

# Weekly Newsletter

12<sup>th</sup> April 2024

## *Message from the Headteacher*

It was wonderful to welcome back all our pupils after the Easter break. The children have settled back into the routines and expectations of school life with enthusiasm and positivity.

As we look ahead, we have a busy term planned. I wanted to remind parents of the upcoming Year 5 residential trip in July. Please ensure that all payments are made before the trip to secure your child's place. Additionally, please take a moment to check the diary dates for other trips and visits that are scheduled, as well as keep an eye out for the date of our summer fair.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind parents about our uniform expectations. Shoes should be completely black, including the soles, and ties should be worn as part of the school uniform.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Thank you for your continued support.



## Diary Dates

### *Summer Term*

#### APRIL

8<sup>th</sup> – School reopens  
10<sup>th</sup> – Y6 Kooth Assembly  
24<sup>th</sup> – Paralympian visit

#### MAY

13<sup>th</sup> – Year 6 Tests  
21<sup>st</sup> – Year 1 and 2 Sports Day (1.30pm)  
22<sup>nd</sup> – EYFS Sports Day (2pm)  
23<sup>rd</sup> – Year 3, 4, 5, 6 Sports Day (1.30pm)  
24<sup>th</sup> – School Closes for Half term

#### JUNE

20<sup>th</sup> – Year 4 trip to Eureka  
28<sup>th</sup> – INSET DAY – school closed to pupils

#### JULY

1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> – Year 6 transition days  
3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> – Year 5 Residential  
8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> – Students from China Visiting  
12<sup>th</sup> – Reports to parents  
9<sup>th</sup> – Fun food chef (Year 5)  
18<sup>th</sup> – School Closes for summer

## Attendance Updates

Class	Attendance %	Lates	Class	Attendance %	Lates
RKLB/NW	90.2	4	RRJL	92	1
Y1RD	86.5	4	Y1LD	95.2	2
Y2CH	85.2	4	Y2AP	99.0	1
Y3LA	93.8	2	Y3TP	85.4	5
Y4AL	90.6	3	Y4BM	94.8	4
Y5ML	89.9	2	Y5LW	93.5	3
Y6DW	92.7	6	Y6GB	90.2	4

### This week's Attendance winners:

1<sup>st</sup> Y2AP 99%  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Y1LD 95.2%  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Y4EA/BM 94.8%

### This week's punctuality winners:

1<sup>st</sup> RRJL & Y2AP had only 1 late  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Y3LA & Y5ML had only 2 lates

### Absence Procedures

It is vitally important that school is informed of any absence as soon as possible. It is the school's duty of care to follow up whenever we have no information from parents/carers about a child's absence. You can inform the school of your child's absence by calling 0151 424 5861 and choosing option 1 or emailing [ditton.absence@wpat.uk](mailto:ditton.absence@wpat.uk) It is school policy that parents contact the school every day of their child's absence before 8.50am.

### The importance of school attendance

In May 2022, the Department for Education (DfE) published statistics on the link between absence and attainment at key stage 2 and key stage 4 using data from academic year 2018/19.

The DfE found there was a link between absence and attainment and concluded that: 'Generally, the higher the percentage of sessions missed across the key stage at KS2 and KS4, the lower the level of attainment at the end of the key stage.'

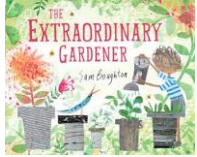

### Absence and key stage 2 attainment

On average, pupils with higher absence over key stage 2 (year three to year six) had lower attainment in their assessments in academic year 2018/19. Pupils who did not achieve the "expected standard" in 2018/19 had an absence rate of 4.7%, this was higher than the rate recorded for pupils who did achieve the expected standard (3.5%). Pupils who achieved the "higher standard", had the lowest absence rate on average (2.7%). Persistently absent pupils (who miss more than 10% of possible school sessions or 19 days in a year) have much lower than average attainment.

40.2% of persistently absent pupils achieved the expected standard (compared to 67.7% of all pupils) and just 2.5% achieved the higher standard (compared to 11.2% of all pupils).

# See what we've been up to!

Look at our twitter page (@ditton\_ps) to see even more!

Reception	Year 1	Year 2
 <p>Welcome back! We have loved having the children back in class and hearing about their holidays.</p> <p><u>English</u> We have started thinking about our new text 'The Extraordinary Gardener'. We will be writing instructions for planting seeds over the coming weeks.</p> <p><u>Maths</u> We have been learning about numbers past 10 in Maths and matching digits to quantities. We have spent time thinking about the changing seasons and we had a special chat about the solar eclipse this week too!</p> <p><u>Topic</u> We have discussed the seasons and how certain aspects of our natural worlds change throughout them. We looked at changes to the weather and the trees.</p> <p>Reminders -We have noticed a decline in home reads on Boom Reader. Please read and log as often as possible.</p>	 <p>In year 1 this week...</p> <p><u>English</u> This week we have introduced our new vehicle text 'Where the Wild Things are' by Maurice Sendack. The children have really enjoyed immersing themselves in the book and bringing the pages to life.</p> <p><u>Maths</u> This week we have been counting in 10s. The children were counting forwards and backwards and using bead strings to represent the numbers.</p> <p>Reminders -PE is now on Tuesday for this half term. - Children will need a pair of wellies or appropriate shoes for Forest School on Tuesday each week. -We have noticed a decline in home reads on Boom Reader. Please read and log as often as possible.</p> <p>Have a lovely weekend!</p>	<p><u>English</u> Children have now completed their narratives based on the book Grandad's Island. They have really enjoyed writing them and have produced some wonderful writing!</p> <p><u>Maths</u> We have been learning about 2D shapes in class this week and comparing shapes based on the number of sides and vertices each shape has. We will be moving on to 3D shapes next week.</p> <p><u>Science</u> We have just rounded off our plants unit and will be starting our unit on living things and their habitats which the children are looking forward to.</p> <p><b>Reminders</b> <b>PE has now been moved to a Tuesday and children will be taking part in Forest school again. Children must bring wellies/ a spare pair of shoes!</b></p> <p><b>Please remember to log reading at home as children will win rewards for three reads or more per week.</b></p>
Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
<p>A warm welcome back! This week, we have enjoyed exploring our new topic of 'Fractions' in Maths and we have also been completing our published writing about 'Jemmy Button'. We have been thinking about keeping healthy as part of PHSE and the children talked sensibly about the importance of having a good night's sleep, together with maintaining a balanced diet and regular exercise. Please encourage your children to read every day and to keep up the good work with learning their times tables.</p>	<p>What a wonderful start we have made to the Summer term! We have finished off our fractions topic in maths and moved on to money and decimals. In music we enjoyed playing along to music from the rock band ACDC which we really enjoyed. In Spanish we started to learn how to say that we aren't feeling well and what is wrong with us, we used the information from our last topic, body parts, to help us. Please remember to log home reading on boom reader at least 3 times per week and encourage your child to spend time working on their</p>	<p>Year 5 are back and working as hard as ever! The children have started their new unit in English: The Lost Book of Adventure! We have also started our new maths unit: Geometry and Shape. The children have blown us away with their hard work and determination this week and we are extremely impressed to see their continued positive attitude to learning!</p>

multiplication tables. Thank you for your continued support.

## Year 6

Year 6 have got fully back in the swing of English and Maths this week – exploring the lives of Wolves through the excellent book, *The Ways of the Wolf*, in writing, and exploring coastlines in shared reading. In Mathematics, the children have been converting different measurements. We are also preparing for our SATs tests (which are only weeks away) by practising past questions for SPAG, Arithmetic, Reasoning and Reading.

## Delighted to be at Ditton!



During half term, Connie attended gymnastics camp all week, on the Friday she won the trophy for Gymnast of the camp! The day after on the Saturday, she had a competition with gymnastics and she won Gold medal for her floor routine and Silver medal for her Vault. She worked so hard all week! Well done Connie – we're so proud of you!

Connor & Joseph both passed gradings in ju-jitsu this week. Connor passed and achieved his 5th belt (orange) and Joseph passed and achieved his first belt (white) We are very proud of them both!





# Certificate winners!



Name	School Value	Reason
Luke D	Resilience	An increase in confidence when joining in with class discussion and sharing his answers with the class!
Grayson	Pioneering	For demonstrating enthusiasm in your work and showcasing your skills.
Bobby H	Pioneering	For taking the initiative in your work and getting on with limited support.
Rosa Z	Children First	For setting excellent standards of behaviour and being a good friend to others.
Nathan K	Resilience	For having a wonderful attitude towards learning and being a positive role model for others.
Ava T	Resilience	For excellent effort and perseverance in Maths!
Zac A	Resilience	For trying hard with his English work.
Aviana	Resilience	For persevering when problem solving in arithmetic sessions
Leo L	Resilience	Having a brilliant first week at Ditton. We are happy that you have joined us!
Arya S	Pioneering	Excellent work in all of your lessons this week! You have joined in with every lesson brilliantly, answered questions and shared opinions! Well done, keep it up!
Taylor	Resilience	Working hard to independently write a return narrative about Jemmy Button
Cheyenne	Resilience	Trying exceptionally hard with her presentation and handwriting
Jospeh P	Children First	Fantastic attitude to learning in all subject areas!
Darci K	Children First	Fantastic attitude to learning and being a wonderful role model!
Sophie R	Children First	Working well in a team and with support staff in the mornings.