



DODFORD FIRST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Achieve, Believe, Create and Fly High

12th April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our first summer term Newsletter, we hope you find the information here useful. The school newsletter is for parents so please do let us know if there is anything else you would like to see included here, you can do this by emailing office@dodford.worcs.sch.uk. We have included a section 'Future Diary dates' which includes all the dates up to the end of term so that you can plan ahead. Please note; dates may be added or changed due to circumstances beyond our control but if they do, we will flag this up to you. The dates will be included on every weekly Newsletter for your reference. There are lots of exciting events planned for this term including School Games Day and Family Reading Sessions so please do add them to your family calendars. As always, we have a fully packed half term ahead of us as staff have been busy planning fabulous learning activities and we look forward to sharing these with you over the next few weeks.

Acting Headteachers Welcome



We would both like to express how impressed we were this week with how well the children have settled back into school after their Easter break. Below you can read about what the children have been doing this week and the teachers will also share the Curriculum Learning Overviews with you. We would also like to thank you for the wonderful welcome and kind words we have both received as we begin our shared role as Acting Headteachers. Please do not hesitate to contact us at office@, or catch us on the playground, if there is anything you would like to share about the school or your children.



From Miss Salisbury

Thank you so much for the lovely welcome you have all given me at Dodford First School. It is a privilege to work with your super children and such a dedicated staff and governor team. I very much look forward to supporting the school during this transitional period and until the new substantive Headteacher is appointed. I have been a full time Headteacher of two successful primary schools over the past fifteen years. Since retiring from full time headship, I have worked as an Educational Consultant and as a facilitator for the Teacher Development Trust where I deliver and support teachers undertaking the national professional qualifications for senior leadership. I am passionate about lifelong education and learning. I have a grown-up daughter who is about to relocate to the U.S. with her husband and three grown up stepdaughters. I live with my partner and our cat. Family life is wonderfully busy, but I manage to enjoy some quiet time gardening and reading. My ambition is to write a book one day!

Our School Values - Week 1 - Diversity

We are working with the children to help them understand the value of Diversity.

Diversity is about embracing differences and including people from all walks of life. Diversity can include race, ethnicity, gender, religious beliefs and more. A really important part of diversity is making sure that all people, regardless of our differences, feel welcomed.



Class Weekly News

Weekly News from Wren Class - This week in Wren Class, the children were introduced to our new topic *We're Going on a Minibeast Hunt*. In *Muddy Monday*, we completed a minibeast hunt without equipment in the school grounds. The children spotted many different species including spiders, flies, and beetles. In the classroom, the children have been busy working together to help create a minibeast investigation role-play area which they love! We have been lucky enough to receive a hornet nest and have learnt many facts about hornets including how they make the hive - from saliva and wood fiber! In phonics, the children have been focusing on *CVCC* words such as nest, limp, and hand. We have identified vowel sounds within words and used silent blending to read them. In maths, the focus this week was building numbers beyond ten, identifying the number of tens and ones as we did so. **Miss Stanley**

Weekly News from Robin Class - Robin Class have enjoyed their first week back in school with their friends after the Easter break. They have had great fun starting their new theme in geography learning all about the local area of Bromsgrove and Dodford. We have started to explore what makes it a special place to live. In our English lessons the children have enjoyed using their learning, from last term, about *The First Moon Landing* to draft some fantastic non-chronological reports about the famous astronaut Neil Armstrong and in our maths lessons we have been investigating odd and even numbers and how to recognise them. **Miss Underhill**

Weekly News from Owl Class - Owls have worked extremely hard this week and we are very proud of the way that they have returned to school, full of enthusiasm and creativity. We commenced the week in a creative way by starting our art topic 'Sculptures' with a focus of structural shapes. The children discussed the work of the American sculptor Robert Morris before investigating how they could turn 2D shapes into 3D structures. In science this week we have created our own mini-Earths to demonstrate the water cycle and have been working extremely hard in maths finishing off our fraction unit, calculating equivalent fractions. This has taken a great deal of resilience and perseverance, well done Owls. **Mrs Eggleton**

Attendance is currently 94.3%



House Points w/c 8th April 2024



Avon - 73
Severn - 65
Teme - 59

Stars of the Week Awards

Well done and congratulations to ... Indie- Grace, Edie, Emilie, Mollie, and Beatrice for being chosen for the Star of the Week awards by your teachers! We are so proud of all you have achieved this week, keep working hard and persevering to do your absolute best.

Polite Reminder

The safety of our children and families is our priority. We appreciate how challenging it is to park outside the school and on the narrow lane. Please avoid blocking the school drive or using the drive to reverse as this is not safe. To help ease congestion, the school gate is open from 8.30am every morning. Mrs Eggleton and/or Miss Salisbury will be on the playground at 8.40am to ensure children move to classrooms safely and on time.

Wrap Around Care and School Vacancies

As you know, Four Seasons wrap around care will be moving out of the village at the end of this school year. We are working closely with the provider to ensure there is limited impact to our children and families. The current wrap around will continue until the end of term with no changes to the collection time / end times currently in place with families. We are grateful to the support provided by this setting, and we know how much this service helps parents. Therefore, the school is working hard behind the scenes with the governors to recruit staff to run our own in-house wrap around care. We are currently recruiting for a part time admin assistant and a wraparound care lead. We aim to offer both breakfast club and after school care from 7.30am until 6.00pm Monday to Friday. Please contact Miss Salisbury on office@dodford.worcs.sch.uk if you feel you have the skills and qualities to fulfil these exciting opportunities. All recruitment will follow Worcestershire Children First rigorous safer recruitment process. Dodford First School is committed to the promotion of equal opportunities and diversity. It is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Future Diary Dates - (Please note these may be subject to changes.)

Summer 1st Half Term

Date	Event
Monday 8 th April	First day of new term BRITISH VALUES DAY - Diversity Piano lessons restart this week Height and weight checks - Wrens class
Tuesday 9 th April	
Wednesday 10 th April	
Thursday 11 th April	Multi skills club starts back
Friday 12 th April	Football club starts back
Monday 15 th April	
Tuesday 16 th April	
Wednesday 17 th April	Year 4 Bell-boating (am)
Thursday 18 th April	
Friday 19 th April	
Monday 22 nd April	
Tuesday 23 rd April	
Wednesday 24 th April	Year 4 - Olympic Transition Event at Parkside
Thursday 25 th April	
Friday 26 th April	Feel Good Friday Golden Tea with Miss Salisbury

Monday 29 th April	
Tuesday 30 th April	
Wednesday 1 st May	
Thursday 2 nd May	
Friday 3 rd May	
Monday 6 th May	Bank Holiday - school closed
Tuesday 7 th May	
Wednesday 8 th May	
Thursday 9 th May	Bike-ability Year 4 (am)
Friday 10 th May	
Monday 13 th May	Mental Health Awareness Week Robin Class Local Church Visit (pm)
Tuesday 14 th May	Year 4 Malvern Information Evening - 6pm
Wednesday 15 th May	
Thursday 16 th May	Family Reading session 2.30pm
Friday 17 th May	
Monday 20 th May	
Tuesday 21 st May	
Wednesday 22 nd May	New Reception Induction Eve 6pm
Thursday 23 rd May	
Friday 24 th May	Feel Good Friday Golden Tea with Miss Salisbury Last day of half term Achievement Assembly at 9am NO FOOTBALL
Monday 27 th May - Friday 31 st May	Half Term week
Monday 3 rd June	TE Day - school closed to children
Tuesday 4 th June	Children return

Summer 2nd Half Term

Date	Event
Monday 3 rd June 2024	TED DAY
Tuesday 4 th June	First day of 2 nd half term BRITISH VALUES DAY
Wednesday 5 th June	
Thursday 6 th June	Multi skills club starts back
Friday 7 th June	Football club starts back
Monday 10 th June	Phonics Screening Week 10 th -14 th - Year 1
Tuesday 11 th June	
Wednesday 12 th June	
Thursday 13 th June	

Friday 14 th June	
Monday 17 th June	
Tuesday 18 th June	
Wednesday 19 th June	
Thursday 20 th June	
Friday 21 st June	School Fete - 3.30-5.30 - all welcome
Monday 24 th June	
Tuesday 25 th June	
Wednesday 26 th June	
Thursday 27 th June	School Games including Family Picnic - all welcome
Friday 28 th June	Feel Good Friday Golden Tea with Miss Salisbury
Monday 1 st July	
Tuesday 2 nd July	Robin Class Victorian Workshop - in School
Wednesday 3 rd July	Moving Up Day
Thursday 4 th July	Reserve School Games Day (in case of wet weather on the 27th of June)
Friday 5 th July	
Sunday 7 th July	Dodford Church Fete 2pm (School Choir)
Monday 8 th July	
Tuesday 9 th July	
Wednesday 10 th July	Year 4 Residential Trip
Thursday 11 th July	Year 4 Residential Trip Wren Class Stay and Play
Friday 12 th July	Year 4 Residential Trip REPORTS OUT
Monday 15 th July	
Tuesday 16 th July	Leaver's Assembly 6pm
Wednesday 17 th July	
Thursday 18 th July	
Friday 19 th July	Term ends Feel Good Friday Values and end of term assembly NO FOOTBALL
Monday 22 nd July	School closed TED Day