

# Dry Drayton C of E (C) Primary School

## Newsletter – 18<sup>th</sup> November 2024



Dear parents and carers,

What a wonderful afternoon of entertainment we were treated to last Friday at Dry Drayton's Got Talent! There was a terrific diversity of acts including gymnastics, violin and piano playing, dancing, magic, comedy and singing. Everyone put their heart and soul into their performance, it was a joy to see. Well done to all of the contestants and to an enthusiastic audience too.

Congratulations to the joint winners for 2024:

Luna performing a delightful jazz dance and James for singing an Oasis classic, 'Don't look back in anger'.

A big thank you to our judges Diane Harris and Scottie Hawkes. We missed David Wyatt and Canon Sue who were unable to join us this year.

We held our Remembrance Service in church this year which made the event extra special. Revd Clare led the service with the support of Year 6 children. There is a report including photos later in the newsletter.

Well done, as always, to Year 6 for leading Celebration Collective Worship on Fridays as we come together to reflect on all achievements from the week. Erica and Buddy followed by Michael and Raphael. Thank you. It seems all the extra reading by some children is having a significant effect on house points! Another excellent reason to read every night! If you would like some support with how to make the most of hearing your child read, please do message into the office and we can arrange a workshop.

It is great to see so many children and adults running on Thursday mornings in preparation for the KS2 cross country competition in December. Anyone is welcome to join, even if you haven't signed up for the competition, but please don't forget spare shoes and socks!

You may have seen a group of people outside the school gates the other Monday. There is currently a consultation in process to improve the safety of our children travelling to and from school. We will be asking you and our neighbours for your opinions and suggestions very shortly.

Sorry you had to wait for this edition but we wanted to include DDGT photos! Have a good week and keep warm.

Kind regards,

Sonia Hegan



Small school.



Big hearts.



Big ambitions.



## **St Julian class**

### **Reception**

This fortnight in maths the children have been working on making 5 in different ways by exploring how many 'baked beans' or 'sweetcorn' we have (otherwise known as the red and yellow sides on the counters!). For example, 5 is made from 1 bean and 4 sweetcorn or 3 beans and 2 sweetcorn! In English, we have been learning facts about dinosaurs and discussing the idea of a timeline – dinosaurs were around a long time ago and we are around now. This week we have been reading the book, 'Dinosaurs love underpants' exploring what an adjective is and designing our very own pants, which has been a huge hit!

We have begun our nativity rehearsals as Christmas will be here before you know it, please do not rush out to buy a costume as we have a lot in school so we will be trying them on over the next couple of weeks.

### **Year 1/2**

In art, the children have been exploring different mediums and have made fantastic pieces of work from clay, plastic, paints and crayons.

In geography, they are starting their new unit on seasons – please could you support this by discussing our wonderful weather and the months of the year.

Again, thank you to all those that support their children with their reading, lots of the children are making fantastic progress in their reading, which in turn is allowing for fantastic progress in all other areas of their learning.

At the moment we are re-vamping our reading corner, if anyone has any green drape material that they no longer need we would love to add it to our rainforest reading corner.



## **St Etheldreda class**

In English, the children have written some fantastic recounts about our recent autumn walk and we have now moved on to non-fiction explanation texts. We will be exploring the features of the genre over the next few weeks, and will write our own explanations of the water cycle to link with the geography rivers topic. In maths, we are still working hard at addition and subtraction – including a fun session with Mrs Dunlop which took a very practical approach to subtraction with exchanging.

The children have enjoyed Kindness Week and have all made and received lovely homemade gifts or letters.

Just a reminder of homework expectations: spellings and tables are tested on a Wednesday, comprehension is due on a Thursday. When your child is doing Sumdog at home, please ensure they work independently and focus on the questions before accessing the games so that they can fully benefit from this extra practice. It would be great if all children could independently complete the 'Addition and Subtraction' skills homework set over the next week please. As a class, lots of AR quizzes are being completed, well done and thank you!

Don't forget to check your child's Seesaw account, we are trying to add regular photos so that you can see their learning in action.



### St Edmund class

Well done to Michael and Raphael for leading Collective Worship this week.

The end of a busy and exciting week with Dry Drayton's Got Talent, Kindness Week and on Tuesday, the visitors from Cambridge University who are running the Nepal project. More information to follow on future developments. In Geography we have started our Rivers topic. All of the children are now able to access Oddizzi which is our online platform, where they are able to watch the videos, read the content and access the quizzes.

### [Log in - Oddizzi](#)

Our Username: sted

Password: Drayton

We have started Fractions in maths and so the homework will reflect this. Thank you for your continued support with reading, it does seem to be making a difference! Have a good weekend.

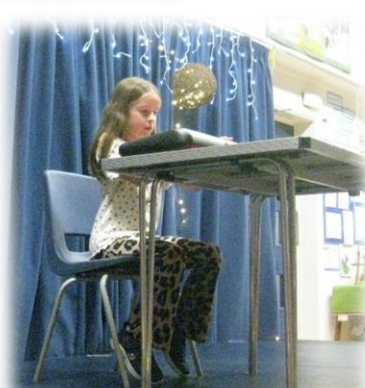
### Remembrance Service

On Monday, the whole school walked across to the church for our Remembrance Service. It was a special service and the children sang beautifully. The roll of honour was read by our Worship Leaders Annabel and Erica before holding the two-minute's silence. During this time, the children were so respectful, it made us all very proud. On leaving the church after this, every child planted a poppy either side of the path to the church. These had been made from the ends of plastic drinks bottles by the children. Thank you to Miss Corr for working so hard on creating this very effective display.

After school in cooking club, Mrs King and Miss Wright helped the children to make poppy cookies.



Dry Drayton's Got Talent photos





### Children in Need

It was lovely to see all the children (and staff!) in their bright or spotty clothes on Friday. Thank you to everyone who has made a donation, either through the MCAS app or by bringing in some change for the children to put on our Pudsey. We're pleased to say that so far we've raised £149.53 for Children in Need – thank you! There is still time to donate via the MCAS app if you haven't yet done so.



### Fundraising committee update

#### Little Owl Christmas Fair

The fundraising committee are holding a stall at the Little Owl Christmas Fair, 30<sup>th</sup> November, 3pm-5pm. We will be raising funds for [Arthur Rank Hospice](#). Come and see us for Christmas colouring and collage activities. Please do support this important local charity that provides help and support to patients and their families at a difficult time.



#### Rudolph Ramble Fundraiser Reminder



On Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December (the same day as our tasty Christmas lunch), we are fundraising for Arthur Rank Hospice. We are going to go on a Christmas Rudolph Ramble and after school we will be selling cake, hot chocolate and crafts. Children can wear Rudolph antlers. We have a [JustGiving page](#) where you can make donations. We hope we raise lots of money.

If you have any questions ask the fundraising committee (Darya, Emma, Lily, Lola, Luna and Millie).

## S&VA Update

We still have a very limited supply of the very first freshly pressed and deliciously refreshing Dry Drayton apple juice! The juice combines a wide range of varieties (such as Ellington Orange, Warner's King, Monarch, Adam's Pearmain, Bramley, King of the Pippins, Charles Ross and a distinct hint of Egremont Russet), picked with love in Dry Drayton by lots of enthusiastic apple growers from across the village. It was pressed, bottled and pasteurised, on an allergen-free Cambridgeshire-based pressing service (Watergull Orchards), to produce a delicious and healthy juice, without added sweeteners, preservatives or colouring. This way, juice can be stored for up to 2 years.

Bottles are still available at a first come first served basis! The suggested donation is £3.50 per bottle, or £10 for 3 bottles, with all profit going to the Dry Drayton S&VA. Bottles can be collected from Orchard Barn House in Park Lane, cash only, on weekday evenings after 6pm, or do get in touch with Joe (wigleyj@hotmail.com) or Jelle (jv361@cam.ac.uk) (both not on Facebook) with any questions or suggestions!



Little Owl Christmas Fair

Saturday 30/11/24 3pm-5pm in the Church

Save the date for the annual Little Owl Christmas Fair on Saturday the 30th of November from 3 to 5 pm in the Church - a great chance for some early Christmas cheer, with mulled wine, mince pies, stocking stuffers & gifts, Santa's grotto and carol singing from our wonderful pre-school. There are some fantastic raffle prizes on offer, including a £50 Cambs Cuisine meal voucher and £50 food & drinks voucher from Holiday Inn Impington, so please do buy some tickets when they're sent around. We are also welcoming donations of any type of bottle for our bottle stall, please drop off at the Little Owl room.

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Dry Drayton Advent Trail Grand Launch

Saturday 7/12/24 5pm in the Village Hall

Don't forget to attend the grand launch of the second annual Dry Drayton Advent Trail in the Dry Drayton Village Hall on Saturday the 7th of December. From 5pm we'll serve mulled wine and mince pies, and then Santa himself will lead us on a walking tour of the village to see the beautifully decorated windows throughout the village. Entry to the launch is £5, which also gets you a map of the trail. All proceeds will go to the Cambridge City food bank.

### **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.

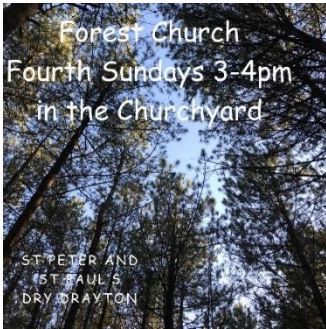
If you have a concern about a child, please inform **any** member of staff.

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/>

## Church update

### Forest Church



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

- Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> November

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*

### Other Church Dates

- Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December – Carol service, 6pm
- Christmas Eve – Crib service, 3pm
- Christmas Day – Family Holy Communion, 10am



### Online safety tip of the week: mobile phones

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

Whilst deciding if it is time for your child to have their first phone can be a great opportunity to find out what your child expects to use their phone for. This could be for connecting with friends, playing games, for keeping in touch whilst out of the house or other reasons.

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

### Forest School Autumn 2024

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 20th November	3/4 Group 1 – Oaks
Wednesday 27th November	3/4 Group 2 – Chestnuts
Wednesday 4th December	No Forest School
Wednesday 11th December	Year 2
Wednesday 18th December	Reception and Year 1

### Celebration Collective Worship

#### 8<sup>th</sup> November

Headteacher Awards were awarded to Reuben, Melammu and Ian.

Halle, Vlad, Albie and Ian were chosen to sit on the **golden table** next week with a friend of their choosing.



Well done to Kira and Luna for achieving their **Bronze** certificate for 100 house points.





#### 15<sup>th</sup> November



Headteacher Awards were awarded to Robin, Kira and Bella.

Jason, Sammy, Erica and Raphael were chosen to sit on the **golden table** next week with a friend of their choosing.

Well done to Fergal, Ian and Mia for achieving their **Bronze** certificate for 100 house points, and to Jack for achieving his **Silver** certificate for 200 house points.

House Points			
			
			
Totals for last week			
Ennis - 169	Farah - 156	Simmonds - 121	Wiggins - 156
Totals for this week			
Ennis - 166	Farah - 211	Simmonds - 143	Wiggins - 177
Totals for the year so far			
Ennis - 1,214	Farah - 1,281	Simmonds - 1,076	Wiggins - 1,389

### Proposed Diary Dates

New dates added in red.

Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 3/4 Boys Football Development Competition Nasal Flu vaccinations PM
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	KS2 Small Schools Cross Country Christmas Decoration Afternoon – parent volunteers welcome

Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	St Julian's Nativity 9:15am – only one performance this year!
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Final Celebration Collective Worship 9am
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Lunch and wear a festive top if you wish Sponsored Rudolph Ramble followed by afterschool cake sale
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Christingle, 9am in church
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day of term – Cinderella Panto at the Cambridge Arts Theatre (AM) Party food lunch (book as normal)
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> January	Children return to school
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> February	S&VA AGM in the school hall 7pm – all parents welcome

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