



## Dorchester Primary School

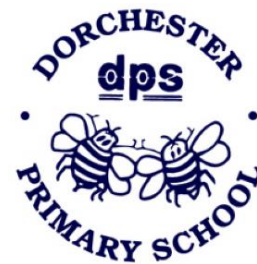
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Headteacher – Mr S. Mills BA (Hons), NPQH  
Deputy Head – Mrs N. Van Der Walt BA (Hons), PGCE



# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Week 2 – 15<sup>th</sup> September 2023

## Message from Mr Mills

Our first full week back has certainly been a tiring one. Thankfully the sun is shining again today – but make the most of it as it is not predicted to last long.

I have to say a huge THANK YOU for your support with uniform. Our children look so smart and you have supported that when we have had to make telephone calls home. It really does make a difference.

It's also great to see that many of you are now signed up to Dojo, and this is proving to be a popular platform for communication between school and home. Can I please ask that you continue to respect the work/life of our teachers and not expect responses late at night. When teachers do pick up messages you have sent, they will respond accordingly or alternatively, you can ring the school to speak to a member of staff – thank you!

Have a great weekend.

Stuart Mills

## Key Reminders

### Our School Values

We have already spoken to our children lots about our school values and we will continue to draw attention to them over the year. Our values apply to everybody associated with our school – including you too.

As a reminder, our values are: **RESPECT, RESILIENCE, TOLERANCE, EMPATHY** and **SELF-BELIEF**. Children can earn Dojo points for showing any of our values and will have the chance to exchange their points for prizes, when they have enough.

Please encourage your children to speak about and demonstrate our values out of school too – as this will help set them up for a great future.

### Term-time Holidays

All term-time holidays are unauthorised. This is a Trust policy and is in line with the policies of other schools in the city. Where holidays extend beyond 5 days (10 sessions), a referral for fining may be made to the Local Authority. A child who misses 10 sessions of school misses out on 25 lessons, which will ultimately set them



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back in their learning.

### Attendance

Whole-school weekly attendance

92.2% - well below target 😞

Class with the best attendance

Hive with 98.6% 😊

*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

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September

Jeans for Genes Day

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September

Y1 Phonics workshop for parents (9:10am)

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September

McMillan Coffee Morning

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October

Individual School Photos

*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

#### After-School Clubs

We have had a couple of instances of poor and disrespectful behaviour at some of our after-school clubs this week. We have organised a range of clubs to support children in developing interests and talents but please remember that these are extra-curricular. We expect children to make good choices at these clubs and, where they choose not to, this may result in them being banned from attending. If your child is attending a club, please remind them of our expectations.

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

#### EYFS

Both Miss Steels and myself are super proud of all the reception children and how well they are settling into the Reception routine.

We have had lots of fun this week in maths and literacy! In maths we have been learning about matching and how things can belong to a category and be both the same and different, meaning we have to use our eyes very carefully to make sure it is a match.

In Literacy, we started to read *One Fox*, a counting book thriller. Wow, what super discussions we have had around the fox, all the illustrations and what some of the words mean. We then transferred what we had discussed over into PE, and were using the same movements as some of the animals in our story. There were many brilliant sneaky foxes today!

#### Year 1/2

This week in Literacy Year 1/2 have been learning all about adjectives and using them in their writing to describe what we might see or hear at the fair. In

Year 1 Maths children have been learning how to count to and from 10. They have enjoyed learning all about numbers and exploring them using different resources.

In Year 2, children have been exploring place value using base 10 to partition numbers. We have also started looking at patterns that we notice in numbers. In art, we went on a walk around the school grounds looking at the different trees and talked about what we would see happening to them



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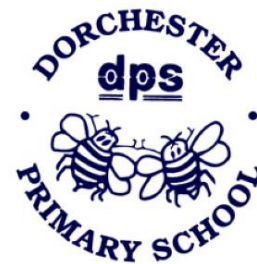
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Well done Reception.	over the next few weeks. We came back to the classroom and did an observational drawing. We really enjoyed doing this! We are all proud of how they have settled back into school with a positive attitude to their learning.
Year 3/4	Year 5
<p>Year 3 &amp; 4 have continued to write new plot points to their narrative story of 'The True story of the 3 Little Pigs'. They have really impressed us with their use of inverted commas so show what the Wolf was thinking early on in the story.</p> <p>They have been working hard on recognising the value of digits of numbers (3 digit for year 3 and 4 digit for year 4) and ordering and comparing these as well as finding 1, 10 and 100 more or less.</p> <p>In PE they have also showed excellent dribbling skills and controlled passing between each other in groups of 2 then building up to larger groups and then placing defenders intervene to intercept the passes.</p>	<p>What a great first full week back at school. This week we have delved more in our key text 'The Nowhere Emporium' and explored lots of new words. In writing we have been working on our poem called 'The Malfesance'. Children have included lots of fantastic description.</p> <p>In afternoons, we have been looking at maps, atlases and globes to locate places we have studied and will study this year. In art, we have created tone using sketching and line which we will build on in our dragon eye images.</p> <p>Thank you to those who have supported their child in reading 3 times a week for at least 20 minutes.</p> <p>Also, please make sure you have signed up to class dojo, it is great way for us to send messages and you can see the dojo points your child is getting for our 5 values.</p>
Year 6	Hive
<p>Our first full week in Year 6 has been packed with learning! We have thrown ourselves into writing the opening of a gripping narrative; exploring the shift in our vocabulary and sentence structure as we move from a perfect paradise to a place that seems doomed to darkness.</p> <p>We have also explored the first few chapters of our core text in Reading, and have developed our monitoring</p>	<p>The Hive have had a super first full week back. The children have all settled back well into the class routine.</p> <p>The children have been learning new games in PE and practicing their listening skills.</p> <p>The children have made some amazing pictures with different creative resources.</p>



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<p>skills in order to analyse the language used by the writer. We have conducted some book talk and made some predictions as to where the events of the story will lead – it doesn't look promising!</p> <p>In Maths, we have looked at numbers to 10,000,000 – their numerical form and their written form – and have ordered and compared them. The children have applied their skills in this area to SATs questions and were very proud of themselves for their resilience in this area, as are we! In Science, we have continued our unit of light and explored the internal elements of the eye and how this helps us to see. We have explored justice, freedom and reconciliation in RE, and have enjoyed our Personal Development topic of safety and the importance of conforming to rules. The discussion in this lesson was fantastic!</p>	<p>This week the children will be coming home with their story books to read with you at home. Have a lovely weekend</p>
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First Week Back Menu				
<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>
Pasta bolognese 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)				