

Ditton Primary Newsletter

4th October 2024

Message from the Headteacher



I'm delighted to share some exciting news from our bustling school community. Our Year 3 pupils recently embarked on an adventure to Beeston Castle, whilst Year 6 explored the Imperial War Museum. It's always a joy to hear how our pupils shine beyond the classroom, and I'm thrilled to report that both groups were praised for their exemplary behaviour. Well done to all involved!

We've also had a visit from our School Improvement partner, who cast an expert eye over our maths teaching. Her insights have been invaluable, and we're eager to implement her recommendations to further enhance our maths provision.

On a practical note, I'd like to draw your attention to two important items. Firstly, please take a moment to read about the maths app detailed later in this newsletter. It's a fantastic resource that I'm sure you'll find helpful. Secondly, we're now accepting Harvest donations. You'll find all the necessary information about this in the following pages.

Diary Dates

OCTOBER

- 16th - Yr 5 trip to Tatton Park
- 17th - Halloween Film Night
- 18th - School Closes for Half term

NOVEMBER

- 4th - School reopens
- 6th - Reception Phonics Meeting
- 8th - Interim reports to parents
- 8th - Interim reports to parents
- 13th /14th - Parent consultations
- 15th - Fire Service visit KS2
- 19th - Flu immunisations
- 28th - School Dental health visit (rec, Y2, Y5)



Reception

We have had another week of hard work in Reception. On Monday we learnt the Spanish names for colours, and went on a hunt to find objects. On Wednesday, we went hunting for the longest worms in Forest School! In English this week we have been writing the ending of a sentence about frogs. We used our phonic knowledge to sound out a word for the fact file. In Maths we have been comparing quantities using words such as 'more' and 'fewer'. We began explaining our reasoning, thinking about how we knew an answer. In Phonics we have learnt the tricky word 'l' and the graphemes 'ck', 'e', 'u', and r'.

Notices:

Please join us on Wednesday 6th November at 2pm, to discover how we teach phonics and early reading.

Year 1

In Year 1 this week...

English: This week we have been super detectives by analysing the example text. We have looked for key features that make a good story. For example, capital letters, full stops and conjunction 'and'.

History: This week we have looked at how classrooms have changed over the past 100 years. The children were able to spot lots of differences in the images and even name some similarities too.

Science: This week we have been discussing the five senses and linking them to the correct parts of the body. Next week, we will be walking around the school grounds to see what we can see, hear, touch and smell.

Phonics: We have introduced the first set of graphemes in phase 5. These sounds are, oy, ay, ou and ea. Look out for them in words in the environment.

Reminders: We have noticed that quite a lot of children have not returned their library books this week. Children need to return the borrowed book to pick a new one.

- Please ensure you log each read on Boom Reader as reading books will not be changed until the book is marked as complete.

- Due to the quick decline in weather, children must be wearing wellies or other appropriate footwear to take part in forest school.

Year 2

Year two have been, busy, busy this week!

English: We have been analysing the model text and discussing the writer's knowledge to develop our skills for when it comes to writing our own piece.

Science: We have continued learning about electricity, and how this energy can produce movement, heat, sound and light in different objects.

RE: We enjoyed some Christian hymns this week in our RE lesson, as we learnt about why Christian's feel it is their duty to care for the world.

Spanish: We were learning about the gifts of the earth this week and singing a lovely Spanish song.

Reminders

Please log 3 reads per week, minimum, on BoomReader

Wednesday is PE/Forest school, please remember spare shoes/wellies

Library/reading books need to be returned regularly please so they can be swapped

Year 3

Year 3 have worked very hard this week, placing numbers on a number line and planning our approaching danger narrative.

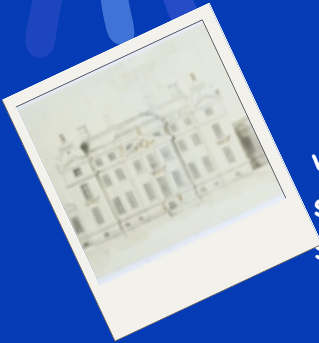
On Thursday we had the opportunity to visit Beeston Castle to support with our history topic 'Stone age to Iron Age'. We took the opportunity to participate in a workshop which taught us about where settlements would have been and investigate why this was a good location and visit a roundhouse that was built using only traditional tools. We also did some geography fieldwork, walking over a bridge and enjoying the 360 degree views, we could see the Liverpool cathedrals and Jodrell Bank!

All children represented the school very well and I am sure will have slept well after all of the fresh air.



Year 4

Year four have had an excellent week in school. We have compared and ordered four-digit numbers using our place value knowledge to solve problems. In English, we have planned our setting narratives, and we are very much looking forward to showing off our writing skills next week. In RE, we re-told the story of Rama and Sita and discussed the traits of each character. This helped us to understand how Hindu's use the story to help with moral guidance. In Art, we learnt about Lady Elizabeth Wilbraham who was a member of the English aristocracy and an important architectural patron. It has been suggested that she was the first female architect, and whose work may have been attributed to men. We thoroughly enjoyed taking inspiration from her to create skyline drawings of local buildings.



Year 5

This week we have been learning about biographies in English. We read about the life of Martin Luther King Jr. Next week, we will be planning our biographies of the life of Henry Box Brown. In maths, we have been looking at strategies for adding and subtracting numbers, including mentally and inverse operations. In science, we continued our investigations into dissolving by comparing the effect of changing the temperature of the water we added sugar to. In history we have found out about the 7 Anglo Saxon Kingdoms. It is not long until our visit to Tatton Park where we will be learning even more about the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings.

Year 6

Year 6 have been learning about the Polish nurse, Irena Sendler, as they work towards writing a bravery award speech. In maths, we have been using different strategies to mentally add and subtract, whilst in Science, we have been exploring voltage and current. Of course, the highlight of the week has been Friday's trip to the Imperial War Museum, where we made documentaries about the first World War and completed a quiz about both World Wars.



Certificate Winners!

Name	School Value	Reason
Harry	Pioneering	For your enthusiastic retelling of your weekend adventure to the museums. You really demonstrated your interest in what you saw!
Finn K	Children First	For being a fantastic role model in school and on our trip and following the school expectations all week.
Bella	Children First	For always following our school rules and settling into reception really well!
Connor	Resilience	For trying his best across the curriculum and volunteering to help.
Alina	Pioneering	For being a wonderful role model at all times.
Jah DR	Resilience	Trying really hard to work independently and keep positive
Lyra	Pioneering	For super work in English this week. Lyra was able to use nouns and adjectives to make a list poem. Superstar!
Lyssiah G	Resilience	Working hard across all subjects and a positive attitude to learning!
Elijah L	Children First	For a fantastic effort in maths this week, finding 1 more than a number. Well done!
Jensen R	Resilience	Reading at home regularly and logging it on Boom.
Summer	Resilience	For asking for help when she needs it.

Attendance!

Class	Attendance	Punctuality
Mrs L-Byrne/Mrs Till	97.81% FANTASTIC!! Well Done!	4 lates
Mr Longworth	96.93% FANTASTIC!! Well done!!	0 lates! Well done!!
Miss Dixon	88.27% This is below the school target of 96%	0 lates! Well done!!
Mrs Drsicoll	87.35% This is below the school target of 96%	5 lates
Miss Alderton	97.21% FANTASTIC!! Well Done!	11 lates
Miss Powell	86 % This is below the school target of 96%	3 lates
Mrs Magan	95.29% This is below the school target of 96%	3 lates
Mr Paul	95.28% This is below the school target of 96%	10 lates
Mr Lynch	90.23% This is below the school target of 96%	9 lates
Mrs Hubball	93.97% This is below the school target of 96% but a big improvement on last week!	1 late
Mr Linaker	88.18% This is below the school target of 96%	3 lates
Miss Woodward	95.17% This is below the school target of 96%	9 lates
Mr White	95.83% This is below the school target of 96%	6 lates
Mr Bourque	90.21% 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's attendance target is set at 96%.

Several classes have been impacted by families choosing to take vacations during term time. Please note that, in accordance with government guidelines, the Local Authority is imposing fines of £160 per parent, for each child, if there are more than five days of unauthorised absence due to holidays.

Maths Help at Home

What's the app about?

This first version of the app is aimed at Key Stage 1 pupils. Individual one-minute tasks focus on adding and subtracting – and on 'Subitising', the skill of instantly recognising the number of items in a group without counting. Multiplication and division topics are also now available!

How do we use it?

Children can choose any topic they want to try. They then answer a unique series of questions (so it's a different set of questions every time). If they're struggling with a question, a 'Hint' button will give a helpful clue by showing the question in a different but familiar way.

When the one minute's up, they'll see a feedback screen telling them how they've done.

Download free from:

<https://whiteroseeducation.com/1-minute-maths>



DITTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

harvest DONATIONS



We are collecting items for
our local food bank:

TINNED FISH
TINNED HAM
TEA/COFFEE
BISCUITS
PASTA 'N' SAUCE
MICROWAVE RICE
TINNED FRUIT
TOILET ROLL
OR ANY OTHER SUITABLE ITEMS

Items can be brought into school from the
6th October to 18th October



Harvest Donations

We are proud to be supporting our
local foodbank and would appreciate
any donations. Please bring them to
your child's class where they will be
collected.