

Ditton Primary Newsletter

14th March 2025

Message from the Headteacher

As we move further into the term, I want to take a moment to thank you for your ongoing support in ensuring that our school remains a positive and nurturing environment for all our children.

I'd also like to remind families of the importance of keeping us informed about any issues at home that might impact your child's well-being, behaviour, or ability to learn. Whether it's a change in routine, a family situation, or something that may be on their mind, knowing about these things helps us to provide the right support in school. Please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher or a member of our pastoral team if there's anything you think we should be aware of.

Additionally, I want to gently remind everyone that if an issue arises between children in school, the best approach is always to let us handle it. I understand that, as parents, it's natural to want to step in, but addressing concerns directly with other families can sometimes make situations more difficult. If you have any concerns, please speak to your child's class teacher or a member of staff, and we will work with you to resolve any issues appropriately. Our priority is always to ensure that every child feels safe, supported, and happy at school.

Thank you for your cooperation and for being part of our school community.



Diary Dates

17th Mar – Spring Concert at St P and P
18th/19th/20th – Year 3 residential
21st Mar – Red Nose Day
28th Mar – Fun Food Chef
7th Apr – Y6 practise tests
11th Apr – Easter Holidays

21st 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 Mat – Provisional Date for Sports Day UKS2
22nd May – Provisional Date for Sports Day
EYFS
23rd May – Half term holidays

Reception

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This week, Reception has been very busy. We enjoyed showing off our Learning to some visitors to our classroom, and we have continued to make fantastic choices.

English

We have started to write the Little Red story, writing the first two parts and will continue this work next week. We thought about the events of the story as we planned.

Maths

We have been exploring partitioning of numbers 6-10, looking at different ways to partition them using a part/whole model.

Topic

We immersed ourselves in Science Week, thinking about animals and how they adapt to their environments. We will start to link this Learning to our environment and how it has everything we need!

Year 1

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This week, Year 1 have been using new vocabulary in English. They have used role play to gain a better understanding of new words, before using them in sentences. We are continuing to focus on using capital letters and full stops correctly - any help at home with this would be great!

In maths, the children continue to work on number bonds within their addition part of the unit. They need to be able to recall these quickly and so please do practise at home.

In science, the children are exploring animals' basic needs and this week, we started by looking at animals and their offspring. Reminders...

Please ensure that reading books and library books are brought to school to be changed on Fridays. There are still lots of children not changing them every week.

Although the sun has made an appearance, the weather is still quite chilly so please ensure that your child has a coat with them in school.

Year 2

English

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This week we began to look closely at the characters in our story, Grandad's Island. We collected a bank of vocabulary to describe the two characters and wrote beautiful descriptions of Grandad and Syd. We are now ready to begin planning and drafting our paragraphs for our own return narratives.

Maths

In maths, we have continued to solve missing number problems and decide which operation we need to do to find the missing number.

In Science we have investigated how we can classify a living thing and used our knowledge of MRSGREN to sort organisms into living and non-living.

In D&T we have looked at the difference between fruits and vegetables before exploring different cooking utensils and their uses. This is in preparation for designing, making, tasting and evaluating our own

Year 3

This week in 3AB, we have looked more in depth with our 4- and 8-times tables and were able to spot the similarities within the 2-, 4- and 8-times tables. At the end of the week, we have investigated fact families. In maths, 3KD have been working hard with their 4- and 8-times tables. We used bar models to solve word problems relating to the 4- and 8-times tables.

In English, we are preparing to plan our information report about rivers and cannot wait to publish them in the next couple of weeks!

Y3AB have begun our history topic about The Romans and have chronologically ordered a timeline from the Stone Age to the Romans. In Geography, we have enjoyed creating a fact file about the North West of England. In Forest School, the children enjoyed tasting their Watercress that they planted 3 weeks ago.

Year 4

This week, year 4 have been continuing to prepare for the multiplication check in June. Plenty of practice means plenty of progress – please keep up the good work at home!

In English, we have been putting the finishing touches to our myths and these are now ready to publish.

In Maths, we have been using the inverse operation to work out a variety of addition and subtraction calculations.

We have enjoyed the beginning of our History topic as we have created a mind map all about the Mayans.

In RE, we have been thinking about the meaning of the words 'sacrifice' and 'temptation'.



Year 5

This week, Year 5 have been working hard adding and subtracting fractions with different denominators, as well as multiplying fractions by whole numbers. In English, we have started to analyse a new text 'The Promise' by Nicola Davies. We have been identifying different language features, as well as writing character descriptions. In Science, children have enjoyed adding to their knowledge on Earth and Space that they learnt from their trip to Jodrell Bank last week! In History, we have enjoyed learning about our new topic of Ancient Greece. We have drawn timelines and located different city-states on the map. In DT, we have started our new unit 'Celebrating culture and seasonality' by researching where pizza originates from and what ingredients are needed to make pizza!

Year 6

It's been a busy week of work and play, especially in Maths where some of us have been working on fractions, and others have been doing ratio and proportion. We are writing a story about a change in environment, inspired by the picture book 'Varmints' by Helen Ward. In Science we have been sorting different types of plants and looking at microorganisms, while in PE we have been learning tennis skills. To the left is a picture of some of the children with the departing music teacher, Miss Underwood. The children wished her well in her new position and are looking forward to more lessons with Miss Mather.



DittonPS @ditton_ps · Mar 14
We said goodbye to Miss Underwood, our music teacher from @prestomusicuk, yesterday. Tears were shed in 6DW! We are looking forward to more sessions from Miss Mather though!

Attendance!

Class	Attendance	Number of lates
Mrs L-Byrne/Mrs Till	100% AMAZING!!	3
Mr Longworth	94.71% This is below the school target of 96%	3
Miss Dixon	94.14% This is below the school target of 96%	1
Mrs Driscoll	91.13% This is below the school target of 96%	2
Mrs Pauls	96.35 % FANTASTIC! Well done!	5
Miss Powell	89.56% This is below the school target of 96%	3
Miss Doherty	93.68% This is below the school target of 96%	3
Miss Banlin	95.29% This is below the school target of 96%	5
Mr Paul	90.71% This is below the school target of 96%	4
Mrs Hubball	91.64% This is below the school target of 96%	4
Mr Linaker	96.18 % FANTASTIC! Well done!	5
Miss Edwards	96.97 % FANTASTIC! Well done!	3
Mr White	92.8% This is below the school target of 96%	1
Mr Bourque	93.5% This is below the school target of 96%	5

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 - 96% has been positive!



Top classes this week

EYFS/KS1

1st - Y2DP
2nd - Y1LD
3rd - YRRJ

KS2

1st - Y4CH
2nd - Y3AB
3rd - Y4TP



Top pupils this week

YRRLJ - Hallie O
Y1LD - Emmi K
Y2DP - Poppy M
Y3AB - Cooper K
Y4CH - Alfie T
Y5ML - Reece F.
Y6GB - Mollie G

YRKLBN/LT - Jalissa A/Lewis C
Y1RH - Oliver K
Y2AP - Amelia B
Y3KD - Lottie W
Y4TP - Rosa Z
Y5FE - Anastasia A
Y6DW - Holly B

AWESOME!



TT ROCKSTARS

Children in Years 3 to 6 have been working hard to turn their heatmaps green! You will see lots of our children proudly wearing their 'gone green' badges - that show they know all their times tables!

Children in KS2 can access TTRockstars at home - ask your child's class teacher for their login if needed.

For more information check out:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ZxZbRVvbYM>

Coming soon to Year 2!!!

