

Weekly Newsletter

1st December 2023

Message from the Head of School

I hope this newsletter finds you well and in good spirits as we approach the festive season. It has been a busy and exciting time here at Ditton Primary, and we have much to celebrate.

Firstly, I am thrilled to announce that we were recently featured in the local news for our Ofsted report. The school received a grading of 'good' in all areas, which is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our staff, students, and parents. Well done to everyone involved!

In other news, our Year 4 students recently had the opportunity to visit Chester on a trip. They had a fantastic time immersing themselves in the world of Roman soldiers and their exemplary behavior was highly praised by the staff facilitating the workshops.

Our teachers have also been collaborating with their peers from across the trust to ensure that the learning and outcomes for each year group are appropriate and of the highest standard. This collaborative effort is a reflection of our commitment to providing the best education possible for our students.

As we approach the holiday season, there are plenty of Christmas activities happening at school. Please make sure to regularly check your SchoolPing, Twitter, and Facebook for updates and information regarding these events.

Finally, mark your calendars for our Christmas jumper day on the 7th of December. This fun-filled day allows our students to showcase their festive spirit, and no donations are required!



Diary Dates

Autumn Term

DECEMBER

- 4th – Grotto Day
- 5th – Songs around the Christmas Tree (Tickets only)
- 6th – 8th – Breakfast with Santa (tickets only)
- 7th – Santa Dash/Christmas Jumper day
- 8th – Y6 Frodsham Forest trip
- 11th – 13th – Christmas Craft morning (tickets only)
- 12th – KS1 Nativity Performance (1:30pm)
- 13th – EYFS Nativity (1.30pm)
- 13th – KS1 Nativity Performance (5pm)
- 14th – EYFS Nativity (9.30am)
- 14th – Christmas Disco (1.30pm)
- 15th – KS1 Nativity Performance
- 15th – Breakfast with Santa (tickets only)
- 15th – Y4 at St P&P
- 18th – Attendance Reward Day
- 19th – Christmas Fair
- 20th – Attendance Reward Day
- 20th – School Closes for Christmas

Attendance

Class	% Attendance	Lates	Class	% Attendance	Lates
RMWLB	91.4%	5	RRL	85.8%	3
Y1RD	93%	10	Y1LD	85%	4
Y2CH	92.2%	12	Y2AP	89.6%	8
Y3LA	96.5%	9	Y3TP	91%	12
Y4AL	90.9%	8	Y4AM	95.7%	8
Y5ML	92.4%	9	Y5LW	97.6%	4
Y6DW	91.3%	18	Y6GB	94.1%	12

This week's attendance winners are:

Eyfs/KS1 - Y1RD

KS2 – Y5LW

This week's punctuality stars are:

Eyfs/KS1 - YRRL

KS2 – Y5LW

We have had a lot of children arrive at school late this week. We do take on board some of the frustrations of parents when some doors are kept open longer than others, however all children need to be in school by 8.50am. This minimizes disruption to all children's learning and ensures that the start of the day is calm and productive.

See what we've been up to!

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

<p>Reception</p>  <p>What a week! They seem to go by quicker and quicker. We have been busy practicing our Christmas Show. Children have been practicing getting up and down from the stage area and singing with loud, clear voices. We have finished our first writing unit about 'Star in the Jar' and have been learning about segmenting in Maths. Finding different ways to make 5. We learnt all about Advent in RE, and made our own advent calendar in class.</p>	<p>Year 1</p> <p>Year 1 have been writing their stories this week, based on our class story Old Bear. They have been using their phonics knowledge as well as vocabulary from our working wall and they have made a brilliant start.</p> <p>The children have also enjoyed looking at aerial photographs in Geography. They were able to locate different things around school and label them.</p> <p>We have been practising the songs for our nativity this week too. The children are enjoying the songs and singing very enthusiastically – we can't wait for you all to see the performance.</p> <p>Please remember to log reading on Boom Reader each week. We have also noticed that there has been a drop in the amount of children returning library books and reading books on Friday's to change. <u>Books are changed every Friday and all children are expected to bring them to school on this day.</u></p>	<p>Year 2</p> <p>This week, we have delved deeper into the story Tidy, during our English lessons and have analysed the vocabulary and gained a good understanding of the writer's knowledge.</p> <p>We then familiarised ourselves with the model text, which is based on the story Tidy, but is about a frog that likes to keep a pond tidy. We aim to write narratives of our own, next week, based on our knowledge of these two texts.</p> <p>In maths we continued with addition and subtraction. Adding three one-digit numbers as well as adding one-digit numbers to two-digit numbers.</p> <p>And to top it all off, Nativity rehearsals have been underway this week too! We're incredibly excited for adults to come and watch our performance. You are sure to love it!</p>
<p>Year 3</p> <p>It has been another busy week in Year 3. In Maths this week, we have been learning about column methods for addition and subtraction and the children have tried really hard! Next week, we will be looking at word problems and how to use our understanding from this week to solve some 'real life' problems. We have also been planning for our next piece of writing: a fable about a fox and a magpie. In RE this week, we have been learning all about the third pillar of Islam, Zakat, and why it is so important to the Muslim faith. In Geography, we have started to learn about different regions. We have talked about the North West and features / local attractions within our region.</p>	<p>Year 4</p>  <p>Year 4 have had a wonderful week! Our highlight has been our trip to Chester to learn and experience Roman life. As well as investigating some Roman artifacts and learning about the fortress at Deva, we took part as Roman soldiers! We marched in formation, practiced drills and did an amazing job defending against the invading teachers!</p>  <p>On top of this we've been practicing our songs for Christmas, creating programs on laptops, finishing our narratives, investigating Greece and Europe and continuing to improve our swimming techniques!</p>	<p>Year 5</p> <p>Year 5 have had another busy week this week! We have started to look at our new writing unit in English: Letters. The children seem to be loving the history behind the art of letter writing!</p> <p>During our maths sessions, we have been focusing on using the grid method for multiplication.</p> <p>Lots of scientific investigations have also been going on in the classroom to support our understanding of our forces unit (which has also linked nicely with our DT unit: mechanical systems)!</p> 

Year 6



Year 6 have been go, go, go! Between carol concert practices, we have managed to complete flashback narratives, got stuck into equivalent fractions, explored microorganisms, electrical circuits (see picture) and in Computing we have been coding a Pong game on Scratch. As usual, we have been reading every day and shared reading has seen some great insights and comparisons on two narratives – Boy in the Tower, and Asha and the Spirit Bird. Don't forget we are going to plant trees in Frodsham next Friday morning and the children will need waterproof coat, appropriate footwear and clothes. We will return to school for lunch as normal.

Delighted to be Ditton!



A big Well done to Ava who received 'Player of the Year' Award at the Halton Farnworth Hornets Under 10s rugby Presentation. Ava is a role model in our school – she is passionate about sports and works hard to achieve in all she does. We're convinced she'll be representing England in years to come!

Well done to Aaron, who competed in the UK championships for Kuk Sool Won (a Korean martial art). He entered three categories for his belt and age – form, techniques and sparring, and won medals in all of them! He achieved 2 silvers and a gold – we're so proud of him!



Ditton Rangers Update

This term the Ditton Rangers have focused on prepping for winter. They have harvested the previous crops from the allotment and planted the new seeds for summer harvesting.

We were able to share our excess crops with the community and hope to continue to give in the future.

Another large project we have completed is the planting of nearly 100 woodland trees on the school grounds. The hope is that the majority of these trees will take and start to form a wildlife hedgerow for the school. This will improve biodiversity and help support local wildlife.

As we continue we will look at ways to support sustainability and recycling within the school. We also look forward to continuing our work with SAS Rewilding group and joining the Wildlife Trust next term.



Certificate winners!



Name	School Value	Reason
Leola	Pioneering	For excellent sounding out, during your writing about 'The Little Star'.
James T	Children First	For always being a supportive friend to others!
Darcy D	Pioneering	Wonderful use of vocabulary in a flashback narrative.
Phoebe C	Pioneering	A wonderful final write in their outsider narrative
Sophie W	Pioneering	A wonderful final write in their outsider narrative
Joseph S	Resilience	Showing fantastic behaviour on our school trip
Brayden V	Children First	A fantastic effort in English with his story writing. Well done!
Rosa Z	Children First	For displaying an excellent attitude in all areas of school life this week! Well done!
Yvie O	Pioneering	For setting a good example to others, showing them how to be a kind and caring friend. Well done!
Logan L	Resilience	For showing a commitment to improving his maths skills by attending maths tutoring
Freddie A	Resilience	For showing a great attitude towards learning this week and not giving up when faced with a challenge in his work.
Vanessa T	Pioneering	For using fantastic handwriting and ensuring her work is always beautifully presented.
Jess	Pioneering	For working hard to improve her handwriting and setting an example to others
Archie S	Pioneering	For being a super helper in the hall at lunch times as part of his ambassador role
Lacey S	Pioneering	Fantastic work with Mrs Thomas
Annie G	Pioneering	Fantastic work with Mrs Thomas
Benjamin L	Resilience	Being brave during our nativity rehearsals, despite feeling a little nervous about it
Lilly May	Resilience	Making good choices this week!