

Weekly Newsletter

1st March 2024

Message from the Headteacher

Firstly, I am pleased to announce that we have recently installed new signage on the reception double door canopy and in the hall. These vibrant signs not only enhance the appearance of our school but also create a warm and welcoming atmosphere. I will be sharing pictures of the new signage with you very soon, so keep an eye out for them!

I am also thrilled to inform you that we had our school Improvement Partner visit this week. The partner was highly impressed with the positive attitude to learning displayed by our children and the remarkable improvements that have been made since the last visit. It is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our staff and students.

In addition, I am delighted to share that the Dogs Trust has recently visited most of our classes. Although they couldn't bring a real dog, they did bring fluffy soft toy versions that our children adored. This visit provided a wonderful opportunity for our students to learn about responsible pet ownership and the importance of caring for animals and how to behave around dogs they may meet.

Moving forward, I would like to inform you about a couple of upcoming events. We are eagerly looking forward to welcoming parents and carers to our craft sessions next week. This will be a fantastic opportunity for you to engage in creative activities alongside your children and spend quality time together.

Furthermore, I would like to remind you that World Book Day is approaching on the 7th of March. We encourage all students to come dressed as a word, sparking their imagination and celebrating the joy of reading. We cannot wait to see the creative costumes that our students will come up with!

As always, if you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. We are here to support you and ensure that your child has a fulfilling and enjoyable experience at our school.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our school community.



Diary Dates

Spring Term

MARCH

4th – Mother's/Carers Craft session 9am (ticket only) 5pm (ticket only)
4th – Choir concert 6pm at St P&P
5th - Mother's/Carers Craft session 9am (ticket only)
6th - Mother's/Carers Craft session 9am (ticket only)
7th – World Book Day
14th- Fun Food Chef (y3)
15th – Red Nose Day
15th – Interim Reports to Parents
15th – Self defence sessions
15th – Safer Schools Police visit (KS2)
18th/19th - Year 3 Residential Trip
20th/21st - Parent Consultation Meetings
27th/28th - Attendance Reward Sessions
28th – School Closes for Easter Holidays

APRIL

8th – School reopens
10th – Y6 Kooth Assembly
24th – Paralympian visit

Attendance Updates

Class	Attendance %	Lates	Class	Attendance %	Lates
RKLB/NW	94.6	4	RRJL	94.0	3
Y1RD	93.5	4	Y1LD	97.3	4
Y2CH	94.8	3	Y2AP	99.6	3
Y3LA	92.4	3	Y3TP	93.4	6
Y4AL	93.8	6	Y4BM	93.9	3
Y5ML	89.6	6	Y5LW	96.9	2
Y6DW	93.9	6	Y6GB	92.9	5

This week's Attendance winners:

1st Y2AP -99.62%

2nd Y1LD -97.31%

3rd Y5LW- 96.92%

This week's punctuality winners:

1st Y5LW –just 2 lates all week

2nd Y4BM, Y3LA, Y2CH, Y2AP, RRJL-all with just 3 lates all week

It was a lovely surprise today to see we had our best attendance figures of the year so far, with 96.6%.

The national average is currently 94.3% so we were well above that. Well done to everyone for managing to getting everyone in on a miserable wet morning.

Parents and carers are also getting much better at informing school about absence every day. School have a duty of care to check up on any absences that haven't been reported by parents –EVERY DAY.

Remember, In the event of your child needing to be absent from school, you should inform the Office at the earliest opportunity using either:

Tel; 0151 424 5861 and press 1 to report an absence,

or email: ditton.absence@wpat.uk

See what we've been up to!

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

Reception	Year 1	Year 2
 <p>This week, we have taken a closer look at the features of our story in English. We identified key features that made Wise Owl happy. In Maths we have been recapping our number bonds to 5, becoming fluent in recalling them. In Phonics we have continued our learning on Phase 3, learning more diagraphs and we are getting so good at reading words and short sentences. We enjoyed a trip to the forest with Kev, building bug houses out of sticks. We have also enjoyed a visit from The Dog's Trust, where we learnt about behaviours to keep us safe around dogs.</p>	 <p>In Year 1 this week... History This week we have been comparing the diaries of Samuel Pepys and John Evelyn during The Great Fire of London. The children were able to identify the similarities and differences when comparing the diary entries.</p> <p>Computing This week we have continued to focus on digital writing. The children are becoming more familiar with the keyboard and different functions of the keys. The children were able to use the text cursor, space bar and backspace effectively to type a sentence.</p> <p>RE This week we read the biblical story 'Noah and the Ark'. The children were able to identify the rainbow as a symbol of God's promise to Noah and linked this to our previous lesson 'what is a promise?'.</p>	<p>Year 2 have been completing assessments in Reading and Maths this week and have really impressed us.</p> <p>We had a visit from the Dog's Trust on Thursday and the children learnt some valuable tips on how to stay safe around dogs.</p>  <p>In Maths we have been learning about arrays. Children have been able to link arrays, repeated addition and multiplication.</p> 
<p>Year 3</p> <p>This week, the children have completed their termly assessments in English and Maths – we are very proud with their efforts!</p> <p>In other subjects, we have been learning about where the Romans settled and how the trade empire grew!</p> <p>In RE, we have continued to look at the Christian faith and the Holy Spirit.</p> <p>In computing, we have started our work on animations and in Music, we are continuing to learn one of the songs from the Mario movie – it's very catchy! We look forward to seeing everyone in their costumes for World Book Day next week – which word will you choose?</p>	 <p>Year 4</p> <p>This week, year 4 have started their new text in English 'The Lost Happy Endings.' It was really exciting exploring the clues that were left for us and predicting what the text was going to be about, we also wrote a poem about the character Jub.</p> <p>In Geography we used atlases to explore landscapes in the seven continents, we discussed topographical maps and how they show the different heights on land. We found mountains using the map symbol and recorded the name and height of each one. We were very impressed with what the children remembered from year 2 and 3. We are very excited for World Book Day next week and are looking forward to seeing some wonderful vocabulary and costumes!</p>	<p>Year 5</p> <p>In English this week, we have used drama and role play to explore how our main character might have felt. This will help when we come to write our character narrative next week. In science, we researched an important scientist in the field of biology, choosing between Jane Goodall and David Attenborough. We have worked hard to complete our reading and maths assessments this week. In computing, we continued our work in creating vectors, and managed to apply our news skills to create some colourful parrots.</p> <p>On Friday, we were visited by the Dogs Trust and enjoyed learning about how to behave when around dogs.</p>

Year 6

This week, year 6 have been busy planning and writing our environmental narrative. We have enjoyed the book "Varmints" by Helen Ward and Mark Craste and are using this as inspiration for our own tales of a beautiful landscape turned ugly by technology, industry and Greed!! In Maths, we are continuing our work on the relationships between fractions, decimals and percentages. We looked at the different types of physical Geography there is in South America and were able to compare the varying climates that make up such a large continent. We have also taken part in workshops on the dangers of tobacco and today, we will enjoy a visit from the Dogs Trust!!

Delighted to be Ditton!



Well done Connor! He got his next ju-jitsu belt this week. He is now yellow 1 red tab and very proud of himself. He's learning lots alongside his friends and we are very proud of him.

Always Club!

We speak to children about their views of the school and what can be improved regularly. One of the things that pupils said to us is that they sometimes feel that the children who always do the right thing and make the right choices are not recognised. They do understand that children who struggle receive help and encouragement, but felt that the pupils that do it all the time can sometimes be overlooked. We, of course, listened and have re-instated 'ALWAYS CLUB'!

Teachers will nominate one child each week who is always a role model to others. Either Mrs Pyne, Mrs Hubball or Mr Bourque will invite these children to the staff room for hot chocolate and cake (or alternatives!) to say well done and to chat about how we can make school even better!

