



**DODFORD FIRST SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER**
Every Day, a Learning Journey

Christmas Jumper Day: Friday 10th December 2021

Established in 2012, people have put on the 'jazziest jumpers' on this day to raise money for Save the Children and 'raise money to help protect the magic for children around the world'.

[Click here](#) for more information.

We are incredibly proud of our Dodford school family for raising money for Save the Children.

Festive Spirits Soar

Our two Carols on the Playground performances this week certainly raised Christmas spirits. It was simply joyous to hear the sweet sound of carols ripple across our playground, despite the horrendous wind and winter chill! If you were not feeling the spirit of Christmas at the start, you certainly were by the end! Thank you to all of our families for encouraging singing at home and for coming along. We look forward to our final **Carols on the Playground with Year 1 and 2 next Tuesday at 2.45pm.**

Miss Underhill (Year 1/2 teacher) leads Music in our school. Did you know that the Model Music Curriculum advocates the principles of warm-ups, breathing, posture, dynamics, phrasing, context and vocal health as children develop their vocal potential? If you would like to know more about the Model Music Curriculum and how singing plays a key part then please do [click here](#).

Dodford Parents' Association (DPA) Christmas Fayre

With diligent planning and the safety of our school and wider community at heart, the DPA have been working with us to ensure that you still have the opportunity to purchase festive gifts, although the fayre on Saturday has been cancelled. **As school ends next Wednesday (15th) and Thursday (16th)**, the DPA will be hosting a stall which will include selling lots of specifically Christmas-related sweets, such as Christmas Eve Hot Chocolate with a Christmassy jelly pop, Snowman Soup, Snowman Poo (marshmallows), Reindeer Poo (chocolate drops), Elf Poo (Fruit Pastelle type drops), Santa Kisses (Cherry Lips) and Rudolph Noses (strawberry bonbons).

We appreciate you may wish to purchase items without the patter of tiny feet around, so the Christmas stall will be open from **2.45pm both days on our school playground**. Wishing to include families in extra-curricular events (see our separate note regarding Four Seasons), we will operate a stall from 4.20pm—4.30pm Wednesday and Thursday evening.

We are thankful to the DPA for running these stalls which will generate essential funds for our school development. There is no doubt that Covid has placed extra pressure on school finances, so every penny raised will be ploughed back into the education of our children. Risk assessments have been drawn up—we ask for your help in keeping our school community safe by following the safety rules on the day. Our hearts and minds are drawn to families at this time and taking every safety measure possible, so families are able to enjoy the season of goodwill together, not self-isolating.

TO CONFIRM: THE DPA CHRISTMAS FAYRE IS CANCELLED.

Fockbury Road.
Dodford,
Bromsgrove, B61 9AW
office@dodford.worcs.sch.uk
Headteacher: Mrs Lisa Parkes

CLUBS NEXT HALF TERM AFTER SCHOOL

THURSDAY 3.15—4.15

SCANDANAVIAN SPORTS

FRIDAY 3.15—4.15

FOOTBALL CLUB

MORE COMING SOON!

ATTENDANCE

WRENS— 95.85%

ROBINS 1— 94.32%

ROBINS 2— 96.84%

OWLS 3— 92.71%

OWLS 4— 95.33%

STAR AWARDS:

RECEPTION: LEILA

YEAR 1: FLORENCE

YEAR 2: JOSEPH

YEAR 3: LOIS

YEAR 4: MAISIE

HOUSE POINTS:

AVON: 115

TEME : 118

SEVERN: 88



DODFORD FIRST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Every Day, a Learning Journey

Booking Extra-Curricular Clubs

On **Monday 13th December at 7.00pm**, the January extra-curricular club booking system (ParentPay) will open. We ask for parents of children who have already attended multi-sports, to give other children an opportunity to attend. Jon has increased his club capacity from 15 to 20 to enable a greater number of children to partake in physical activity after school. We are endeavouring to extend the range of extra-curricular clubs we offer: please bear with us.

Thinking Ahead— School Dinners

Please do remember to book your school dinners by **30th December** for the start of the New Year. We are fortunate for our healthy and nutritious meals to be provided by a very dedicated team from Class Catering. Often teams like Class Catering are very much behind the scenes of school operation. We feel sure you will join us in wishing the Class Catering team a Merry Christmas and for thanking them for serving our children with a smile through the year.

Giving A Little Helps A Lot

A polite reminder that we are gathering donations of non-perishable food (nut free) with a specific request for children's toiletries and pet food for Bromsgrove NewStarts on **Tuesday 13th December**. Mrs Crawford's car boot will be open for all donations to be placed inside. Donations will be taken to the charity at the end of the school day. Please do give generously as we focus children's hearts and minds on the needs of others, often less fortunate than ourselves, at this time of year.

Teaching Assistant Vacancy in School

Do you know a high calibre qualified Teaching Assistant who would help the expertise of our teaching team to flourish? If so, please do let them know we have a full-time Teaching Assistant vacancy currently advertised on WM Jobs. We are looking for a member of staff who is experienced in the National Curriculum objectives and can offer knowledge, skills and the experience to help our school continue to grow.

Covid

Any visitors into our school building are requested to lateral flow before visiting. Staff are continuing to lateral flow as a precautionary measure. You do not need to lateral flow to drop off and collect your child/children, but please do socially distance on the playground to reduce any risk of transmission.

MUST REMEMBER!

NewStarts Charity Initiative

13th December

Christmas Dinner Day

14th December

If you have not ordered a Christmas dinner for your child, please ensure they have a packed lunch as there will be no alternative options on that day.

Church Carols (No Parents)

15th December

Coats essential as children will walk to church this afternoon, whatever the weather!

Christmas Party Day

16th December

Children are invited to wear party clothes to school. Sensible shoes and warm clothing are a must though as children will still play outdoors. Snacks will be provided by the DPA (thank you).

DPA led Christmas Crafts

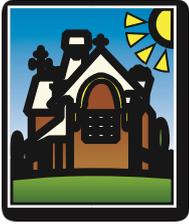
16th December

The DPA are leading Christmas craft classroom workshops. We appreciate this DPA team!

Last Day of Term

17th December

A wonderful final day of the term is planned with an online pantomime and Christmas themed classroom activities.



DODFORD FIRST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Every Day, a Learning Journey

Four Day Christmas Club Special

Understanding Four Seasons are unable to open this week, we are running Christmas Club for **children who would ordinarily attend Four Seasons** after school from **Monday through to Thursday next week from 3.15pm—4.30pm for a charge of £5.00 per session**. We thank our staff for going above and beyond during the final week of term to support our families. Please book via ParentPay. If your child does not usually attend Four Seasons, you are welcome to book into any free spaces after 10.30am on Monday 13th.

Morrison's Good to Grow Scheme

We are staggered by the amount of Good to Grow vouchers our school families have logged for our school on the Good to Grow app. With over 2000 vouchers, Mrs Sharples will now work with the children to decide the best 'good to grow' equipment for our school. We are genuinely grateful for your help collecting and logging vouchers—thank you.

A few words from our Key Stage 2 children

'We are learning about the Romans...the Roman Emperors and Hadrian's Wall. I'd like know more about why the Roman's invaded Britain', Theo C (Y3)

'We're reading James and The Giant Peach...we've been writing quotes and writing a newspaper article. We might be doing a play script next', Annabel and Alice (Y3)

'In maths, we've been multiplying numbers by 10's, 100's and 1000's. I want to know how to multiply bigger numbers together', Evie (Y4)

A final note from Mrs. Parkes

As we approach the final week of the Autumn term and head into Christmas week at Dodford, I would like to say a big thank you for your ongoing support. Even in these unprecedented times, the staff have shown just how determined they are, to ensure your children still have those Christmas school memories which will be fondly remembered in years to come. I would also like to say a big thank you to the Parent's Association for their hard work to organise stalls, create hampers, organise personalised Christmas cards and provide gifts for the children – these little extras mean a lot to our families and their hard work is much appreciated!

On a personal note, I continue to make little steps forward with my recovery and will continue to work from home alongside Mrs Crawford and the team over the next week. I will sorely miss the fun and games that the last week of term brings but I know I will receive regular updates from the team. I've already heard about the wonderful singing!

Fockbury Road.
Dodford,
Bromsgrove, B61 9AW
office@dodford.worcs.sch.uk
Headteacher: Mrs Lisa Parkes

A Christmas Bonus!

Jon, our fantastic sports coach, has offered to run a 'Christmas Sports Club' for children in Years 1 to 4 on **Thursday 16th December** as part of our commitment to helping parents during this last week of term.

In line with our Christmas Club Specials, there will be a one-off charge of £5 for this event.

There are 20 spaces available.

Booking is open for all on ParentPay.

Thank you to Jon for offering to go above and beyond during the last week of term.



Don't forget to follow us on
Twitter,
[@DodfordFirst](#)