

Weekly Newsletter

15th Sept 2023

Message from the Head of School

We have had a truly exciting week here at our school, filled with wonderful events and achievements.

Firstly, I would like to celebrate the visit from Rock Kidz, who came to our school and brought joy to all our children. They had a fantastic time dancing and joining in with the original songs about diversity and respect. It was a truly uplifting experience for everyone involved.

We were also happy to have Mr. Jones, our executive headteacher, visit our school this week. He was highly impressed with the behavior and attitude of all our children. It is always wonderful to receive such positive feedback and recognition for the hard work and dedication of our students.

I am pleased to report that we have had a really good start to the year in terms of attendance. It is crucial that our children are present in school to make the most of their learning opportunities. Thank you to all the parents and carers who have made attendance a priority.

Please take a moment to read the diary dates included in this newsletter. We have tried our best to provide as much notice as possible, but please be aware that additional events may be added as we progress through the term. Your support and involvement in these events are greatly appreciated.

Lastly, I would like to remind you to ensure that either you or your child logs their reading at home on our online reading record, Boom reader. It is essential that we continue to foster a love for reading in our children, and this platform allows us to monitor their progress effectively. If you encounter any issues, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our school community. Together, we can make a real difference in the lives of our children.



Diary Dates

Autumn Term

SEPTEMBER

20th – Videographer in school
27th – Y6 Trip to Imperial War Museum

OCTOBER

2nd/3rd - School Photographer
4th – Year 5 visit to Liverpool
6th – Meet our new pastoral lead
19th – Flu vaccinations
19th – Spooky Film Night
20th – School Closes for Half Term

NOVEMBER

6th – School re-opens
20th – Parent Surveys
22nd/23rd - Parent consultations

DECEMBER

12th – KS1 Nativity Performance (1:30pm)
13th – EYFS Nativity (1.30pm)
13th – KS1 Nativity Performance (5pm)
14th – EYFS Nativity (9.30am)
14th – Christmas Disco
19th – Christmas Fair
20th – School Closes for Christmas

Attendance

Class	% Attendance	Class	% Attendance
RMWLB	92.7	RRL	93.4
Y1RD	98.7	Y1LD	92.0
Y2CH	98.5	Y2AP	96.1
Y3LA	92.4	Y3TP	97.2
Y4AL	98.6	Y4AM	97.7
Y5ML	96.2	Y5LW	98.3
Y6DW	94.5	Y6GB	91.2

The following classes have won 15m extra playtime this week:

Y1RD –best attendance in Infants

5LW-fewest lates in Juniors

Y4AL-bast attendance in Juniors

Y1LD –fewest lates in Infants

Attendance and Punctuality Reminders-Requesting a holiday in term-time

1. Fill out a Leave of Absence Request Form, available at the Main Office.
2. Provide ample notice for the intended absence.
3. The school will review your request and respond via email meeting for more details.
4. The school will record your child's absence, or else make efforts to contact you.
5. Holidays are authorized only in exceptional circumstances, as defined below.
6. Most requests won't be approved and will be marked as unauthorised absence.
7. "Exceptional circumstances" include:
 - a. Death or terminal illness of an immediate family member
 - b. Absence recommended by a health professional.
 - c. Religious observance.
 - d. Families of service personnel on active duty.
 - e. Additional "threshold test" for rare, significant, and unavoidable circumstances.
8. The headteacher may request a meeting if they have concerns about timing or attendance.
9. Poor attendance can lead to prosecution.
10. Schools aim to reduce term-time absences despite financial constraints.

See what we've been up to!

Look at our twitter page (@ditton_ps) to see even more!

<p>Reception</p>  <p>We loved our first full week in school. On Tuesday we enjoyed a session with Rock Kidz, before our first school lunch. We had lots of full stomachs (and messy shirts for those who had the Spag Boll!). We started our Phonics learning this week, learning the sounds made by the letters; s, a, t and p in words. We even had a go at writing some of the letters. We have been learning about counting in maths, ensuring that we count each object one by one, and remembering that the last number we say is how many there are.</p>	<p>Year 1</p> <p>Year 1 had a great week this week! All of the children enjoyed Rock Kidz and were superstars for the day. In computing, we have started to think about ways to stay safe online, creating posters based around the SMART rules. We have also started our class story in English, The Last Tree in the City. We made some great predictions about what we think will happen.</p> 	<p>Year 2</p> <p>Year 2 have had a very busy and productive week, working right across the curriculum. We began our work on the Great Fire of London and ordered the main events correctly. In Art, we explored the work of Monet, Georgia O'Keeffe, Rosie Sanders and Robbie Honey who have all been inspired by flowers. We noticed that Robbie Honey photographs flowers instead of using paint or pastels. In PSHE, we talked about what makes a good friend and how we can be good friends to each other.</p>   
<p>Year 3</p>  <p>The children in Y3 have really started to settle into life in the juniors this week. We enjoyed a day of rock on Tuesday! All children enjoyed the day with some showing great resilience after being slightly apprehensive. The children enjoyed learning about the message of respect through rock music. What great dancers we have in Y3! We have also enjoyed learning about nutrients as part of our new science unit. Ask your children about the healthy eating plate! Have a great weekend and we are looking forward to more hard work and fun next week.</p>	<p>Year 4</p> <p>Our first full week was full of hard work and hard ROCK! We had an amazing time with Rock Kidz this week and we also enjoyed our first swim lesson at SWIM! We have started looking at our new story in English and begun to understand larger numbers in maths. The children have been giving it their all and we are so proud of them.</p>	<p>Year 5</p> <p>The children have settled back into our daily routine and have worked really hard in their first full week back. We have read 'Henry's Freedom Box' in English. The story tells the real-life experience of a slave who mailed himself to freedom. In maths we have consolidated place value, looking at ways to represent numbers and rounding to the nearest 10 and 100. In science, we researched prenatal development of humans. The children have made a great effort with recording their daily reading on our reading app – Boom. Well done everyone~!</p>
<p>Year 6</p> <p>The first full week went off with a bang for year 6 and the wider school with the annual Rock Kids Day wowing children and staff alike. We have immersed ourselves in World War 2 also, in Shared Reading, in Writing (we are looking at the novel Rose Blanche!) and in History. We have also started learning the acoustic guitar in Music, and we have begun studying Carl Linnaeus and classification in science.</p> 	<p>Sports</p> <p>We are pleased to see that so many children are taking advantage of the wide range of clubs that are offered by the school. We apologize for some teething issues with a handful of clubs, but we are confident that all clubs will be up and running next week.</p>	



Certificate winners!



Name	School Value	Reason
Mila	Resilience	Great attendance and answers during discussions in class.
Arnees	Pioneering	Producing amazing work in all her lessons
Aoife X	Resilience	Coming in and being a superstar
Harry	Resilience	For becoming so confident in school and showing enjoyment during independent learning.
Harry	Resilience	For trying very hard to improve his handwriting, even though he has found it tricky. Well done!
Poppy	Children First	For being an excellent role model for others, always following school rules. Well done!
Maya	Pioneering	For being a fantastic role model by following our school rules consistently. You're a superstar, Maya!
Jaxon	Pioneering	For always giving 100% effort in everything he does. Keep up the great work, Jaxon!
Eliza A	Resilience	For having a fantastic attitude towards all her schoolwork.,
Mollie W	Resilience	For working very hard and offering answers in class.
Christopher	Pioneering	Being a great role model to all of his classmates this week.
Ray	Pioneering	Trying really hard to make the right choices and complete work independently
Mason	Resilience	Trying really hard in phonics sessions with Mr Welsh
Cooper	Pioneering	For setting the standard with high standards of effort and presentation.
Reegan	Resilience	For trying new experiences even when he felt nervous about them.
Elias	Children First	For consistently helping your partner in a very positive way.