



Downton Church of England VA Primary School

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Friday 20th May 2022

Dear Families,

It is hard to believe that May half term almost here already but there are still many more exciting events planned for the final week of term, including our Queen’s Jubilee Celebrations and our highly anticipated Sports Day which we are delighted to welcome back our parent audience to.



Year 6 SATs

Last week, the Year 6 completed their SATs tests – the first cohort since before the pandemic. They all worked incredibly hard to prepare for them, including attending additional booster groups at 8am each week. Their hard work, commitment and determination was evident throughout the week. The children rounded off the week with a celebratory game of rounders in the Memorial Gardens and enjoyed a well-deserved relaxing picnic together. Well done Falcons, we are very proud of you.

Year 3 football

On Monday, a team of our Year 3s played in a football fixture at Alderbury Primary School. The match was a Year 3/4 mix however we only took children from Year 3 to give further opportunities to other children and to challenge what is a very talented group of players. Although playing some children in the year above them, the game was very competitive and finished 4-4 thanks to a brace from Jack W, a goal from Titus and an own goal. The game then went to penalties with George K scoring the winning penalty for Downton! Mr Hamilton & Miss Emm were very impressed with not only how the boys played but how well they represented our school during the trip. Well done!



Year 6 Dynamo Cricket

On Wednesday, we were invited to compete in a Dynamo Cricket tournament in Laverstock. We sent a mix of 10 boys and girls from Falcons class which landed nicely after their SATs week. When we arrived at the tournament we were greeted by bright sunshine and a great atmosphere. Our team played a total of 3 matches, losing 2 and winning 1. In our first game, we lost by only 5 runs which was really frustrating, however the team did not let this deter them and bounced back in our final game where we won by over 40+ runs thanks to some superb batting from Edward and Sam. Well done to all the children involved.



Farewell to our chicks

After all 10 of our Living Eggs successfully hatched last week, the whole school have been enjoying the presence of the chicks, whether that is popping by when walking along the corridor to say hello or having them visit the classroom to be handled. They have been incorporated into the learning in the classroom with children writing a diary about the chicks, instructions on how to look after them and well as creating artwork. How wonderful that they’ve inspired our children in many ways!





Class photo orders

Orders can be placed online with Cardwell and Simons for the Class Photos however if you wish to purchase using cash or cheque, the deadline to return your proof card with order and payment is 9am on Wednesday 25th May.

Queen's Jubilee Celebrations

We are very excited about our upcoming Queen's Jubilee Celebrations at Trafalgar School on Thursday. We hope the children have been getting creative at home to enter the Jubilee themed competition and we look forward to seeing their creations. Here is a reminder of the categories:

- Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 – Design and make a crown fit for the Queen
- Year 3 and 4 – Design and make a coin to mark the Queen's Jubilee
- Year 5 and 6 – Design and make a Union Jack flag using materials of your choice

The children are invited to wear an outfit fit for a Royal Garden party. If the weather is sunny, all children will need a sun hat and they will need to apply sun cream before coming to school. The children will also need a picnic lunch, in a disposable bag and a water bottle. Alternatively, children can order a lunch on the day and will be provided with an afternoon tea style picnic lunch from the school kitchen. It looks set to be a wonderful day and a very special event for the children to be a part of.



Wessex Rivers Trust visit to Year 5

On Wednesday, Wessex Rivers Trust visited Year 5 and held a fantastic interactive workshop about the courses of a river.

'It was fun because it was really interactive and everyone got to have an animal or an object to place on the river' - Anya

'I think it was good because it was like revising what we've done in Geography but in the most fun way' - Oscar

'We got to place things down on the river and it was a good way of remembering everything. We learnt some new things like the plants that you might be there or the animals you might find' - Spike'



Creative success for Lewis in Year 4

Earlier this week, Lewis in Year 4 discovered he came second place in the League of Animals Creative Competition with his drawing of a green woodpecker! One of the judges was television presenter and League of Animals Youth Ambassador Megan McCubbin. As well as this fantastic achievement, Lewis also had a great time two weeks ago seeing his photograph at an exhibition. His photograph was selected to be part of the Interschool Photographic Competition final exhibition at the New Forest Heritage Centre Gallery. Well done Lewis!





DPSA Film Night

The DPSA are excited to bring back the ever popular film night for the children, the first in over 2 years. On Thursday 23rd June, the children can enjoy a viewing of 'Encanto' in the hall straight after school. Tickets are £3 and can be purchased now on SchoolGateway and include popcorn and a drink. They will also need a few volunteers on the evening so please do get in touch if you are able to help.

Wraparound care and clubs for Term 6

All clubs and wraparound care are now open for booking for Term 6 on SchoolGateway. Please note that access to Term 6 bookings will only be available when all outstanding balances have been settled for Term 5. With the exception of our wraparound care and Premier Sport, booking for clubs will be available until midday on Monday 6th June, after this time any queries regarding booking will need to go directly via the office. Thank you.



Good Luck!

We would like to wish all the children who have entered the Salisbury Schools Mini Marathon event this weekend the best of luck for their run tomorrow. They have all been training hard to be the best they can be and we are so proud of them for representing Downton Primary School at tomorrow's event.

Have a lovely weekend,

Paula Carlton

