



Downton Church of England VA Primary School

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Deputy Headteachers: Mrs A Bates BA (Hons) QTS & Mrs M Ford BA (Hons) QTS



Friday 16th June 2023

Dear families,

As we start our final term of the academic year and embrace the warmth of the sun, the school is filled with an air of joy, laughter, singing, and sport. It's a time of celebration and reflection as we come together to make lasting memories and celebrate the achievements of your children.

Over the coming weeks, we have a series of exciting events and activities planned to mark the culmination of the academic year. From music concerts and soirees to performances and end-of-year celebrations, there will be plenty of opportunities to cherish these final moments together and bid farewell to our departing Year 6 with love and pride. An updated dates for the fridge is attached to this newsletter so that you can enjoy these events with us too.

Foxes, Dormice & Hedgehogs visit to Lepe Beach

Over the last week our Key Stage One classes have been busy visiting Lepe Beach. Despite the heat, everyone had a wonderful time exploring and learning in this beautiful coastal setting. Under the warm sun, the children eagerly participated in various educational activities and embraced the unique opportunities that Lepe Beach offers. From creating beach art from materials found on the shore to exploring rock pools for living sea creatures, the children immersed themselves in hands-on experiences that brought their learning to life. Despite the soaring temperatures, the children's enthusiasm and energy remained high throughout the visits. It really was a wonderful learning experience for them all.





Year 5/6 Rugby Tournament

Last week a team of our Year 5 and 6 children participated in a rugby tournament at Bishops. Despite some tough games and fierce competition from other local schools, their determination and sportsmanship saw them place fourth overall at the end of the tournament – a great result! We are so proud of them all.

Downton Horticultural Society – Key Stage One Sea Creatures

During their DT sessions in school, our Key Stage One pupils have been busy designing and making sea creatures out of recyclable products, linking to the message of keeping our beaches clean. Last weekend these creatures were on show at the Downton Horticultural Society Summer Show in the Memorial Hall. The judges were really impressed with the standard of the creations and the imagination behind creating them with various materials. Please join us in sending our congratulations to Isla in Dormice who won first place. Well done Isla!



DT in Year 5

Year 5 spent the day learning about different mechanisms as part of their DT and Science topic. The children were set a challenge to create a mechanism to help the Ancient Maya civilisation get their belongings from the bottom of their pyramids to the tops rather than walking up all of the steps.



Year 2 Training Choir Concert

Training Choir have been busy preparing for their concert to parents on Monday 19th June. If you are coming along to this wonderful event, entry will be via the staff car park and into the school hall, with gates opening at 2:20pm. Mrs Sims has worked tirelessly to prepare them for this event and we are truly grateful to her.

Music lessons from September

If your child is interested in starting music lessons and learning to play an instrument, please contact the office who can put you in touch with the relevant tutor to find out more about availability and cost.



Our New Reading Shed

Excitement was in the air last week as the children arrived at school to find a brand new book shed waiting for them. The idea for this innovative concept came from Miss Palmer and Mrs Guilfoyle, who recognised the need to expand on our dedicated spaces to promote reading and encourage literacy.

Through the generous funding provided by the DPSA, their dream became a reality. The new book shed is filled with a vast array of books and is accessible to all children. It's a welcoming space that promotes a love of learning and inspires young minds to read, learn and grow. The new book shed at our school is already proving to be a huge success, and children of all ages are excited to explore its many offerings.



We look forward to seeing many of you in school over the next few weeks as we celebrate the children. Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Warmest regards,

Paula Carlton



Term 6	
Monday 12 th June	Hedgehogs trip to Lepe Beach
Monday 12 th June	Rabbits and Squirrels Open Classroom – 2:30pm
Tuesday 13 th June	Group A – Reception 2023 intake – 9:15am - 10:15am
Tuesday 13 th June	Foxes trip to Lepe Beach
Wednesday 14 th June	Year 6 Residential – Osmington Bay
Thursday 15 th June	Year 6 Residential – Osmington Bay
Friday 16 th June	Year 6 Residential – Osmington Bay
Friday 16 th June	Foxes, Dormice & Hedgehogs Open Classroom – 2:30pm
Monday 19 th June	Year 2 Training Choir Concert – 2:30pm
Tuesday 20 th June	Year 5 taster day at Burgate
Tuesday 20 th June	Group B – Reception 2023 intake – 9:15am - 10:15am
Wednesday 21 st June	<i>Fixture – Year 5/6 Rounders at Trafalgar</i>
Wednesday 21 st June	Year 6 Bikeability – Group Two
Thursday 22 nd June	Year 6 Bikeability – Group Two
Friday 23 rd June	Stags, Owls & Falcons Open Classroom – 2:30pm
Monday 26 th June	Squirrels trip to River Bourne Community Farm
Monday 26 th June	Year 5 school nurse visit
Tuesday 27 th June	All children – Reception 2023 intake – 9:15am – 10:15am
Tuesday 27 th June	RE Day
Wednesday 28 th June	Rabbits trip to River Bourne Community Farm
Wednesday 28 th June	Gymnast Kelly Simm visiting the school
Wednesday 28 th June	Year 5 Taster Day at Trafalgar School
Thursday 29 th June	Year 5 Science Morning
Thursday 29 th June	Year 6 Genetics Talk
Friday 30 th June	End of Year reports going home
Friday 30 th June	RE Day
Monday 3 rd July	Parents Evening
Wednesday 5 th July	Whole School Bump Up Day
Thursday 6 th July	Year 5 River Dipping
Thursday 6 th July	Parents Evening
Thursday 6 th July	Year 6 Bikeability – Group Three
Friday 7 th July	Year 6 Bikeability – Group Three
Friday 7 th July	Hawks, Kestrels & Badgers Open Classroom – 2:30pm
Monday 10 th July	Year 6 production – 6:30pm
Tuesday 11 th July	Year 6 production – 1:30pm
Wednesday 12 th July	Music Soiree – 6:30pm
Friday 14 th July	Year 3 Recorder Concert at 2:30pm
Tuesday 25 th July	Last day of term*

