

Dry Drayton C of E (C) Primary School

Newsletter – 25th October 2024



Dear parents and carers,

Our small school has welcomed with big hearts, several new faces this half term and we can see that they are settling so quickly to become part of the Dry Drayton community. We also warmly welcome Miss Kennedy (some of you already know her from Little Owl) and Miss Pope who have joined the TA team, and will spend most of their time in KS1.

Well done to Laura for leading this morning's Celebration Collective Worship, and to Maria for supporting her. Last week's leaders, James and Leon, also did a fantastic job. The Year 6 team are certainly growing in confidence.

We finished the half term by learning about the Hindu celebration of Diwali. Each class read the story of Rama and Sita, thought about the teachings of this story and created beautiful rangoli patterns and divas this afternoon. They also looked at the beautiful fabrics used to make saris and even tried some on, realising what an art it is to fold, pleat and drape so many metres of fabric.

Reception children have thoroughly enjoyed riding around the playground on balance bikes – they go at quite a pace! If anyone has a slightly larger bike you have finished using in the family, we would gladly take it off your hands. Please let Mrs Scarrow know.

KS2 children will be training for the upcoming cross country running competition after half term every Thursday morning. Please remember a change of shoes and socks! I think it might encourage me to bring in my running shoes!

Thank you for supporting your children with the variety of homework they are set, it really does make a noticeable difference to their learning when reading and learning maths facts are reinforced at home. I know we are all ready for a rest, but keeping up with reading at least, over the next week, will be very helpful. Remember we learn to read so that we can read to learn!

The sign-up sheet for Dry Drayton's Got Talent is already up and has begun filling up. This is a much anticipated afternoon of great entertainment on Friday 15th November. Children can sign up to show us their talent, whatever that may be either solo or in a group. Please do practise in the holidays as we will be straight back into the auditions from Monday 4th. It is lots of fun for both contestants and audience alike.

Children may come to school wearing anything spotted or bright coloured on Friday 15th November. They are also welcome to bring in coins to place on Pudsey Bear.

We wish you all a restful break, with new adventures and fun either at home or elsewhere. With various coughs and viruses around, I feel we all need to recharge our batteries.

Happy holidays and we look forward to seeing everyone back on Monday 4th November.

Kind regards,

Sonia Hegan



Small school.



Big hearts.



Big ambitions.



St Julian class

What a wonderful half term in reception, all the children have settled in fantastically. This past two weeks we have been reading the book 'Chalk', which is about children finding a magic bag of chalk in the playground and as they draw, their pictures come alive! The children have had great fun drawing on the playground and waiting for their pictures to come alive. Today has been Diwali Day and we have learnt the story of Rama and Sita through story and drama.

What an amazing half term in Year 1/2. The children have settled in well to their new year groups and have made some great progress. It was lovely being able to speak to you as parents about your children's achievements. Over the last couple of weeks in English we have been looking at non-fiction texts and how they compare to fiction writing. We have also looked at their key features and how to note take. We will carry on with this unit after half term and create our own non-fiction piece of writing based on dinosaurs. In number fluency we have been looking at our quick recall facts and the different fact families to 10. Our big focus has been on the number facts for 10 and it would be great if you could re-inforce this at home. Have a great restful, adventurous half term.



St Etheldreda class

What a busy and productive half term it has been! The children have all worked hard and hopefully have enjoyed the range of learning activities they have had both in and out of the classroom. It was lovely to meet with so many of you on Tuesday and to share successes and things to work on.

We have continued with our work on addition and subtraction in maths, and continued to learn about non-fiction recounts in English. We will carry on with both these units after half term.

There has been some stunning topic homework brought in, and some of children have also shown their computing and presentation skills by sharing homework PowerPoints with the class. The homework menu covers both half terms, so do continue to use it to give ideas for any extra work you would like to support your child with at home.

The children have had a couple of interesting focus days this week; an Egyptian focus on Wednesday and whole-school Diwali Day today.

Have a lovely half term.



St Edmund class

Well it's the end of a very busy half term and it was good to see so many of you at parents evening. Lots of new arrivals who have started to settle in well and sadly some leaving again.

We have completed our topic on Ancient Egypt, which the children have thoroughly enjoyed and I am looking forward to some of the half termly homework coming in after the holiday. We shall be starting a Geography topic on Rivers.

In maths we are continuing our work on calculation and moving onto fractions. The children have been told that their comprehension homework will need to be back in class on the first Wednesday back.

I hope you all have a restful break.

PE update

After half term the children will be learning the following in their PE lessons. PE lessons can change according to the weather and safety of the ground.

Please could you ensure that your child has in their bag a spare pair of shoes (can be school shoes) and a spare pair of PE trousers/shorts as we will be going on the field even if it is muddy. They can wear an extra layer (no hoodies), gloves, snood and beany-style hat.

Reception	Year 1/2	Year 3/4/5/6
Wednesday – Gymnastics (hall)	Wednesday – Fundamentals (hall / playground / field) Thursday – Gymnastics (hall)	Tuesday – Tag rugby (field) Thursday – Gymnastics (hall)

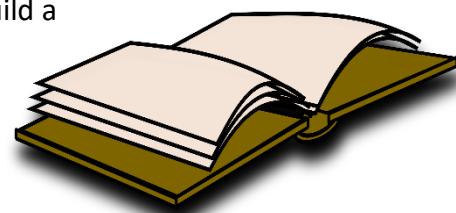
DT update

The first half of KS2 have had lots of fun creating marble runs in DT. They each created an obstacle course for a marble using a range of mechanisms to create seesaws, catapults, ramps and wheels. I hope those who have made them will enjoy playing with them over half term.

Those children in KS2 who haven't made one yet will be making theirs after half term. Could they each bring in either a shoe box or a cereal box to build their marble run in by the second Tuesday after half term please? They should bring them in labelled with their name and leave them in their cubbies ready for their DT lesson.

Mystery Readers

As part of our ongoing drive to encourage reading for pleasure, and to help build a lifelong love of books in the children, we would love to have some more 'Mystery Readers' come into school. For those who are new to us, a 'Mystery Reader' is when a child's family member (it could be a parent, carer, grandparent, aunt, uncle...) comes into school to surprise their child's class by reading them a story. The Mystery Reader might read from a book of their choice; maybe a family favourite or perhaps one they enjoyed as a child. Alternatively, the class teachers are happy to suggest a suitable book from the classroom stock. Children who have had Mystery Readers visit their class have loved the experience. If this is something you would like to do, please email your child's teacher via the office, or catch them at home time, to arrange a mutually convenient time. Just remember to keep it a secret so that your child can enjoy the surprise!



School lunches



The updated menu for the second half of the autumn term is available on the [website](#) and is also sent along with this newsletter. Please remember to book your school lunch via the School Gateway app.



Reminder

A reminder to please switch off your engines when waiting outside school. Fumes from cars are both harmful to our children and a nuisance for our neighbours.

Dry Drayton's Got Talent

The sign-up sheets for our annual talent extravaganza have been up in school this week. Auditions will take place after the half term holidays, so please support your child in perfecting their act, we look forward to the show on Friday 15th November.



Scholastic Book Club

Our new Scholastic Book Club is up and running! Some children will be bringing leaflets home today – sadly we weren't supplied with enough for everyone, but you can also browse the latest books and order online here: <https://schools.scholastic.co.uk/dry-drayton-parochial/digital-book-club>. For every £1 you spend on this month's Book Club, our school will earn 20p in Scholastic Rewards.



Please place your order online by **15th November 2024**.



Rudolph Ramble Fundraiser – Reminder from the Rudolph Ramble committee

On Tuesday 17th 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 coke, 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).



Dry Drayton Apple Juice!

After a successful apple picking weekend in September, there is now a 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), including some apples from the tree on the school grounds, picked with love 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 now available for everyone in the village to enjoy, 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) with any questions or suggestions!



Online safety tip of the week: smart TVs

Explore parental controls

Take a look at the controls available both on the TV 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>



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 **this Sunday!**



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

- Sunday 27th October
- Sunday 23rd 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 18th December – Carol service, 6pm
- Christmas Eve – Crib service, 3pm
- Christmas Day – Family Holy Communion, 10am

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 6th November	5/6 – Group 1 – Chestnuts
Wednesday 13th November	5/6 – Group 2 – Oaks
Wednesday 20th November	3/4 Group 1 – Oaks
Wednesday 27th November	3/4 Group 2 – Chestnuts
Wednesday 4th December	2
Wednesday 11th December	1
Wednesday 18th December	R (depending on Christmas activities)

Celebration Collective Worship

18th October

Headteacher Awards were awarded to Grace, Harry, Benedict and James.

Grace, Max, Lily and Michael were chosen to sit on the **golden table** next week with a friend of their choosing.

Well done to Michael for achieving his **Bronze** certificate for 100 house points.





25th October

Headteacher Awards were awarded to Jonah, Jacob and Michael.

Fletch, Jonah, Jack and Mia were chosen to sit on the **golden table** next week with a friend of their choosing.

Well done to James, Leon, Melammu and Raphael for achieving their **Bronze** certificate for 100 house points.



House Points	
	
Totals for last week	
Ennis - 183	Farah - 159 Simmonds - 134 Wiggins - 150
Totals for this week	
Ennis - 141	Farah - 135 Simmonds - 136 Wiggins - 181
Totals for the year so far	
Ennis - 879	Farah - 914 Simmonds - 812 Wiggins - 1,056



Proposed Diary Dates

New dates added in red.

w/c Monday 28 th October	Half Term
Monday 11 th November	Kindness Week 10.30am - Walk to church with poppies for school Remembrance Service
Friday 15 th November	Dry Drayton's Got Talent Show – all welcome- 2pm (tbc)
Friday 29 th November	Year 3/4 Boys Football Development Competition Nasal Flu vaccinations PM
Wednesday 4 th December	KS2 Small Schools Cross Country Christmas Decoration Afternoon – parent volunteers welcome

Tuesday 10 th December	St Julian's Nativity 9:15am – only one performance this year!
Friday 13 th December	Final Celebration Collective Worship 9am
Tuesday 17 th December	Christmas Lunch and wear a festive top if you wish Sponsored Rudolph Ramble followed by afterschool cake sale
Wednesday 18 th December	Christingle, 9am in church
Thursday 19 th December	Last day of term – Cinderella Panto at the Cambridge Arts Theatre (AM) Party food lunch (book as normal)

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