

Ditton Primary Newsletter



24th January 2025

Message from the Headteacher

What a fabulous week it has been!

I had the pleasure of attending the Halton Education Awards, where our very own Miss Welsh was nominated for the prestigious Inspirational Teacher of the Year award. Although she didn't win this time, we are incredibly proud of her achievement and would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to whoever took the time to nominate a member of our staff. Perhaps next year, we can bring home the award!

We would also like to take this opportunity to remind parents that children **MUST** be booked into Breakfast Club and Night Owls in advance. We have strict staff-to-child ratios in place to ensure the safety of all children, and we cannot operate safely if children arrive without a booking. Unfortunately, there have been recent instances where children have turned up unaccompanied without prior booking, which poses a safeguarding concern. Please help us to maintain a safe environment by ensuring all bookings are made in advance.

On a positive note, we are delighted to report another fantastic week in terms of behaviour, with an impressive 97% of behaviour records being positive! A huge well done to all our children for consistently demonstrating such excellent behaviour and representing our school so well.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Reception

We have had another busy week in Reception. We have been working and playing together and making excellent progress.

Maths - We have been learning to systematically segment numbers to 5, making links to any patterns we noticed. We thought about a step-by-step system to find all of the different combinations to make the 'whole' number.

English - We reached our 'plan and write' section of the 'Joop and Nut' unit, and we orally retold the story, before drawing pictures in our plan. These pictures then helped us to write the story.

Art - We have been printing with vegetables this week. We wonder if the children will recognise any of the vegetables in our new 'Super' story next week...

Science - We considered melting, and tried to find a quick way to melt the ice that was trapping the peas!

Child's View of the Week:

Grace - "I liked saving the peas from the ice, my hands made it melt quick.... because they are hot".

Year 1

This week Year 1 have continued to explore our story of Hermelin the Detective Mouse. The children have written sentences to describe missing items from the story. They have also analysed the text, finding key features of a good example story and they have gathered ideas for a character description.

In science, the children have developed their knowledge of all 5 animal groups that we have learnt about and sorted animals into those groups.

In RE, Year 1 have investigated symbols of belonging, looking at Christianity and Islam. They have also drawn their own symbols for groups that they belong to.

In maths, we have continued to explore number bonds within 10 - Keep practising these at home!

Year 2

This week, Year Two uncovered a mystery in their classrooms! Strange habitats and sparkly footprints appeared overnight, and we were eager to know who the culprit was.

We later discovered that these were clues that led us to discover our new book.

We are reading *The Bog Baby* by Jeanne Willis.

We will be producing writing pieces of our own based on the story. The children are very excited about this.

In Maths we have been adding and subtracting and the children have blown us away with their skills.

In RE we have been discussing Islam and understanding their views on respecting our planet and all creatures great and small.

Reminder

PE for 2AP is now on Friday and 2LA have PE on a Thursday.

Boom reader logs have really been dwindling! Please remember to log your children's reading at least 3 times weekly.



Year 3

Maths

In Year 3, we have been looking at finding the difference and introducing column method through long addition. It was difficult but we persevered.

English - We started our new unit this week and introduced our new text 'Rhythm of the Rain'. We have been working hard on our sentence accuracy work and practicing writing our own setting description.

Spanish - This week we cemented our knowledge of Spanish animals and can even do actions. Maybe ask your child what a specific animal is in Spanish.

Art - We have started looking at our painting unit in Art, looking at tertiary colours and how to mix them.

Shared Read - Y3AB have started our new shared read book 'The Wild Robot' and we cannot wait to delve into this in the coming weeks.

RE - This week we have been learning about the religion Islam and who Prophet Muhammad was. The children blew me away with how eager they were to learn.

Science - This week we have deepened our knowledge on the topic 'light' and learnt all about natural and artificial light.

Year 4

A busy week in Year 4! In Geography, we have been learning all about Machu Picchu, in Peru. We have been continuing to learn about some of the largest mountains in the world! In RE, we have been thinking about some of the parables that Jesus taught his followers - sharing the story of 'The Good Samaritan'. In Science, we have been learning about how sound travels in the ear and how the vibrations are sent as messages to the brain for us to process. In English, we have been working hard to produce our published write, based upon the text 'Leaf'. In Maths, we have continued to work hard to develop written methods for addition. We have also had a very informative talk from the Police about hate crime.



Year 5



This week in year 5, we have moved onto our new maths unit: fractions. The children have already impressed us with their pre-existing knowledge!

In our English unit, we are starting to plan and gather ideas ready for our cliffhanger narrative next week.

The children have particularly enjoyed our art unit this term in which we are able to use a range of resources to create a piece of art. The thing we like most about this piece of art is that it doesn't need to be perfect - the stranger, the better!

Year 6

We have worked really hard writing a discovery narrative about Charles Darwin's discoveries in South America. Running parallel with this, we have extended our learning about South America in Geography, exploring the physical geography of the continent and its climate.

In PE we continued improving skills in gymnastics while in music we have extended our keyboard playing skills. The children played 'Guess Zoo' in science, asking questions about the characteristics of different animals in order to classify them appropriately.

In DT the children have been finishing their lighthouses with working bulbs! Look out for these as they will be sent home following evaluation.

Certificate Winners!

Name	School Value	Reason
George H	Resilience	A full week of working his hardest in every subject.
Oliver N	Resilience	Working hard to make his TTRS heatmap green!
Darcey F	Children First	For contributing well in all subjects this week – well done!
Yara	Children First	For becoming more confident in Maths and trying her best.
Miyah H	Pioneering	For great independent work in maths this week, showing off her number bonds skills! Well done, Miyah!
Alfie R	Children First	For a fantastic effort in phonics and with his writing in English. Well done!
Riley N	Children First	For being kind and looking after someone in our class that was upset.
Bella	Pioneering	For amazing independent work looking at finding the difference in maths
Aria	Children First	For always displaying gorgeous manners and kindness to others.
Nellie	Children First	For really expanding your confidence in areas of learning you were initially uncomfortable with.
Warren	Pioneering	For fantastic writing in English this week. Warren was able to think of and apply adjectives independently. Superstar!
Jacob A	Pioneering	For wonderful retrieval work in RE this week. Jacob was able to recall facts about Christianity. Superstar!
Mollie G	Children First	For being a good friend and always welcoming new members to our class.
Phoebe A	Resilience	For gaining in confidence and sharing ideas in class
Jess L	Resilience	Using writer's knowledge effectively in her narrative

Attendance!

Class	Attendance
Mrs L-Byrne/Mrs Till	93.65% This is below the school target of 96%
Mr Longworth	88.3% This is below the school target of 96%
Miss Dixon	95.31% This is below the school target of 96%
Mrs Driscoll	93.9% This is below the school target of 96%
Miss Alderton	87.0% This is below the school target of 96%
Miss Powell	91.9% This is below the school target of 96%
Miss Doherty	95.6% This is below the school target of 96%
Miss Banlin	94.4% This is below the school target of 96%
Mr Paul	87.9% This is below the school target of 96%
Mrs Hubball	94.8% This is below the school target of 96%
Mr Linaker	95.8% This is below the school target of 96%
Miss Woodward	93.0 % This is below the school target of 96%
Mr White	95.3% This is below the school target of 96%
Mr Bourque	92.5% 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 - 97% has been positive!



Top classes this week

EYFS/KS1

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

KS2

1st - Y4CH
2nd - Y5LW
3rd - Y4TP



Top pupils this week

YRRLJ - Archie F
Y1LD - Lyra D
Y2LA - Oisin X
Y3AB - Klaidi D
Y4CH - Paige R
Y5ML - Sophie W
Y6GB - Yasminne D

YRKLBN/LT - Grace H
Y1RH - Elijah L
Y2AP - Evelyn H
Y3KD - Lottie W
Y4TP - Darcey F
Y5LW - Anastasia
Y6DW - May B

