



DODFORD FIRST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Achieve, Believe, Create and Fly High

22nd April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had another super week in school - the sunshine is emerging, and we've managed a whole week without a wet playtime! Earlier this month, Miss Salisbury spoke to the children about their favourite things at Dodford First and they mentioned how much they loved their dancing lessons on Wednesday afternoons with Natalie. This week I saw exactly why they enjoyed this so much. The children were practising their opening dance for School Games Day (see diary dates) and having so much fun choreographing their actions. I know they will be excited to share this with you when they have finished perfecting their moves.

We hope you enjoy reading this week's newsletter and finding out about the great learning in school this week.

Miss Salisbury and Mrs Eggleton

Interim Acting Headteachers

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.



Curriculum Spotlight - Maths

It seems that children love maths and Mrs Eggleton agrees! The children have been talking to Mrs Eggleton about their learning in maths and amazing her with their mathematical language.

Here are some of the things the children said about their MATHS lessons;

YR Wrens - Mrs Eggleton went into Wren Class during a lesson and talked to the children while they were completing their maths. They were very excitedly using 3D shapes to make pictures. They used lots of language and amazed Mrs Eggleton with all the shape names they knew.

Robins Class - Y1 and Y2

We love learning about numbers and know what to do when we get stuck.

Owls Class - Y3 and Y4

We love learning our times tables and completing problem solving activities.



Our School Values - Week 3 - 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

Weekly News from Wren Class: Despite the weather on Monday, Wren Class pond dipped in the school pond using extendable nets, collection trays and identification sheets - we were all delighted to see two newts. The children have also been busy observing the tadpoles and chick eggs. We have used an egg candling torch to observe the development of the embryo inside the eggs during their incubation. The children were able to spot the air sack and observe movement. In literacy, we continued with our key text *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* creating alternative versions with story maps and story writing. In maths, we have focused on addition with first, then and now stories. If you want to get involved with a fun number game, ask your child about the leg game played in maths - the children love it! **Miss Stanley**

Weekly News from Robin Class: This week Robin Class has shown great resilience in their writing lessons. They have learnt about noun phrases and have tried hard to use them in their writing when describing the characters from our class text, *The Pea and The Princess*. I was extremely impressed with their character descriptions of the Queen and many children are now attempting to record their sentences using cursive handwriting. Well done Robins! In maths lessons Robins have made great progress remembering the names of all coins and notes. They have been using their money knowledge to find totals, make amounts and pay using the fewest coins. In geography we have been exploring maps of the UK. We looked at a compass rose and learnt the names of eight compass points. **Miss Underhill**

Weekly News from Owl Class: Owls have been busy again learning lots of new things. In maths Year 3 have been busy learning about mass, capacity and volume and Year 4 have shown enthusiasm whilst learning about decimals! In English we have begun our new book, *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. We have enjoyed looking at the book so far and making predictions about what might happen. Owls had a fantastic afternoon in art by looking at positive and negative spaces in readiness for our constructions. In Geography we have been looking at counties of England, focusing upon Worcestershire. We are looking forward to finding out more about our glorious county. **Mrs. Eggleton**

Whole School Attendance is currently 95.25%



House Points w/c 22nd April 2024



Teme - 62
Severn - 50
Avon - 42



Stars of the Week Awards



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

YR Billie - super efforts in writing

Y1 Oliver S - working hard independently to build sentences using his phonics knowledge

Y2 Remy - a fantastic effort in maths learning about money

Y3 Kate - for her super resilience in maths

Y4 Buddy - for his fantastic work with decimals in maths

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

Olympic Transition at Parkside - Year 4

Year 4 enjoyed an afternoon of Olympic activities at Parkside Middle School. They worked in teams led by Young Leaders from Parkside in a range of activities which included football, slalom, hurdles, skipping and javelin. The children worked in teams with children from other schools who might be attending middle school with them in September. A great chance to find new friends in preparation for their move. We were also proud to see ex-pupils from Dodford First School, currently in Year 5 taking part in activities and encouraging our children. Sport has always been an important part of Dodford and we were so pleased to see this passion continue to grow not only in past pupils in Year 5 but in our fabulous ex-pupils in Year 8 taking leading parts in organising the event.

Our best bits:

Keziah: I loved the shuttle run.

Bailey: I loved the football even though I tripped someone over accidentally!

Evie: I loved meeting up with children who might go to middle school with me.

Bethany: I made friends with children I will be in Year 5 with.

Joseph: I liked football as I slide tackled another child!

Author of the Month



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 brilliant stories by ... Dick King-Smith OBE.

Dick King-Smith was a soldier, a farmer, a family man and a primary school teacher. His stories are mostly about animals and their adventures. He writes stories for everyone from picture books to books for adults. You may have heard of him for his exciting tales of the Sheep Pig or Ambrose Follows his Nose. Miss Salisbury's favourite Dick King-Smith book is *The Hodgeheg*, the story of Max the little hedgehog who dreams of reaching the park. But no one has ever found a safe way of crossing the very busy road. Young Max, who is brighter than the average hedgehog, is determined to solve the problem.

To find out more about our author of the month more follow the link here: [Home - Dick King-Smith \(dickkingsmith.com\)](http://Home-Dick-King-Smith.com)

Wrap Around Care Vacancy

Our vacancy is now LIVE on West Midlands jobs.

We are currently seeking to recruit a caring and creative individual to work with our super children who need before and after school care. The hours are 7.15am - 8.50pm and then 3pm - 6pm each day. Please contact Miss Salisbury on office@dodford.worcs.sch.uk. All recruitment will follow the Worcestershire Children First rigorous safer recruitment process.

Staff News !

We would like to welcome Mrs Edwards to Dodford First School as our new teaching assistant in Wren Class. She is looking forward to getting to know the children and parents, please pop over in the morning

and say hello. Mrs Edwards is an experienced teaching assistant, and we know she will bring lots of kindness, care and fun to our learning.

We would like to thank Miss Warburton for all her hard work whilst she has been at Dodford First School as our supply teaching assistant over the last year. I am sure that the children and staff will miss her greatly, but we wish her the very best in her future career as she embarks on a new teaching assignment with her agency.

Parents Association Weekly News

The Parents Association would like to say a big thank you to everyone who took part in the April fundraiser events.

Name the Easter Bunny raised a fantastic £42.71.

The sponsored Easter reading challenge raised an amazing £196. A big well done to everyone that took part and special mention goes to Gracie-Rose in Wrens who raised a brilliant £77.

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

New dates in bold and red for your information

Date	Event
Monday 6 th May	Bank Holiday - school closed
Thursday 9 th May	Bike-ability Year 4
Monday 13 th May	Mental Health Awareness Week Robin Class Local Church Visit (pm)
Tuesday 14 th May	Year 4 Malvern Information Evening - 6pm
Thursday 16 th May	Family Reading session 2.30pm
Monday 20 th May	Year 2 Assessment Week
Wednesday 22 nd May	New Reception Induction Eve 6pm
Friday 24 th 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 th May to Sunday 26 th June 2024 - please go along and see Dodford First School's artwork.
Monday 27 th May - Friday 31 st May	Half Term week
Monday 3 rd June	TE Day - school closed to children
Tuesday 4 th June	Children return

Summer 2nd Half Term

Date	Event
Monday 3rd June 2024	TED DAY
Tuesday 4 th June	First day of 2 nd half term BRITISH VALUES DAY 3 rd - 21 st June - Year 4 - Multiplication Times Tables Check Assessment Period
Thursday 6 th June	Multi skills club starts back
Friday 7 th June	Football club starts back
Monday 10 th June	Phonics Screening Week 10 th -14 th - Year 1
Thursday 13th June	Family Reading Session 2.30 - 3pm
Friday 21 st June	School Fete - 3.30-5.30 - all welcome
Thursday 27 th June	School Games including Family Picnic - all welcome
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 2.30-3pm
Wednesday 3 rd July	Moving Up Day
Thursday 4 th July	Reserve School Games Day (in case of wet weather on the 27th of June)
Friday 5th July	Community Dental Services - for pupils age 5years
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