

Ditton Primary Newsletter



Message from the Headteacher

February is Kindness Month, and it's heart-warming to see our children already embracing this in such thoughtful ways. A special well done to Ava in Year 4, who went out of her way to spread positivity. She created a heartfelt note with the message: "You are special, have a wonderful day, and shine bright," and left it on a random car at Warrington Hospital. What a wonderful example of kindness in action!

This month, we want to celebrate as many acts of kindness as possible. If you or your child spot a moment of kindness—big or small—please let us know! Teachers will be awarding extra Track-It Points to recognise children who show kindness in school and beyond.

We also want to ensure that parents have regular opportunities to come into school and discuss their child's achievements. This Wednesday, class teachers will be in their classrooms from 3:30pm to 4:30pm, and we warmly invite parents to come in, look through books, and chat with teachers in a relaxed setting. This is an open classroom event, so other parents will also be present. If you have anything confidential to discuss, please arrange an appointment for a later, more private conversation.

We look forward to seeing many of you on Wednesday and can't wait to celebrate all the wonderful acts of kindness throughout the month!



Diary Dates

5th Feb – Parent classroom drop in (3.30 – 4.30pm)

6th Feb – Young Voices

12th Feb – Valentine's Disco

14th Feb – EYFS Library Trip

14th Feb – Close for Half term

24th Feb – School reopens

28th Feb – Interim reports to parents

4th Mar – School Nurse drop in sessions

5th/6th Mar – Parent consultation meetings

6th Mar – World Book Day

12th Mar – Year 5 and 6 online science event

14th Mar – Red Nose Day

17th Mar – Spring Concert at St P and P

18th/19th/20th – Year 3 residential

28th Mar – Fun Food Chef

7th Apr – Y6 practise tests

11th Apr – Easter Holidays

Reception



This week we have immersed ourselves in learning about China, and the Lunar New Year. We ended the week with a special Chinese banquet and the children were able to sample some Chinese style foods. We have also enjoyed some special Chinese themed dances this week by a specialist teacher.

English - We received a letter from Supertato, asking for our help! We needed to write to him to tell him what our super abilities are.

Maths - We have been learning to identify 'one less'. We started by singing a song about little speckled frogs, where one jumps into the nice cool pool. We then started to identify one less on a number track.

Topic - As well as our enhancements relating to the Lunar New Year, we also thought about our family and the jobs our adults do. We started to consider jobs we may like to do when we get older.

Child's View of the Week:

Oakley - "I liked becoming superheroes outside with the costumes and the masks. We saved the world from the Evil Pea".



Year 1

This week, the children have started to write their detective narratives. We are very impressed with what we have seen so far and we can't wait to read the finished stories!

The children have continued to learn about animals in science. This week, they have explored animal diets. They enjoyed learning about herbivores, carnivores and omnivores. Ask them at home if they can remember what each diet eats!

At the end of the week, the children really enjoyed a dance session to learn about the Lunar New Year. They performed dance moves to a beat, using animal movements as inspiration.

Remember to check out our school X page to see photographs and updates about our week!

Library books and reading books should be in school every Friday. We are still seeing that lots of children are not bringing them back. Reading is a vital skill for your child and we want to encourage them to have a love of reading by swapping books to maintain interest!

Year 2

What a week! The children have learnt a lot this week.

In English the children wrote beautiful setting descriptions using their year 2 writing skills. They included adjectives, adverbs, exclamation marks, conjunctions, expanded noun phrases and they were very impressive!

In Maths, the children came to understand how addition is commutative, and subtraction is not. They worked practically to gain a deeper understanding and were able to explain it well.

In Science, children discussed materials and their uses. They talked about how some items are available in different materials and could give reasons as to why and gave pros and cons to each variation.

On Thursday we enjoyed a dance workshop in honour of Chinese New Year. The children had so much fun moving like Chinese dragons.



Year 3

Maths

We have worked really hard writing a setting narrative based on 'The Rhythm of the Rain'. The children are excited to continue their writing next week. In maths, we have moved on to column addition/subtraction and they have really impressed us. In Geography, we explored the similarities and differences of Cheshire and Cumbria. They found out that a mountain in Cumbria, Scafell Pike is the highest mountain in England. In Art, we explored mixing colours and how to make colours lighter/darker. In PSHE, they have been learning about diverse families. In RE, we looked further into the Islamic faith. We enjoyed the Religion Dance Workshop based on Hinduism. Well done!

Year 4

We have loved being introduced to our new book this week. We discovered, glass jars, feathers, a net and a rope. These were clues to the text; Arthur and the Golden Rope. We've used illustrations from the story to develop abstract noun phrases and successfully used vocabulary from the text. In Maths, we have moved on to subtraction and have taken away multiples of 1 and 10 from 4-digit numbers. In Science, we explored how sound travels through different mediums – solids, liquids and gases. We discovered that sound travelled faster through solids as the particles are closer together. In Art, we mixed colours and thought about mood & movement to create water images inspired by Turner, Constable and Gainsborough. In Geography, we completed research to find out about Machu Picchu. We were shocked to find out that it is 7970 feet tall.



Year 5

This week, year 5 have finished writing their cliffhanger narrative based on the story of the Hound of the Baskervilles. We have been very impressed with their ideas and attention to detail while writing their narratives! In maths, we are continuing to focus on fractions. The children are showing a great understanding of this concept and are making great progress! In science, we have been looking at forces with a focus on friction. It's been great to see the children engaged during these sessions and showing great interest in the world around them! We have been particularly enjoying our art unit this term with lots of practical activities in which we have been experimenting with a range of resources!

Year 6

We've had a marvellous week filled with colour and variety, but at the same time we have been harnessing those key skills ready for SATS tests, and ultimately, to get children ready for the next step in their educational journeys. We finished our night lights in Design and Technology (see some examples pictured) and have begun a new Art unit looking at still life drawing and painting. In Science we have explored classification, while the end of the week saw us join in with a Hindu dance as part of World Religion Day celebrations. Well done to everyone who has full attendance, has completed homework and worked hard in after school tuition. Keep up the good work!



Certificate Winners!

| Name | School Value | Reason |
|-----------|----------------|---|
| Ernyjah | Resilience | For working hard to improve handwriting and extending sentences. |
| Nieve | Resilience | For remaining resilient when redrafted and editing written work. |
| Jax | Children First | For a fantastic effort sharing ideas in science this week. Well done! |
| Taylor O | Resilience | For working so hard to secure new methods in Maths |
| Jess S | Resilience | For working so hard to secure new methods in Maths |
| Liam M | Resilience | For working incredibly hard all week! |
| Oliver L | Children First | For showing a keen interest in all subjects – even when learning at home! |
| Lyra D | Resilience | For working extremely hard on her narrative writing in English. |
| Thea | Children First | For demonstrating care and support to peers in class and for always contributing with our learning. |
| Cooper | Resilience | For working hard in column addition |
| Phoenix | Resilience | For improved behaviour during carpet time this week! |
| Archie C | Children First | For great column addition work in maths. |
| Kai O | Resilience | Trying hard in his cliffhanger narrative. |
| Freddie M | Pioneering | Fantastic ideas in his writing and a huge improvement in writing techniques! |
| | | |

Attendance!

| Class | Attendance |
|----------------------|--|
| Mrs L-Byrne/Mrs Till | 96.84% FANTASTIC! Well done! |
| Mr Longworth | 96.67% FANTASTIC! Well done! |
| Miss Dixon | 96.9% FANTASTIC! Well done! |
| Mrs Driscoll | 87.04% This is below the school target of 96% |
| Miss Alderton | 91.74% This is below the school target of 96% |
| Miss Powell | 90.65% This is below the school target of 96% |
| Miss Doherty | 98.15% FANTASTIC! Well done! |
| Miss Banlin | 97% FANTASTIC! Well done! |
| Mr Paul | 95% This is below the school target of 96% |
| Mrs Hubball | 88.24% This is below the school target of 96% |
| Mr Linaker | 92.98% This is below the school target of 96% |
| Miss Woodward | 89.47 % This is below the school target of 96% |
| Mr White | 94.8% This is below the school target of 96% |
| Mr Bourque | 87.55% 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 are so proud of our pupils - out of all the behaviour logged on Track-it lights this week - 98% has been positive!



Top classes this week

EYFS/KS1

1st - Y1RH

2nd - RRKLB/LT

3rd - Y2LA

KS2

1st - Y5ML

2nd - Y4TP

3rd - Y6GB



Top pupils this week

YRRLJ - Aadhithya P

Y1LD - Emma K

Y2LA - Aliya K

Y3AB - Cooper K

Y4CH - Alfie T

Y5ML - Sophie W

Y6GB - Patsy D

YRKLBN/LT - Grace H

Y1RH - Leola D

Y2AP - Evelyn H

Y3KD - Lottie W

Y4TP - Oliver L

Y5LW - Grace B

Y6DW - Ivy-Rose M

