



Downton Church of England VA Primary School

Gravel Close, Downton, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP5 3LZ

Telephone: 01725 510556

Email: admin@downton-pri.wilts.sch.uk Website: www.downton-pri.wilts.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Paula Carlton BA (Hons) QTS NPQH

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs A Bates BSC PGCE QTS



Friday 5th November 2021

Dear Families,

Welcome back to Term 2. I do hope you all had a good break and enjoyed the family time together despite the autumnal weather. All children have come back to school calm, rested and ready to learn. Thank you all so much!

Remembrance Day

Next week we will be holding our Remembrance service in school led by our Year 6 children. The children are busy preparing for the service by making their own individual poppies which will be laid on our display in the hall. We also have poppies from the Royal British Legion available to purchase in the school office should you wish to buy one.



Year R

The Reception childrens text this week was Room on the Broom. They have fully embraced the story by making potions, writing their own spooky spells and dressing up. They even brought in their cuddly toy cats, dogs, frogs birds and dragons to share when reading the story together!



Covid guidance

As case numbers in Wiltshire are on the rise, we would like to remind parents of the guidelines surrounding testing. If your child has a symptom, either a cough, temperature or loss of taste or smell, they will need to take a PCR test and isolate until the result of this test has been confirmed. Lateral flow testing is designed for asymptomatic testing and cannot be used in place of a PCR if your child is displaying symptoms. If your household has a positive case, but your child is symptom free, they are able to still attend school.

Anti-Bullying Week

The week beginning 15th November is Anti-Bullying Week and the theme is "One Kind Word". On Monday 15th please encourage your children to come into school wearing odd socks for the day. This will remind us that we are all special and unique, and encourage us to respect and celebrate differences between us. We are also excited about a Kindness Poster Competition to share our learning at home. For more information, please have a look at our website: <https://downton-pri.wilts.sch.uk/anti-bullying-week-2021>. At our school we do not tolerate bullying at any time, and encourage our children to speak out. We will continue to raise awareness in Anti-Bullying week through assemblies and class activities.



Class visits to the Library

Unfortunately, we have had to postpone our visits to the library as their guidance has changed and they are not accepting class visits at the moment. We hope to reschedule these to January 2022. Please keep your eye on dates for the fridge.

Children in Need

We are once again hoping to support Children in Need on Friday 12th November. Following our communication for dress down day, we have received details of a competition from IRIS Education to host a Fancy Dress Friday! We simply share some of the photos from the day and we are in with a chance to win £500 for the school as well as an additional £500 for Children in Need. Donations of £1 per child to the charity can be placed on the playground Pudsey on the way into class.



Music lessons

We are delighted that so many children have taken up the opportunity to learn a musical instrument in school this term – we now have a large number of musicians – including many new starters this term. We offer this opportunity to all children in years 3 to 6, as we believe it is very important for children to be exposed to a wide range of subjects for them to explore and succeed. We look forward to hearing them perform over the coming months.

Open Morning

This week we welcomed prospective parents and children who might be joining our school community next September. It was lovely to see so many lovely families interested in our school. Their feedback about the school environment was really heart-warming. We will be hosting an Open Morning for prospective parents for our 2022 intake on Thursday 25th November. If you know anyone who is applying for a primary school place for 2022, please do let them know - we would love to get to know them and show them around our wonderful school.

New Governor

We have a vacancy for a governor, please do get in touch with myself or the Chair of Governors if you would like to know more about this important role.

Flu Vaccinations

We have been advised that this term's flu vaccinations have been postponed until January. As soon as we know the revised date we will let you know.

Photographs

How lovely to see so many happy photographs sent home this week. If you wish to order any of these, this can be done online using the details on the proof cards or you can return the envelope to the office by Wednesday 17th November.



Updates from the DPSA

Plans are well underway for the Christmas Extravaganza which is taking place on Friday 3rd December so pop the date in your diary, along with the Secret Present Room starting on Monday 6th December. They are in need of teddies for the Teddy Tombola and are still accepting donations for the Secret Present Room. They need lots of volunteers in order to make these events happen so if you would like to get involved, please let the office know.



Have a wonderful weekend.

Paula Carter

Headteacher

