



Dorchester Primary School

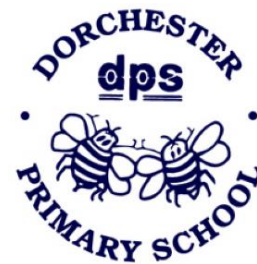
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www.dorchesterprimary.org.uk

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



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Week 18 – 19th January 2024

Message from Mr Mills

Dear Parents/Carers,

It's been a really busy week at school this week. Lots of our children have been learning about what it means to 'stay safe and speak out' as part of our NSPCC assemblies and workshops. It is so important that our children know what to do and who to speak to if they are worried about something and their learning this week will support them with this. Please encourage your child to let an adult know something is on their mind – it is never a child's fault if they have worries.

The cold weather has certainly set in this week and the chill has been bitter. Please ensure that your children come to school with appropriate clothing for the conditions – we had some children without coats, meaning they could not go outside at break times.

Have a great weekend!

Stuart Mills

Key Reminders

After-school Clubs

Please remind your child that if they have signed up to an after-school club, we expect them to attend. If they are no longer interested in attending, then this is fine, but they must let the adult running the club know, so they can remove their name from the list and offer the place to another child. If a child misses two continuous sessions of a club, then they will be removed from the club and their place offered to the next child on the reserve list.

We go to a lot of effort (and cost) to put on a range of extra-curricular activities for children to attend and it is disheartening when only 4 or 5 children turn up to them.

Attendance

Whole-school weekly attendance

92% – well below our target ☹️



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Class with the best attendance	1P with 96.7%
<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	
Wednesday 24 th January	Kurling Event for some children
Thursday 25 th January	Speak out, stay safe, workshops
Monday 29 th January	Bikeability (some year 5s)
Tuesday 30 th January	Bikeability (some year 5s)
Wednesday 31 st January	Bikeability (some year 5s)
	Y3/4 Dodgeball event (after school)
Thursday 1 st February	Bikeability (some year 5s)
Friday 2 nd February	Bikeability (some year 5s)
Monday 5 th February	Bikeability (some year 5s)
Tuesday 6 th February	Bikeability (some year 5s)
	Parent Coffee Morning (9:00am)
Friday 9 th February	Last day of term
Tuesday 20 th February	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>Supporting our School</u></p> <p>As part of our personal development curriculum, we are very keen for our children to learn about the world of work so that they can raise their own ambitions for the future.</p> <p>If you, or somebody you know would be prepared to come into school and speak to children about your job, the qualifications you needed and how it has helped you, please do get in touch with the school as we'd love to hear from you.</p>

What's been happening in school this week?	
EYFS	Year 1/2
<p>This week has been a very productive week for the nursery children. In phonics the children have learnt the phoneme 'd'. They have listened to the sounds in words and blended them together. In literacy the children continue to learn the rhyme 'down at the station', they have put actions to each verse. In maths we are focusing on counting and implementing these skills in a variety of activities. We have seen lots of busy children in continuous provision, extending their own learning and using the skills learnt from adult led activities. Outdoor learning has been exciting, talking</p>	<p>In writing this week children in Year 1 have been applying their phonics knowledge and skills taught to help them write a recount of 'The owl who was afraid of the dark.' They have enjoyed getting to know this story. Year 2 have continued writing a diary entry about 'The Great Fire of London.' They have learnt how to use commas in a list and included superlatives in their writing. They have enjoyed doing some roleplay and hot seating.</p> <p>In maths Year 1 have been doing place value for</p>



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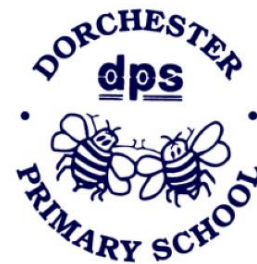
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about the weather and exploring the ice.

Reception are continuing to enjoy Drawing Club, with some fantastic ideas starting to emerge around what will happen when the magic code is spoken. This week it was a story from the story cupboard – Goldilocks and the Three Bears. Yesterday the children had to draw a present from Goldilocks to the bears, and ideas ranged from a Bluey bed that changed into a blue cake, (as the bears might like to eat cake), to a Minecraft iPad where the code made the little man walk or jump. In maths we have continued consolidating their knowledge of numbers 0-10. They have built towers, jumped on number tracks and even guessed a missing number from the clue given – so smart! The children have also enjoyed doing puppet shows in the book corner, independently extending their play by making tickets to go on a picnic after the puppet show!

If you haven't already brought or sent any family photos in, there is still time for your photos to be added to our family wall of photos. Thank you to those who have already sent some in. Please keep your photos coming on Dojo's, the children are loving being able to talk about their experiences (and Christmas presents!).

numbers up to 40. They have been practising recognising and writing these numbers. They have compared them and talked about which numbers are the smallest or greatest.

Year 2 have continued to divide numbers by 2, 5 and 10 using manipulatives and different strategies taught to help them.

In topic we have continued to look at how Bransholme has changed from the 1960's to now. We enjoyed looking at photos from the past and present and sorting them into groups. We discussed how the shops have changed in North Point Shopping Centre.

In art we have done some observational drawings of plants using different tones and shapes.

Year 3/4

Year 3 and 4 have got stuck in to their new reading text "Cosmo" this week. We can't wait to find out some of the funny things he does next!

In writing we have started our new narrative based on the book "Wisp" focussing on the emotion we want our reader to feel through our writing. We have had some very moving opening paragraphs!

In maths Year 4 have moved on to their fractions unit and year 3 have been working extremely hard on solving word problems. In computing the children have started to learn how to edit photos by rotating and

Year 5

Year 5 have enjoyed continuing reading 'The infinite lives of Maisie Day' this week and were intrigued to understand why it seems like the day is repeating for her.

In maths, we've learnt how to find equivalent fractions and have applied this when we have compared and ordered proper, improper and mixed numbers.

Through our writing we have continued to improve on using parenthesis in our text, in the form of commas and dashes, to add detail for the reader so



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<p>cropping them. maybe they can show you!</p> <p>In Geography we have been learning about counties and regions and in art the children have learned about the artist Megan Coyle.</p>	<p>they have a vivid image of wheat is happening in the story.</p> <p>Throughout science we looked at how the views about the way our planet moves around our solar system has changed in the past centuries, deciding that our solar system is heliocentric because the Earth orbits the sun. Finally, the children were exceptionally responsive when they completed the NSPCC workshops, showing our school values of respect and empathy while discussing subjects in a mature and thoughtful manner.</p>
Year 6	Hive
<p>In Y6, we have looked at 'ratio' during our Maths lessons, looking at how to compare quantities and how to adjust recipes. We have also used it to find the measurements of shapes.</p> <p>In Writing, we have continued our newspaper report about Goldilocks, introducing the readers to the story before casting an element of doubt and worry in their mind!</p> <p>In Reading, we have delved deeper into the actions of Lilly by answering retrieval questions - our task was made harder by the low semantic match and the fact there was no cue to where to find the information in the text. We also completed a reading task on an article about Artificial Intelligence (AI).</p> <p>In PE, we started our orienteering unit by working as teams to create faces using equipment to represent a bird's eye view on a map.</p> <p>In Geography, we have found similarities between the continents of Europe and North America.</p>	<p>This week in the Hive the children have been focusing on developing their mark-making skills. We have enjoyed practicing writing our own name and tracing over letters, shapes and lines.</p> <p>The children joined in making play dough, by mixing all the ingredients together and adding their favourite food colouring.</p> <p>In maths we have focused on number rhymes and used the props to support our learning. The children really enjoyed 5 little ducks.</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)				