



Dorchester Primary School

Dorchester Road
Kingston upon Hull
HU7 6AH

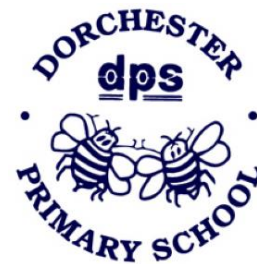
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Headteacher – Mr S. Mills BA (Hons), NPQH
Deputy Head – Mrs N. Van Der Walt BA (Hons), PGCE



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Week 13 – 8th December 2023

Message from Mr Mills

Dear Parents/Carers,

What another busy week we've had at Dorchester. Children have certainly shown their Christmas excitement, with talk of the presents they would like and the Christmas lists they have written.

It's also been very Christmassy at school, with the decorations and Christmas trees being put up. However, this has not detracted from the learning still taking place in classrooms and children have shown excellent resilience to persevere despite the Christmas distractions.

On Thursday this week, our year 5 and 6 children took part in a range of workshops led by the 'Prison Me, No Way' team. They explored the consequences of actions and showed real interest in the workshops they took part in. The feedback from the team that delivered the workshops was that our children were amazing ambassadors for our schools and showed great interest and all of our values throughout the day – what great feedback to hear!

Have a great weekend!

Stuart Mills

Key Reminders

Attendance

Our attendance this week is concerningly low. We know that there are a lot of coughs and colds spreading at the minute, such is the time of year, but in most cases, children should not be kept off school for these. With a little Calpol and plenty of water to stay hydrated, most children are able to attend school as normal. Children should only be kept off school in more serious cases, i.e. when they have sickness and diarrhoea, or where you have medical evidence that they are too unwell to attend.

We really need your support in ensuring that our children attend school regularly. Even a couple of days off can disrupt their routines and cause them to feel anxious about school. It also means that they miss out on valuable learning and have to catch-up to where their peers are when they return.

Thanks for your support with this!



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

Attendance	
Whole-school weekly attendance	91.3% – well below our target 😞
Class with the best attendance	2FP with 97.8%
<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	
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
<p><u>Xmas Jumper Day</u></p> <p>We know that yesterday was national Christmas Jumper Day but, as per our previous communications, we will be inviting children to attend school in their Christmas Jumpers next Friday, which coincides with our Christmas Dinner day.</p>

What's been happening in school this week?	
EYFS	Year 1/2
<p>What a busy week the nursery children have had. Lots of excitement with the Christmas preparations. In phonics the children have been learning the sound 'i'. We have practiced the activities sound play, what's in the box and Bertha the bus to hear initial sounds in words. In literacy we are learning the rhyme Baa Baa black sheep. The children had to listen for rhyming words. In maths we talked about the properties of shape and in continuous provision they are using shape language in their play. Children have been very creative this week, making Christmas decorations for the tree and the classroom. The children have especially like the antics of the elf, writing him messages, letters and making him cards. What will he get up to next?</p> <p>Reception have been busy practicing for their Christmas performance and are getting very excited about it and can't wait to show everyone soon! Costume information is on Dojo's. They have also been helping</p>	<p>Year 1 Writing: This week the Year 1 children have been working hard to write their own compound sentences. They have used 'and' to join two sentences together so they can tell Santa all about the naughty elf.</p> <p>Year 2 Writing: This week the children have been collating a range of repetitive vocabulary and constructing sentences to build suspense. We have also thought carefully to improve our choices of vocabulary to make our similes more effective.</p> <p>Year 1 maths: This week the children have been learning about ordinal numbers. Ordinal numbers show the order of something. The Year 1 children have been practising writing these as words and as a number.</p> <p>Year 2 maths: This week children have continued to</p>



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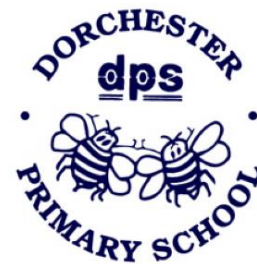
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<p>to decorate the classroom, with great excitement!</p> <p>In Literacy, they have finished off their scheme of work on toys and once again have shown how amazing they are with their use of phonics. Some children had a go at writing a phrase including one of our tricky words. Miss Lucas is so very proud of all their efforts and how well they are starting to segment and blend in their independent writing. We have also started reading Stickman and related his determination to get home, to one of our core school values of resilience. We are now thinking of ways that we can be like him in the things that we do.</p> <p>In Maths, this week has been a carousel of activities consolidating previous learning. It has included shape and space, and number work. The favourite activity was checking how many buttons the Gingerbread man had and then matching it to the correct numeral.</p>	<p>work on multiplication. We have explored the 2, 5 and 10 timetables and used arrays to display them.</p> <p>Year 2 reading: Year 2 have been busy completing comprehension tasks on the book 'The Owl Afraid Of The Dark'. We thoroughly enjoy this book and can't wait to read the next extract.</p> <p>Topic: In music, we have used our voices expressively and creatively whilst practising the songs for our Nativity. We have also listened to a variety of recorded music to try and identify the pulse and tempo. Ask your children all about the words presto and adagio.</p> <p>Your children have been hard at work practising for the KS1 Nativity – we can't wait for you to see it! All Nativity costumes should now be in school ready for our dress rehearsal. Our Nativity performances are on Wednesday 13th December at 9.30am and Thursday 14th at 2.00pm. Tickets for the performance are available via ParentPay.</p>
Year 3/4	Year 5
<p>Year 3 and 4 have enjoyed getting in to the festive spirit this week when writing their persuasive post for raspberry roulade. Everyone's mouths have been watering! In maths both year groups have been tackling short multiplication and short division and in reading we have continued our journey with Varjak Paw who is beginning to act more like an outdoor cat!</p> <p>In topic lessons we have further developed our knowledge about the world and explored what the equator is. In science we explored what soil is made from and the children were fascinated to see it separate when poured into a glass of water!</p>	<p>This week Year 5 have completed their optional SATs tests for the Autumn term and have done incredibly well. They all embodied the core values that we hold at Dorchester. They should be very proud of themselves and their achievements.</p> <p>We had the pleasure of having Prison Me No Way come in on Thursday which proved to be a fan favourite as the children were really intrigued by the prison system and how it all worked. We have continued our love of the Nowhere Emporium and</p> 



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	are edging ever closer to the end of the book...We hope you all have a lovely, well earned, weekend!
Year 6	Hive
<p>In Y6 this week we have started our independent horror narrative. Firstly, we designed and sketched our monsters before generating a word bank to describe various features of the monster and how it would move.</p> <p>In Maths, we have looked at converting between kg and g and l and ml as well as looking how to find a percentage of an amount. We have been looking at previous reading extracts from SATs papers in preparation for our mock SATs next week – the children have worked in pairs to decipher which content domain the questions belong to and how to approach each question using previously generated success criteria.</p> <p>In Geography, we have continued our work on lines of longitude by looking at different time zones and working out the time difference between given places and the UK. We then started to look at different climate zones and biomes. And finally, on Thursday, we were lucky enough to work with the 'Prison, Me – No way!' workshop, which held discussions on important topics such as drugs, the dangers of electricity, the consequences of 'one punch' and life in prison. The children were very mature and took a great deal from the day!</p>	<p>This week in the Hive, we have been getting into the Christmas spirit. We have decorated our tree, made snowflakes, practiced our fine motor skills with dabbers, and began learning Christmas songs together!</p> <p>In phonics this week some of the children have been practicing the letter 'c', with some of key words being crown, car, cat and cup!</p>

Next Week's Menu				
<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>
Pizza served with potato wedges	Cottage pie with Yorkshire pudding	All Day Breakfast	Fish Friday with chips	Christmas Dinner – including turkey, stuffing, roast potatoes, veg and gravy.
Margherita pizza (V)	Quorn cottage pie (V)	All Day Breakfast with vegetarian sausage (V)	Homemade cheese and onion pasty (V)	
Plus, a selection of sandwiches (ham, cheese or tuna) and jacket potatoes (tuna, cheese or beans)				