



## Dorchester Primary School

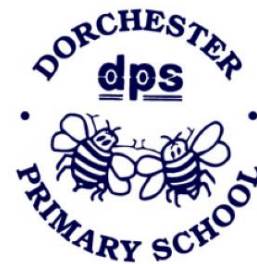
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Headteacher – Mr S. Mills BA (Hons), NPQH, NPQEL  
Deputy Head – Mrs N. Van Der Walt BA (Hons), PGCE, MA



# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Week 19 – 26<sup>th</sup> January 2024

## Message from Mr Mills

Dear Parents/Carers,

Despite the windy weather, it has been a fairly settled week at Dorchester. Some of our KS2 children took part in a 'Kurling' competition at Hull University on Thursday and they did so well: our Y3/4 team finishing 8<sup>th</sup> and the Y5/6 team finishing 4<sup>th</sup>. As the top 4 teams qualified, it means that our Y5/6 competitors now go on to the county finals in Grimsby – well done to all of them. As we move through the year, we are hoping more and more of our children will be able to represent us in sports competitions, as this is a great way for them to learn about teamwork skills as well as about winning and losing. We have already entered the following competitions this term:

Y3/4 Dodgeball on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January

Y1/2 All Stars Cricket on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February

Individual swimming Gala on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February

Y5/6 Dodgeball on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March

Y1/2 Athletics on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March

KS2 Dodgeball on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March

.....with lots more to come after Easter.

Have a great weekend!

Stuart Mills

## Key Reminders

### Uniform and Jewellery

We are again seeing many children coming to school wearing incorrect school uniform (or in some cases, not uniform at all). The only day that children should have clothing other than uniform on is on their PE days, where they can come in their PE kit. In addition to this, bracelets and necklaces have crept back in, which are not permitted to be worn. We ask that your children remove any jewellery items before coming into school. If they are found to be wearing jewellery in school that falls outside of our uniform and jewellery policy, then



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staff will request that it is removed and will keep hold of it until the end of the day.  
You may think that this is a minor issue, but it helps us set and maintain high expectations within school, not to mention that jewellery can go missing and/or be damaged.

### Attendance

Whole-school weekly attendance

Class with the best attendance

*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

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January

Bikeability (some year 5s)

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January

Bikeability (some year 5s)

Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January

Bikeability (some year 5s)

Y3/4 Dodgeball event (after school)

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February

Bikeability (some year 5s)

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February

Bikeability (some year 5s)

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February

Bikeability (some year 5s)

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February

Bikeability (some year 5s)

Parent Coffee Morning (9:00am)

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February

Last day of term

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February

Children return to school

*All of our key dates for this term are on our website or you can find them on Dojo*

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

### Messages

#### Please support our clean air

We are asking for your help by not smoking near to the gates of our school site. We have received a number of comments from parents/carers about having to walk through smoke and vape in order to get on to the school site because others are choosing to smoke/vape right next to the external gates.

We politely request that if you need to smoke/vape, that you move away from the gate areas.

I would also like to remind all parents/carers that we are a no smoking/vaping site so please refrain from this when bringing / collecting your children – thank you.

### What's been happening in school this week?

#### Nursery

The nursery children have had a super week. In phonics we have been learning the sound 'g'. The children have shown good listening skills to blend the sounds together. They especially enjoyed the activity 'can you do the actions, such as j-u-m-p, h-o-p, t-a-p and c-l-a-p?'. In literacy we are learning the rhyme 'Hey Diddle, Diddle.' The children are really enjoying this rhyme and have loved doing the actions to it. We continue to practice our counting skills in maths this week and they are becoming more confident to touch count. The



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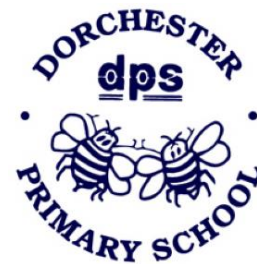
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children have loved seeing their family photos in the home corner and this has led to lots of talking and discussions. We have seen relationships developing and the children have shown kindness and empathy towards others, sharing, helping and saying kind words. Well done Nursery.

### Reception

Reception have been very interested in Space, so in 'time together' they looked at a picture of The Milky Way, discussing what they could see and what they thought might live out there. The children made some wonderful analogies to their own experiences, and knowledge, with comments like 'it looks like fireworks'; I think the yellow bits look like fireflies. Some children knew quite a lot about Space, naming the planets and talking about what the sun was made up of. This was followed up with the question 'if you went into Space, what would you take? Again, some amazing answers including a mobile phone so that they could always let someone know where they are and a duvet in case they get cold.

In Drawing Club, they watched Mr Benn zookeeper and absolutely loved it. When it came to drawing Mr Benn, the magic code did many incredible things such as making a giraffe grow out of his head!

In maths, they were learning about using a 5's frame and problem solving what needs to happen if there are more than 5 objects to put in a 5's frame.

### Year 1/2

In year 1 Maths children have applied their knowledge and understanding of numbers to 40 by partitioning numbers into tens and ones, comparing them and finding the difference between two numbers.

In year 2 Maths children have been using their prior learning of multiples of 2, 5 and 10 to support them in their new learning on division into 2, 5 and 10.

In year 1 writing the children have been working on using sequencers such as first, next and then, in their writing to retell key parts of the story 'Hugless Douglas'. In year 2, the children have been writing a diary entry from the point of view of a rat living in London during the Great Fire of London.

In Art, KS1 have explored tone and form. The children have enjoyed using their colour mixing skills and knowledge of primary colours to make secondary colours and then create lighter and darker tones of secondary colours by mixing in black and white paint. In History, children have continued to look at how their local area of Bransholme has changed since the 1960s, this week we have focused on how schools have changed over time and discussed what school would have been like for children in Bransholme in the 1960s. In PSHE the children have shared and discussed a fantastic understanding of how to keep themselves safe in a variety of different contexts and situations.

### Year 3/4

Cosmo has been up to all sorts this week in reading! Dreaming of long summer days playing fetch and cheekily hiding his vitamins next to the fridge so his humans don't know! The children have worked hard on their retrieval skills with this week's chapter. In maths year 4 have been learning how to calculate equivalent fractions and Year 3 have been learning to read weighing scales. In writing we have continued our new narrative "The



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wisp" we have been trying to hook our reader with the mysterious wisp and its actions. In science the children have set up an experiment to see what plants need most to survive and making predictions.

### Year 5

A really good week in year 5 this week and great to see children applying our values. In Maths we continued with our fractions, decimals and percentages unit and while Monday was difficult learning something new, the children came in Tuesday with the self-belief and 'I can do it' attitude which really helped in applying what they had learnt Monday. In writing we continue to build on our opening descriptions around the life of Luna from the video One Small Step. History is still gripping them as we continue to learn about changes to crime and punishment through the periods with this week taking a closer look at the Tudor and Stuart period- man did they love a gruesome punishment. Finally, we continue with our art and water colour techniques which we then went to apply in some landscape pictures.

Remember for many children it is Bikeability next week. Please check Dojo for the groups and ensure your child is wrapped up warm with gloves, thick coat and hat.

### Year 6

In Y6, we have looked at area and perimeter and used formulas to calculate the area of rectangles, triangles and parallelograms. In Writing, we have continued our newspaper report, detailing the rise in crime in the woodland community! In Reading, we have begun to look at inference style questions while continuing to read 'Cogheart'. In PE, we have used maps to navigate a route and in Geography we have started to collate notes on the different environmental regions in South America. In Science, we have looked at how to classify organisms. We were also grateful to receive a visit from the NSPCC who delivered a very informative workshop.

### Hive

This week in The Hive our topic in maths was categorising. The children have focused on sorting objects into different colour categories. They did really well with this and were able to name the colours as well.

We have been busy in cookery observing what happens when you melt chocolate - the children then mixed this into cornflakes and made their own buns.

The children have been practicing tracing and writing different letters from their names and words from our story going on a bear hunt.

### Next Week's Menu

<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>
Pizza served with potato wedges	Roast chicken and trimmings	All Day Breakfast	Roast chicken and trimmings	Fish Friday with chips
Margherita pizza (V)	Vegetable slice (V)	All Day Breakfast with vegetarian sausage (V)	Vegetable slice (V) Veggie nuggets (V)	Homemade cheese and onion pasty (V)
Plus, a selection of sandwiches (ham, cheese or tuna) and jacket potatoes (tuna, cheese or beans)				