

Dry Drayton C of E (C) Primary School, and Pre-School Newsletter – 30th January 2026



'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,



We are delighted to welcome Mrs Clark to the Dry Drayton staff team as our new catering manager! Her lunches have been very well received by everyone; we are very lucky to have found her. If you would like to join your child for lunch on or near to their birthday, then please don't forget to book!

Well done to Benjamin and Marnie, then Bella and Jack for leading Celebration Collective Worship these last two weeks. You all did a great job!

Miss Hampton returned to school very proud of the children who took part in the CB23 group of Schools Public Speaking finals at Peterhouse College last Monday. They gave interesting speeches delivered with great confidence – read more about this further on in the newsletter. Well done to you all.

Another WELL DONE must be said to Miss Pope who passed her TA apprenticeship this week with DISTINCTION. That's fantastic news, she worked so hard and clearly impressed her examiners.

We are having teething troubles with the new heating system (and indeed the old one at times too!), so if it's a cold day, please send your child to school with another layer under their school uniform, thank you.

With so much talk about mobile phones in the media at present, please take this opportunity to check that all of your parental controls are in place for any device to which your child has access.

Wishing you all a happy weekend.

Kind regards,

Sonia Hegan



Small school.



Big hearts.



Big ambitions.

Pre-School

In Pre-school we have been continuing our 'Weather' theme. Our story, Storm by Sam Asher, took us on a wonderful, windy journey where a little boy and his grandad decided to go on a kite-flying adventure. This inspired us to make paper bag kites decorated with coloured tissue paper streamers, which we then flew on the school playground.

We also went to the forest area to listen to wintery sounds: we listened very carefully and we heard the wind blowing, leaves crunching and the birds tweeting. We also heard cars, motorcycles, and an aeroplane.

This week we have been busy making patchwork elephants. Our focus story, Elmer and the Rainbow by David McKee, was about a kind elephant who decided to give up his own colours to a colourless rainbow. We have been super excited to learn about light and colour exploration, with different objects on the light box creating wonderful colours and patterns. Our song this week, 'I can sing a rainbow', introduced us to lots of different colours: red and yellow and pink and green, purple and orange and blue... We were very creative mixing different colours to make our own rainbows!

Donation wish list:

- Old keyboards
- Telephones
- Shoeboxes
- Junk modelling items

Thank you!

Pre-school Team



St Julian class

Reception: Reception have wrapped up their 'people who help us' theme. They have had some amazing guests, both in person and on the screen. We will next be moving onto our mini scientists unit.

In Drawing Club the children are working really hard to write their own phrases or sentences using their phonics. At home, can the children please practice their phonetical writing by helping write a shopping list, writing cards, writing reminders for the front door or creating treasure hunts.

For example, in a shopping list, the children might write:

- Baicon
- Froot
- Jellee

(Please refer to the children's yellow reading diaries as to which sounds they know).

Mrs Scarrow

Year 1/2: The children have done some super writing about the Great Fire of London this week. They have used the opportunity to show off both their writing skills and all their knowledge. The year twos also had a

brilliant try at editing their work with just a bit of support. We have also enjoyed reading and writing some fire/Great Fire of London related poetry. Listening out for rhyming words is a great way to support your child at home.

Guided reading lessons haven't happened as usual this week, so there will be no phonics reading books in book bags. Please focus on their tricky words by reading, spelling and writing them in sentences over the weekend instead. Normal service will resume next week! Year twos all have an AR book too, which they can read at home and quiz in school.

In maths, year two have made a great start at multiplication and division, and year ones are really consolidating their understanding of number to 20.

Have a lovely weekend, let's hope it warms up and dries up soon!

Miss Hampton



St Etheldreda class

This week in English, we have been writing a sequel to the story 'Journey' by Aaron Becker; we have been looking at time adverbials and speech. In Maths, we are working really hard on our times tables. Please keep up your hard work on TTRS. This week we have explored <http://www.timestables.co.uk>, seeing just how fast the MTC questions go... spoiler... the year 4 children will have just 6 seconds to answer each question during their multiplication times tables check in June. In computing we have begun making posters: we have learnt how to insert text in a variety of colours and fonts and how to insert pictures.

Mrs Spink and Mrs Braybrooke



St Edmund class

St Edmund's class have been working hard in all their subjects. In English, we have been exploring what techniques build suspense and excitement in a text. We have planned science fiction stories, using drama to stimulate ideas, which we'll be writing next week. In maths, we have been focusing on written methods of multiplication. Whilst there have been some challenges along the way, all the children have been trying really hard and are gaining confidence in the methods. Keep practising Times Tables Rock Stars, as knowing your tables really helps as we tackle more complicated multiplication problems. On Thursday, we had a visit from Mrs Barker from Comberton Village College and we're looking forward to more maths fun with her over the next two Thursdays.

Mrs Fairbairn and Mrs Dunlop

Urgent appeal for DT resources

KS2 are still on the lookout for small boxes. These should ideally be smaller than a shoebox and made of strong cardboard (such as a packaging box rather than a thin cereal box). If you have any at home, please bring them and give them to Mrs Dunlop in KS2.

Thank you so much for your help.

CB23 KS2 Public Speaking Competition



Last Monday Isabella, Alice L, Maxwell and Jack represented the school at the CB23 public speaking competition grand final at Peterhouse College in Cambridge. Isabella and Alice each spoke for 1.5 minutes on “Rules or freedom: which is more important”, whilst Maxwell’s and Jack’s two-minute speeches were on “Taking risks or being cautious: which is more important”. All four children delivered their speeches really well, with Isabella in particular showing resilience after a distraction during her speech. We are proud of all four - well done to you all!

Young Voices

Last week many of the children in years 4, 5, and 6 enjoyed a fantastic trip to the Young Voices concert in London. We enjoyed a breezy lunch by the Thames before taking our front row seats for the afternoon rehearsal and evening concert. The children were all impeccably behaved and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Again, we were interviewed for the official Young Voices video, and several children made the cut. Thanks to Miss Corr for coming back to join us for the day, and thanks to Miss Wright for joining us on her first ever YV trip.

“Last Tuesday, a group of children from KS2 went to Young Voices at the O2, London. They got to stay up extremely late! It was worth it at the end. They got the absolute best seats at the front and met a few popular singers. Turns out it was Young Voices 30th anniversary! They had a warm up at the beginning of the rehearsal and everyone shouted 6 7! It was very funny indeed. Young Voices rules!”

By Kira and Darya

“On Tuesday 20th January, year 4, 5 and 6 went to London for Young Voices. It was in the O2. We had an amazing time, singing and moving along to the music. The parents came to watch and there were a few famous singers and dancers. We had a wonderful time and we all enjoyed it.”

By Emma and Lily



Holiday Club

We are pleased to be able to offer the holiday club in February half term for two days: Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th February, 9am-4pm. There will be the usual fun, games and activities plus some pancake making fun!

The club is open to all children 3-11 years, so please do publicise it to a wider audience where you can. Bookings are via the school office.

Looking ahead, we will also be running the holiday club in the first week of the Easter holidays. Club will be open on Monday 30th March, Tuesday 31st March and Wednesday 1st April.

We also hope to run for some days in the May half term and the beginning of the summer holidays. Again, we can only go ahead with these if there is sufficient demand, so please let us know if you are interested.

Thank you for your support, please ask if you have any questions.



Forest School Spring 2026



Forest School sessions take place every week. 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 (no dresses please), plus Forest School gear will be fine.)

KS2 – Wednesdays 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 a Friday, dates below. Please send your child to school in PE kit including their PE sweatshirt (and not a hoodie).

Date	Year Group
Friday 6 th February	Year 5/6 – Chestnuts
Friday 13 th February	Year 5/6 – Oaks
Friday 20 th February	Half term
Friday 27 th February	Year 2
Friday 6 th March	Year 1
Friday 13 th March	Reception
Friday 20 th March	Year 3/4 Oaks and Chestnuts
Friday 27 th March	No Forest School

Safeguarding at Dry Drayton C of E Primary School, and Pre-school

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

Spring term clubs

Booking is still open for all clubs (except Code Club) for the Spring term: please contact the office to book places. If it would help to pay in instalments, please come and talk to us in the office. **There are spaces in all clubs except Code Club and Cooking Club.**

Our sports clubs are run by JS Sports:

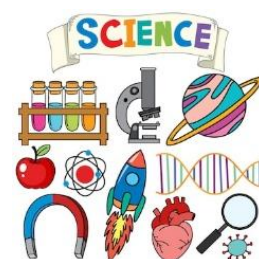
Multi-Sports: Our new multi-sports club for all year groups offers children the chance to try their hand at a host of different sports. Every week is a session based on a different sport, including football, tennis, tag rugby, cricket and many, many more. It is a great activity for children to be introduced to sports and learn the rules and techniques to play the game.

Football: Our football sessions involve an engaging and fun warm up followed by a skill-based activity, learning and improving on different areas of football, including passing, dribbling and shooting, The session finished with some fun matches, tournaments and a variety of football-related games.

Gymnastics: Our gymnastics club is an indoor club and is great for creative children. At the club, children will learn key principles of gymnastics, including rolls, balances, jumps, transitions and more making sure safety is a priority at all times. Children will be able to create their own routines and use apparatus safely, making the most of equipment available.

Please see the table below for details of each club. All these clubs run from 3.20-4.20pm. **Please make a note of the dates each club is running, as they do vary.**

After school wrap-around-care will continue to be offered in the Pre-school room for all pupils aged 3 to 11– contact the office to book.



Day	Club	Adult	Cost (per term)	Dates
Monday	Cooking Club (years 1-6)	Miss Wright & Miss Pope	£51	12 th January-23 rd March
Tuesday	Multi-Sports Club (years R-6)	Sports coach	£53	6 th January-24 th March

Wednesday	Craft Club (years R-6)	Mrs Sweetnam	£53	7 th January-25 th March
Wednesday	Code Club (years 5-6)	Claire Shih		7 th January-25 th March
Thursday	Musical Theatre Club (years 2-6)	Mrs Pergande Vincent	£53	8 th January-26 th March
Thursday	Football Club (years 3-6)	Sports coach	£53	8 th January-26 th March
Friday	Gymnastics Club (years R-6)	Sports coach	£53	9 th January-27 th March

Celebration Collective Worship

23rd January

Headteacher Awards were awarded to Michael, Ethan, Clover and Tala.

Bronze certificates were awarded to Alex J, Ethan, Fletch, Lucas and Maxwell – well done for earning 100 house points!







Lucas, Sophia, Clover and Ivy were chosen to sit on the **golden table** the next week with a friend of their choosing.

30th January



Headteacher Awards were awarded to Michael, Adele, Daria and Marnie.

Errol, Michael, Marnie and Vlad were chosen to sit on the **golden table** the next week with a friend of their choosing.

House Points			
			
Totals for w/c 19th January			
Ennis - 125 Farah - 96 Simmonds - 90 Wiggins - 68			
Totals for w/c 26th January			
Ennis - 99 Farah - 126 Simmonds - 74 Wiggins - 78			
Totals for the year so far			
Ennis - 1,917 Farah - 2,203 Simmonds - 1,666 Wiggins - 1,612			

Year 6 Celebration Collective Worship Leaders

Date	Lead	Assistant
6 th February	Fergal	Alice
13 th February	Ivy	Benjamin
20 th February	Half Term	
27 th February	Marnie	Bella
6 th March	Jack	Ivy

13 th March	Alice	Fergal
20 th March	Benjamin	Jack
27 th March	Bella	Marnie
Easter Holiday		
17 th April	Fergal	Benjamin
24 th April	Ivy	Bella
1 st May	Marnie	Alice



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

Church update

All are most welcome to join us every third Sunday at 11am for a short, family friendly service of Morning Worship at 11am. The next service is Sunday 15th February.

Proposed Diary Dates New dates added in red.

Friday 30 th January	Village Curry Night - just turn up to the village hall at 6pm!
Thursday 5 th February	CB23 Year 3/4 Maths Quiz
Friday 13 th February	Last Day of Term
w/c Monday 16 th February	Half Term
Wednesday 25 th February	Year 5/6 Humanities Quiz
Wednesday 4 th March	S&VA AGM – all welcome 7:30pm in the school hall
Thursday 5 th March	World Book Day
w/c Monday 9 th March	Science Week
Wednesday 18 th March	Whole school free trip to Wicken Fen funded by the Mayor's Day Out initiative
w/c 23 rd March	Shakespeare Week launching with 'Theatre in schools' workshops
Wednesday 25 th March	Easter Church Service 9am
Friday 27 th March	Final Celebration Collective Worship 9am and Last Day of Term
Saturday 28 th March	Orsino Choir 6pm in St Peter and St Paul Church

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

DRY DRAYTON

C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

KNITTED RANGE



Dry Drayton Knitted V-Neck Jumper

From £15.45



<https://price-buckland.co.uk/dry-drayton-c-of-e-primary-school-knitted-v-neck-jumper-p>



Dry Drayton Knitted Cardigan

From £16.45



<https://price-buckland.co.uk/dry-drayton-c-of-e-primary-school-knitted-cardigan-p>

Price & Buckland
SCHOOLWEAR SINCE 1899

FRIDAYS
3:30-5:30 PM

STARTING 23
JANUARY
6-WEEK PILOT

DROP-IN
SESSIONS

DRY DRAYTON
VILLAGE HALL



SUPPORTED BY THE DRY
DRAYTON SCHOOL & VILLAGE
ASSOCIATION
AND DRY DRAYTON VILLAGE HALL

COMMUNITY
TABLE TENNIS



EVERYONE
WELCOME

FREE TO
ATTEND

NO BOOKING NEEDED –
JUST TURN UP

COMMUNITY DROP-IN
ACTIVITY.
CHILDREN ATTEND UNDER THE
RESPONSIBILITY OF
PARENTS/CARERS.