

Ditton Primary Newsletter

4th April 2025

Message from the Headteacher

As always, thank you for your ongoing support in helping us provide the best possible experience for our children. I would like to gently remind all families that if an issue arises in school, it is really important that you allow us to deal with it. When parents become involved directly, emotions can understandably run high, and this can sometimes make situations more difficult to resolve. Please trust that we will always act in the best interests of all the children involved and will keep you informed as appropriate.

Thank you also to everyone who has downloaded and started to use the Arbor Parent App. It's a really helpful tool for staying up to date with your child's information, including attendance, contact details, permissions, and more. If you haven't downloaded it yet, we strongly encourage you to do so – it's the easiest way to stay connected with what's happening in school.

You will also have seen that after-school club sign-ups have been sent out via the Arbor app. If there are any teething issues, please bear with us – this is a new system and we are still getting everything running as smoothly as possible. To ensure as many children as possible have the opportunity to attend a club, we kindly ask that you sign your child up for no more than two clubs

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

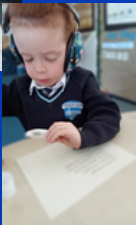


Diary Dates

7th Apr – Y6 practise tests
10th Apr – Easter bonnet Parade @ 9.30am
10th Apr – Decorate an egg competition
11th Apr – Easter Holidays
22nd April – School reopens
25th April – Y5 chemistry workshops
12th – 15th May – Y6 Sats Breakfast club
12th – 15th May – Y6 Sats Assessments
9th May – Provisional Date for Sports Day KS1
20th May – Provisional Date for Sports Day LKS2

121st May – Provisional Date for Sports Day UKS2
22nd May – Provisional Date for Sports Day EYFS
23rd May – Half term holidays
2nd June – School Reopens
13th June – Y1 Trip – Safari Park
27th June – INSET day: School closed to pupils
11th July – End of Year reports to parent
16th July – Year 6 trip to Gulliver's World
18th July – Year 6 Leaver's Assembly @9.30am

Reception



We have had a glorious sunny week in Reception. We have enjoyed lots of time outside, making dens, shadow drawing and doing large scale maths work.

English We have been writing instructions to make cornflake easter nests next week. Children have sounded words out carefully and remembered finger spaces!

Maths We have enjoyed learning about positional and directional language this week. Children started by listening to the new vocabulary, and then started using it themselves.

Reminders Next week is the final week of term, please can you ensure that all reading books are in school to be changed. New books will be then sent home at the end of the week.

Year 1

This week in Year 1...

The children have continued to plan and write each part of their stories in English. They are working really hard on them and trying to include all the things they have learnt over the last few weeks.

In science, the children have been exploring what animals need to survive. They discussed the difference between needs and wants, then identified the basic needs of animals.

In Design & Technology, the rest of Year 1 have made their healthy snacks. The children had great fun bringing their sandwich designs to life...and eating them! Some children discovered new foods that they haven't tried before, with some enjoying mustard...others not so much!

Year 2

What another fantastic week in Year 2!

We have noticed an increase in the number of parents / carers logging reads on Boom Reader and the children are so excited to share that they have been reading regularly at home. Thank you for the continued efforts to read regularly and log this.

English - This week we have started to plan and write our information reports about our chosen animals. The children have gathered the information and started organising their writing order different headings. We have used exclamations and questions to draw the reader in and adjectives to showcase how amazing these animals are.

Maths - This week we have starting bridging to add and subtract 2 1digit numbers. The children have been brilliant at this and have been able to draw on their secure knowledge of number bonds to work efficiently.

Reminders

Next week is the final week of term, please can you ensure that all reading books are in school to be changed. We will change reading books on Friday.

Year 3

Maths - We have been really trying hard with our multiplication and division topic this week. Looking at our 4s and 8 times tables. Please keep logging into TT Rockstars, as we are trying to get our heatmaps green!

English - We have been planning, editing and publishing our information leaflet this week, all about rivers! We are very excited to start our new unit next week...I wonder what it is!

Science - We have been looking at sound this half term in Science. And my goodness, I am so impressed with the prior knowledge that Year 3 has. Keep up the good work.

History - We have also been learning about the Romans and Ancient Rome this week in History. Maybe ask your child why Romulus and Remus were important to Rome.

Year 4

Year 4 are on a mission to GO Green on TT Rockstars. So many of them are working their socks off to gain accuracy and turn their heat maps green. Over 10 of the Y4 children are proudly wearing their Go Green badges and we are hoping to get many more over the coming weeks. Please keep encouraging your children to login at home and practice their times tables. Y4 have also completed their Reading Plus assessments. They should now be able to login at home and practice their reading skills, improve comprehension and increase fluency. Certificates will be awarded as children progress through reading levels. Please encourage your child to read access reading plus and log reads on Boom Reader. Year 4 have continued to learn about states of matter this week by exploring melting and boiling points. We have learnt about the courageous life of Oscar Romero and the sacrifice he made for the good of others. We have learnt about more about how Mayans lived by exploring settlements and homes.

Year 5

In English, we have started to prepare ourselves for writing a bargaining letter. We are continuing to use our story 'The Promise' for inspiration. In maths, we have looked at rounding decimals to the nearest whole and nearest tenth. We also have started revisiting the range of strategies we can use when adding and subtracting. In science, we investigated why we have day and night. In PSHE, we have been discussing staying safe online and in particular, thinking before we post things on the internet. Recently, we have been hearing of some instances outside of school that have occurred and these discussions should be helping children to make informed decisions. In computing, we have continued to create vectors, this week we used copy and paste, resizing and layering techniques.

Year 6

Year 6 are busy planning and writing a persuasive letter in English. We have researched what is meant by "Freedom of Expression" and how in some parts of the world, this basic human right is slowly being taken away in some aspects of peoples' lives. Our purpose in writing our letter is to persuade a local MP to join the fight to champion basic human rights! In English and Maths, we are busy revising for our Y6 SATs exams next month. Both classes are working very hard to improve their knowledge and skills and are showing great resilience when tested. In music, the children continued to learn the basics of guitar and by the end of their lesson were playing along to "We Will Rock You"! In Computing, both classes are becoming much more confident when using 3D Modelling software "Tinkercad".

Certificate Winners!

Name	School Value	Reason
Bridie	Pioneering	For making such a big improvement on your phonics assessments!
Archie S	Resilience	For excellent improvement in your behaviour and a positive attitude to learning.
Joshua	Resilience	For fantastic independent writing in English this week!
Olivia W	Resilience	Trying really hard and contributing to lessons.
Max B	pioneering	For his continued effort and hard work in PE
Oscar	Resilience	For working hard to improve Reading Comprehension skills and own scores
Vanessa	Resilience	For putting her all into everything she does and making hge improvements in reading and spelling
Mia	Pioneering	For working to a consistently high standard and making us so proud.
Jacob S	Children first	For being a kind, caring and hard-working member of our class.
Noah	Children First	For being a fantastic role model to others and always trying his best in everything he does.

Attendance!

Class	Attendance	Number of lates
Mrs L-Byrne/Mrs Till	94.71% This is below the school target of 96%	3
Mr Longworth	89.51% This is below the school target of 96%	2
Miss Dixon	96.12 % FANTASTIC! Well done!	0
Mr Ireland	97.2% FANTASTIC! Well done!	3
Mrs Pauls	94.98% This is below the school target of 96%	6
Miss Powell	95.6% This is below the school target of 96%	3
Miss Doherty	95.65% This is below the school target of 96%	4
Miss Banlin	96.11% FANTASTIC! Well done!	5
Mr Paul	92.09% This is below the school target of 96%	5
Mrs Hubball	90.69% This is below the school target of 96%	1
Mr Linaker	93.08% This is below the school target of 96%	2
Miss Edwards	90.46% This is below the school target of 96%	5
Mr White	96.75% FANTASTIC! Well done!	5
Mr Bourque	91.16% This is below the school target of 96%	5

It's been another busy week and we are appreciative of all the efforts to ensure that children are in school, each day, on time.

We will be increasing the number of home visits when children are absent in order to fulfil our safeguarding responsibilities and ensure we are offering support to all families.

The school's attendance target is set at 96%.

Several classes have been impacted by families choosing to take vacations during term time. Please note that, in accordance with government guidelines, the Local Authority is imposing fines of £160 per parent, for each child, if there are more than five days of unauthorised absence due to holidays.

Brilliant Behaviour

We are so proud of our pupils - out of all the behaviour logged on Track-it lights this week - 97% has been positive!



Top classes this week

EYFS/KS1

1st - Y2DP/LF

2nd - Y1RI

3rd - YRKL B/LT

KS2

1st - Y4CH

2nd - Y5FE

3rd - Y3KD



Top pupils this week

YRRLJ - Jacob L/Nridie M/Oakley W

Y1RI - Emmi K

Y2DP - Eva P

Y3AB - Klaidi D

Y4CH - Chloe S

Y5ML - Max B/ Alvin D

Y6GB - Patsy D

YRKLBN/LT - Jalissa A

Y1RH - Ruben F

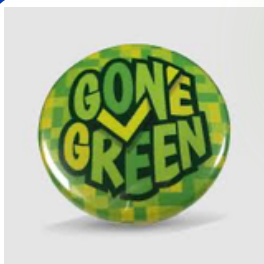
Y2AP - Nathan K

Y3KD - Archie S

Y4TP - Darcie S

Y5FE - Anastasia A

Y6DW - Roel G



TT ROCKSTARS

children have been working hard to turn their heat map green!! Below is the number of children in each class who have achieved this:

Y6GB - 17

Y6DW - 11

Y5ML - 6

Y5FE - 6

Y4TP - 11

Y4CH - 5

Y3KD - 0

Y3AB - 1

Spending 3 mins a day on TT Rockstars will help your child master this essential skill!!



Easter Events

EASTER BONNET PARADE

THURSDAY APRIL 10TH, 2025
9.30 AM

Infant playground (weather permitting)

PRIZES FOR
ORIGINALITY AND
EFFORT!

DECORATE AN
Easter Egg
COMPETITION

CHILDREN ARE INVITED TO
DECORATE AN EGG
(HOLLOWED OUT PLEASE!!)
TO BE PART OF OUR ANNUAL
EASTER ACTIVITIES.

PRIZES FOR THE MOST
ORIGINAL DECORATED EGGS!

EGGS TO BE BROUGHT INTO
SCHOOL ON THURSDAY 10TH
APRIL

THE
SKIPPING
NINJA

Coming to Ditton Primary
Friday 11th April