

Dry Drayton C of E (C) Primary School

Newsletter – 17th January 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.' Philipians 1:9

Dear parents and carers,

WOW! Over £1,200 raised for the Arthur Rank Hospice. What a difference we can make as a whole school team, and what fun we had too, walking around Dry Drayton in our antlers for our Rudolf Ramble! Well done to the fundraising team, also for organising such a super craft and cake sale (my dad had his favourite Christmas present from your event!). Well done to everyone else and thank you for helping to make this such a success. The Hospice were delighted – see the report later in the newsletter.



Congratulations to our Year 6 Leaders who have run the last two Celebration Collective Worships; Annabel and Erica supported by Laura and James. We are now using BSL to sign the Trinity so we can all contribute to the opening of our collective worships. Do join us if you wish.

It is good to see so many children attending school clubs each night, enjoying each other's company and participating in activities they clearly enjoy. If your child would like to have a trial, please ask as they are welcome to join at any point in the term. Code and Cookery Clubs are full at present.

Please support your child to read for 10-20 minutes (depending on their age) at least 5 times a week as this regular practice makes a tremendous difference to their reading progress, and consequently their enjoyment of reading. Curl up with a book together sometimes. It is so very true that, we learn to read to read to learn!

Please do take time to read through the whole of this newsletter each fortnight as it is full of useful information and future dates for you to refer back to.

Have a happy weekend.

Kind regards,
Sonia Hegan



Small school.



Big hearts.



Big ambitions.

Oracy update

A key focus for us in school this year is developing children's oracy skills. Oracy is the ability to articulate ideas, develop understanding and engage with others through spoken language and listening. Oracy skills set children up for success in school and life. We are looking at a different aspect of oracy each term. Last term we focused on the physical aspects of oracy such as using appropriate volume and expression when speaking as well as using appropriate body language, facial expression and eye contact. This term we will be looking at the linguistic aspect of oracy. This will include developing appropriate vocabulary choices and use of the correct grammar and register.



St Julian class

Reception: We hope you had a wonderful break and it's great to see the children back full of energy and with a few less germs! Please ensure the children have their hats and gloves in school as they are less keen to play outside at the moment in this chilly weather.

In maths, we have been exploring weight using the language 'heavy' and 'light'. It would be great if you could use this language at home too.

We have been reading the story of Cinderella this week – junk modelling carriages, designing gowns and shoes, retelling the story, making magic fairy wands and writing our wishes. This has linked in fantastically with our pantomime trip just before we broke up for the Christmas holidays.

Year 1/2: What a fantastic start to the new term the children have all had! In maths, Year 1 have been working hard on their numbers to 20 whilst the Year 2 children have been working with money. It would be great if the Year 2 children could go into a shop and buy something with physical money.

In English, we have been using the story Cinderella to look at different grammatical areas and will be starting to plan our own versions next week.

Lots of children are being included in the end of week spinner to get the chance to have the royal reading chair for the week – it would be great to see every child's name on the spinner!



St Etheldreda class

It has been lovely to see all the children back in school and keen to start a new term. They have been working hard at learning column multiplication for two and three digit numbers in maths. At risk of repeating myself... those who have quick recall of multiplication facts have found this knowledge incredibly helpful! Not having to think about the multiplication facts reduces the mental load so that they can then focus on the rest of the process. In English, we have begun a poet study looking at some of the work of Guyanese born poet Grace Nichols. The children have enjoyed listening to her read some of her poems and have been looking at some of the effective vocabulary and phrases she uses. This term's curriculum overview and homework menu are both on our class page on the website; please do take a look. There are also some lovely photos from our Christmas activities in school in the gallery.



St Edmund class

It has been lovely to meet all of the children in the school. We have been concentrating on long division in maths, the children who have a quick recall of multiplication facts have found this process much easier. In English we have been learning about Greek legends, looking at the key features of what to include when writing a legend. We have started to study the Ancient Greeks in history. In RE we are learning about incarnation. This term's curriculum overview and homework menu will be added to the website over the weekend.

We had the first of four visits from the Nepal study team on Tuesday creating an ethnographic collage. The main purpose of this work with the Team from The University of Cambridge is to study the 'People, Planet, Protection and Connection' incorporating children's love and curiosity of animals, plants, bugs and dirt as well as the spiritual and health dimensions of communing with nature and ways the children can support protection and preservation of natural environments. A fascinating and very important task!

Fundraising Committee Update



The fundraising committee would like to tell you that we raised a grand total of £1,200.02 from the Rudolph Ramble, guess the number of sweets in the jar, and cake and craft sale. Thank you for coming to our sales and sponsoring the children.



The next event the committee will organise will be a disco. We will send more information nearer the time, but please save the date: Friday 7th February, 4.30-5.30pm.

East Anglian Air Ambulance visit

On Monday we welcomed visitors from East Anglian Air Ambulance to the school. During the day they spent time with each class, talking about how to help in a medical emergency situation. The older children were also shown how to perform CPR and how to use a defibrillator.



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).

Date	Year Group
Wednesday 22 nd January	Year 3/4 – Chestnuts
Wednesday 29 th January	Year 2
Wednesday 5 th February	Year 1
Wednesday 12 th February	Reception

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



Forest Church

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

- Sunday 26th January
- Sunday 23rd February
- Sunday 23rd March



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

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!



Online safety tip of the week: games consoles

Explore parental controls. Take a look at the controls available both on the games console itself and on your home Wi-Fi. Talk these through with your child too. Parental controls are a helpful tool, but an open conversation with your child is the most important thing.

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

Celebration Collective Worship

10th January

Headteacher Awards were awarded to Isla, Luna and Bella.

Alex, Daisy, Annabel and Fergal were chosen to sit on the **golden table** next week with a friend of their choosing.



Well done to Alex, Jonah, Ruby, Maxwell, Antonio, Benedict and Raphael for achieving their **Bronze** certificate for 100 house points.

17th January



Headteacher Awards were awarded to Sammy, Ruby and Michael.

Gucio, Robin, Joshua and Kira were chosen to sit on the **golden table** next week with a friend of their choosing.

Well done to Bella, Edward, Fletch, Joshua and Paige for achieving their **Bronze** certificate for 100 house points.



House Points



Totals for last week

Ennis - 105 Farah - 65 Simmonds - 63 Wiggins - 91

Totals for this week

Ennis - 106 Farah - 84 Simmonds - 75 Wiggins - 121

Totals for the year so far

Ennis - 2,041 Farah - 2,019 Simmonds - 1,700 Wiggins - 2,350

Proposed Diary Dates New dates added in red.

Thursday 23 rd January	Public Speaking Competition, Peterhouse College, Cambridge
w/c Monday 3 rd February	Children's Mental Health Week
Friday 7 th February	Feel Good Friday – non school uniform day
Tuesday 11 th February	Quicksticks Hockey tournament – team from years 5/6
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!
Wednesday 5 th March	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
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*