



# Downton Church of England VA Primary School

Gravel Close, Downton, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP5 3LZ

Telephone: 01725 510556

Email: [admin@downton-pri.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@downton-pri.wilts.sch.uk) Website: [www.downton-pri.wilts.sch.uk](http://www.downton-pri.wilts.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs Paula Carlton BA (Hons) QTS NPQH

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



Friday 29th September 2023

Dear friends and families,

We are so proud of our Year 5 children whose confidence and efforts to make this event as enjoyable as possible for our visitors, was evident. It was lovely to see so many of you in attendance, showing your unwavering support as well as donating cakes for us to sell, your participation and generous contributions made it all possible and resulted in the remarkable sum of £247 raised so far for this incredibly worthy cause.



For us this event was not only a fundraising success but also a heart-warming gathering that showcased the true spirit of our school community. I was moved as our Year 5 and 6 classes sang together with such passion and power. Their performance today truly made the morning unforgettable. Let's continue to work together to nurture these compassionate young leaders and create positive change within our school and beyond.



## Key Stage One Parent Workshop

Just in case you missed it – Mrs Guilfoyle has prepared a workshop to support you with your child's reading. This can be found via this link: <https://youtu.be/EsYUVtyiFZg>

## Science

This term our Year 3 and 4 classes have become scientists exploring the properties of different rocks using a range of methods.



## Reception on the move

Our EYFS children have been extremely busy constructing vehicles to go on lots of trips, one of them being a bus to Disneyland. A huge thank you to parents we have thoroughly enjoyed their 'Popping Popcorn' songs. A great start to phonics.



## Stonehenge

We are delighted to report that the recent visits to Stonehenge by our Year 3 and 4 students were a resounding success, even in the face of less-than-ideal weather conditions. Despite the rain and wind, the children had a fantastic time delving into this captivating chapter of history. Staff shared that their enthusiasm for learning was truly inspiring as they explored the mysteries of this historical site.



## Year 5/6 Girls Football Tournament

On Wednesday a team of our Year 5 and 6 girls travelled to Pembroke Park School to compete in a Salisbury Schools Football Tournament. They battled hard in their first three matches, winning two games and losing one, which meant they just missed out on getting through to the semi-finals. The girls represented Downton impeccably and showed fantastic humility – we are so proud of you all.

## Rotary Shoebox Appeal

We're delighted to once again be supporting the Rotary Shoebox Appeal! Leaflets have been sent home with the children this week, however if you would like to find out more about this amazing scheme, please have a look at this link: <https://www.rotaryshoebox.org/resources/>. We have kindly been provided with some boxes should you wish to collect one from the office.



## Open Evening and Parent Tours

If you or anyone you know has a child starting school in September 2024, then please feel free to share details of our Open Evening taking place next week on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October at 6pm. We also welcome parents to come along for a tour of the school, just contact the school office to arrange a date and time. We look forward to meeting you all.

# Open Evening

Wednesday 4th October at 6pm

## Young Carers

Do you think you know a young carer? By definition, a young carer is someone under the age of 18 who looks after a family member or another close relative who has a physical or mental health condition, or misuses drugs or alcohol. They may also look after brothers, sisters or elderly relatives too.

1 in 5 young people are caring for someone - it could be a parent, grandparent, sibling or family friend. They take on extra responsibilities, like dressing the person they look after, cooking, cleaning, shopping, collecting prescriptions. It's a lot to take on as a child.

Below is a poster of ways you can get help and support for a child who is a young carer. As a school, we can support you with this so please get in touch.



If this sounds like you:

Did you know you can ask your teacher/tutor for help?

Did you know registering as a Young Carer can get you help for the whole family?

For more information for Young Carers and professionals see our website -

[www.carersupportwiltshire.co.uk/young-carers](http://www.carersupportwiltshire.co.uk/young-carers)



## After School Club

We have some exciting news to share with regards to after school club. We have recently been successful in employing a new staff member to join our After School Club team, therefore we are now able to offer additional spaces across all 4 days. SchoolGateway has now been updated and these sessions are available to book. We hope that this helps support our parents with wraparound care needs.



## DPSA Christmas fundraising

It is that time of year once again where the DPSA are busy behind the scenes with all the exciting Christmas fundraising planning. You will have already received your child's Christmas artwork which can be transformed into cards, wrapping paper plus much more – perfect for friends and family members. Don't forget that orders must be placed by Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October, along with artwork returned, to ensure we receive the delivery of items by the end of November.

Plans are also underway for the Christmas Extravaganza and the much loved Secret Present Room. If you have any donations for either of those events, whether it be teddy bears or gifts, they would be gratefully received.



## Uniform donations

We would like to say a huge thank you for all of the uniform donations we have received recently, we hope that the pre-loved uniform rail continues to prove useful to our families. We now have sufficient supplies of grey uniform items along with shirts and summer dresses and therefore can currently only accept donations of logo items and PE kit until further notice. Please do come and have a look at the pre-loved rail anytime if you are looking for anything in particular.



Have a great weekend.

Warm regards,

*Paula Carter*

