

# Ditton Primary Newsletter



20th September 2024

## Message from the Headteacher



The children looked exceptionally smart on Photo Day, and we are confident you will be thrilled with their photographs when they come back to school!

We've noticed a rise in misplaced jumpers, coats, and cardigans throughout the school. To help us swiftly return any lost items, please make sure your child's clothing is clearly labeled.

We eagerly anticipate welcoming Year 6 parents on Wednesday to discuss what to expect in Year 6 and address any questions you may have.

Additionally, please note that applications for the Reception class of 2025 are now available on the Halton website. Keep an eye out for information regarding open days, and feel free to recommend us to your friends!

## Diary Dates

### SEPTEMBER

25th – Year 6 Parent's Meeting @ 5pm

### NOVEMBER

4th – School reopens

8th – Interim reports to parents

13th /14th – Parent consultations

19th – Flu immunisations

### OCTOBER

4th – Yr 6 trip to Imperial War Museum

16th – Yr 5 trip to Tatton Park

18th – School Closes for Half term



# Attendance - IMPORTANT

---

The government introduced new procedures for school absences, which became mandatory in August 2024.

The guidance outlines expectations for parents:

- Ensure your child attends school regularly and notify the school as soon as possible if your child is unexpectedly absent.
- Request leave of absence only in exceptional circumstances and do so in advance to the Headteacher.
- Whenever feasible, schedule medical appointments outside of school hours. If appointments during school time are unavoidable, inform the school in advance (and if your child attends the appointment in uniform, they may return to school afterwards).
- Collaborate with your child's school and the Local Authority to address any barriers to regular school attendance.
- Engage with the support provided.

In addition to clarifying expectations for parents, schools, and Local Authorities, the Department for Education has updated penalty notices: the cost of each notice will increase to £160 (£80 if paid within 21 days) for the first offence occurring after August 19th.

Starting August 19th, if a parent takes their child out of school and incurs a second offence within a rolling three-year period, the penalty notice amount will automatically be set at £160 (with no reduction for early payment). For any third offence within this period, there will be no penalty notice, but prosecution will occur.

Penalty notices are issued per parent, per child.

This new guidance aims to promote optimal school attendance for every child in Halton and is applicable to all schools in England.

We are dedicated to collaborating with families to eliminate any barriers to attendance—please feel free to reach out and talk to us!

# Reception



We have had another delightful week at Ditton. We have been exploring our model text in English and learning some new vocabulary.

In maths we have been recognising digits and matching them to quantities.

In phonics we started reading CVC words, blending known graphemes to say them aloud.

In science we have been learning about parts of the body, labelling them and talking about their functions.

We have continued to adapt to the new rules and routines in school and have been working hard to achieve Ditton Dots!

Reminders:

- Please ensure any inhalers have a Doctors Label on, and correct medical forms have been completed at the office.

# Year 1

In year 1 this week..

**English :** The children have been learning lots of new vocabulary from our vehicle text 'Old Bear' by Jane Hissey. The children have included this vocabulary in their sentence writing.

**Maths:** This week we have continued our journey of counting on and back. The children have been ordering numbers and matching to the correct numicon. Next week we will be moving on to one more and one less.

**Science :** This week we have started to look at animals and grouped them into farm and zoo animals. It was lovely hearing the children recall trips to the farm and the zoo outside of school.

**History :** We have been discussing changes over the time. The children have been able to discuss and explore the changes a human will go through in their lives and the different stages of growing up.

Reminders: Please log all reads on Boom Reader.

Please make sure all uniform items are clearly labelled.

# Year 2

Year 2 have continued to work incredibly hard this week!

In Maths we have been looking at partitioning 2-digit numbers and writing related number facts.

In English we have continued exploring the story of the Night Gardener and understanding the interesting vocabulary from it. We then used this vocabulary to write wonderful sentences of our own.

In Science we are learning all about Energy. Children were able to identify items that require electricity and could identify which used batteries, and which required a connection to the mains.

In RE we have been discussing why people feel they have a responsibility to look after the natural world.

Reminders:

- PE kits and spare footwear on Wednesday
- Spelling test on Friday
- 3 BoomReader uploads per week, to earn a reward.





## Year 3

.....

This week in year 3 we have been unpicking our example text in English, we have enjoyed identifying the language and structural features that the author has used so that we can include them when we write our own version.

In maths we have been counting in 50's and comparing numbers using more than and less than symbols and ordering on a number line!

We have learnt lots of new things about The Stone Age ready for our trip in a few weeks, looking at artefacts and discussing the meaning of prehistory. We are loving our history topic!

## Year 4

.....

What a busy week we have had in Year 4! We loved reading about the Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane and how he was reunited with his owner after many years. We are looking forward to reading more about the Gargoyles that come to life at night. We began learning about ancient civilisations by thinking about chronology and timelines. In Science, we reviewed our prior knowledge of living things and thought about plant scientists like David Attenborough. We really enjoyed the challenge of drawing Penrose Triangles in Art and used shading techniques to create a 3D effect. Miss Underwood was very impressed with our tempo and dynamics work using the glockenspiels today.

## Year 5

.....

This week year 5 have been continuing learning about 'Henry's Freedom Box' in our English unit. They are particularly enjoying learning all about Henry and his journey to a safe place! In science we have been engaging in a range of experiments and looking at soluble and insoluble substances!

Maths has been a tricky one this week with rounding numbers up to 100,000! The children have shown great resilience during these sessions and have been striving to succeed! Well done, Year 5!

## Year 6

.....

There was some tremendous work produced in year 6 this week, where we edited a paragraph relating to an incident from the war-based novel we are studying – Rose Blanche. In Maths we have worked with number lines for 5, 6 and 7 digit numbers and have begun rounding numbers to 1000, 10,000, 100,000 and 1,000,000. In Science we investigated what happens when you add in additional components to a circuit, while in Music we fine-tuned our acoustic guitar skills. Please remember our trip to the Imperial War Museum is in 2 weeks, and permission will need to be given in order for children to go.

The children have really enjoyed Boy in the Tower in Shared Reading. Here, they acted out the attack of the Bluchers!



# Certificate Winners!

Name	School Value	Reason
Hallie	Pioneering	For becoming more confident each day and joining in more on the carpet.
Violet C	Children First	Fantastic work and effort in maths lessons
James	Pioneering	For fantastic ordering and matching in maths this week. Superstar!
Leola	Children First	For always following class and school rules and being a role model to others.
Melody	Pioneering	For fantastic science work grouping farm and zoo animals.
Rosie	Pioneering	For demonstrating fantastic phonics skills this week and being a super role model to our class!
James T	Resilience	Tremendous resilience coming in and working really hard after being ill.
Zachary W	Children First	Excellent effort, attitude and behaviour in class.
Grace B	Children First	Always trying her best and being a great role model
Lucas C	Children First	For excellent behaviour and trying well in ALL subjects.
Phoebe J	Children First	For sharing some excellent ideas during our E-safety lesson.
Aoife X	Pioneering	Fantastic vocabulary choices during our writing sessions!
Shelby	Resilience	For trying incredibly hard, even when she finds things tricky.
Amelia	Resilience	For trying really hard during Maths this week. She's a partitioning superstar!
Ezra	Resilience	For trying really hard to come into school with a big smile
Emily R	Resilience	For trying hard in maths and doing it with a big beautiful smile on her face.

# Attendance!

Class	Attendance	Punctuality
Mrs L-Byrne/Mrs Till	95.61% This is below the school target of 96% but is a big improvement in last week! Keep it up!	6 lates
Mr Longworth	96.49% FANTASTIC!! Well done!!	3 lates
Miss Dixon	95.37% This is below the school target of 96% but so close!!!	2 lates
Mrs Driscoll	94.75% This is below the school target of 96%	7 lates
Miss Alderton	93.03% This is below the school target of 96% but a big improvement on last week!	12 lates
Miss Powell	92.33 % This is below the school target of 96% but is an improvement on last week!	5 lates
Mrs Magan	97.53% FANTASTIC!! Well Done! THIS WEEK'S WINNERS!	5 lates
Mr Paul	94.25% This is below the school target of 96%	11 lates
Mr Lynch	96.26% FANTASTIC!! Well done!!	12 lates
Mrs Hubball	86.21% This is below the school target of 96%	1 late WELL DONE!
Mr Linaker	92.78% This is below the school target of 96%	4 lates
Miss Woodward	96.61% FANTASTIC!! Well Done!	5 lates
Mr White	94.44% This is below the school target of 96%	3 lates
Mr Bourque	94.87% This is below the school target of 96%	9 lates

We've observed a significant rise in the number of children arriving late this week. While it might not appear to be a major issue if your child is only five minutes late, it actually causes them to miss the beginning of the daily routine. This can be unsettling and may disrupt the teaching and learning environment of the entire class. Furthermore, being just five minutes late each day results in a loss of 25 minutes of learning each week, which adds up to a staggering 16 hours over the course of the year!

The school target is 96%

If there are any issues regarding attendance, please speak to us as soon as possible so that we can help!