



13th May 2024

## **DODFORD FIRST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER**

### **Achieve, Believe, Create and Fly High**

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

What another busy week we have had at Dodford and although the weather seems to be turning again, we have still managed to get outside and enjoy the fresh air, finally taking advantage of our wonderful Trim Trail and field.

Robin Class had a wonderful afternoon at our local church, meeting our vicar, Reverend David. Thank you to the parents who volunteered, accompanying the children on their walk to the church. Without your support we as a small school with limited staff, would not be able to organise educational trips of this nature.

**Next week is the last week of this half term. Don't forget our Values Assembly next Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 9am in the school hall.**

**Polite Remainder: see below our messages about water bottles, sunhats and suncream.**

**PTA - A SEPARATE FLYER WILL BE ON IT'S WAY TO YOU REGARDING THE SUMMER RAFFLE.**  
**PLEASE KEEP AN EYE OUT!**

#### **NEW STAFF NEWS!**

We are pleased to announce that we managed secure a new office administrator after a successful recruitment drive this week. Watch out for a new face in the office next week!

**WRAP AROUND CARE.**

The advert for wrap around care is now live, the governors are happy to see this as a shared role - perhaps you can offer morning or evening sessions only - please apply and state this, we are willing to be flexible to get the right people into the school. The closing date for applications is 31st May 2024.

Actual salary: £25,119- £31,364 (FTE)

Hours of work: Monday - Friday 07.15 - 08.45 and 15.00- 18.00

Contract: Permanent

Opening our own wrap around care provision is such an exciting opportunity for the school - it will support working parents and those of you who may need occasional ad hoc care due to busy lives. Please ask Miss Salisbury about this opportunity if you want to find out more.

The school newsletter is for parents so please do let us know if there is anything else you would like to see included here, you can do this by emailing [office@dodford.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:office@dodford.worcs.sch.uk) .



### **Our School Values - Week 5 - Independence**

Why is independence important? Independence is an important skill for children to learn as they move through Dodford. Encouraging children to be independent promotes confidence and self-esteem. When they learn to do things on their own, they feel a sense of accomplishment and pride, which contributes to their overall well-being. We support our children at Dodford to become independent learners as they grow which is supported by our motto of achieve, believe, create and fly high.

### **Class Weekly News**

<b>Weekly News from Wren Class: Miss Stanley</b>
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The children have been developing their skillset with number bonds this week, working towards automatic recall of number bonds up to 5 and some up to 10. The children have worked so hard in maths, I'm super proud of them. Our key text is Norman the Slug with the Silly Shell. After listening to the story, the children discussed the most suitable item for a shell from a given selection. They were very good at giving pros and cons to each object suitability. Afterwards, the children were asked to plan a new item for Norman. The children had many ideas including attaching wheels so he can drive, a kite so he can fly and a spring so he can jump. The children made their planned item using arts and crafts and wrote an explanation to explain how the item made will work. Finally, the children wrote an evaluation to explain what worked well and what they would do differently next time. Some children presented their work to the rest of the class - great confidence, well done! I'm sad to say our chicks, Bluey and Bingo, have just one week left with us before they go to their forever home with the Wilkes family. Having taken them home over the weekends, my girls have certainly grown an attachment - every weekday Faye asks, have you brought them home Mummy? And every weekday morning the children of Wren Class come into their classroom and walk over to say hello to the chicks - before they say hello to me sometimes! Wren Class and my family are all extremely fond of the chicks and have absolutely loved looking after them, watching them develop and the very best of all handling them! We're going to make the most of our final week with Bluey and Bingo by giving them lots of cuddles. Thank you to the Wilkes family for making this experience possible.

**Weekly News from Robin Class:** Robin Class started the week with a wonderful afternoon visit to the local church. We met Reverend David and the children enjoyed interviewing him about his important job. Reverend David was very impressed by the children's knowledge of the church building and how many special Christian artefacts they could name. Before we went on the trip Robin Class used their geography skills to plot their walking route to the church. We had great fun looking at the bird's eye view of the school and the local area on Google maps. In other lessons this week, we have been thinking about trusted adults in our PSHE lesson, had fun dancing with dance coach Natalie on Wednesday and in science we have been learning about simple food chains. **Miss Underhill**

**Weekly News from Owl Class.** Owl class has had a busy week as always. We have continued to read our text in English, The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe refining and improving our writing with partners. I was extremely impressed with the way they worked, encouraging, and sharing ideas. In maths we have continued to learn lots of concepts in our shape unit. Year 3 have been measuring lines, learning about horizontal, vertical, perpendicular, and parallel lines as well as different types of angles. Year 4 have been using identifying the different triangles as well as identifying different angles, learning about quadrilaterals and polygons. We have created information leaflets connected to our science, using words such as vertebrate, invertebrate, endoskeleton and exoskeleton. I have also been spoilt tasting lots of delicious cakes and biscuits from our Chilli Challenge! **Mrs. Eggleton**

**Whole School Attendance is currently 95.9% which is just above the national attendance figure of 94% 😊**



**House Points w/c 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

Teme - 71  
Severn - 89



### Stars of the Week Awards



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

YR : Emilija - Improved focus

Y1: Rufus- Using his phonics knowledge

Y2: Addison - Fantastic work adding and subtracting

Y3: Isla - Improvements in presentation and effort in maths

Y4: Bailey - Effort in dance.

**We are so proud of all you have achieved this week 😊**

**Keep working hard and persevering to do your absolute best.**



### Keeping your children safe online

The NSPCC provide lots of information to support school, families and children. The link below will take you to their Keeping Children Safe Online workshop for parents - it provides parents and carers with information about how to support their children in their online world. It's a 40-minute pre-recorded presentation and covers topics such as online bullying, mental health, and social media, as well as signposting to parents to resources and organisations for help and support. We hope you find it helpful.

[Keeping children safe online | NSPCC](#)

### Young Voices New Visions Exhibition.

We are so proud of the amazing art work produced by our talented children towards the exhibition at Worcester Cathedral following the theme 'Sky Above and Earth Beneath'. You can see our contributions from May 26<sup>th</sup> until June 26<sup>th</sup>. Why not pop down to have a look ?



Here's a sneaky preview....

### Author of the Month - May

Each month we introduce the children to an author and share some of their books around the classes. It is 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 brilliant stories by ... Jacqueline Wilson. She wrote her first novel when she was nine years old, and she has been writing ever since. She is now one of Britain's bestselling and most beloved children's authors. More than forty million copies of her books

have been sold. As well as winning many awards for her books, including the Children's Book of the Year, Jacqueline is a former Children's Laureate, and in 2008 she was appointed a Dame.



Please ensure you check the reading age on Jacqueline's books as she writes for a wide range of ages and some books include some challenging subjects such as teenage issues, adoption and divorce.

<https://www.penguin.co.uk/puffin/jacqueline-wilson>

#### **PTA News**

The Parents Association are currently planning the School Fete which is being held on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2024. We would like to ask if anyone would like to volunteer to help out on a stall or with refreshments etc on this date. Any help would be really appreciated.

If you are able, please drop us an email [friendsofdodfordfirstsch@outlook.com](mailto:friendsofdodfordfirstsch@outlook.com)

Or come and speak to either Nicola or Jen in the playground. **Thank you for your support.**

**A SEPARATE FLYER WILL BE WINGING IT'S WAY TO YOU ABOUT THE SUMMER RAFFLE!**

#### **Mental Health Awareness Week**

This week children have been focusing upon who they trust when they have worries and the importance of seeking support when it is needed. They have also explored how moving more by doing exercise, exploring how a new hobby or skill can help them to feel more positive when things are not going well. We have also taken part in mindfulness and meditation techniques which can help enormously to regulate negative thoughts.

Further help can be found at [www.youngminds.org.uk](http://www.youngminds.org.uk)



#### **Water Bottles**

We've noticed a number of children coming to school without water bottles this week. Please make sure that you send your child into school with a full water bottle, particularly now that the sun is shining so that they stay hydrated. Children can fill up their water bottles in school when they need to.



#### **Sun -hats and Suntan Lotion**

After months of rain the weather has certainly taken us by surprise this week! Please ensure that your child has a sun hat in school as there is little shade on our playground.

Unfortunately, we are unable to apply suntan lotion to your child. Please ensure you apply a high factor, 8 hour suntan lotion to your child at home before school.

### Year 2 Gardening Group

Skylar, Thomas, Evie and Freddy from Year 2 worked fantastically with Mrs Currier planting flowers in the tyres this week. They showed listening and patience whilst developing a better understanding of how to plant and nurture the flowers. Thank you to the Dodford community for your 50p donations from Earth Day which enabled us to buy the flowers and soil to rejuvenate the garden.



### P.E. Kits

Now that the weather is becoming more favourable children should be in their summer P.E. kits:

White t shirt (children should not be wearing their usual school one)

Black or blue shorts or skorts.

Trainers for outside (plimsols may be worn but can be prone to falling off).

Please provide a spare pair of socks!

Hair should be tied back and no earrings or watches should be worn during P.E.

Please ensure that children have their kits in school everyday as we approach our School Games Day, teachers may practice activities any day of the week.

P.E. kits should only come home if they are extremely dirty and of course at half term for a thorough wash. Thank you for your support in this matter.

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

Date	Event
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 2 Assessment Week
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	New Reception Induction Eve 6pm  <b>National Children's Gardening Week 22<sup>nd</sup> May - 2<sup>nd</sup> June</b>
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	<b>Empty Classroom Day</b>
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Feel Good Friday Golden Tea with Miss Salisbury Last day of half term Achievement Assembly at 9am NO FOOTBALL Young Voices New Visions Exhibition Worcester Cathedral Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> May to Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> June 2024 - please go along and see Dodford First School's artwork.
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> May - Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> May	Half Term week
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	TE Day - school closed to children
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	Children return

**Summer 2<sup>nd</sup> Half Term**

Date	Event
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2024	TED DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN.
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	First day of 2 <sup>nd</sup> half term BRITISH VALUES DAY <b>3<sup>rd</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> June - Year 4 - Multiplication Times Tables Check Assessment Period</b>
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	Multi skills club starts back
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Football club starts back
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	Phonics Screening Week 10 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> - Year 1
<b>Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Family Reading Session 2.30 - 3pm</b>
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	School Fete - 3.30-5.30 - all welcome
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>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.</b>
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	School Games Day including Family Picnic - all welcome . FURTHER DETAILS TO FOLLOW.
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Feel Good Friday Golden Tea with Miss Salisbury

Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Robin Class Victorian Workshop - in School Parent Open Afternoon, Robin and Owl Class 2.30-3pm
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Moving Up Day
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	Reserve School Games Day (in case of wet weather on the 27th of June)
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Dodford Church Fete 2pm (School Choir)
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 4 Residential Trip
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 4 Residential Trip Wren Class Stay and Play
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 4 Residential Trip Annual Reports to Parents
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Leaver's Assembly 6pm
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	Term ends Feel Good Friday Values and end of term assembly NO FOOTBALL
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	School closed TED Day