

Dry Drayton C of E (C) Primary School

Newsletter – 7th March 2025



'I pray that your love for each other will overflow more and more, and that you will keep on growing in knowledge and understanding.' Philippians 1:9

Dear parents and carers,

I think spring has finally arrived, well for now anyway. It has been so good to see and feel the sun and then as the evening draws in, to spot Venus and Jupiter sparkling away in the sky.

Many children have very much enjoyed being back on the field. Please ensure they have a change of outdoor shoes or wellies so they can continue playing there at lunch times.

The gardeners and litter pickers have been out and about making our grounds a brighter place and they are preparing the vegetable beds for planting with Mrs Stevenson.

If you have any spare plants which thrive in part shade, we would be grateful for them as we have finally filled the bench tubs (beside the trim trail) with soil! Thank you. Also, if you have any large garden tubs which you no longer need, we would happily take and plant them up for our charity this term – Safe Haven 4 Caitlin – as we are helping to create a sensory garden.

Well done to the last two week's Celebration Collective Worship leaders – Leon and Laura, and today, Erica and Chris.

This term, we have been looking at our **School Vision**, what this means and how everything we do in school is connected to it. It was chosen by the governors and staff in 2020, along with our values. Since we remind the children throughout the school year, I thought I would share it with you again:

"I pray that your love for each other will overflow more and more, and that you will keep on growing in knowledge and understanding." Philippians 1:9

It describes us perfectly – we care so much for everyone in this school – children and adults alike – because we wish for everyone to flourish academically, socially, morally and spiritually.

Following on from this Biblical quote, we have:

Our vision is to educate and inspire each child in our care, enabling them to gain the knowledge, skills and confidence to make a positive difference in the world. Our small school, open to all, provides a safe, nurturing community built on the foundations of Christian values.

The six important **Values** - we wish for everyone to be: Respectful, Inclusive, Kind, Attentive, Engaged and Challenged.

We discuss what these mean and how we can demonstrate these in school.

Our 6Rs help us to be the best learners we can by being: Respectful, Resourceful, Responsible, Resilient, Reflective and a Reasoner.

See if your child can remember the Bible story which is connected to each of the Rs! They are on the website if you need a hint!

Wishing you all a very happy springtime weekend!

Kind regards,
Sonia Hegan



Small school.



Big hearts.



Big ambitions.



St Julian class

Reception: This week in Reception we have been learning the story of Jack and the Beanstalk. We found a giant footprint in the garden along with a golden feather and gold coins and we used our detective skills to find clues and write them down.

In phonics we have begun reading and writing longer words, you may have noticed a jump in their reading books, but reading 5 times a week at home really helps them.

Year 1/2 have been working hard in all areas of their curriculum. In English, the children have been busy planning their own version of Zog and I am getting very excited about reading them next week. In maths, year 1 have been focusing on place value to 50, for example 48 is made of 4 tens and 8 ones. The year 2's have completed a short unit on length and height. In science, the children have been busy getting ready for the planting season whilst learning about how we plant, why we plant and what to plant where. Over the weekends and evenings please do pop down to look at the amazing school garden.



St Etheldreda class

What a busy start to the half term! Last week we went on a winter walk on the last meteorological day of winter. We put on our wellies, enjoyed lots of muddy puddles, and collected lots of fantastic words and phrases to describe winter. This week we had a fantastic trip to the Cambridge Science Centre on Wednesday as an introduction to Science Week, and we look forward to more science-related learning and fun next week. We also had a great time looking at our favourite book characters and competing in an inter-house book, author, word and spelling competition on World Book Day. Please note that as we didn't have our usual comprehension reading session due to World Book Day, the children do have another week 'off' comprehension homework. The children have also been finishing off writing their Greek Myth style stories, and we are continuing with length and perimeter in maths.



St Edmund class

Year 5/6 have had a varied couple of weeks. In English the children have written their own instructions for defeating the minotaur; this included developing their editing skills to improve their work. On Tuesday, St Edmund Class visited the Science Centre in Cambridge; the children learnt about 'Chain reactions' and explored the exhibits in the centre. A team of Year 5/6 girls participated in a football tournament in Cambourne, which they enjoyed, coming 5th in their group.

We had an enjoyable World Book Day. We started the day listening to Paddington Breaks the Peace, which all of the children enjoyed. They then created a 'Top Trumps' style profile for their favourite book character to use in a battle of the characters to find the Ultimate Character Champion. After break Miss Hampton ran a Spelling Bee, which the children completed in house teams.

Running Club

Running club will start next Thursday. The club will be cancelled if it is raining, so please look out of your windows before departing for the 8.15 run.

There will be no running club on the last Thursday of term as St Julian's are out on a trip.



KS2 Trip to the Cambridge Science Centre

Key Stage 2 enjoyed a trip to the Cambridge Science Centre on Tuesday. They were tasked with working in groups to create a chain reaction from loose parts, using gravity and kinetic energy. The children all worked well together in teams, with some managing to create a chain reaction across the length of their table. Aside from this, the children had free time to explore the activity stations within the Cambridge Science Centre.



Girls' 5-a-Side Football (Year 5/6)

On Tuesday we took a team from year 5/6 to represent the school in a CB23 girls' football competition, held on the Cambourne 3G pitches. The girls all played with determination and enthusiasm and came fifth in their group. Well done to Alice, Annabel, Bella, Erica, Ivy, Laura and Marnie. A special mention also goes to Mr Hacker for his excellent and enthusiastic coaching!

Eat Them To Defeat Them

Next week we'll be taking part in Eat Them To Defeat Them – a campaign to help encourage children to eat more vegetables. Children will be bringing home their mission packs on Monday.

To complete the mission, children should receive a sticker to add to their map each time they eat a vegetable (except potatoes). Once they've collected all the stickers, they can escape on their veg rocket. We will be giving children stickers in school when they eat their vegetables – please reward with stickers at home too.



PE sessions this half term

Reception	Wednesday – Ball skills	
Year 1/2	Wednesday – Fundamental skills	Thursday – Dance
Year 3/4	Tuesday – Hockey. The children will require shin pads to take part (we have a small number of pairs available in school). Gum shields are also advised.	Thursday – Dance
Year 5/6	Tuesday – Hockey. The children will require shin pads to take part (we have a small number of pairs available in school). Gum shields are also advised.	Thursday – Dance

School and Village Association

You are invited to - **Murder Most Foul** – hosted by the S&VA

Friday 28 March, 7pm in the Village Hall

Before the local dramatic society can put on their latest play, one of the cast dies in mysterious circumstances. Can you and your table-mates guess who-dunnit?



Come join our fabulous Murder Mystery evening to find out!

Many of you will remember David Valentine Wyatt's previous murder mysteries which were held in the Village Hall and other venues for many years to benefit charity. His latest offering, the "Sea Sunday" murder, is chock full of the usual intrigues, red herrings and divas. You will not want to miss it!

The evening includes appetisers, a fish and chips supper and a selection of desserts, interspersed with clues and a chance to question the suspects. Tickets are £20 (£10 for children under 12). Gluten-free and vegetarian options available. Bring your own drinks and glasses. Why not put together a table of 8?

Contact Janet and Richard Watson for tickets and further information at (01954) 782487 or by email at jwbi5455@gmail.com.

Safeguarding at Dry Drayton C of E Primary School

Mrs Sonia Hegan, Mrs Nicole Spink and Mrs Fiona Sweetnam are the designated safeguarding leads at Dry Drayton C of E Primary School.

If you have a concern about a child, please inform **any** member of staff.

If you think a child is at immediate risk of harm you can access further advice and guidance here:
<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/children-s-social-care/safeguarding-children-and-child-protection/>

Forest School Spring 2025



Forest School sessions take place every week on the following days. Please ensure that your child always has their Forest School Gear at school which is a pair of wellies plus a waterproof jacket and trousers (or an all in one). Remember, it's never the wrong weather, it's the wrong clothes, so please don't let your child miss out. We have some second-hand wellies in school if you need to borrow them, so do ask in the office. We are happy to have any outgrown waterproofs for our spares. PLEASE LABEL ALL CLOTHES AND SHOES.

Infants – Mondays (No need to wear PE kit. School uniform, plus Forest School gear will be fine.)

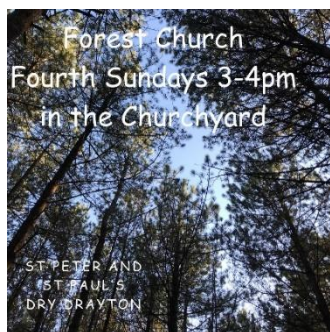
KS2 – Tuesdays This year KS2 will have either half a term of Forest School or of DT, they will then swap for the following half term.

In addition to these, each year group will have a whole afternoon of Forest School on the following **Wednesdays**. Please send your child to school in PE kit including their PE sweatshirt (and not a hoodie).

Please note the change in **red** below.

Date	Year Group
Wednesday 12 th March	Year 3/4 Oaks
Wednesday 19 th March	Year 3/4 Chestnuts
Wednesday 26 th March	Reception
Wednesday 2 nd April	tbc

Church update



Forest Church

Forest Church takes place on the following dates, 3-4pm in the Churchyard:

- Sunday 23rd March

Forest Church is a service for all ages, and everyone is welcome! There will be a bible story, songs and craft, with lots of space to run about, explore nature and make noise during this short, informal service. The service meets outdoors whatever the weather so do please come prepared and wrapped up warm!



St Peter and St Paul's Dry Drayton
A small church with a big heart

Online safety tip of the week: phones

How to start a conversation with your child about using a phone safely: What do you like about using your phone?

You can ask your child about their favourite apps or games, what they like using their phone for, or you can ask them to show you how to play or use their favourite game or website.

Find more online safety tips here: <https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>



Celebration Collective Worship

28th February

Headteacher Awards were awarded to Ethan, Kira and Alice B.

Alex, Fletch, Elizabeth and Jamie were chosen to sit on the **golden table** next week with a friend of their choosing.

Well done to Ivy for achieving her **Bronze** certificate for 100 house points, to Chris, Isla and Raphael for achieving their **Silver** certificate for 200 house points and to Melammu and Raphael for achieving their **Gold** certificate for 300 house points.






7th March



Headteacher Awards were awarded to Gucio, Gian, Tala and Ian.

Reuben, Sammy, Darya and Luna were chosen to sit on the **golden table** next week with a friend of their choosing.

Well done to Joshua for achieving his **Bronze** certificate for 100 house points, to Reuben for achieving his **Silver** certificate for 200 house points and to James for achieving his **Gold** certificate for 300 house points.

House Points			
			
Totals for last week			
Ennis - 149	Farah - 122	Simmonds - 120	Wiggins - 136
Totals for this week			
Ennis - 156	Farah - 150	Simmonds - 131	Wiggins - 134
Totals for the year so far			
Ennis - 2,797	Farah - 2,849	Simmonds - 2,859	Wiggins - 2,985

Proposed Diary Dates New dates added in red.

Tuesday 4 th March	KS2 visit to Cambridge Science Centre – AM Girls 5-a-Side football – team from 5/6 – PM
Thursday 6 th March	World Book Day
w/c Monday 10 th March	Science Week – Change and Adapt
Friday 21 st March	RE enrichment day all about Eid
Wednesday 26 th March	Tag Rugby Festival – team from years 4/5/6
Friday 28 th March	Mothering Sunday celebration – breakfast butties from 8.30am. Bring your Mum or stand-in Mum to breakfast before a special Celebration Collective Worship S&VA Murder Mystery Dinner in the Village Hall – 7pm
w/c Monday 31 st March	Parent Consultations – tbc Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons
Wednesday 2 nd April	Easter Church Service 2.15pm – all welcome

Thursday 3 rd April	KS1 trip to Mountfitchet Castle
Friday 4 th April	Final Celebration Collective Worship, 9.00am Last Day of Term
Thursday 24 th April	First Day of Summer Term
Thursday 15 th May	Tennis Festival – years 3 & 4
Friday 16 th May	Movie night in the school hall – 4.30-5.30pm
Tuesday 10 th - Friday 13 th June	KS2 residential trip to the Chellington Centre, Bedford
Friday 20 th June	Belated Father's Day celebration – breakfast butties from 8.30am. Bring your Dad or stand-in Dad to breakfast before a special Celebration Collective Worship
Monday 23 rd - Saturday 28 th June	Dry Drayton Feast Week
Tuesday 24 th June	S&VA Fun Run from the school field – 6.00pm
Thursday 26 th June	Feast Week disco in the marquee -4.30-5.30pm
Friday 27 th June	Summer Sizzler on the school field from 5.00pm – volunteers wanted!
Wednesday 9 th July	KS2 Production - 2pm
Thursday 10 th July	KS2 Production – 6pm
Tuesday 15 th July	Sports Day – PM on the school field
Thursday 17 th July	Summer Music Concert – 1.45pm
Tuesday 22 nd July	Forest School fun morning and picnic – whole school
Wednesday 23 rd July	Year 6 Leavers service in the church – all welcome Year 6 Leavers Assembly in the hall – all welcome End of term

*Don't forget full term dates, curriculum information, photo gallery and lots more can be found on our website:
www.drydraytonprimaryschool.co.uk*