

# Weekly Newsletter

22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023

## Message from the Head of School

I hope this newsletter finds you well and that you have had a wonderful week. I am delighted to share some exciting news with you all. We recently welcomed a talented videographer to our school to film a promotional video for our website. I am eagerly looking forward to seeing the finished product, which will surely capture the essence of our vibrant and nurturing learning environment.

I would also like to take this opportunity to commend the impeccable behavior of our students. I have visited all the classrooms and am pleased to report that the children settled into their learning with great enthusiasm. Moreover, their conduct during wet lunch and break times has been exemplary, displaying respect and consideration towards one another.

To maintain a safe and healthy environment for all, I kindly request that parents refrain from vaping on the playground. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter, as it sets a positive example for our children and ensures their well-being.

Furthermore, I would like to remind parents not to park on the yellow hatchings. Our staff members are working diligently to encourage responsible parking, and we kindly ask parents to join us in this endeavor. By setting a responsible parking example, we teach our children the importance of respecting rules and showing consideration for others.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation. Together, we can create an environment where every child can thrive and achieve their full potential.

Wishing you a pleasant weekend ahead.



## Diary Dates

### Autumn Term

#### SEPTEMBER

27<sup>th</sup> – Y6 Trip to Imperial War Museum

#### OCTOBER

2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> - School Photographer  
4<sup>th</sup> – Year 5 visit to Liverpool  
9<sup>th</sup> – Attendance coffee morning  
10<sup>th</sup> – Firefighter visit  
19<sup>th</sup> – Flu vaccinations  
19<sup>th</sup> – Spooky Film Night  
20<sup>th</sup> – School Closes for Half Term

#### NOVEMBER

6<sup>th</sup> – School re-opens  
6<sup>th</sup> – Diwali Dance Workshops  
20<sup>th</sup> – Parent Surveys  
20<sup>th</sup> – Fire brigade for Y5  
22<sup>nd</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup> - Parent consultations

#### DECEMBER

8<sup>th</sup> – Forest Trip Y6  
12<sup>th</sup> – KS1 Nativity Performance (1:30pm)  
13<sup>th</sup> – EYFS Nativity (1.30pm)  
13<sup>th</sup> – KS1 Nativity Performance (5pm)  
14<sup>th</sup> – EYFS Nativity (9.30am)  
14<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Disco  
19<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Fair  
20<sup>th</sup> – School Closes for Christmas

# Attendance

Class	% Attendance	Lates	Class	% Attendance	Lates
RMWLB	85.5	2	RRL	94.4	1
Y1RD	93.4	4	Y1LD	82.6	1
Y2CH	97.4	4	Y2AP	95.7	3
Y3LA	91.0	1	Y3TP	89.3	3
Y4AL	95.6	6	Y4AM	96.4	3
Y5ML	94.7	2	Y5LW	97.0	1
Y6DW	92.2	7	Y6GB	84.4	4

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

Y2CH had the best attendance rate in the Infants(KS1)

Y5LW had the best attendance rate in the Juniors(KS2)

The following classes also win an extra 15m break because they had the fewest number of lates in the last week with just 1 each: RRL, Y1LD, Y3LA, Y5LW

## **REMINDER-Something to think about.....**

43 children were absent today.

Yesterday they were 33 children absent.

Today we had 10 more children absent from school than yesterday. This seems to happen every time we have some rain.

We have asked the staff to open the doors 5 minutes earlier if it is pouring down – if any parents have any suggestions on how to encourage better attendance please get in touch! Or come to our coffee morning (see the diary dates).

# See what we've been up to!

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

Reception	Year 1	Year 2
 <p>What another fabulous week in Reception. We have continued our Phonics learning, learning the 'i, n, m and d' sounds. We have been learning to blend sounds together to read some simple CVC words.</p> <p>In Maths, we have been learning to recognise quantities of objects without counting (subitising). We played a game where we tested how fast we could recognise the amount and say them aloud, before our partner.</p> <p>We have continued to learn the routines in class and how to look after our continuous provision areas.</p>	<p><b>In Year 1 this week...</b></p> <p>The children have had a fantastic week filled with learning. The children enjoyed some time in the forest looking for signs of Autumn and even spotted some minibeasts on their hunt. The children completed their first art lesson this week, where they explored collage through tearing, gluing and overlapping. The children created some amazing spirals inspired by the work of famous artist Henri Matisse.</p> <p><b>Reminder</b></p> <p>Please ensure that your child brings their school coats and water bottles to school each day.</p> <p>Please ensure your child brings their wellies to school every Tuesday for their forest school sessions.</p> <p>Thank you for your support!</p>	<p>This week in year 2 children have been exploring a new text based on our class book <i>The Night Gardener</i>. The text is a setting description about a beautiful and mysterious garden and the children have been analysing the vocabulary and the different techniques the writer has used throughout. This understanding will allow the children to write their own setting description and we can't wait to see what lovely pieces they produce!</p> <p>During Maths, we have continued exploring place value and have been using our school's resources to gain a deeper understanding of tens and ones writing two digit numbers.</p> <p>The children absolutely LOVED our immersive lesson based on the Great Fire of London, using our Now Press Play resource. We stepped back in time to 1666 and learnt what life was like during the time of fire and what the people of London did to resolve the issue.</p>
<p><b>Year 3</b></p> <p>This week, Year 3 have enjoyed writing their own kenning poems about the Iron Man. In Maths, we have continued to explore different ways of partitioning 3 digit numbers and re-visiting our number bonds within 20. In Art, we have enjoyed looking at examples of cave art and have made good links to our new History topic about the Stone Age. In Science, we have spent some time thinking about healthy food and we have designed our own 'Healthy plate' that contains the right nutrients. In computing, we have also spent some time thinking and learning about what cyberbullying is and how we can remain safe online.</p>	<p><b>Year 4</b></p> <p>We have worked hard this week to examine our text <i>The Whale</i> and analyse the writing techniques used. We are now much more confident in creating a setting description and look forward to creating our own writing next week. In maths we have continued to explore place value and have improved our flexible partitioning skills. In history we have begun to explore the Romans and now have investigated teeth in science.</p> <p>FEW! After such a huge amount of work, we deserve a rest (and an ice-cream)</p>	<p><b>Year 5</b></p> <p>Another busy week for the year 5 children as we begin to delve deeper into our English unit – Henry's Freedom Box. The children have been planning their own diary entry from the perspective of Henry – the slave who mailed himself to freedom.</p> <p>During our science lessons, the children have been enjoying learning about animals including humans and found the gestation periods of animals particularly interesting!</p> <p>After starting our history unit on the Anglo-Saxons, it has been wonderful to see the curiosity of the children develop as they wonder about what came before them!</p>
<p><b>Year 6</b></p> <p>We've had an interesting week studying <i>Rose Blanche</i> and focusing on fronted adverbials and parenthesis. In Reading, we have looked at the <i>Diary of Anne Frank</i> and analysed the text and we have added and subtracted 5 and 6 digit numbers in Maths, and looked at all the major wars involving Britain since 1066 for History. Meanwhile, we have learned new chords on the acoustic guitar, and continued invasion games in PE. In Art, we have continued studying Grayson Perry, tapestries, and have started looking at designing our own quilting project by sketching trees.</p> <p>Lois replicated a section of a Grayson Perry tapestry and has sketched two trees of different complexities.</p> 		



# Certificate winners!



Name	School Value	Reason
Sapphire	Pioneering	For demonstrating excellent reading during phonics.
Skylar	Resilience	Working hard to do her best even when finding things hard
Max	Pioneering	Working hard to improve his writing through word choice
Ivy	Resilience	Starting a new week with a positive attitude and a determination to succeed
Ezra	Resilience	For coming into school with a smile, well done!
Alexa	Children First	For being a fabulous friend and looking after others. Well done!
Layla F	Pioneering	For going above and beyond when completing homework.
Lacey S	Pioneering	For going above and beyond when completing homework.
Oscar	Children First	For always following our school rules and being an excellent listener during carpet times
Skye-Harper	Pioneering	For fantastic independent writing in English this week. Skye was able to use new vocabulary in her sentences without support from her teachers. Superstar!
Darcey F	Pioneering	Great contributions to class discussions
Noah T	Resilience	Trying exceptionally hard this and being a super mathematician
Frankie R M	Resilience	Excellent effort in Maths and English
William E	Children First	For being very helpful in class and in the school library.