



‘THE DOZZY DETAIL’

Message from the Head

Dear Parents/Carers,

It certainly has not been the start to 2021 that any of us wanted or anticipated.

There seems little to look forward to at the moment, what with the current lockdown and cold weather but we all need to remain positive in the knowledge that this pandemic will get better in the weeks and months ahead.

I am sure, like me, you have missed doing all of the things you enjoy. Simply going for a walk or for a trip to coast now seems impossible!

I know I have said this on many occasions this month but **THANK YOU** for everything you are doing to support your child’s learning during this time. Whether they are in school or at home working remotely, you’re doing **AMAZING**.

As mentioned in a previous letter, the government have stated that schools will not re-open fully until 8th March at the earliest. This will be disappointing news for everybody as we are as keen to have our children back in school as much as you are.

The staff at Dorchester are so eager to get back to providing a wide range of learning experiences and we are hopeful that we will be able to resume some of our usual events in the next few months.

As a school, we have created our ‘Dorchester Dozen’ of learning experiences our children will have taken part in during their time at Dorchester. These have been carefully considered, taking in to account our context and what we believe is important to our children and families. We know this year has been very different but, when things get back to normal, we will ensure that visits and experiences play an even bigger role in our curriculum. To find out more about our ‘Dorchester Dozen’, visit our website: ‘About us’, ‘Vision and Values’.

As always, if you have any worries or need any support, please contact the school. We have a wonderful well-being team, who can provide advice and support with almost anything. Please ring the office and ask to speak to either Mrs Gasparelli or Mrs Boothby.



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Mr Stuart Mills & The Dorchester Team

COVID-19 Updates

KEY REMINDER:

Any adults attending our school site are requested to wear a face covering. This is to maximise the safety of both yourselves and our staff. Please do not be offended if staff challenge you on this.



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You may have read in the news that staff in schools are now regularly tested for COVID-19 in order to identify positive cases earlier and break the transmission of the virus. Research has shown that some people will carry the virus but show no symptoms and therefore pass the virus on without knowing. Regular testing will help identify those who are positive but asymptomatic and isolate them more quickly.

Please remember that if your child, or anybody in your household shows symptoms of the virus, you must all self-isolate and book a test. If the test comes back positive, you must self-isolate for the required 10 days. Please also notify the school if your child is symptomatic or tests positive so that we can quickly identify any contacts.

Staffing Changes

Since September, we have had several new members of staff join our team, as well as some who have moved on to pastures new.

Firstly, we would like to say goodbye and good luck to the following staff, who left us last term: Miss Shepherdson and Miss Smith, who were both achievement support assistants in our Hive 1.

We also say a warm welcome to Dorchester to the following staff: Miss Towse, Miss Goldspink, Miss Harries, Miss Moore and Miss Lima — achievement support assistants.

Mr Horton — premise assistant.

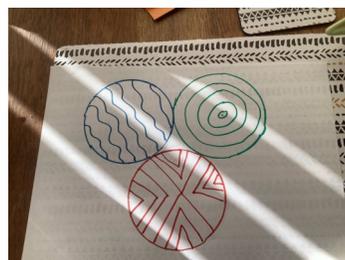
This month's Learning

Even though we are in a new world of education, our children have continued to be brilliant learners, whether that be in school or at home.

We continue to work with Hull Children's University, who we have had strong links with for many years. They have provided virtual sessions for our children so that they can continue to benefit from wider opportunities.



We have seen some excellent levels of engagement in our remote learning and, since moving across to SeeSaw, this has increased further. Well done to all children who are logging on daily to complete their learning — you are making us very proud!



Year 4 have been busy making their own electrical circuits, using their knowledge of how electricity flows. They were completely engaged in their learning and succeeded in making their buzzers 'buzz'.

Children in year 5 have spent time exploring Hinduism as part of their learning in R.E. They looked at Tri-murti and created their own designs based on their knowledge.

Some of our children from Hive 2 created their own Greek vases after learning all about The Greeks in their topic lessons. They look just like the real thing!

Our reception children continue to develop their independence and gross and fine motor skills.



Remote Learning

Our children working from home are making us really proud with their engagement and willingness to 'have a go'. We have seen some wonderful work being produced and have seen some exceptional levels of support from parents/carers.

We have recently moved over to SeeSaw after many of our families trialled it and told us how much easier it was to use. We are hopeful that this will improve engagement levels even further.

I would also like to remind you that if you do not have a device at home for your child to access remote learning digitally, then please contact the school as we still have a number of devices available for use. In addition, if you need any support with connectivity due to not having broadband, please let us know as there may be something we can do to support you.

Thank you to those families who have returned paper copies of completed work. This allows teachers to identify any future learning opportunities. Teachers will look at the completed work after 72 hours and will offer feedback via telephone.

When children are working remotely, we have staff logged in monitoring their work and giving feedback on it. If your child needs help with an activity, please encourage them to use the 'chat' functions to request support and one of our team will respond as soon as they can.

Stars of the Month

Lots of our children have stood out this month for being amazing but the following have been recognised for always being 'BUSY'!



Rec — Logan D-H for always being so enthusiastic about learning!

1KP — Millie B for brilliant effort in her work both at school and at home!

1AF — Amelia A for always completing every activity set and having 100% engagement!

2CE — Tamara P for working really hard on her remote learning, showing a positive attitude and uploading lots of videos and photos of the work she has completed!

2CF — Kai W for working so hard every week. He has taken time to edit and improve his work and always tries his hardest to be his best self!

3SP — Lilly P for continuing to show a 'love for learning' throughout lockdown and has give her work 100%!

3CP — Jeremiah O for being his best self with remote learning; always up and active everyday with the work and responding to ways forward!

4MH — Demi C for showing real commitment to her learning within school!

4JG — Lilly C for being resilient in hard times and showing a real commitment to her remote learning!

5MP — Hannah-May L for working tirelessly since coming back to school and making good progress in all areas of learning!

5CT — Jagoda R for being an absolute star. She has an amazing attitude to learning, which has led to amazing progress!

6AC — Lola H for adapting brilliantly to online work and engaging in every lesson! We are so proud of you!

6LT — Caleb W for showing full engagement with every activity set!

Hive — Makenzie N-S for being a good role model and always using his manners!

Engagement

Our expectation is that children working remotely access learning everyday, either through out online learning platforms or through paper copies.

Below is a summary of the engagement levels across the school (where children have completed 50% or more of the activities) :

Class	% Engaging
Rec	72%
Year 1	59%
Year 2	70%
Year 3	83%
Year 4	62%
Year 5	80%
Year 6	68%
Hive 2	100%

Well done to Hive 2 and Year 3, who are working so hard from home!

Please help us by encouraging your child to take part in as many of the lessons / activities as possible.

Online Media

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Tel: 01482 825207

Website: www.dorchesterprimary.org.uk
Email: admin.dorchester@hcat.org.uk
Twitter: @DorchesterHull

Check out all of the information on our website at:

www.dorchesterprimary.org.uk

Here, you will find out most up-to-date information, home learning and events (under the calendar tab).

Please also follow our Facebook and Twitter pages for the latest announcements and important messages.

Important Dates

All of our key dates can now be found on our website. Click on 'Parents' followed by 'Calendar' to see what's happening.



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|----------------------------|---|
| Friday 12th February 2021 | - Break off for half-term |
| Monday 22nd February 2021 | - HCAT Training Day — school closed to children |
| Tuesday 23rd February 2021 | - School re-opens to vulnerable pupils and those of key workers |
| Monday 8th March 2021 | - Proposed re-opening of schools |

Free School Meals

If you are in receipt of any benefits and have not already done so, we would urge you to apply for free school meals. Not only does this cover the cost of lunches for your child(ren), for each child in receipt of free school meals, the school receives £1320, which can then be spent on resources for our children to use. To check whether you are eligible, contact the school office or visit:

https://emsonline.hullcc.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=/CitizenPortal_LIVE/