



Dorchester Primary School

Dorchester Road
Kingston upon Hull
HU7 6AH

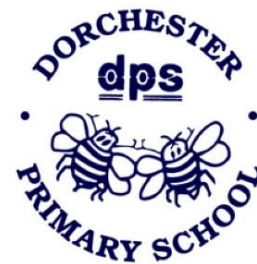
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www.dorchesterprimary.org.uk

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



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Week 12 – 30th November 2023

Message from Mr Mills

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we come to the end of November, the winter is most certainly declaring itself as here! The temperature this week has plummeted so please do make sure that your children bring a warm coat and hat and gloves to school with them.

It's been an exciting week here, with several visits taking place: on Tuesday, our year 2 children attended The Hilton Hotel to take part in some Christmas festivities, all organised and paid for by the Yorkshire Children's Charity. Our children had an amazing time and were true ambassadors for our school. Yesterday, our year 6 children visited the theatre to watch the Pinocchio pantomime and EYFS visited the local library. We were really proud of all of them as they remembered to show our 5 key values, and represented us really well.

Thank you to all of the parents/carers that volunteered to support – we wouldn't have been able to do it without your help.

With only three more weeks until we break off, we have so much to still do, including Xmas performances, Xmas Lunch and class parties. We know children get really excited at this time of the year, but there is also still so much to focus on in class, with their learning – we won't take our eye off the ball.

I have now been handed the parent questionnaires that some of you completed following parent consults. There are some really positive comments but, as we would expect, there are still things we need to work on. Once I have had chance to look through them in more detail, I would send out the results and the actions we will be looking at.

Have a great weekend!

Stuart Mills

Key Reminders

Walking Bus

Since its introduction a few weeks ago, there has been little up-take for our 'Walking Bus'. We have started this



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to help parents/carers who may struggle to get their child to school, and on time. If you would like to make use of this, please call the school office and let our admin team know – they will then add you to the list. The map with the 'collection points' highlighted was sent out a few weeks ago and should be still be available in the School Story on Dojo.

Mrs Gasparelli and Mrs Boothby have already been in touch with the families of some children who are regularly late, and will be supporting you to help get your child to school on time.

Attendance

I have recently reviewed our attendance procedures for when children are absent from school. These have been sent to all parents/carers via Dojo so please spend a little time reading this information.

Attendance	
Whole-school weekly attendance	95.3% – so close to our target of 96%
Class with the best attendance	2FP 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	
Thursday 7 th December	Y5/6 Prison Me No Way workshops
Wednesday 13 th December	KS1 Xmas performance to parents (9:30am)
Thursday 14 th December	KS1 Xmas performance to parents (2:00pm)
Friday 15 th December	Xmas Dinner Day (children can wear Christmas jumpers)
Monday 18 th December	EYFS Xmas sing-a-long with parents (9:30am and 2:30pm)
Tuesday 19 th December	New nursery starters 'stay and play'
Wednesday 20 th December	KS1 at Theatre to watch Panto
Thursday 21 st December	Last Day for pupils
Tuesday 9 th December	Children return to school
<i>All of our key dates for this term are on our website or you can find them on Dojo</i> https://dorchesterprimary.org.uk/calendar/	

Messages

Houses

This week, we had our first 'house' meetings of the term, led by our house captains. Houses were tasked with thinking about things that would make our school better – and there were some great, mature ideas given. One thing that did arise in one of the houses is **bullying**. We take bullying very seriously in our school and where it is reported, a full investigation takes place. Whilst we will continue to speak to children about bullying in school, please encourage your child to report it if they are a victim, or they witness it happening to others.

In most cases following an investigation, it does not turn out to be bullying but we do still need to be aware of it. Thanks for your help with this.



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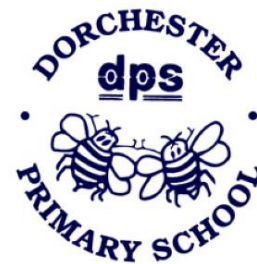
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What's been happening in school this week?

EYFS

In nursery, children have been learning the sound 'p' in phonics. They are blending words together, p-i-n, p-e-g and p-i-g and also recapping others. In literacy the children have put actions to the rhyme 'a sailor went to sea'. and they are looking forward to performing it their peers. The children also did a drawing of the rhyme, creating an under the sea scene. In maths this week we have talked about the properties of circles, triangles, squares and rectangles., using language, such as sides, corners and edges. The children explored the hailstones, bringing some inside to observe, this promoted lots of descriptive language.

Reception have had a fun week this week, learning about toys that were made in olden days and toys that we play with now. There have been some amazing in-depth discussions about how toys in the past were frequently wind-up toys, compared to today's toys that are mainly battery operated, or need electricity to work. We also discussed what they were made of, noting that tin and wood had been replaced by plastic. In maths this week, we have been learning about positional language and describing where objects were in relation to other objects, using the key vocabulary – inside, next to, behind, in front ... They even made an obstacle course outside which was really tricky!

EYFS and Nursery were so excited to visit the library this week and to be able to choose a book to take home. They were an absolute credit to both their parents, and the school. They walked sensibly, listened carefully, and were so beautifully behaved the whole time, it was an utter pleasure to take them out. It was a particularly good trip as Santa was at the Bransholme Centre as they walked through, and he waved at everyone! Such a shame we didn't have time to stop ☹️ A huge thank you to the parents who came to support

Year 1/2

In writing this week children in Year 1 have been applying their phonic knowledge to write sentences to match images from the story 'Aliens Love Underpants'.

Year 2 have been exploring the vocabulary focussing on the effect creating negative feelings within their writing.

In maths, Year 1 have continued to explore number stories and are becoming really skillful at creating number families.

Year 2 have been working on multiplication involving 2's and 5's and solving related equations. All of KS1 have been working hard to learn carols and practise their actions and lines in preparation for our upcoming nativity.



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us on this trip, the EYFS staff cannot do these trips without your help, so thank you very much.	
Year 3/4	Year 5
<p>Years 3 & 4 have continued to work hard on writing a persuasive advert for a Christmas pudding. They have written descriptive sentences that describe the Christmas roudade they are advertising.</p> <p>In Geography they have been locating human features on OS maps and using grid references to locate key places in Hull.</p> <p>They have all enjoyed working as part of a team to build a bridge with a varied selection of equipment as their D&T hook.</p>	<p>This week in maths we have been learning to use formal methods to divide. It hasn't been easy but children have really showed resilience when trying to master this technique.</p> <p>In writing we have moved onto our independent write on 'Morris Lessmore Flying Books'.</p> <p>In the afternoons, we have completed some more art work on 'eyes' thinking carefully about composition and our medium choices. Then we started our Money PSHE unit learning where money can come from and how to budget.</p>
Year 6	Hive
<p>The highlight of our week has undoubtedly been our trip to Hull Truck Theatre where we enjoyed the performance of Pinocchio - hopefully our children feel inspired for later in the year when we perform our Leavers' production!</p> <p>In Maths, we have begun our converting measurement unit and have used our knowledge of multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 & 1,000 to convert between mm & cm, cm & m and m & km as well as how to convert between miles & km.</p> <p>In Writing, we have finished our horror narrative - spoiler alert, it did not end well for Connor! We have added our own moves to the Hakka war dance in PE to combine them with the moves we learnt last week. We have also held and participated in meaningful and mature conversations with regards to 'White Ribbon Day' and discussed what 'healthy relationships' look like.</p>	<p>This week in the Hive we have been decorating the classroom getting ready for the festive period to start. The children helped decorate our Christmas tree and it looks amazing.</p> <p>In maths we have continued to develop our shape knowledge sorting the shapes into different categories and making pictures out of different 2d shapes.</p> <p>The children have engaged well in our sensory sessions using scarfs and balloons as props to interact with different action songs.</p> <p>In our mark making area we have been using glitter and glue this week to make pictures.</p>

Next Week's Menu				
<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>
Pasta bake with garlic bread	Sausages with mashed potato	Chicken curry with rice and naan	Roast beef with Yorkshire pudding	Fish Friday with chips
Tomato pasta (V)	Vegetarian sausages (V)	Vegetable curry (V)	Vegetable crumble (V)	Homemade Hull Pattie (V)
Plus, a selection of sandwiches (ham, cheese or tuna) and jacket potatoes (tuna, cheese or beans)				