



Dorchester Primary School

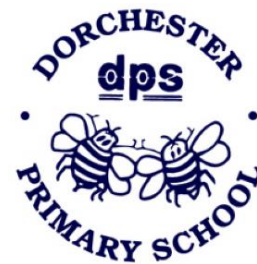
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Headteacher – Mr S. Mills BA (Hons), NPQH
Deputy Head – Mrs N. Van Der Walt BA (Hons), PGCE



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Week 32 – 26th May 2023

Message from Mr Mills

WOW – what a busy half-term this has been!

There have been assessments galore, with year 6 and year 2 SATs. After half-term, our year 1 children will complete their phonic check to see how well they are able to use effective reading strategies, our year 4 children will complete their multiplication check and other year groups will take part in their optional SATs. This will help inform us of how well children have remembered what they have learnt over the year. Teachers have told me they are incredibly proud of all of the children for their hard work and determination.

The brilliant weather this week has certainly lightened the mood in what has been a long week. Some of our KS1 children took part in some athletics activities at Costello and WOW – they did brilliantly. They completed took part in a 50m sprint, a standing long jump, a 300m run and a vortex throw. One of our children threw the longest throw of the day, beating the other 300 children!

In addition, our year 6 children competed in a 5-a-side competition last night and worked so well as a team. They never gave up and showed excellent encouragement and support for one another.

As we continue to head into (hopefully) hotter weather, please send your children to school with a sun hat and sun cream. More time will be spent outdoors next half-term and we want to ensure our children are protected.

We do hope that you will be able to join us for the many events we have planned for next half-term so please get the dates in your diaries.

Have a lovely half-term and we'll see our children back at school on Wednesday 7th June.

Stuart Mills

Key Reminders

Children on Site

We have suddenly started to see children on site before we open our doors at 8:45am (some coming as early as



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8:00am). Children are then playing football and other games, leading to them falling out and arguing. As there are no staff outside to supervise from this time, we are asking that if your child wants to come to school earlier than our doors open, that is fine, but they must come into breakfast club where they can be supervised by staff. If they do not want to come into breakfast club, then they should not be on site before 8:40am, unless they are with an adult who is able to supervise them.

Footballs

Following on from above, our school rule is that children do not bring footballs with them to school. Staff spend lots of time dealing with fallouts from football games, which takes them away from supporting children in class. We will provide footballs for children to use when there is an available adult to supervise them during playtime and lunchtime.

Thanks for your support with both of these.

Attendance

Whole-school weekly attendance	92.7% - well below our target of 96%
Class with the best attendance	6MP with 99% 😊

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

Wednesday 7 th June	Children return
Friday 9 th June	KS2 Quadkids (32 children)
Wednesday 14 th June	Year 4 Edinburgh visit (overnight stay)
Friday 16 th June	KS2 'Cricket Smash' for some Y3-Y6 children

All of our key dates for this term are on our website here:

<https://dorchesterprimary.org.uk/calendar/>

Messages

Mrs Hamer's Class

As Mrs Hamer approaches the last couple of weeks of work before leaving to have her baby, I wanted to update you on the staffing arrangements we have put in place for the remainder of this academic year. Miss Fletcher and Mrs Chironda will be taking over the teaching of FBS until we break off for Summer. Miss Fletcher will work Mon-Wed, with Mrs Chironda working Thurs-Fri. Both adults know these children really well and will provide the consistency we need.

New Teachers

Last week, we interviewed for two new teachers to help with maternity covers from September. We had an excellent field of applicants and it was really difficult to choose. However, we have appointed Miss White and Miss Nassau to join our school for next year. Both really stood out with their passion to work at Dorchester and support our community. Miss White already knows our school as she has spent this year working with Mrs Fisher as a trainee teacher. Miss Nassau knows the area well as her father is a teacher at Winifred Holtby. We are hoping that Miss Nassau will be able to pop in to school during transition week to meet the children and parents.

After half-term, we will be letting you which teachers are in which classes and, when you receive your child's



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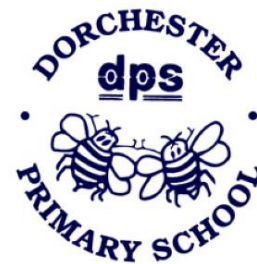
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report on 7th July, it will say on there which class your child will be going in to.

What's been happening in school this week?	
EYFS	Year 1/2
<p>It has been 'assessment week' in Phonics, and the adults have been so impressed with how many words the children are reading fluently!</p> <p>In Maths, we have been continuing with First, Then, Now stories, but this week, we have focused on subtracting. The children have been using mathematical language to solve problems during their choosing time, and they are even writing their own number sentences!</p> <p>In Literacy, we have been learning all about our bodies and how to keep ourselves healthy – we have discussed and completed activities on healthy eating, brushing our teeth, bedtime routines and life cycles.</p>	<p>In writing, Year 1/2 have been working on writing instructions based on their Design Technology project where they made their own clay tiles. They have been thinking about the features of instruction writing and then creating their own instructions.</p> <p>In Year 1 Maths children have been working on their fluency when counting in multiples of 2, 5 and 10. They have also been working on grouping and sharing. In Year 2 Maths children have finished their time unit and have learnt to tell the time to the nearest 5 minutes.</p> <p>Children have finished their clay tiles and have painted them in the style of our focus artist, Leonid Afremov. Children have also done some PSHE work on special people, healthy relationships and keeping our bodies safe.</p>
Year 3/4	Year 5
<p>Year 3/4 have been working hard in D&T this week. They baked sourdough bread cakes and then created their healthy, balanced sandwich they had designed earlier in the week.</p> <p>In science, they learnt why muscles are important and how they work by recreating a moving arm that showed the bicep and tricep muscle contracting and relaxing.</p>	<p>Year 5 have worked really hard this week sitting our optional SATs to show us how much progress children have made this year and areas they may need a little more work on. Well done all for working so hard.</p> <p>In the afternoon, we have done our growing and changing unit learning about how our body will change through puberty. We created our own little books about puberty to take home to share to help you support their child in discussing the situation. We hope you have a great half term, from the Year 5 team.</p>



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Year 6	Hive
<p>We have completed our Relationship & Sex Education (RSE) unit this week. The children were very mature and approached each lesson inquisitively and ready to learn. We recapped puberty and talked about becoming independent and how relationships change as we get older.</p> <p>Away from our RSE work, we have looked at what characteristics offspring inherit from their parents and have begun to look at how animals have adapted to their environment and how these adaptations occur. We also looked at the geographical location of Ancient Greece and how there were advantages and disadvantages to living in a mountainous region and near the coast.</p>	<p>This week in Hive we have been learning the grapheme 'p' - our focus words have been peg, pencil and pizza.</p> <p>The children have been enjoying the sunshine with a beach day with sand water and making their own ice creams.</p> <p>In maths we have been categorizing objects such as shapes and colours.</p> <p>Have a great half term break.</p>

First Week Back Menu				
<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>
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)				