

Ditton Primary Newsletter



8th November 2024

Message from the Headteacher

What a wonderful start we've had to the term! It's been a joy to see our pupils settling back into their routines and embracing new challenges with enthusiasm.

I'm delighted to share that our Year 1 pupils had a marvellous time on their trip to Imagine That. Their behaviour was exemplary, and they represented our school beautifully. It's always heartening to see our young learners engaging so positively with experiences beyond the classroom.

While Mr White and Mr Paul are currently on an exciting adventure in Peru (do check out our school Facebook page for some fantastic images!), I've had the pleasure of teaching Year 6. It's been a reminder of the incredible potential our oldest pupils possess, and I've thoroughly enjoyed my time with them.

Looking ahead, Monday marks Remembrance Day. We're asking all pupils to wear red to school on this day as a symbol of remembrance and respect. Please note that no donation is required for this; it's simply an opportunity for us to come together as a community in reflection.

As always, I'm immensely proud of our school community and the way we support one another. Here's to another term of growth, learning, and shared successes!

NOVEMBER

- 11th – Remembrance Day
- 12th – Y4 trip to World Museum
- 13th /14th – Parent consultations
- 15th – Fire Service visit KS2
- 19th – Flu immunisations
- 28th – School Dental health visit (rec, Y2, Y5)

Diary Dates

DECEMBER

- 10th – Carols around the tree @9.30am
- 16th – 19th – Breakfast with Santa @8am
- 17th – KS1 Nativity (time TBC)
- 17th/18th – EYFS Christmas Show (time TBC)
- 19th – KS1 Nativity (time TBC)
- 19th – Christmas Fair @2pm



Reception



Welcome back! We hope you had a lovely break. Thank you to those parents who joined us on Wednesday to learn more about our Phonics scheme. We have got straight down to it this week and have started learning our new story 'Star in a Jar'. This has kicked off our learning of stars, space, light and dark.



Children learnt about the importance of safety around bonfire night.

We have learnt about another special event coming up this week, Remembrance Sunday. We learnt the importance of remembering those who fought for our freedom.



Year 1

The children thoroughly enjoyed our class trip to Imagine That. The children's behaviour was exemplary, and they were excellent representatives for our school. The children enjoyed making slime, painting magnets, completing experiments and so much more. Keep your eye on X (formally known as Twitter) for trip pictures early next week.

Bonfire Night

This week we discussed why we celebrate bonfire night and where this celebration originates from. The children came up with some wonderful suggestions on how to stay safe during Bonfire Night.

Phonics

This week we have introduced new sounds in phonics.

ir- bird ie- pie ue- blue (oo) rescue (yoo) u- unicorn

You could try sounding out some words at home containing these sounds and see if the children can blend to guess the word.

Reminders

- Please make sure you book a parent consultation to speak to your child's teacher about their progress.
- Log all reading on Boom reader.
- Library books need to be returned to be changed.
- Children to wear something red to school on Mon 11/11/24 for Remembrance Day.

Year 2

We've had a busy yet productive first week back!

Year 2 have worked incredibly hard this week on their assessments, showing off all the knowledge they've acquired so far this year.

In forest school this week, the children created poppies to commemorate Remembrance Day.

We have been writing our setting narratives and are due to finish them next week. We can't wait to share them with you at parent's evening.

Reminders

- If you haven't already, please book a parent's evening appointment
- Reading needs to be logged 3x weekly
- Wellies/spare shoes are to be provided on Wednesday for Forest School
- Children are to wear something red to commemorate Remembrance Day on Monday 11th.



Year 3

What a busy week in year 3! We have come back and completed our Autumn term assessments. All children tried their hardest and we look forward to sharing their achievements at parents evening next week.

We have enjoyed starting our next PSHE topic which is about personal safety and identifying hazards around the home. In D&T We have started to work towards building our own shell structure and in History we have moved on from the Stone Age into the Bronze Age and have identified the differences and similarities.

All children were very enthusiastic about our shared reading story 'The Princess and the Pea' and enjoyed identifying how the Queen felt about the prince and his wife to be and how the Prince differed from his family.

Year 4



Y4 have got straight back to work and have put lots of time and effort into their Autumn Term assessments. We are very proud of how hard the children have worked and look forward to meeting with parents and carers next week. In computing, the children have moved on to our programming unit of work and used Scratch to create their own animations.

In music, the children enjoyed playing the glockenspiels concentrating on rhythm and tempo. The children loved the challenge of using one-point perspective in art to draw realistic 3D images. We are really looking forward to our trip next week.

Year 5

What a busy week back we have had!

This week the children have jumped straight into their assessments to show off their knowledge and understanding of reading and maths! We're super proud of their mature attitude during assessment week as it can be quite tiring!

Some of the class enjoyed a lovely trip to Liverpool University to learn all about possible future careers and engaged in a range of activities! Those who stayed behind had a lovely day of art filled activities focussing on graffiti art and how to effectively use water colours!

The children have worked very hard this week, well done, Year 5!

Year 6

This week has been assessment week and for year 6 this has meant SATS practise! For the first time, both Y6 classes attempted a past SATS paper for Maths, Reading, Spelling and Punctuation and Grammar. Staff have been very impressed with how serious the children have taken these tests and their resilience in completing them. The children have also continued work in history learning about significant people from WW1. Both classes have learned about the lives of Walter Tull and Edith Cavell; discussed why we remember them and also compared their lives looking at the similarities between the two!

Certificate Winners!

Name	School Value	Reason
Eli	Pioneering	For attending to his own needs more, without prompting. Such as remembering to fill up his water bottle.
Alfie M	Children First	For excellent behaviour, working as hard as he can and being a great friend.
Year 1	Children First	For fantastic behaviour on our class trip to Imagine That this week. The children were true representatives for our school. Well done, children!
Lilly-May P	Resilience	For making positive choices in school this week and following the school rules well. Superstar, Lilly-May!
Harry S	Resilience	For a fantastic improvement with his handwriting. Keep it up, superstar!
Luca B	Pioneering	For making a great start to the half term and following the expectations.
Noah G	Resilienc	For showing great resilience this week.
Khlaidi	Children First	For being a fantastic role model in class.
Riley	Pioneering	For working really hard this week.
Anna E	Resilience	Trying exceptionally hard with her assessments this week. She has shown great determination and resilience.
Noah R	Resilience	Trying exceptionally hard with his assessments this week. He has shown great determination and resilience.
Hollie ON	Pioneering	For performing well in all three Maths assessment this week!
Summer U	Resilience	For asking for help from friends and adults when she needs it
Ronnie P	Pioneering	For a wonderful setting narrative
Riley D	Resilience	For a more positive attitude to learning!

Attendance!

Class	Attendance	Punctuality
Mrs L-Byrne/Mrs Till	96.71% FANTASTIC!! Well done!!	3 lates
Mr Longworth	92.11% This is below the school target of 96%	3 lates
Miss Dixon	95.05% This is below the school target of 96%	0 lates
Mrs Driscoll	96.83% FANTASTIC!! Well done!!	3 lates
Miss Alderton	94.79% This is below the school target of 96%	6 lates
Miss Powell	91.5 % This is below the school target of 96%	2 lates
Mrs Magan	99.07% FANTASTIC!! Well done!!	2 lates
Mr Paul	92.41% This is below the school target of 96%	6 lates
Mr Lynch	91.38% This is below the school target of 96%	9 lates
Mrs Hubball	93.1% This is below the school target of 96%	4 lates
Mr Linaker	93.33% This is below the school target of 96%	0 lates
Miss Woodward	93.75 % This is below the school target of 96%	7 lates
Mr White	98.98% FANTASTIC!! Well done!!	2 lates
Mr Bourque	90.87% This is below the school target of 96%	4 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.

Staffing Update

Further to the Ping that was sent out to parents regarding the staff that are due to start maternity leave between February and April, we would also like to inform you of another future change to staffing:

Mr Lynch will be leaving Ditton at Christmas to pursue another career. I am sure that you will join us in wishing him every success and thank him for the dedication he has shown to the pupils in our school.

Once we finalise staffing arrangements we will inform parents to ensure a smooth transition between staff.



LOST WE
FORGET

DITTON PRIMARY SCHOOL
MONDAY 11TH NOVEMBER

TO MARK REMEMBRANCE DAY 2024, WE
ARE ASKING PUPILS AND STAFF TO WEAR
SOMETHING RED.

WE ARE HOPING TO MARK THE DAY BY
CREATING PHYSICAL MONTAGES OF
POPPIES USING OUR SCHOOL
COMMUNITY.

YOUR SUPPORT IS APPRECIATED.



**RECEPTION
CLASS 2025
OPEN DAY**

Join us for an honest, exciting and educational experience at our reception class open days. Meet our dedicated teachers, explore our amazing school and get a glimpse of the exciting curriculum we offer.

 **Date** **Saturday 9th November**

 **Time** : at 12.30PM - 3.00 PM

 **Location** DITTON PRIMARY SCHOOL, LIVERPOOL ROAD, WIDNES, WA8 7HD

**NO NEED TO BOOK!
JUST COME ALONG!**

Don't miss this chance to be a part of our school community and take the first step towards your child's brighter future!



Reminders

- Please can parents and children remember that riding bikes and scooters on the playground and on the main path at pick up and drop off times is discouraged. Accidents can easily happen so we ask that people walk their bikes and scooters whilst on school property.
- Electric scooters and bikes are not permitted within the school gates.
- Please ensure that you have booked your parent consultation meeting with your child's teacher vis SchoolPing