

Dorchester Primary School

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Week 28 – 28th April 2023

Message from Mr Mills

We've had a busy couple of weeks at Dorchester.

This week, our after-school clubs started and I am delighted to say that 136 children attended one of the clubs on offer. Thanks to the staff, who have volunteered their time to put these clubs on. Just a reminder that if children miss two weeks of their club without reason, their place may be offered to somebody on the waiting list so please do encourage them to attend if they have signed up.

Some of our year 3s took part in their 'Paintbox' visit on Thursday – they had a great time and represented our school as real ambassadors!

We have an extended weekend this week as Monday is a Bank Holiday. Most children will be expected to be back at school on Tuesday, unless their class is affected by the NEU strike action, which is taking place on Tuesday (a separate letter has been sent out regarding classes affected). Whilst any disruption to children's education is a last resort, we have to ensure that we can operate safely within our adult to pupil ratios.

Have a great weekend!

Stuart Mills

Key Reminders

Bikes and Scooters

We have a clear rule at Dorchester that bikes and scooters should not be ridden on the school site. This is to prevent any accidents happening and this week, we have had a near miss with one of our very young children almost being hit by somebody riding a bike. Please ensure that your child understands this rule and follows it, as those who continue to ride their bikes and scooters will be asked not to bring them to school. The safety of all of our community is everybody's responsibility.

<u>Payments</u>

If you have any outstanding payments for lunches and/or visits, please contact the school office to arrange payment of these. We have lots of money yet to be paid, which is currently being covered by the school and







"Working together in a safe and inclusive environment, to develop creative, disciplined and aspirational pupils." this is taking away money that we have available to spend on resources for your children. If you are having difficulty paying, please speak to our office, who will support you with payment plans. Thanks for your support with this.

Attendance		
Whole-school weekly attendance	94% - below our target of 96%	
Class with the best attendance	1/2CP with 98% @	
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.

	Upcoming events for the next two weeks		
Monday 1st May	School Closed – Bank Holiday		
Tuesday 2 nd May	NEU Strike Day (some classes affected)		
Tuesday 2 nd May	Year 45-a-side tournament at Active+		
Thursday 4 th May	EYFS Parent Planting stay and play (10:00–11:00am)		
Monday 8 th May	School Closed – Bank Holiday		
Tuesday 9 th May	Year 6 GPS SATs test		
Wednesday 10 th May	Year 6 English Reading SATs test		
Thursday 11th May	Year 6 Maths SATs tests (Paper 1 and Paper 2)		
Thursday 11th May	Year 5 5-a-side tournament at Active+		
Friday 12 th May	Year 6 Maths SATs test (Paper 3)		
All	of our key dates for this term are on our website here:		
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https://dorchesterprimary.org.uk/calendar/

Messages

School Uniform

We still have a number of children that are turning up to school in clothing that is not suitable, including jogging bottoms and unsuitable footwear. We have spare uniform in school that we will start to provide children with if they attend in inappropriate clothing.

Unless it is your child's PE day, they should be in black/grey trousers or skirt/dress, blue jumper and a white/blue or yellow t-shirt.

If there is a reason why your child is not able to wear the correct uniform, please ring the school and discuss with us. Thanks for your support with this.

What's been happening in school this week?				
EYFS	Year 1/2			
In Phonics, we have used the 'chunking' method to	In writing this week children in Year 1 and 2 have			
help to decode 3 syllable words, such as, 'fantastic' and	been finishing off their planning for the setting			
in Literacy, we have been listening to different versions	description based on our core text 'The Last Wolf'.			
of the traditional tale Jack and the Beanstalk, ready to	We have been thinking about using highly			
start our writing sequence next week. In Maths, we have	descriptive language as well as verbs for effect.			
been looking at numbers beyond 10 and have used				
numicon to help us order numbers to 20 and spot the	In Year 1 Maths we have been continuing with			
pattern.	measurement, looking at volume and capacity.			
We have also spent lots of time outside hunting for				
minibeasts!	In Year 2 Maths we have completed our fractions			



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

unit, learning all about equivalent fractions as well as finding 1/4 and 3/4 of shapes and numbers.

In History we have continued our learning on Grace Darling and have been thinking about the changes over time to the RNLI since her historic actions. We have also compared her to another significant figure in history from the present time.

Year 3/4 Year 5

In Year 3 we have been learning how to give change when using money. We have then started our time topic. We also enjoyed our school trip to Water where we did amazing paintings and enjoyed watching the red kites.

In Year 4 we have been learning about decimals. Yesterday we enjoyed spending some time celebrating the King's coronation.

In afternoons we are learning how to play cricket and had fun learning how to coil with salt dough for our pottery project.

Year 5 have enjoyed starting some new units across the curriculum this week after their swimming lessons have concluded. Within reading, we have begun to look at the book "The Haunting of Aveline Jones" and the children have impressed us with the insightful predictions—they absolutely can't wait to get into more chapters to learn about the mystery. Maths has included learning about different angles and the children have successfully worked out missing angles around a full and half turn. Finally, the children started to look at the human lifecycle within detail in science, identifying scientifically accurate terminology for specific stages and what major developments happen at this time.

Year 6 Hive

This week in Year 6 we have honed our VGP skills and revised the concepts of word classes, tense (simple, progressive, and perfect) and also explored the difference between main and subordinate clauses. We applied these skills in test situations and every single child gave maximum effort - their hard work is really paying off! We continued to develop our reading comprehension skills across a range of texts, including poetry, non-fiction, and fiction, and we focused on a range of question types across all of the areas of reading (multiple content domains). The children also were taught how to approach longer answers that require deeper inferences to be made and again, we applied these skills across a range of texts. In maths, we

This week in the Hive we have been exploring our new story Jack and the beanstalk. We have been creating tall beanstalks out of a range of creative resources. The children are very proud of these and we have put them up on our display board in class.

The children made their own play dough by mixing salt, flour, water and green food colouring together. They all had great fun using the playdough to make beanstalks.

In maths we have begun to explore 2D shapes by tracing them and making pictures out of the shapes.







"Working together in a safe and inclusive environment, to develop creative, disciplined and aspirational pupils." have explored area of triangles and the ways in which we approach finding this for the differing triangle types. We have also revised addition and subtraction of mixed number fractions, particularly focusing on what to do when the denominators are different.

In phonics we have been learning the grapheme S, the children have worked really hard learning new words that begin with S and repeating them back. The words we have learnt this week were sock, sun, snake and star

Next Week's Menu						
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday		
Homemade Ham and Cheese Pizza with potato wedges	All Day Breakfast	Various pasta bakes	Chicken Dinner with potatoes and vegetables	Fish Friday with chips and peas/beans		
Homemade Margherita Pizza (V)	As above with vegetarian sausage (V)	Beans on Toast (V)	Quorn fillet (V)	Vegetable nuggets (V)		
Plus, a selection of sandwiches (ham, cheese or tuna) and jacket potatoes (tuna, cheese or beans)						