

Dry Drayton C of E (C) Primary School

Newsletter – 14th February 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,

It was lovely to have so many of you join our Celebration Collective Worship this morning, thank you. It was lead beautifully by Annabel who was ably supported by Buddy, well done. Also to James and Michael for another confident lead last week.

What a busy half term it has been with different sporting events, public speaking and maths competitions in KS2, enabling us to show what a great small school this is! The children involved in these competitions should feel very proud of how they have represented the school. Well done to you all and I know there are many more to come to enable everyone to shine.

Do take a look at our clubs as some still have places. Dodgeball, archery and basketball are next half term's activities in Multisports.

I hope you all have a refreshing break next week. I asked the children this morning to be sure to have plenty of fresh air and exercise, to keep up with their reading, to maybe try a new craft or extend an existing hobby, play sport and possibly, they may have some time with family or friends. I hope that you all enjoy the week.

We said a sad farewell to Max today as he and his family head off to the West Country for a new adventure. Goodbye and good luck. We have loved having you in our school Max!

As the sun streams through my office window, I am beginning to forget all about the rain and gloomy days and I look forward to spring.

Happy holidays!

Kind regards,
Sonia Hegan



Small school.



Big hearts.



Big ambitions.



St Julian class

Reception: This week in reception, we have been completing our work on Zog. We have thought up new problems that Zog may encounter and been thinking of fantastic solutions for Princess Pearl to save the day as a nurse Pearl. In Maths, we have been working hard in our measure unit – this week we have been measuring how big our hugs are. Have a wonderful half term.

Year 1/2: When reflecting on the half term that year 1/2 have had, I thought about the range of new skills that the children have learnt and how far they have progressed in their writing when looking at different books. The children have just started their new English unit of writing to entertain and are using the book Zog to inspire them. In Maths, year 2 have been looking at multiplication and division whilst the year 1s have been looking at addition and subtraction. In Art, the children have painted amazing castles in all different shapes and sizes and in Science they have been diving deeper into all different types of living things. Have a great, restful half term.



St Etheldreda class

Well done to all the children on a super half term of hard work! Last week we had a lovely time on Feel Good Friday. It was great to see the children expressing themselves through their own clothes, and we enjoyed a range of special activities. My guinea pigs were privileged to meet the children. The children were so gentle with them and all had a turn at holding and feeding them if they wanted to. I hope there haven't been too many new pet requests as a result! We also spent time in house groups making angel feathers, and then enjoyed a free choice of activities in the afternoon. As always, the children behaved beautifully and worked together really well.

This week has seen four year 4s represent the school at the CB23 Maths Challenge - well done to Darya, Mia, Maxwell and Melammu. They had lots of fun tackling some tricky challenges - Mrs Spink took the children and she said that some of the questions kept the teachers on their toes!

The children have also had the opportunity to showcase their writing skills this week in our termly independent writing morning. Having taken a look at their work so far, I can see some wonderful progress from last term. I am really looking forward to reading all the finished, edited stories. As we were busy writing this morning, we didn't have our usual comprehension reading session, so the children have a break from this over half term. Please keep up with individual reading however.

After half term we will move on to length and perimeter in maths, and will continue with our work on Ancient Greek myths in English.

Have a lovely half term break, let's hope for warmer days very soon.



St Edmund class

Well done to the children on an amazing half term of hard work. You have all worked incredibly hard in all areas of your learning. Last week we had a lovely time on Feel Good Friday. The children enjoyed working in their house groups to create angel feathers; it was great to see the way that they all interacted and worked with the younger children.

This week has seen children representing the school in a hockey tournament, congratulations to all those involved for being great ambassadors for the school. Yesterday and today the children have been engaged in showcasing their writing skills. I look forward to reading their edited and improved writing over the holiday. Enjoy a well-deserved half term.



Children's Mental Health Week and Feel Good Friday

Last week was Children's Mental Health Week, which had the theme "Know Yourself, Grow Yourself". The children started the week with a special collective worship exploring the theme, and continued with various activities during the week, culminating with Feel Good Friday. It was great to see all the children 'dressing to express', and enjoying a range of activities, including decorating a feather for our wicker angel, made for us by a previous member of staff.

After school, the fundraising committee organised a disco, raising funds for Safe Haven 4 Caitlin. The children all had a fantastic time, and raised £230 to give to this very worthy cause. Thank you to the fundraising committee for their amazing organisation, and to all the staff that supported the event.

Year 4/5/6 hockey tournament

On Tuesday, 11 children took part in a hockey tournament at the Wilberforce Road pitches in Cambridge.

They played with tenacity and enthusiasm. They played some great hockey and Mrs Scarrow is looking forward to them sharing their skills in their PE lessons next half term.

One team came 7th out of 20 (only missing out on the top 4 division on goal difference) and the other was 11th – an amazing result for the smallest school team there! Well done to Alice B, Chris, Erica, Fergal, Ivy, Jack, James, Leon, Marnie and Ruby, and a big thank you also to the children that stood in at the last minute due to team illness.



National Science Week

National Science Week 2025 runs from 7th - 16th March this year and we are planning additional events and activities around this time to enthuse the children's love of Science! If you have any particular scientific expertise then please do get in touch with Mrs Fairbairn, via the office. It would be fantastic to have a few visitors talking about their related fields of Science; encouraging children to develop new areas of understanding and find out about possible careers of the future. Many thanks in advance for your support.

NSPCC Online Safety Sessions for Parents

The NSPCC East of England Campaigns Team has been providing free online safety sessions for parents since November. The last session in the current series is taking place on Monday 17 February at 6pm. Themes such as cyberbullying, social media, sharing images and gaming will be addressed.

Places can be booked [here](#).



Online safety tip of the week: smart TVs

How to start a conversation with your child about using a tablet safely: Why do you want to get a smart TV?

If you already have a smart TV within your house, then why not ask what they like about using the TV.

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

Swimming Sessions

St Edmund class have thoroughly enjoyed their swimming sessions at Bottisham Village College this half term.

We are very grateful to Phil Hacker from PH Executive Cars and Dan Barker for helping us transport the children to Bottisham every Wednesday afternoon. *Thank you!*



**DRY DRAYTON
P.H. CARS**

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No journey too far. Polite & friendly service. Competitive rates
Local / Long distance / Airports / Contracts welcome

Scholastic Books

Our latest Scholastic Book Club is now online at <https://schools.scholastic.co.uk/dry-drayton-parochial/digital-book-club>. There are hundreds of fantastic children's books to choose from, and every £1 you spend on this month's Book Club will earn 20p for our school in Scholastic Rewards.

Please place your order online by **7th March**.



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/>

School and Village Association



Dry Drayton does not have a PTA — it has the S&VA. The School & Village Association was founded by a Dry Drayton CE Primary School headteacher more than 30 years ago to do exactly what it says on the tin: to bring the school and village together in support of one another.

Please come and support the Dry Drayton School & Village Association at our AGM on Tuesday the 25th of February starting at 7pm in the School Hall. Headteacher Mrs Sonia Hegan will report on the 2024 school year and S & VA Chair Neil Harris will report on the S & VA's 2024 activities and support for the school and village. We'll also be discussing new event ideas for the coming year: your views and ideas are very welcome!

AGM Agenda Tuesday 25th February - 7pm School Hall

1. Attendance and apologies
2. Review and adoption of 2024 AGM minutes
3. Presentation and acceptance of the accounts
4. S & VA Chair report
5. Headteacher report
6. Election of the Officers/Committee for 2025/26
7. 2025 Calendar of Events
8. Ideas for coming year
9. Any other business

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).

Date	Year Group
Wednesday 26 th February	Year 5/6 Oaks
Wednesday 5 th March	Year 5/6 Chestnuts
Wednesday 12 th March	Year 3/4 Oaks
Wednesday 19 th March	Year 3/4 Chestnuts
Wednesday 26 th March	Year 2
Wednesday 2 nd April	tbc

Church update

Chamber Music Concerts
at
Dry Drayton Parish Church

Recital
by
Innova
Early Music

Programme to include songs and instrumental music by

Vivaldi, Charpentier & Schmelzer

Tickets: £15 and £5 (students & under 18s)
to include wine/juice afterward
Tickets can be reserved at
<https://innovaearlymusic.eventbrite.co.uk>
Payment on the door



Friday 28 February; 7.00 pm
lasting one hour



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

Forest Church

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

- Sunday 23rd February
- 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!

Celebration Collective Worship

7th February

Headteacher Awards were awarded to John-Thomas, Fletch, Benedict and Erica.

Grace, Halle, Melammu and Millie were chosen to sit on the **golden table** next week with a friend of their choosing.



with

Well done to Erica for achieving her **Bronze** certificate for 100 house points, to Fergal for achieving his **Silver** certificate for 200 house points and to Michael for achieving his **Gold** certificate for 300 house points.







14th February

Headteacher Awards were awarded to John-Thomas, Max, Cameron and Buddy.

Edward, John-Thomas, Emma and Leon were chosen to sit on the **golden table** after half term with a friend of their choosing.

Well done to Alice L, Aria, Benjamin and Gian for achieving their **Bronze** certificate for 100 house points and to Max for achieving his **Silver** certificate for 200 house points.

House Points			
			 
Totals for last week			
Ennis - 147	Farah - 120	Simmonds - 131	Wiggins - 139
Totals for this week			
Ennis - 172	Farah - 170	Simmonds - 107	Wiggins - 160
Totals for the year so far			
Ennis - 2,684	Farah - 2,669	Simmonds - 2,156	Wiggins - 2,965

Proposed Diary Dates New dates added in red.

w/c Monday 17 th February	Half term
Monday 24 th February	Immunology Scientist visiting St Edmund Class
Tuesday 25 th February	S&VA AGM in the school hall 7pm – all parents welcome
Tuesday 4 th March	KS2 visit to the Science Park – free Forces Workshop! Girls 5-a-Side Football (team from years 5/6)
Thursday 6 th March	World Book Day and Dry Drayton Spelling Bee (wear PE kit as normal)
w/c Monday 10 th March	Science Week – Change and Adapt
Wednesday 26 th March	Tag Rugby Festival – team from years 4/5/6
w/c Monday 31 st March	Parent Consultations – tbc Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons
Wednesday 2 nd April	Easter Church Service 2.15pm
Thursday 3 rd April	KS1 trip to Mount Fitchet Castle
Friday 4 th April	Final Celebration Collective Worship, 9.00am Last Day of Term
Thursday 24 th April	First Day of Summer Term

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

