



Dorchester Primary School

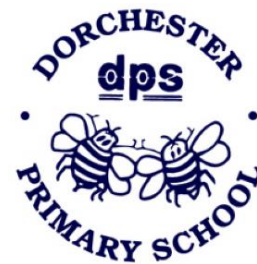
Dorchester Road
Kingston upon Hull
HU7 6AH

Tel. (01482) 825207
Fax. (01482) 833016

E-mail: admin.dorchester@hcat.org.uk

www.dorchesterprimary.org.uk

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



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Week 8 – 26th October 2023

Message from Mr Mills

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we come to the end of what has been a long and busy half-term, it is great to look back on some of the successes and achievements of the last seven weeks.

Firstly, our children have again shown how they are resilient learners, with great self-belief. On the whole, the vast majority of them have worked really hard this half-term, and this is reflected in the quality of their work and the progress they have made.

Last night, we had our Halloween disco – the children looked amazing in their costumes and all went away with a smile on their face, having had a great time! It is events like this that our children will remember as they get older, which is why we are so committed to our 'Dorchester Dozen'.

As the nights draw darker, please ensure your children are aware of the dangers of being outside, especially as I am sure they will be 'trick or treating' on the 31st. It is important that you remind them to only visit houses of known people and be vigilant to 'Stranger, Danger'.

Have a great half-term!

Stuart Mills

Key Reminders

Uniform

Can we please remind parents/carers to write your child's name in their clothing? Each day we collect numerous jumpers and coats from around the school, which have no names in them. These are then placed on our uniform rails. If your child has lost an item of clothing, then it is likely that it will be on one of our rails so encourage them to check there.

Parent Pay

As you know, Dorchester is now a cash-free school (unless in exceptional circumstances) so please ensure that



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any payments for lunches and visits are done through Parent Pay. If you are having any difficulty with this, please speak to our office staff, who will be more than happy to help.

Attendance

Whole-school weekly attendance	93.4% - well below our target of 96%
Class with the best attendance	1/2W with 98.9% 😊
<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 26 th October	Children break off for half-term
Monday 6 th November	Children return to school
Tuesday 7 th November	5CH visit to Pizza Express in Beverley
Tuesday 7 th November	KS2 Penathlon Qualification (am)
Friday 10 th November	Remembrance Day – parents invited for the afternoon
<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

Volunteers

Have you ever considered volunteering to support in a school? Do you have spare time and not know what to do with it? If so, please pick up a volunteer's application from our office and apply to be a volunteer at Dorchester. Volunteering in a school can give you valuable experience and help you gain future employment. The roles are varied and can range from supporting in our EYFS to challenging some of our most able children in year 6. If you are not sure whether it's for you, please pop into the school and have a chat with us to see if it's something that would interest you.

What's been happening in school this week?

EYFS	Year 1/2
This week the nursery children have had a fun-filled week. In phonics we have practiced our blending skills, feeding the ghost with lots of different objects. p-i-g, d-o-g, c-a-t etc. In literacy the children enjoyed listening and joining in with the pumpkin rhyme. In maths we are learning about time. The children had to think and talk about sequencing. We used language first, next, before and after. We then looked at some sequencing pictures and had to put them in the right order. Nursery enjoyed the Halloween dress up day, lots of excitement at showing and looking at their costumes, this led to lots of discussion. This led on to	In writing this week children in Year 1 have been applying their phonics knowledge to help them write lists. In Year 2 they have been continuing to write effective sentences using positive representations of delight and negative adverbs. In maths year 1 have been working with numbers between 20 and practising their addition by counting on. Year 2 have been continuing to consolidate their column method subtraction. In science KS1 have made shelters and investigated which materials are waterproof. In art the children have finished their



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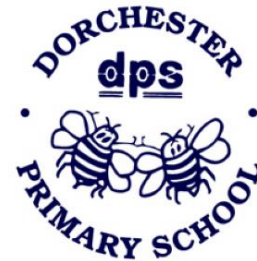
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<p>talking about Halloween and how we keep safe if you were to go trick and treating. In continuous provision the children have made Halloween crafts such as bats, ghosts and pumpkins. Have a lovely half term break and we will see you in November!</p> <p>In Reception this week we finished off our Handa's Surprise story by acting out the story in class and then using the resources independently. They tasted all 7 fruits and then voted for their favourite. It was very close between pineapple, banana and tangerine! We then moved onto the book 'Pumpkin Soup', where the topic of friendship was discussed, along with how to make pumpkin soup. This was an opportunity not to be missed, especially as there were pumpkins already growing outside that we could look at. Reception looked carefully at the pumpkin and as they passed it round the circle they thought of some amazing adjectives to describe it such as 'hard, bumpy, heavy ...' The theme of friendship raised in the book, was continued in our circle time sessions as we thought carefully around what made a good friend. In Maths we have been learning about time, and thinking about our daily routines (a frequent question being "when is it lunch time?"), the days of the week and very importantly when our birthdays are. It turned out that September and October are very busy months for birthdays. Can you remember when yours is? We hope you have a great half term and look forward to doing lots more learning with you very soon.</p>	<p>final piece in the style of Van Gogh.</p>
Year 3/4	Year 5
<p>Year 3/4 have read Chapter 9 of 'Varjack Paw' and continued to monitor the meaning of words by identifying phrases within the text. They have also enjoyed book talk exploring the chapter further.</p> <p>They have also continued to divide by using grouping and sharing and identifying the difference between the two strategies. Year 4 have been dividing by 6 and 7 and</p>	<p>This week Year 5 have done incredibly well showing great resilience and self-belief on Tuesday undertaking their maths tests. They have scored incredibly well for this time of the year!</p> <p>We have continued our love of The Nowhere Emporium, ask your children about their most favourite moment so far. The children have</p>



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year 3 have been dividing by 3 and 4.	continued to develop their writing skills and have begun to make use of similes and personification
Year 6	Hive
<p>This week in Y6, we have looked at adding and subtracting fractions using our 'criss-cross' method to convert the fractions so the denominators are the same.</p> <p>We have worked on our fluency skills in Reading, taking into consideration the emotions of the characters and portraying this when 'performing' the extract. We have also consolidated our skills of 2A question types.</p> <p>We have continued our 'horror' narrative in Writing and have recapped our Spelling rules that we have taught this half-term. In PE, we played 'crab' football as a fun way to round off our football unit!</p>	<p>This week we have been very busy getting ready for Halloween; we have played with spooky Jelly, made Halloween pictures and carved our own pumpkin.</p> <p>The children had lots of fun getting messy and exploring what was inside the pumpkin.</p> <p>The weather has not stopped us having fun, we have been splashing in puddles with our wellies and wet suits. The classroom has been filled with lots of giggles and laughter.</p> <p>When we come back after half term we will be learning about the story the 3 little pigs.</p> <p>Have the best week off.</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)				