



DODFORD FIRST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Achieve, Believe, Create and Fly High

7th June 2024

Dear Families,

Welcome back to the final half term of this school year. The weeks ahead are packed with exciting events for children and families so please make sure you check the diary dates at the end of the newsletter for times and dates of stay and play sessions, reading sessions, school games day and picnic, educational visits, and assembly dates. We look forward to welcoming you into school for these events, further information will follow so please check your inboxes for further correspondence. We have had a busy week here in school and introduced our new value RESPECT. This is especially timely as the country celebrated D-Day this week. Eighty years on, we continue to remember 6th June 1944 and pay tribute to the soldiers who risked everything for freedom. D-Day teaches us all about courage, resilience, and the cost of war. It reminds us to strive for peace and to do all we can to prevent conflicts in the future.

Have a good weekend,

Miss Salisbury and Mrs Eggleton

Early Help and Support for Families

Being a parent is one of the most challenging and rewarding roles you will ever take on as an adult and sometimes we could all use a little extra help and guidance throughout our parenting journey. Caring for a child can be stressful enough as it, but caring for someone with additional needs can bring a range of big emotions, that at times may feel overwhelming. Below are some links to parenting groups and workshops that we hope are helpful to you.

The Starting Well Partnership offers an exciting array of parenting groups and workshops. All sessions are free to attend and run by trained staff and volunteers from the Starting Well Partnership.

[Parenting workshops and groups | Starting Well \(startingwellworcs.nhs.uk\)](https://startingwellworcs.nhs.uk)

Understanding your child from toddler to teenager

If you would like to know more about your child's development and better understand their behaviour. Join one of our fun and relaxed groups to explore topics such as:

- Developmental needs
- Family fun
- Communication
- Sleep
- Behaviour difficulties

Consisting of two hourly sessions over a 10-week period, this group is suitable for families with children and young people from birth to 19 years old.

Understanding your child/teen with additional needs

This relaxed group is designed to bring parents and carers of children and young people with additional needs the opportunity to meet other families in similar situations and develop your knowledge through peer support.

Groups runs over 10 weeks and will lay the foundation for understanding your child and considers topics, such as:

- Behavioural difficulties
- Developmental and play needs.
- Parenting styles
- Sleep
- Explore feelings.
- Ways to relax.
- Understand brain development.
- Relationships

If you would like to find out more about these groups, or to book onto our next available workshop please contact your local Family Hub on 01905 520 032

[Finding support during divorce/separation | Family Lives](#)

When you are going through divorce and separation it can be really hard to find support from others who know what you are going through. It can feel like an extremely isolating time and sometimes it is nice to know that there are others who know how you are feeling and can understand how difficult it is. [Finding support during divorce/separation | Family Lives](#)



Values

Respect: On Tuesday 'British Values Day' focused upon one of our school values, Respect. We have looked at our school rules; Respect Yourself, Respect Others, Respect Our School. The children were very thoughtful in their discussions about who they respect and how they can show respect to others within school, at home and in their wider community.

Skip2bfit.

Next Thursday 13th June we will be welcoming a skipping instructor into school to teach children the health benefits of keeping active, particularly by skipping and share various amazing new skills they can try out with a skipping rope. We look forward to seeing the children take up the challenges they will be given and have some fun. Skipping ropes will be made available for sale after the event. More details to follow.

Weekly News from Wren Class - Miss Stanley

It was lovely to welcome the children back after the half term break. Everyone was eager to share what they had been up to and who with. Our new topic is Once Upon a Time and the key text this week is The Frog Prince. This week, we created a whole class story map for The Frog Prince and added actions for key words such as frog, princess, and ball. The children practised retelling the story with actions before filming the performance and having it peer assessed. The children were full of praise for one another and were kind when feeding back an area of improvement. The children have also enjoyed using the iPads to play a phonics game called Buried Treasure on Phonics Play. This is a free game that you might like to access at home. Type in www.phonicsplay.com - scroll down to the 'Play Free Resources' tab and click - select Buried Treasure, Dragon's Den or Picnic on Pluto - Click phase 2, 3 or 4 - Click 'Revise all Phase' -

allow your child to read each word and decide if it is real or fake. Please monitor your child when accessing online games. Thank you.

Weekly News from Robin Class - Miss Underhill

It has been a great first week back for Robin class. They have shown that they are ready for the last term as little Robins and have been ready to work hard on our new learning sequences. In English we have started to share a story called *Major Glad and Major Dizzy*, all about toy soldiers lost under the floorboards of an old house. We have been using our predicting skills to work out how they got there and how they might be rescued. In maths we have started a unit of learning all about measures and have been finding out how to order, compare and measure length. We have used non-standard and standard units to measure classroom objects. Our new history topic has started us thinking about our school and how old it might be. So far, we have discovered that it was built in the Victorian times.

Weekly News from Owl Class - Mrs. Eggleton

A short week for us in Owls but packed with lots of activities as usual. We had some very good discussions and ideas about how we should show respect to each other, those we should show respect to and how we can respect our school. The children began the week by exploring using pastels to create beautiful drawings of rainforest animals. In maths children have been practising our mental and written methods, particularly in addition and subtraction. In English we have begun looking at the legend of King Arthur and the round table. We focused upon the story of the Sword in the Stone, learning about the various knights, good and evil characters. I am particularly proud of our Year 4 children's courage and composure as they tackled their multiplication times tables check this week. Their hard work and resilience over the last two years to learn their times tables has certainly paid off and this skill will stand them in good stead for maths in the middle schools next year. Well, done Year 4.

Please see link below to a website 'my family coach' which offers expert support for every parenting challenge.

[Home - My Family Coach](#)

Whole School Attendance is currently 92.1% which is just below the national attendance figure of 93.1%



House Points w/c 3rd June 2024

Teme - 134
Severn - 190
Avon - 206



Stars of the Week Awards



Well, done and congratulations for being chosen for the Star of the Week awards by your teachers:

- YR: Teddy for having a positive attitude to his learning
- Y1: Tommy for making a good start to the week with improved focus on his learning
- Y2: Eddie for his confidence in maths measuring length
- Y3: Meadow for beautiful presentation of her work
- Y4 for everyone's effort in completing the statutory multiplication times tables check

**We are so proud of all you have achieved this week 😊
Keep working hard and persevering to do your absolute best.**

Author of the Month - June

Each month we introduce the children to an author and share some of their books around the classes. It is a wonderful way to ensure the children can explore new genres and find out about writers they may not have heard of. **This month we are celebrating the funny stories by David Walliams.** Did you know that he's the biggest selling children's author to have started writing since the year 2000? You can watch Grandpa's Great Escape, Mr Stink, Gangsta Granny and The Boy in the Dress on DVD. And have you listened to all of the books on audio too - hilariously read by David Walliams himself! And not forgetting that Ratburger, Demon Dentist and Awful Auntie have all won the National Book Awards Children's Book of the Year. Not only that, but The Ice Monster won 'Children's Fiction Book of the Year for 2018' at the British Book Awards!

Make sure you don't miss David's newest book... MEGA MONSTER!! <https://www.worldofdavidwalliams.com/books/>



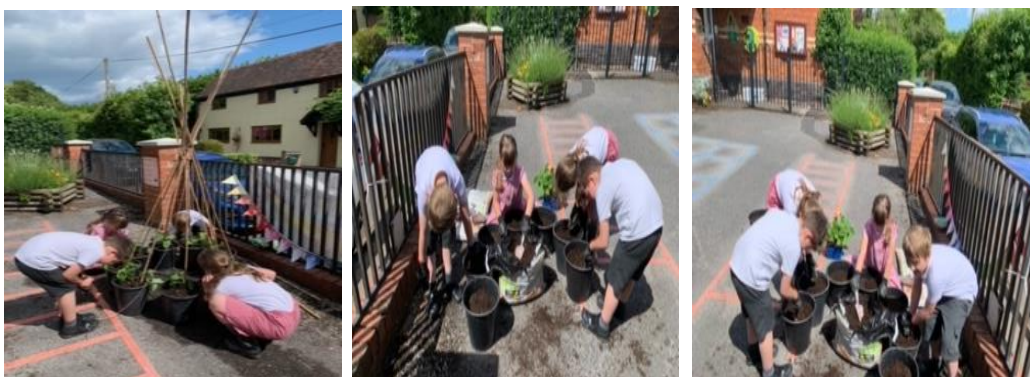
During the spring term the children have been planting a range of things to grow and nurture with Mrs Currier and it's lovely to see the so many flowers blooming as we enter the summer months. It's a wonderful place for the children to learn firsthand about the joys of nature and to see the pollinators flying in to help them along too! This week they have also planted runner beans and made a bean teepee - take a look at the photos below and please try this at home. Runner beans are easy to grow and being large seeds are a great vegetable to grow with children. You can sow them directly into the ground in June and produce beautiful flowers too.

We would also like to express our HUGE thanks to a small team of parent volunteers who came into school during the half term holidays to transform the garden area. Mrs Currier, and Evie, Mrs Clinton, Miss Warndon and ... have tidied up and weeded the garden - it's really improved the area for the children. We send special thanks to Gracie's parents who very kindly donated tons of bark; it really has made a wonderful difference to the garden as you will see from the photos below.

Muddy Monday brings many joys for the children in reception, they have been planting out the raised vegetable beds - watch this space for some home grown produce news!



This is our wonderful year 2 group planting their runner beans, kindly donated by the Warman family. They created a fantastic runner bean teepee!



Draft Local Heritage List for Dodford and Grafton: The Conservation Officer has now completed the draft Local Heritage List for Dodford and Grafton and will be holding a consultation meeting in Dodford Village Hall on Tuesday 18 June between 3pm and 7pm where her team will be available to answer any questions you may have. The consultation period closes at 5pm on 8 July 2024. If you have any queries regarding this, please contact the Conservation Team by email at conservation@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk or alternatively by phone on 01527 881329.

Future Diary Dates - (Please note these may be subject to changes.)

Summer 2nd Half Term

Date	Event
Monday 10 th June	Phonics Screening Week 10 th - 14 th - Year 1
Tuesday 11 th June	Family reading session 2.30pm
Thursday 13th June	SKIP2BFIT WORKSHOPS WITH ALL SCHOOL
Friday 14 th June	BREAK THE SCHOOL RULES DAY
Friday 21 st June	School Fete - 3.30-5.30 - all welcome
Tuesday 25 th June	Stay and Play 1.30pm - 2.30pm Reception intake 2024 and current Wren Class. Please note, new intake children's parents only due to fire restrictions.
Thursday 27 th June	School Games Day including Family Picnic - all welcome. FURTHER DETAILS TO FOLLOW.
Friday 28 th June	Feel Good Friday Golden Tea with Miss Salisbury
Tuesday 2 nd July	Robin Class Victorian Workshop - in School Parent Open Afternoon, Robin, and Owl Class 2.30pm - 3pm
Wednesday 3 rd July	Moving Up Day - all children visit their new classes/teachers Summer Reading Challenge
Thursday 4 th July	Reserve School Games Day (in case of wet weather on the 27th of June)
Friday 5 th July	NHS Dental Nurses - Reception Children

Sunday 7 th July	Dodford Church Fete 2pm (School Choir)
Wednesday 10 th July	Year 4 Residential Trip
Thursday 11 th July	Year 4 Residential Trip Wren Class Stay and Play
Friday 12 th July	Year 4 Residential Trip Annual Reports to Parents
Tuesday 16 th July	Leaver's Assembly 6pm
Friday 19 th July	Term ends Feel Good Friday Values and end of term assembly NO FOOTBALL
Monday 22 nd July	School closed TED Day