

Weekly Newsletter

12th January 2024

Message from the Head of School

Welcome back to Ditton Primary! We hope you all had a wonderful and relaxing Christmas break, filled with joy and laughter. It is with great pleasure that we kick off the new year together, ready to embark on exciting learning adventures.

We are thrilled to announce that our Reception class has started their Forest School sessions. The children have been exploring the great outdoors, immersing themselves in nature and developing their problem-solving skills. We are certain that this unique learning experience will provide a solid foundation for their future academic journey.

In addition, we are delighted to inform you that swimming lessons have commenced for our Year 5 pupils. We have already received fantastic feedback from SWIM! about how sensible and well-behaved our students have been in the pool. We are extremely proud of their conduct and dedication to learning this valuable life skill.

However, we would like to take this opportunity to address a concern that we have regarding the use of the carpark. We kindly request that all parents and guardians park their vehicles in the designated bays and refrain from parking on the yellow road markings. This simple act ensures the safety of our pupils and drivers alike, creating a secure environment for everyone.

Thank you for your cooperation and ongoing support. We look forward to a productive and successful term ahead.



Diary Dates

Spring Term

JANUARY

16th – Y6 and Reception height and weight checks

22nd – Basketball Competition

22nd – Police visit to Reception class

23rd / 24th – Y4 Stepping out walks and workshops

26th – Chemistry with Cabbage workshops Y5

30th – Kinball competition KS2

30th – Y3 Healthy US workshops

FEBRUARY

9th – School closes for half term

19th – School reopens

26th – Assessment Week

MARCH

4th – Choir concert rehearsal at P & P

6th – Y5 Crucial Crew

11th – Pupil surveys

14th – y3 Fun food chef

18th & 19th – Y3 Residential

18th – Parent surveys

20th & 21st – Parent

consultations

28th – School Closes for Easter

Attendance Updates

Class	Attendance %	Lates	Class	Attendance %	Lates
RKLB/NW	96.4	3	RRJL	98.4	1
Y1RD	93.9	5	Y1LD	94.4	5
Y2CH	96.3	3	Y2AP	97.6	4
Y3LA	92.0	5	Y3TP	90.6	4
Y4AL	91.3	2	Y4BM	96.1	5
Y5ML	81.9	4	Y5LW	97.6	2
Y6DW	93.8	4	Y6GB	92.1	6

KS1/EYfs Key Attendance winners: RRJL

KS2 Attendance winners :Y5LW

KS1/EYfs Fewest Lates winners: RRJL

KS2 Fewest Lates winners:Y5LW

Classes with fewest lates win 15m extra playtime

Classes with best attendance win a prize draw

End of term Attendance Rewards

We have already booked in our treat for all pupils who meet our termly Attendance Challenge.

Our reward for meeting the challenge this Spring term is a South American Dance workshop which looks like a lot of fun. Click on the link below to see a video of the workshop.

https://youtu.be/xEAlwffT8_E

Our Challenge is: For your child to qualify with 95% attendance for year to date **OR** to have 100% attendance for the week before the last week of term.

We are providing parents with as much notice as possible so that everyone can aim to succeed with our challenge this term. If you think both of these targets are impossible for you/your child to meet , please arrange to discuss your reservations with Mr. Gornell, the Attendance Officer as soon as possible.

See what we've been up to!

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

Reception	Year 1	Year 2
 <p>Our first full week of 2024, and what a week. We continued learning our new story Joop and Nut, and our learning about superheroes. The children all experienced their first Forest School session, and they loved it! We explored the forest and searched for bugs. The children were so well behaved and followed Kev's rules to keep them safe. We have been partitioning 1-5 in Maths and in Phonics, we have learnt the 'v, w, x, y' sounds. Can I take this opportunity to thank parents who have paid for snack for this half term, this means that we can continue to provide exciting snack for the children, and use this as a fantastic learning experience for many skills.</p>	<p>This week the children have enjoyed immersing themselves in our new class text 'Rapunzel' by Bethan Woollvin. The children have explored new vocabulary and have built these 'new words' into sentences. In math's this week, the children have enjoyed finding the missing part on a part-whole model using subtraction. The children are becoming more confident solving subtraction sums and know the different resources that can be used to help us. Reminders Funky Junk-please bring in plastic bottles, pasta and/or rice for children to build their own musical instruments. Boom Reader- there has been a decline in the number of reads being logged on Boom Reader. Reading at home is essential and we recommend 3-5 home reads per week. PE 1LD- Thursday PE 1RD- Friday Have a lovely weekend!</p> 	 <p>This week children have been immersed in our newest class book The Bog Baby by Jeanne Willis. They have explored the rich and interesting vocabulary and have been writing sentences of their own. In maths they have been adding and subtracting using two-digit numbers and have really impressed us adults with their skills. In PSHE we talked about the similarities and differences between ourselves and others and discussed how even though we are all unique we are still all equal and should treat each other with respect, Just a quick reminder that PE for 2CH is now on a Monday afternoon and for 2AP it is on a Thursday afternoon. And please remember to bring in Funky Junk items i.e plastic bottles, rice, pasta etc.</p>
<p>Year 3</p> <p>A warm welcome to the new year! This week, Year 3 have started their learning journey in Science and have been thinking about the 3 main types of rocks. In Art, we have been trying to replicate some of the works of LS Lowry and in Music, we have started to listen to the '12 bar blues' with the help of music from Elvis! In English, we are reading 'The Rythm of The Rain' and we are beginning to write our own setting description based on this. In Maths, we have started our unit of work on Multiplication and Division – please keep up the good work with TT Rockstars at home!</p>  <p>Artwork is by Jacob A (3TP)</p>	<p>Year 4</p> <p>Year 4 have enjoyed writing setting and character descriptions based on 'Arthur and the Golden Rope' this week. There has been some wonderful vocabulary used. In Spanish we learned about the epiphany and how it is celebrated differently in Spain. We designed our own 'Roscon de reyes' cake and were able to label the colours independently. In music we started our new topic looking at rock and roll music, we enjoyed listening to 'Hound dog', we couldn't help but move to the music. We have also started our new PSHE topic which is emotions and feelings. We enjoyed playing feelings hot potato.</p> 	<p>Year 5</p> <p>The year 5 team have been super impressed with how well the children have managed to jump right back into their routines this past week! Last week, the children began their new unit in writing: The Hound of the Baskervilles. The children have been looking at techniques that can be used to build tension and suspense to create a successful cliff hanger! During science, the children have been reflecting on what they know about space and the planets in our solar system. We have been blown away by their pre-existing knowledge! The children have worked extremely well this week and have fully settled into their school routine – well done, Year 5!</p>

Year 6

Year 6 have been working really hard in Maths where we have been multiplying and dividing fractions. We have also begun learning about South America in Geography, locating the equator and tropics of Capricorn and Cancer. In Computing we have been exploring search terms in search engines, while in Art we studied the work of Georgia O'Keeffe. There were some superb drawings, check out Darcy's pictured below! The children have been playing invasion games in PE while in Science we have started a unit on Electricity. 6DW have a parents meeting regarding SATS next Wednesday in school between 4.30 and 5pm while After School Tuition begins on Monday, please be aware of letters going out regarding this.





Certificate winners!



Name	School Value	Reason
Miyah	Children First	For confident sounding out when writing about a character from our story.
Anastasia A	Children First	Wonderful description used in her setting and character writing.
May B	Resilience	A consistent, positive attitude to learning and an eagerness to improve and succeed!
Kane Y	Resilience	Great improvement in behaviour and an increased positive attitude to learning!
Shey P	Resilience	For making fantastic progress in phonics and applying this knowledge in his independent writing this week.
Connor R	Resilience	For making excellent efforts to develop and improve his presentation in his written work.
Charlotte N	Resilience	Arriving on time and working hard from the start of the day to the finish.
Jesee W	Resilience	For continuing to try his best with subtraction in maths even though he found it tricky. Well done, Jesse!
Evie-Mai A	Children First	For producing some excellent creative writing this week – well done!
Dominic	Pioneering	For being such an upstanding and honest member of the class. We are so proud of you!
Poppy-Grace	Children First	For being such a kind, calm and helpful friend to all. We are so proud of you!
Conor	Pioneering	For trying to push yourself to be your best and tackling challenges head on.
Jacob R	Resilience	For showing brilliant listening skills during lessons and answering lots of questions!
Kenny Q	Children First	For being so kind and considerate towards our new classmate and making sure they understand our school rules.
Taylor O	Pioneering	Being a TT Rockstar Wizz and leading the way in year 3. You already have 30,000 coins!