake, Taylor, Jack H, Jack G, Sienna, Archie, Ronnie, Dominic, Vihaan and Hamza.



Net4all

Sunday 9.30-10.30am on the Dorchester netball court

Please come and join us for an hour of netball games and competition, encouraging girls in Year 5 and 6 to exercise with any female role models in their lives – bring along mums, older sisters, aunties, cousins or grandmas to play and encourage each other to stay active in a fun environment.

No previous netball experience needed!



Class Notes

What did you learn about the animals?

We have had some very exciting visitors in Nursery today to celebrate all that we have learnt about animals. We were visited by Mr Poppy a Sulcata tortoise who comes from Africa and eats grass, Max a Red footed tortoise who eats fruit, vegetables and insects, Minnie a bearded dragon from Australia, George a Leopard gheko, a royal python, a hog nose snake who lives in swamps and digs for frogs, a giant African land snail, some stick insects and a bird eating spider! The children were able to touch some of the animals and look closely at them, it was a fantastic real life experience for staff and children alike!

How can you work out if a number is odd or even?

At the end of last week in Reception we took delivery of some very small, and very hungry caterpillars. When we came in on Monday morning they had grown a lot. The children noticed that they were bigger, they looked spiky, and they were moving around the pots. On Tuesday they were beginning to make their way to the top of the pots. On Wednesday, they were hanging down and looking like Js. On Thursday they were spinning and spinning and by home time they were all chrysalises. On Friday we started waiting..... We will keep you updated.

In Maths we were practising sharing dinosaur food between two hungry dinosaurs. We had to work out if the number of pieces of food could be shared equally or whether there was a piece left over. The motivation for doing our maths this week was being able to eat the dinosaur food when we had finished.

Every morning we have been writing a sentence about bugs, in different situations such as, a beetle on its back and worm being eaten by a mole!

Can you explain one way to solve a worded problem?

This week, Topaz and some of Buttercup had a wonderful time at Wimbledon Mosque. Imam Shaoib was very welcoming, and the children impressed him with how much they already knew. We are looking forward to taking the rest of Buttercup along with Yellow, this Monday.

In English this week, the children have been writing a brochure to persuade people to go on a trip to the Kalahari Desert, using facts they have learned, along with their persuasive techniques. In Maths, we have looked at worded problems for the four operations, thinking about how many different ways the children can solve each problem. In Science, the children revised what plants need to grow and thrive, and planned out what our allotment might look like, and what plants we might grow there. In Geography, we explored how humans have affected different areas of Southern Africa, and the children discussed how humans and animals can live together safely and healthily. In Art, the children had lots of fun learning how to make impressions and joins when making a clay tile.



Class Notes

Which conditions do you think the materials will decompose best in?

This week has been very busy! We have started doing some of our assessment booklets to show everything that we have learnt this year so far. We have been practising our reading skills to help us answer a range of questions about a text in English. In Maths, we have been learning all about shapes. We have identified three different types of triangles and found out all the properties of a range of quadrilaterals including parallelograms, rectangles, squares etc. For our RE topic of Buddhism, we have been learning about the 6 different festivals that are celebrated by Buddhists around the world. We concentrated on understanding why and how they celebrate these special events in the calendar. In Science, we began an investigation to understand how and why different materials decompose. We buried a range of materials and each class is keeping their tray in different conditions to see which will help them decompose the quickest.

What did you personally find most challenging or rewarding about your booklets this week?

Well, the time has nearly come for the children in Year 5 to wow you with their sensational year group assembly on Monday morning! Parents and carers please arrive outside the school gates by 8.55 and the assembly is due to start at 9am sharp, we all cannot wait for the performance!

In Maths this week, we have been working on multiplying and dividing numbers by 10, 100 and 1000, focusing on how the digits move left or right in the place value grid accordingly. In English, the children completed their star write on The Girl of Ink and Stars which we are looking forward to marking to check their writing progress. In Art, the children experimented with different artistic mediums and textures with space imagery to decide on what style they would like their final piece to potentially be comprised of. In PSHE, we had very useful and at times shocking discussion about the benefits but importantly the risks of using mobile phones, and how to ensure we are all interacting safely in the online world, and protecting ourselves from harm. Finally, we are about halfway through completing our assessment booklets in SPAG, Maths and Reading, and we look forward to seeing how everyone has performed and progressed, but remembering that these booklets are merely a snapshot of performance on the day and do not necessarily reflect how teachers may assess where children are at in these subjects.

We look forward to seeing as many people at the Summer fair tomorrow as possible too!

How can dialogue advance the action in a story?

Our English focus has moved onto the fantastic book by Michael Morpurgo, 'Kensuke's Kingdom'. We have begun to explore the first few chapters this week, pausing to have an in-depth look at dialogue and its purpose. Moving the story forwards is a key aspect and we have been finding out ways to do this effectively. In Maths, we have linked our learning to our Science topic about the Circulatory system and investigated the effect of exercise on the heart. We practised finding our pulses and then found our resting heart rate and compared it with after a series of exercises. The data was analysed and a series of graphs and charts were drawn to accurately represent the data. There followed a discussion about which type of pictorial representation showed the difference the most effectively. Our rehearsals are really stepping up now and the children are working very hard to perfect their roles.



Safeguarding

Supporting Children's Safety

Children owning or using mobile phones or devices



Talk with your child about responsible use of their phone

Discuss what is okay and not okay to use their phone for. Talk about time limits and expectations of where the device can and cannot be used, this could include things like the phone being charged outside their bedroom overnight.



Discuss what to do if something upsetting or worrying happens

Give them the strategies they need in case something concerning happens whilst they are using their device. This could be to lock the screen and tell an adult, to make a report to the platform they are using, or to block the user.



Explore parental controls

Take a look at the controls available both on the phone itself and on your home Wi-Fi. Talk these through with your child too. Parental controls are a helpful tool, but an open conversation with your child is the most important thing.

How can I introduce a phone in a safe way?

Whether your child already has a phone or they are about to get their first one, explore the parental controls on offer and have a conversation with your child to set up some boundaries around their phone use, for example, who they can give their number to, or where they keep it overnight. Reassure them you want to help them to enjoy using it safely, and that they can talk to you if anything upsets or worries them while using it.

If your child is very young, spend time with them downloading some appropriate apps and games. If your child is older, have a conversation with them about what they like or want to use their phone for, and what apps or games they use. Give them a strategy to use if something goes wrong, for example, turning off the screen and coming to talk to you.

What can I do to manage the risks?

Parental controls can help limit potential risks, such as installing passwords, blocking certain websites or apps, and setting time limits and spending limits. For further information on how to set up controls on a phone, visit [Internet Matters' Smartphone Guides](https://www.internetmatters.org/smartphone-guides/).

Talk with your child about their understanding of the risks when using a phone. Ask them what they would do if something happened, for example, if they experienced cyberbullying. Decide together on what they should do if that happened, for example, take a screenshot and tell an adult. A [family agreement](#) can help you have these conversations. Explore safety tools such as blocking and privacy settings together and help your child set up these up where necessary. Make sure your child knows to speak to a trusted adult immediately if anyone they only know online (a stranger) asks to meet up, for their personal information, or for photos or videos of them. Find out more advice to managing specific risks [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 ([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

[illegible]



Willow Club our Wrap Around Care Provision, which includes Breakfast Club, Morning Club, After School Club and Holiday Club can be contacted in the following ways:

- 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 to book - <https://www.dorchesterprimary.com/page/?title=The+Willow+Club+Wrap%2Daround+Care&pid=64&action=saved>
- Bookings for **Summer Willow Club** holiday club sessions are available on the school website at
 - <https://www.dorchesterprimary.com/club/?pid=64&catid=2>

The Summer holiday club will run each day from Monday 24th July until to Friday 4th August inclusive. There will be a range of outdoor and indoor play, 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)
We look forward to welcoming your child/ren to the club.

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.

DPS Diary

26 th June	Year 5 Assembly @9am Yellow class and ½ Buttercup to Wimbledon Mosque
27 th June	Selected year 3 students to Fairfield Hall
28 th June	SEND Coffee Afternoon with Sheena and Julie 1.30-3pm
Friday 30 th June	Years 5/6 Sports Day 9.15am-12pm
4 th July	Year 6 Production 6pm-8pm
5 th July	Move up morning – meet your new teacher Year 3 Ukulele Concert for parents 2.30pm
Thursday 6 th July	Junior Juke Winners Gala Party 2 – 3pm Reception Trip to Bocketts Farm New Nursery Parents meeting evening 7pm-8.15pm
10 th – 14 th July	Year 6 Residential
10 th July	Reception Junior Duke Winners Party 2.15 – 3pm
11 th July	SATS Results Published Drama Tree Performance 10.05-10.20
13 th July	Years 3 and 4 Sports Day 9.15am-12pm
14 th July	Reception and KS1 Sports Day Reception- 9.15-10.15am Years 1/2– 10.30am-12pm
17 th July	Talent Show 1.30pm
18 th July	9-10am Music Recital Talent Show 1.30-3pm Nursery Come and Play 3.45-5.45pm
Wednesday 19 th July	Last day of term for Nursery Platinum Reading Breakfast
Thursday 20 th July	--- Last day of term --- Year 6 Water Fight! Year 6 Leavers Assembly 9am
Friday 21 st July	--- INSET Day ---