



Dorchester Primary School

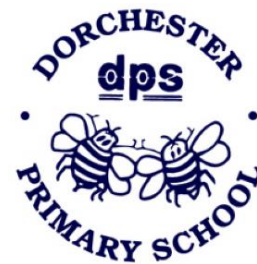
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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Week 22 – 3rd March 2023

Message from Mr Mills

I want to start by thanking you for responding flexibly this week when we had a number of staff absent due to the strike action and illness. Whilst we try to give you as much notice as possible, sometimes we are left with no choice but to make some last-minute changes.

Please be mindful that the next strike action is planned for 15th and 16th March and again will have some impact on our school. At this stage, we don't know what that true impact will be but please refer to my previous letter regarding the partial closure of some year groups.

It was great this week to see so many of you coming into school to share some learning activities with your children, whether that be as part of their D&T work, or World Book Day activities. It shows a real value to education when learning is done alongside parents/carers.

We hope to plan in many more opportunities for you to come in and share our successes!

Have a great weekend!

Stuart Mills

Key Reminders

Social Media and Messaging

I cannot emphasise enough the importance of monitoring your child's use of social media and messaging apps (such as Whatsapp). We have had to deal with numerous incidents this week which have come about as a result of children communicating with each other via social media outside of school. As school is sometimes the only place that children see each other face-to-face, when upset is caused outside of school it naturally results in issues during school time.

In addition, a number of the messages being sent and pictures being posted are unkind and offensive. Where we are made aware of any further incidents of this nature, the school will take the necessary action and report it to the appropriate authorities. If you have any concerns about your child sending or receiving unwanted messages, please speak to either your child's class teacher or a member of the safeguarding team: Mrs Gasparelli, Mrs Chirona or Mr Mills.





"Working together in a safe and inclusive environment, to develop creative, disciplined and aspirational pupils."

Attendance	
Whole-school weekly attendance	91.9% well below our target of 96%
Class with the best attendance	6MP with 96.7% 😊
<i>Please ensure your child is at school on time, every day. If you are having any difficulties with getting your child to school, please contact our attendance officers: Mrs Gasparelli or Mrs Steer.</i>	

Upcoming events for the next two weeks	
Monday 6 th March	Y4 Swimming (every pm)
Monday 13 th March	World Science Week
Monday 13 th March	Parent Consultations for years 4, 5 and 6
Tuesday 14 th March	Parent Consultations for years 1, 2 and 3
Wednesday 15 th March	NEU Strike Day (see previous letter)
Thursday 16 th March	NEU Strike Day (see previous letter)
Thursday 16 th March	Reception visit to Play Avenue
Friday 17 th March	Red Nose Day
<i>All of our key dates for this term are on our website here:</i> https://dorchesterprimary.org.uk/calendar/	

Messages
<p><u>Uniform and Jewellery</u></p> <p>As I have mentioned on several occasions, we have a clear uniform and jewellery policy in school, which can be accessed on our website. Unfortunately, we are seeing lots of children not adhering to this policy so I want to re-iterate our expectations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The <u>only</u> jewellery children are permitted to wear is a single pair of studded earrings and a watch. If children are wearing anything other than this, they will be asked to remove it / parents will be contacted to come in and remove it. Where parents refuse to support this, children may be kept inside at break and lunchtimes on health and safety grounds. -Children should be wearing their school uniform <u>unless</u> it is their PE day. If children come to school in non-uniform and it is not their PE day, parents will be contacted to bring appropriate uniform in for them. Where that is not possible, the school will provide uniform from the lost property clothing. <p>We really appreciate the 99% of parents/carers that support us with this as it sets high expectations.</p>

What's been happening in school this week?	
EYFS	Year 1/2
 <p>This week the nursery children have been learning the new phoneme 'r' and have listened really carefully this week. In maths we have been thinking about using prepositional language. The children have enjoyed planting peas, linking in with our nursery rhyme 'Five fat peas in a pea pod pressed'. They are all very excited to see them grow. They have also helped Mrs Rippin develop the outside area by using wheel barrows</p>	<p>The children have been exploring the alternative traditional tale this week, 'Little Red and the Very Hungry Lion'. We have been creating our own word banks of vocabulary so that we can independently apply the skills to our writing next week.</p>  <p>In Year 1 Maths the children have been working on related facts</p>

to transfer the stones.

The children loved seeing their parents/carers come into school to celebrate World Book Day.

Reception have been busy this week in topic learning about how to care for our environment. We've looked at what we can recycle and how. We've looked at what can happen to the environment when we do not recycle and the impact it can have. The children have also enjoyed using the litter pickers outside to remove rubbish from our own outdoor area.

In phonics we've been continuing to review words containing phase 3 digraphs as well as continuing to read longer words and how we can chunk up words to read.

In maths we have learnt all about 9 and 10 this week. We've been exploring how many different ways we can make 9 and 10 exploring number bonds.

within 20 and also completing missing number subtraction problems. In Year 2 Maths the children have been using their multiplication knowledge to divide by 10 and 5.

We have been completing our Design and Technology unit based on textiles and have been looking at success criteria needed to make an effective finger puppet. We had so much fun on World Book Day sewing and making our puppets with our parents and carers. We then shared stories with our friends, using the finger puppets as props.

Year 3/4

Year 3/4 have been working hard this week designing a book case for a book they have enjoyed reading from

their top 30 reads. They have practised a variety of stitches and then enjoyed spending time with parents and carers on Friday to make these.



Year 4 have enjoyed their first week of swimming where they have been practising front crawl and back stroke with some

floatation aids and are slowly building their confidence

Year 5

In Year 5 this week we went to London!

It was an amazing today, even though there was lots walking. We visited Buckingham Palace, Trafalgar Square, Downing Street, London Eye and The Houses of Parliament. Here, we watched a live debate from the House of Commons and then learnt about the rules of law. Afterwards, we went and did our own debate on if homework should be banned.



to be able to swim without these.	<p>Thanks to Children's University who delivered this once in a lifetime trip and the amazing volunteers who led it.</p> <p>Since the trip, we have looked at a poem on London and created a report on our trip and celebrated World Book Day and our love of reading.</p>
Year 6	Hive
<p>In Y6, in reading this week, we have recapped our work on inference style questions working on our core text 'Cogheart' - this has raised our suspicions with regards to Madame Verdigris! In Writing, we have started to write our postcard from Goldilocks's point of view now that she is in jail! In Maths, we have continued our ratio work and looked at how to change the amount of ingredients in a recipe to make differing amounts of treats. Some of the children have looked at scale drawings and how to enlarge shapes! We have also consolidated our knowledge on clauses and conjunctions in our short burst VGP sessions. We've even managed to fit in some Art work, looking at how to write our names to portray differing feelings!</p> <p>For World Book Day, we looked at a traditional tale from the point of view of the perceived baddie and heard their versions of events before writing a traditional tale from the point of view of another baddie!</p>	<p>In the Hive this week, we have been exploring different ways to move our body - we have been dancing to action songs and copying the actions.</p> <p>The children have worked really hard in maths exploring different shapes and number quantities.</p> <p>In writing we have worked really hard with our pencil control and are beginning to write letters with support.</p>

Next Week's Menu				
<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>
Sausage with mashed potato and gravy	Ham and cheese pizza with curly fries	Chicken curry with rice	Gammon with roast potatoes and vegetables	Fish with chips and beans/peas
Quorn sausage (V)	Margherita pizza (V)	Tomato pasta (V)	Quorn fillet (V)	Vegetable nuggets (V)
Plus, a selection of sandwiches and jacket potatoes.				