

DORNEY SCHOOL



RESPECT * COLLABORATE * GROW

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Newsletter 27th January 2025

Dear parents,

PARKING

This is another reminder to ensure disabled bays in the village carpark are kept free for disabled commuters. The school has been notified those drivers entitled to use the bay have been unable to commute safely. Thank you for your support and cooperation.

PTA News



The PTA, through fundraising activities, have been able to help the school purchase new reading books for our children. The school is trying to update home readers, disposing of old, tattered copies, and updating the home reading scheme with exciting and relevant books. The children are excited by these new books and you may get the opportunity to share some fantastic stories with your child at home. We are aiming to replenish all book bands over the next half-term.

Do take this opportunity to encourage a love for reading at home. We have noticed that many children prefer the company of online games and social interactions rather than enjoying a good book.

The National Literacy Trust tells us that only 45% of children aged 0 to 2 are read to daily. This increases to 58% of those aged 3 to 4, but by 5 to 7 years, parents and reading to children seem to have become increasingly estranged again, and the figure plummets down to 44%.

“New research from BookTrust demonstrates this urgent need for support: 6 in 10 parents and carers of 0–7-year-olds wish they had known earlier just how important it is to read and share stories regularly with their children, and wish they had started doing so sooner. Our children are near the top of the global leagues when it comes to the mechanical skill of reading but near the bottom when it comes to ‘reading for pleasure’. We’ve taught them all the steps and the names of all the tunes. But they’re not dancing. That our children seem to be experiencing some kind of happiness recession at the moment is not surprising, and I believe



that the decline in reading too has played its part in this.” **Frank Cottrell-Boyce, Children’s Laureate 2024–2026**



We are also grateful to **the PTA** for helping us purchase some new musical instruments. Take a look at our children enjoy learning how to play glockenspiels. Any parent who lives or shop at Tesco in the Windsor area may see that the school has also applied for a grant to



increase the number of musical instruments at school. Our children love music, and singing, and our aim is to provide them with new instruments alongside a very enjoyable music curriculum. Do remember to drop tokens into the correct box and encourage family and friends to do so!

Dentist Visit



We were so lucky to have a dentist visiting Reception and Year 1. The Dentist and dental nurses (including Salana's Mum) came from My Dentist in Burnham to talk to the children about what to expect when they go to the dentist and how to look after and brush their teeth. The also gave the children a goody bag with their own 2-minute timer to use at home when brushing their teeth.

Mrs Whitrod

Y5 & Y6 Speeches



As promised, these are some of our Years 5 and 6 pupils who crafted and read out their speeches about their dreams for a fairer and just world in the style of Martin Luther King. It is always daunting speaking up to a large audience but as Ruth Bader Ginsburg said as part of her speech as a supreme court judge “Speak the truth, even if your voice shakes”. With the global political upheaval, and the uncertainty of a fair and just world, this is the time to teach our children critical thinking, how to discern misinformation, and to learn how to stand up for truth and justice.

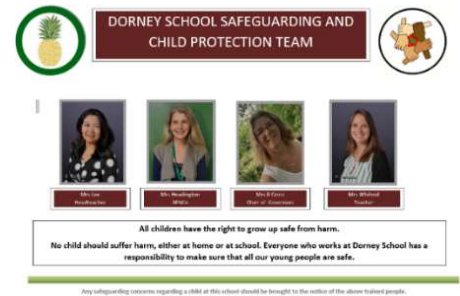
Can You Help?

Mr Clay is looking for wood ash. If you own a wood burning firepit or fireplace, do consider setting this aside and donating to the school. Our pet chickens love a wood ash bath, and doing this also contributes to their health and hygiene, and in turn, our children and staff love the pet chickens!



Safeguarding

Parents and visitors are **NOT** permitted to enter the school building. All visitors must sign in at the office. This is to ensure the safety of pupils and staff. Parents and visitors must be accompanied by a member of staff whilst on site.



Dates For Your Diary

All Parents are invited to Coffee Morning focused on dyslexia and dyscalculia **Tuesday 28th January 2025 at 10am**

PTA Cake Sale **Friday 14th February 2025 at 3.15pm**

February Half Term 17th – 21st February 2025

Inset Day Pupil/Parent Consultation Day **Monday 24th February 2025**

My apologies for a delay in distributing the newsletter. I hope that everyone enjoys the week amidst the rain and sunshine. Spring is just around the corner – it's a promise!

Mrs S Lee
Headteacher



Reception

Noah for working hard for great attitude to learning

Skipper for working hard on his reading improvement on blending

Year 1

Amelia for her science understanding – explaining what a mammal is

Year 2

Gwion for fantastic work writing his sequel to our story

Otilie also for fantastic work writing a sequel to our story

Year 3

Ethan for fantastic effort in Forest School this week!

Kya for showing the class teacher her best handwriting in English lessons

Year 4

Sian for a beautiful presentation in her books

Imogen also for a beautiful presentation in her books



Year 5

Isabelle for an inspiring 'I have a dream!' speech

Tyler for a super effort to try his very best in Maths. We are proud of you!

Year 6

Luke for his contributions to school displays and effort in Maths

Erin for her efforts in English to improve her vocabulary

Staff Star of The Week

Mrs Bannister for her dedication and effort arranging Bikeability

fun fest
HOLIDAY CLUB

Book this February
17th-21st February

Come and join the fun this half term! Activities include Dance, Down in the jungle, Lights camera action!, Picturesque painting, Beauty school, Sports action and much more!

Open 8am - 6pm for children aged 3-12

Childcare vouchers accepted including universal credit Sibling & full week discounts available

For more information phone: 01753 396274
sloughoffice@funfestholidayclub.co.uk

To see our timetables and to book your children's chosen activities go to: www.fun-fest.co.uk and please select the club you would like