

# Ditton Primary Newsletter

28th March 2025

## Message from the Headteacher

I hope you've had a great week. I wanted to let you know that we have now moved our school messaging service from SchoolPing to Arbor.

All parents should have received an email with a link to download the Arbor Parent App. Once you're logged in, you'll be able to:

- Check that the information we hold about your child is correct
- Notify us of any changes or updates
- View your child's attendance information
- Receive messages directly from school

We'll soon be using Arbor for payments too – including trips, clubs and other school activities – so it's important that all parents download and get set up on the app as soon as possible.

As always, we are guided by our core values: Children First, Pioneering, and Resilience. This change is part of our ongoing commitment to putting children at the heart of everything we do, using innovative tools to improve communication, and making sure we're resilient and responsive to the needs of our school community.

If you haven't received the email or need any help getting started, please contact the school office and we'll be happy to support you.

Thank you for your continued support.



## Diary Dates

7th Apr – Y6 practise tests

10<sup>th</sup> Apr – Easter bonnet Parade @ 9.30am

10<sup>th</sup> Apr – Decorate an egg competition

11th Apr – Easter Holidays

22nd April – School reopens

25th April – Y5 chemistry workshops

12th – 15th May – Y6 Sats Breakfast club

12th – 15th May – Y6 Sats Assessments

19th May – Provisional Date for Sports Day KS1

20th May – Provisional Date for Sports Day  
LKS2

21st May – Provisional Date for Sports Day UKS2

22nd May – Provisional Date for Sports Day  
EYFS

23rd May – Half term holidays

## Reception



We have had a lovely week in reception, making the most of our outdoor learning in the beautiful weather! We have enjoyed building obstacle courses, water play, parachute games and picnic snacks in the sun!

In Maths we have been exploring mass by using spring and balance scales to measure the weight of objects around our classroom. We have compared different items using key vocabulary such as lighter, heavier, lightest and heaviest.

In English we have started our new instruction writing unit. We have explored ideas of how to catch a wolf, linked to our class story 'Little Red.' The children came up with some wonderful ideas of what equipment we would need and the order of the instructions.

## Year 1

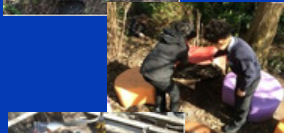
This week in Year 1...

In English, the children have started to write their portal narratives, The Land of the Wild Things. We are very impressed so far!

In Maths, the children have moved their learning on. They have continued to explore addition within 10 but are now focusing on adding by counting on. This week, they have used number tracks and number lines to add.

In RE, the children explored why Christians pray to God. They came up with some great ideas around this!

## Year 2



This week in English, the children have begun researching and gathering information about the wonderful rainforest animals for our information text. Be prepared to hear some fascinating facts about sloths, crocodiles and tigers!

In Science this week, we were very excited to explore the forest area searching for microhabitats and minibeasts. As you can see, the children really enjoyed this and it was a great reason to take our learning outdoors.

In Design Technology, the children have started to evaluate existing products. We researched soup packaging and sampled some cooked vegetables to decide which we enjoyed the most. We were very impressed with how much the children enjoyed the vegetables with lots asking for seconds!

## Year 3

Maths - We have been really trying hard with our multiplication and division topic this week. Looking at our 4s and 8 times tables. Please keep logging into TT Rockstars, as we are trying to get our heatmaps green!

English - We have been planning, editing and publishing our information leaflet this week, all about rivers! We are very excited to start our new unit next week...I wonder what it is!

Science - We have been looking at sound this half term in Science. And my goodness, I am so impressed with the prior knowledge that Year 3 has. Keep up the good work.

History - We have also been learning about the Romans and Ancient Rome this week in History. Maybe ask your child why Romulus and Remus were important to Rome.

## Year 4

What a busy week we have had!

In Maths, the children have been learning how to reorder a set of numbers so that we can find the total in a quick way! We have now moved on to 'compensating' and this will continue next week. Please keep logging in to TT rockstars to practise your times tables.

In English, we have been planning for writing. We have been describing our own mythical creatures and we are planning on writing some guidance next week for how to defeat them! We are having a push on presentation, so please practise those letter joins a little over the weekend.

In History, we have enjoyed learning about how the Ancient Maya farmed and in Science, we have been learning about states of matter: Solids, Liquids and Gases.



## Year 5

Another productive week in Year 5. We have written our narrative about our homeless child living on the streets of a desolate city. The children have worked hard to include examples of the Writer's Knowledge in their stories. In maths, we have been looking at decimals (tenths and hundredths). We used bead strings to develop our understanding and then looked at how to place a range of decimals on partially numbered number lines. In science we have continued our work on Space looking at the orbit times of the planets in our Solar System. We enjoyed playing the guitars in music and have researched Ancient Greek gods and goddesses in History. We were visited by the Fun Food Chef on Friday as part of our DT unit. We made pizzas- they tasted great! We have uploaded some pictures on to X.

## Year 6

Year 6 have made great strides in Writing this year, and we are currently writing a letter to Ed Miliband, the Minister for Energy and Climate Change. Our students will be demanding a change to the Environment Act to, hopefully, improve air quality in our region. Let's see if the government respond! On top of this we have been learning about algebra, algebraic equations, and fractions this week in Maths, as well as lots of arithmetic. Children have enjoyed playing tennis in PE and have got back to grips with the acoustic guitar in Music.



# Certificate Winners!

Name	School Value	Reason
Aurora	Children First	For displaying an excellent attitude towards school all week.
Jack	Children First	For making excellent contributions in Maths and encouraging others to join in.
Elijah L	Resilience	For an incredible effort with writing the first paragraph of his story in English. We are so proud of you!
Jesse	Resilience	For fantastic effort with your sentence writing and handwriting this week!
Mia C	Resilience	Improving attendance and punctuality.
Fraser	Pioneering	For excellent knowledge in Science
Elsie	Resilience	For your hard work in producing an informative leaflet on rivers.
Niamh-Kali	Resilience	For really trying hard with your handwriting, making your letters fit on the line and face the right direction.
Skye	Pioneering	For consistently wonderful writing, she takes us on a real journey in every piece of writing she does.
Ronnie	Children First	For always using beautiful manners without ever needing to be reminded. Such a polite member of our class.
Pearl	Pioneering	For your unwavering focus, effort and hard work.
Jessica S	Resilience	For extra effort at home practicing your X tables. Keep it up!
Oscar	Pioneering	For your unwavering focus, effort & hard work and for leading the way with Reading Plus!
Leo M	Resilience	For fantastic effort to overcome challenges and try new things!
Grace Ba	Children First	for her continued hard work in class and being a great role model for her peers.

# Attendance!

Class	Attendance	Number of lates
Mrs L-Byrne/Mrs Till	90.79% This is below the school target of 96%	4
Mr Longworth	94.03% This is below the school target of 96%	1
Miss Dixon	96.13 % FANTASTIC! Well done!	0
Mrs Driscoll	95.33% This is below the school target of 96%	4
Mrs Pauls	96.96 % FANTASTIC! Well done!	7
Miss Powell	96% FANTASTIC! Well done!	1
Miss Doherty	97.22 % FANTASTIC! Well done!	3
Miss Banlin	93.89% This is below the school target of 96%	4
Mr Paul	92.84% This is below the school target of 96%	4
Mrs Hubball	91.91% This is below the school target of 96%	1
Mr Linaker	96.24 % FANTASTIC! Well done!	3
Miss Edwards	93.11% This is below the school target of 96%	2
Mr White	99.33% FANTASTIC! Well done!	4
Mr Bourque	94.65% This is below the school target of 96%	4

It's been another busy week and we are appreciative of all the efforts to ensure that children are in school, each day, on time.

We will be increasing the number of home visits when children are absent in order to fulfil our safeguarding responsibilities and ensure we are offering support to all families.

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.

# Brilliant Behaviour

We are so proud of our pupils - out of all the behaviour logged on Track-it lights this week - 97% has been positive!



## Top classes this week

### EYFS/KS1

1st - Y2DP/LF

2nd - Y1LD

3rd - Y1RH

### KS2

1st - Y3KD

2nd - Y5FE

3rd - Y5ML



## Top pupils this week

YRRLJ - Bridie M

Y1LD - Emmi K

Y2DP - Aliye K

Y3AB - Cooper K

Y4CH - Alfie T

Y5ML - Alvin D.

Y6GB - Lillymay A/Lewi F

YRKLBN/LT - Grace H

Y1RH - Ivy Z

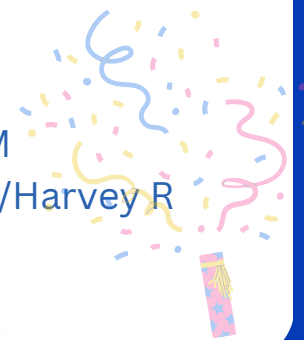
Y2AP - Skye H

Y3KD - Jacob B

Y4TP - Aurora M

Y5FE - Grace Br/Harvey R

Y6DW - Roel G



# TT ROCKSTARS

children have been working hard to turn their heat map green!! Below is the number of children in each class who have achieved this:

Y6GB - 17

Y6DW - 10

Y5ML - 6

Y5FE - 6

Y4TP - 8

Y4CH - 4

Y3KD - 0

Y3AB - 1

Spending 3 mins a day on TT Rockstars will help your child master this essential skill!!



# Easter Events



**EASTER  
BONNET PARADE**

THURSDAY APRIL 10TH, 2025  
9.30 AM

Infant playground (weather permitting)

**PRIZES FOR  
ORIGINALITY AND  
EFFORT!**



DECORATE AN  
*Easter Egg*  
COMPETITION

CHILDREN ARE INVITED TO  
DECORATE AN EGG  
(HOLLOWED OUT PLEASE!!)  
TO BE PART OF OUR ANNUAL  
EASTER ACTIVITIES.

PRIZES FOR THE MOST  
ORIGINAL DECORATED EGGS!

EGGS TO BE BROUGHT INTO  
SCHOOL ON THURSDAY 10TH  
APRIL