



Downton Church of England VA Primary School

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Friday 26th May 2023

Dear Parents,

As we leave for the half term break, we thought we would share some of our community events over the past few weeks.

Mini Marathon Success

We are proud to highlight that Downton Primary School was once again placed in the top three of four team races, marking the second consecutive year of such a remarkable accomplishment, in the Salisbury mini marathon last week. This achievement speaks volumes about the remarkable teamwork, support, and encouragement that our students receive from their peers, teachers, and families. Well done everyone!



Downton entered teams in every category from U9 boys and girls up to U11 boys and girls. The practice that the children had engaged in, masterminded by Miss Abel, certainly paid off as Downton children performed superbly across the board. Spurred on by vocal support from parents and staff, Downton child after Downton child set off like spring hares across the fields and up the gruelling hill to crest the peak overlooking the school. Those that made it to the gate up to the slope ahead of the pack were rewarded with a more clear run up to the peak, avoiding the elbows and knees of those around them, those in the heart of the pack fended for themselves very ably. Our most notable individual performers were...

Well done to all who ran and a huge thank you to all of the staff, especially Miss Abel, who helped with the training of the children in the run up to the event.



Dynamo Cricket

On Wednesday 17th May 2023, we entered two teams into the boys' and girls' dynamo cricket competition held at Wyvern St. Edmunds school fields. We were very lucky that the weather was kind to us – there was a definite feeling that summer had in some way started to arrive. For their first match, the boys' team were unlucky to meet a very good Winterslow outfit (who subsequently went on to be in the final) and lost by a handful of runs. The next match was against Dinton and the boys put in a very good performance to come away (or so we believed) with a comfortable win, but some curious quirk of scoring meant that, much to the surprise of both teams and groups of staff, the win was awarded to the wrong team. Undaunted by this curious and cruel twist of fate, the boys then steamed to a 12 run victory over a very good St Mark's team but narrowly missed out on a semi-final berth.

The girls' team fared better than their counterparts and made it through to a closely contested semi after some fine victories against some difficult opposition. Sadly, they fell at the semi-final hurdle but finished the day with a great deal of pride in their performances.

Needless to say, the children showed the very best of sportsmanship and effort and the day was very much enjoyed by teams and staff alike. Well done to all involved.



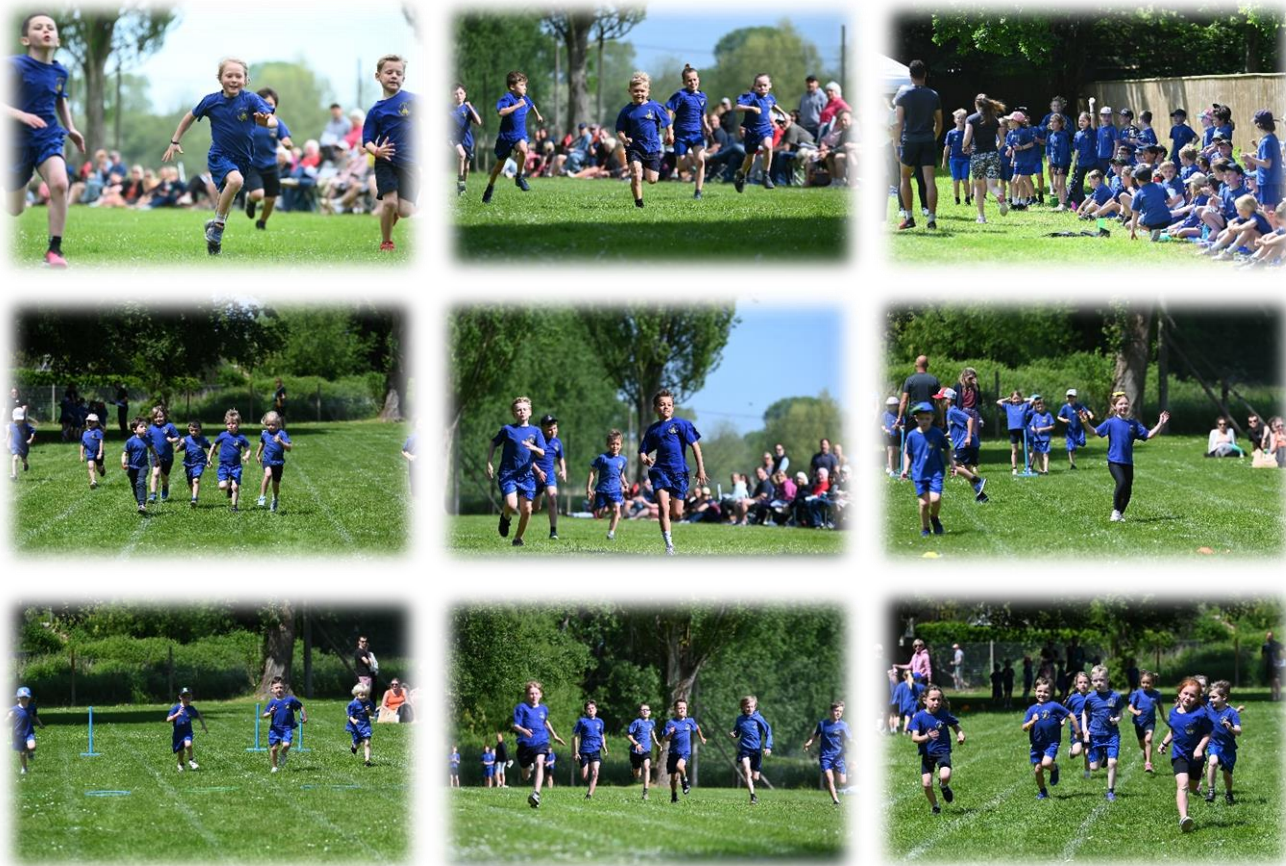
Path of Joy

Working alongside the Worship Council, Katy Uyllatt orchestrated a truly marvelous project called the 'Path of Joy,' which now graces our top playground. The entire school came together to participate in this remarkable endeavor, contributing to its beauty and significance. We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the children who generously donated £1 on the designated day, raising an impressive £122.85 for Salisbury Hospice, the chosen charity. Katy has arranged for Naomi Lloyd Jones, a former parent who works at the hospice, to visit and witness the incredible artwork being brought to life. Additionally, Katy shared an enchanting video with all the classes, showcasing the project's progress and inspiring everyone with its creativity and positivity. This project truly reflects the incredible talent, compassion, and unity within our school community.



Sports Day

Yesterday's Sports Day was such a resounding success and an incredible celebration of PE at Downton. It was also a day filled with laughter, excitement, and teamwork. I would like to extend a massive thank you to our fantastic PE leads, Mr Howell and Miss Abel for organising the event. Their meticulous planning, and enthusiasm were evident in every aspect of the day. I know the teachers' race added an extra touch of fun and competitive spirit, showcasing our commitment to leading by example. The sun beamed down on us setting the perfect backdrop for the creation of wonderful memories. A gallery of photos from the day can now be found on our website: <https://downton-pri.wilts.sch.uk/news/sports-day-2023>



After School Club Rugby

Our after school rugby club, celebrated the last session of this term by wearing comical hats as they practised in school this week. It was clear that they all enjoy this club. This club will continue to run next term and there are still spaces available to book on SchoolGateway. Thank you so much Mr Morgan and Mr Willaims for making rugby so much fun.

Thank you all for supporting these events, what an incredible community Downton is! We look forward to seeing you all back in school on Tuesday 6th June.

Have a lovely half term break.

Best wishes,

Paula Carlton

