

Ditton Primary Newsletter

A young girl with glasses, wearing a school uniform, is smiling and sitting next to a black and white keyboard. The background is a blue carpet.

17th January 2025

Message from the Headteacher

We have had a very positive week here at school, and it has been wonderful to see the children earning positive points and engaging so well in their learning. The calm and positive atmosphere throughout the school is truly a pleasure to witness, and I would like to thank both the children and staff for their continued efforts in making our school such a great place to learn and grow.

We are also continuing to focus on improving attendance and punctuality, as highlighted as an area for development in our Ofsted report from October 2023. We greatly appreciate your ongoing cooperation and support in ensuring that your child attends school regularly and on time. If you have any concerns regarding attendance, Mrs Noone is available to discuss these with you and will work with families to help overcome any barriers that may be impacting attendance.

Regular school attendance is not only essential for your child's learning and development but also forms a key part of our safeguarding responsibilities. Please be aware that home visits may take place even if an absence has been reported, as it is important for us to maintain regular contact and support our families where needed.

Additionally, I would like to remind everyone that electric scooters are not permitted on the school site. This rule is in place to ensure the safety of all our pupils, parents, and staff, and your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Reception



Phonics: We learnt more digraphs this week, and new tricky words. We have been tasked to practice our tricky words at home!

English: We looked at the model text for 'Joop and Nut', and started to discuss some new vocabulary. We put these new words into sentences.

Maths: We have been learning to count back from any number within 10. We did this through practical means and some children even took their learning outside and independently made a number line to jump backwards on to zero.

Topic: We have been thinking about seasonal change and our local environment. We discussed what we see on our way to school, and started to think about where on our journey we would see it. This will lead on to making maps!

A child's highlight of the week - Aadhithya said: "I liked making the hedgehog in Forest School".

Year 1

English: In English this week, we have continued with our class story, Hermelin the Detective Mouse. The children have used new vocabulary from the Vehicle Text and our Example Text to write some excellent sentences. They have also written questions for Hermelin, using question marks.

Maths: In maths, we have been exploring number bonds and working towards rapid recall of number bonds to 4, 5 and 6. We have used practical resources to support with this. We have also explored the addition (+) and equals (=) symbols, using them to write the number bonds and noticing that the equals signs can be used at the beginning or the end of a number sentence.

Science: We have continued to explore animal groups this week. Ask your child to tell you what featured birds have!

Music: The children really enjoyed using the keywords this week. They focused on positioning their hands correctly and playing the 'D' note.

Reminders : PE days have changed. 1RH is now Fridays and 1LD is on Wednesday. Remember to check our PE uniform and what your child should wear!

Please ensure your child brings their reading book and library book in on Fridays.

Year 2

English: In English this week we have finished our re build narrative based on our story from last half term 'Tidy'. We have been blown away by their independence and creativity.

Maths: In maths we have been exploring counting in steps of 2, 5 and 10 and have been starting at different numbers from 1-100. Children have enjoyed using this knowledge to inform their times table knowledge and have been playing the game 'hit the button'. Try and play it at home.

RE: In RE we have looked at our beautiful planet and how we can look after it.

Music: This week we started our work on the keyboards, children loved watching the Rythm warriors and following along.

Reminders

Please ensure your child brings their homework books into school on a Wednesday.

Please ensure your child's reading and library books are in school each day so can be changed on a Friday, please log reading on boom.

2LA PE is now Thursday

2AP PE is now Friday

Year 3

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This week in year 3 we have really enjoyed getting back into the swing of things. In English we have been planning and writing our information report all about foxes and cannot wait to start our new unit next week! I cannot believe how well year 3 are doing in maths, looking at estimating near numbers and finding the difference, both tricky topics but they are taking it in their stride! We have loved our music lessons and are getting really confident on the keyboards. We have delved into our RE work this week and have looked at what it means to be an example to someone. In PE we began gymnastics, which they have really enjoyed, alongside Forest School. In Geography we have learnt all about the United Kingdom, focusing on the regions of both Great Britain and United Kingdom and finding the difference between them both.

Year 4

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We have really enjoyed getting stuck into to our new units of work this week. Our practical science lesson was so much fun – we used tuning forks & water and rice & drums to observe vibrations. In Geography, we learnt about different mountains and how they are formed. We reviewed our continent knowledge and used an atlas to investigate the tallest mountains in each one. We loved working with the Rhythm Warriors in music and enjoyed using the keyboards. In English, we continued our writing inspired by Leaf and have worked hard to include writer knowledge. In maths, we have worked on arithmetic, times tables and addition strategies. In PE we began our gymnastics unit of work and we really impressed Kev in forest school.



Year 5

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- In English we have been exploring two versions of the same text 'The Hound of the Baskervilles' We are preparing to write a first-person cliff hanger narrative.
- In maths we have continued to use formal written methods for division and later this week applied these skills to problem solving.
- In science we have continued to investigate forces, talking about friction.
- We were visited by members of Cheshire's Fire Service on Friday afternoon. The children found out learnt about fire safety plans for their homes and also got to explore a fire engine.

Our weekly reading challenges are back and we will continue to reward those children who read and log this on Boom each week.

Year 6

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We have been working very hard in Maths in a number of areas including fractions, multiplication and division. In Writing we have been looking at formal and informal words, direct speech and technical vocabulary building up to writing a discovery narrative about Darwin's expedition to South America. In PE the children have been practising skills in gymnastics, while in Music we have begun learning to play the keyboard. We have explored the work of Carl Linnaeus in Science, and in Geography we have looked at the equator, where South America is in the world and what its countries are.



Certificate Winners!

Name	School Value	Reason
Bridie	Resilience	For becoming more confident in blending words containing digraphs.
Emma H	Pioneering	For great use of writer knowledge in your outsider narrative
Charlie R	Resilience	For really trying his best with his writing and contributing to lessons.
Via M	Children First	For a fantastic effort this week in all her lessons, answering questions, joining in with discussions and working independently.
Sophia	Pioneering	For great independent work in English this week, using new vocabulary to write sentences independently.
Emelia C	Pioneering	Showing a passion for learning in Geography.
Jacob S	Pioneering	For experimenting with new methods in Maths
Darcie S	Pioneering	For experimenting well with technical vocabulary in English
Patsy D	Pioneering	For excellent effort and progress in Maths and improved behaviour in class
Isaac K	Resilience	For fantastic results on our recent maths assessment
Jesse	Resilience	Improved behaviour during carpet time.
Emily R	Resilience	Amazing work in English lessons and has created a fantastic story independently.
Koby G	Children First	For making useful contributions to our lessons.
Bobby G	Children First	For making useful contributions to our lessons.
Elijah	Resilience	For trying hard in his first multi-skills club this week. Superstar!
Lilly	Resilience	For following class rules well this week. Great work, Lilly!
Darian	Resilience	For making good choices in class this week. Great work, Darian!

Attendance!

Class	Attendance
Mrs L-Byrne/Mrs Till	95.88% FANTASTI This is below the school target of 96% – but you were so close!!
Mr Longworth	98.19% FANTASTIC!! Well Done!!
Miss Dixon	92.17% This is below the school target of 96%
Mrs Driscoll	92.61% This is below the school target of 96%
Miss Alderton	91.86% This is below the school target of 96%
Miss Powell	92.13% This is below the school target of 96%
Miss Doherty	98.3% FANTASTIC!! Well done!
Miss Banlin	91.1% This is below the school target of 96%
Mr Paul	90.23% This is below the school target of 96%
Mrs Hubball	96.67% This is below the school target of 96%
Mr Linaker	92.74% This is below the school target of 96%
Miss Woodward	93.99 % This is below the school target of 96%
Mr White	93.18% This is below the school target of 96%
Mr Bourque	90.17% This is below the school target of 96%

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 launched our new Behaviour reward tracker this week, and we are pleased to say we've been blown away by the number of green points being earned by pupils in our school. Out of all the behaviour logged, 92% (3395 points) are positive which is fantastic!!



Top classes this week

EYFS/KS1

1st - Y1RH
2nd - Y1LD
3rd - RRJL.

KS2

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

Top pupils this week

YRRLJ - Aadhithya

Y1LD - Mia

Y2LA - Shayar

Y3AB - Lucas

Y4CH - Paige

Y5ML - Bobby

Y6GB - Alicia/Yasminne.

YRKLBN/LT - Grace H

Y1RH - Lily-Mae

Y2AP - Nathan

Y3KD - Finn

Y4TP - Darcie

Y5LW - Anastasia

Y6DW - Keira

AWESOME!

