



## Dorchester Primary School

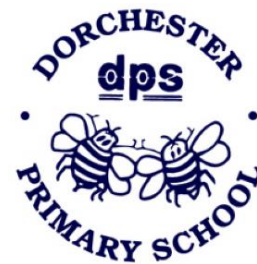
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Headteacher – Mr S. Mills BA (Hons), NPQH  
Deputy Head – Mrs N. Van Der Walt BA (Hons), PGCE



# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Week 27 – 21<sup>st</sup> April 2023

## Message from Mr Mills

Welcome back to the summer term. We hope you had a wonderful Easter break (and didn't indulge in too much chocolate!)

This term is going to be a busy one, with all of our statutory tests taking place for year 6 (SATs), year 2 (SATs), year 1 (phonics check) and year 4 (times tables check). Our children have been working so hard all year and we know that they will try their very best in all of their tests.

We also have lots of events planned for this term, including our Summer Fair, which is planned to take place on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July – REMEMBER THE DATE. Last year was hugely successful and the feedback from all of those that attended was really positive – we hope that this year's will be just as good – if not better!

### National Emergency Alert

You may have already seen/heard that this Sunday at 3pm, the Government will send an alert to all mobile phones and tablets to test that the service works. Even if phones are switched to 'silent' the alert will still sound. Don't be alarmed by this as this is just a test.

Have a great weekend!

Stuart Mills

## Key Reminders

### Uniform

We still have a small minority of children who are regularly not wearing the correct uniform. Tracksuit bottoms are not part of our daily uniform – this is only acceptable on the day(s) that your child has PE. For all other days, they should be in the correct uniform of black/grey trousers or skirt/dress, blue jumper/cardigan and white/gold/blue t-shirt.

A reminder too that all jewellery, except for a single pair of studded earrings and a watch, need to be removed prior to children coming into school.




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

Attendance	
Whole-school weekly attendance	95.7% – just below target but improving 😊
Class with the best attendance	6MP with 100% 😊
<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	
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> April	Reception audio tests (pm)
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	NEU Strike Day (some classes affected)
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	Paintbox visit for some year 3 children
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	School Closed – Bank Holiday
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	NEU Strike Day (some classes affected)
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Year 4 5-a-side tournament at Active+
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	EYFS Parent Planting stay and play (10:00–11:00am)
<i>All of our key dates for this term are on our website here:</i> <a href="https://dorchesterprimary.org.uk/calendar/">https://dorchesterprimary.org.uk/calendar/</a>	

Messages
<p><b><u>Behaviour outside of school</u></b></p> <p>This week, staff have had to spend a significant amount of time dealing with incidents that have occurred outside of school. In some cases, we have advised parents/carers to contact the police. The time that staff are taken away to deal with these issues means less time they are spending supporting your children with their education. If you are aware that your child may be involved in inappropriate and anti-social behaviour on the estate, please speak to them about it and take appropriate action. If you need any support from school, pop in and speak to Mrs Boothby or Mrs Gasparelli, who will be able to make referrals to supporting agencies.</p>

What's been happening in school this week?	
EYFS	Year 1/2
<p>Reception have had a very busy first week back! We are continuing to build our fluency in Phonics and we have been concentrating on handwriting in our Literacy sessions. In Maths, we have been practising number formation to 10 and we have been exploring numbers beyond 10. We have enjoyed lots of time outdoors in the Spring sunshine and we are loving our new outdoor resources. We have also noticed signs of Spring – the fruit trees we planted a few weeks ago have nearly doubled in size and they are covered in buds and blossom!</p>	<p>The children have been exploring our new text this week, 'The Last Wolf' by Mini Grey. We have been creating our own word banks of vocabulary so that we can independently write setting descriptions in the following weeks.</p>  <p>In Year 1 Maths the children have been completing their work on weight. We have been working hard to compare the mass of two objects and found each object's mass using cubes. In Year 2 the children have been using their knowledge of multiplication to measure volume and capacity. The children have also learnt how to read scales when measuring temperature.</p>



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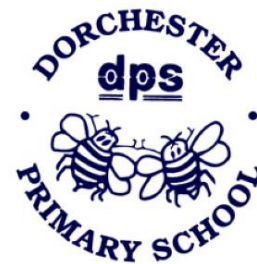
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	This week we have started our new history unit on Grace Darling. We cannot wait to find out more about her so any research at home would be welcomed.
Year 3/4	Year 5
Year 3 and 4 have been busy planning the next two paragraphs of their suspense narrative this week. In reading we have started a new text called "Beetle Boy". In Year 3 we have been counting in pounds and pence and in Year four we have been continuing to learn about decimals. In afternoons we have started our new art unit. We are learning how to use coiling to make pottery.	Well done to all the children for their hard work and perseverance this week and the one before Easter with swimming lessons. We know for some of you it was a scary thought learning to swim so watching you face this challenge head on and make huge improvements has made all of your teachers very proud. They have also been extremely sensible with the change of routine and worked hard in their core lessons of reading, writing and maths in an afternoon. In maths, they have been learning to read timetables, in reading they have been exploring atmosphere in a scary poem and in writing they have been using time adverbials and precise verbs to convey meaning in our non-fiction report.
Year 6	Hive
<p>This week in Y6 we have concentrated on applying all of our reading skills to answer a range of different question types on a range of different texts, thinking about how we can identify the question type in order for us to apply the relevant success criteria in preparation for the SATs. Continuing with SATs prep, we have looked at different areas of VGP and different Spelling rules including 'able' and 'ible'. In Maths, we have revisited question types from the arithmetic paper and some children have started to look at area and perimeter. In Writing, we have written the first paragraph of our Romance novel by introducing the reader to our character Malcolm.</p> <p>Just a quick reminder that SATs Booster will be running for the next two weeks on TUESDAY.</p>	<p>This week in the Hive we have been prepping for Spring and Easter!</p> <p>We have been practicing our fine motor skills using spring themed activities, counting and matching numbers within 10 and we have had a go at making hot cross bun playdough!</p>



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First Week Back Menu				
<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>
Chicken curry with rice and naan bread	Beef burger with criss-cross potatoes	Hot chicken strip wrap with herby diced potatoes	Sausages with mashed potato and veggies	Fish Friday with chips and peas/beans
Cheesy pasta bake (V)	Veggie burger (V)	Hot veggie nugget wrap (V)	Veggie sausage (V)	Fishless fingers (V)
Plus, a selection of sandwiches (ham, cheese or tuna) and jacket potatoes (tuna, cheese or beans)				