



Downton Church of England VA Primary School

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Friday 6th October 2023

Dear Families,

Today's Harvest Festival celebrations were a truly heartwarming and educational experience for our children. Our Key Stage Two children embarked on a journey to the Baptist Church, where they were transported back in time to a field reminiscent of the one where the apostles had to gather the harvest. With baskets in hand, our young learners eagerly took part in an engaging activity to collect all the harvest items they could find. This hands-on experience allowed them to appreciate the hard work that goes into producing the food we enjoy every day. It was a beautiful reminder of the value of the bountiful blessings we have and a celebration of gratitude for the abundance of nourishment in our lives.



We'd like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Katy & Phil at the Baptist Church, Rev Veronica Batchelor and to all the generous donors who made this Harvest Festival celebration even more special. Your contributions to The Larder have been invaluable in ensuring that those in need within our community have access to essential food supplies.



Year 5/6 Football Victory

On Wednesday at Pembroke Park, a team of our Year 5/6 children showcased their skills at the Salisbury School Games Football Tournament. After an action-packed day of football, they emerged as true champions! Our team played a total of 9 games, securing an astounding 8 wins and 1 draw, and they didn't concede a single goal throughout the entire tournament. That's teamwork and determination at its finest. This outstanding performance has earned them a spot in the County Finals, scheduled for January. We couldn't be prouder of them.



Foxes, Dormice & Hedgehogs visit Farleigh Hungerford Castle

Earlier this week, our Key Stage One children embarked on an exciting educational adventure to Farleigh Hungerford Castle, which perfectly complemented their current topic on castles. It was a day filled with exploration and discovery as they delved into the intriguing world of medieval fortifications. Armed with knowledge gained from the classroom, our young historians scoured the castle ruins, identifying and marveling at the various features they had learned about. Dressing up in period-appropriate attire, they stepped into the shoes of the castle's former inhabitants, gaining a deeper understanding of life within these ancient walls. The children said – “I loved being in the castle”, “We got to hold a massive sword, it was so heavy” and “We saw the features of a castle that we talked about in school” – what a fantastic trip to help bring their learning to life.



A note from our SENCo

Today, all parents/carers of children identified on the school's SEN register will have received a letter of introduction from our new SENCo Mrs Butler. If you did not receive one but believe your child to have been on the SEN Register previously then please do get in touch and we will be happy to discuss this with you. Emails can be sent to senco@downton-pri.wilts.sch.uk



Annual Nasal Flu Vaccination Consent

The immunisation team from HCRG will be with us on Thursday 30th November to administer the nasal flu vaccinations. If you would like your child to receive this, please remember to complete the consent form via this link - <https://schoolimms.hrcrgcaregroup.com/flu/2023/wilts>.

Grand Opening of the Memorial Gardens Park

I'm sure you will have all seen that the work is coming along nicely in the new playpark and we are looking forward to the grand opening which is taking place next week on Friday 13th October. All those that are attending the event are asked to enter the field from Long Close ready for a 3:30pm start. The children have been busy creating some wonderful posters to help promote the grand opening and we will share the winners on our Facebook page next week.



Have a lovely weekend.

Paula Carter



Dates for the Fridge – Term 1 & 2

Dates that have been added or amended are highlighted in yellow

Term 1	
Wednesday 11 th October	Wraparound care and club booking opens at 6pm
Wednesday 11 th October	Year 5/6 Tri-golf Tournament
Thursday 12 th October	Sustainability Day
Monday 16 th October	Salisbury Foodbank Worship
Monday 16 th October	DPSA AGM – Details TBC
Monday 16 th October	School Photo Day – individual & sibling photos
Tuesday 17 th October	KS1 Castles dress-up day
Wednesday 18th October	TD Day – school closed to all pupils
Thursday 19th October	October Half Term
Term 2	
Monday 30 th October	First day of term
Thursday 2 nd November	Parent tours for 2024 intake
Friday 10 th November	Remembrance Service
Friday 10 th November	John Glenn visiting our school
Monday 13 th November	Anti-Bullying Week
Monday 13 th November	Odd Socks Day
Wednesday 15 th November	Bag2School Collection
Friday 17 th November	Children in Need – wear your spotty socks
Friday 24 th November	Dress Down Day for bottle and chocolate tombola
Tuesday 28 th November	Parent e-Safety Workshop
Thursday 30 th November	Flu Nasal Spray Immunisations
Friday 1 st December	Christmas Extravaganza
Friday 1 st December	KS1 trip to MAST Studios – Stick Man
Monday 4 th December	Secret Present Room begins
Monday 4 th December	Falcons trip to Palace House Beaulieu
Tuesday 5 th December	Year R Nativity – 2pm
Tuesday 5 th December	Owls trip to Palace House Beaulieu
Wednesday 6 th December	Year R Nativity – 9:30am
Wednesday 6 th December	Stags trip to Palace House Beaulieu
Monday 11 th December	KS1 Christmas Show – 9:30am
Tuesday 12 th December	KS1 Christmas Show – 2pm
Monday 18 th December	Christmas Lunch and Jumper Day
Wednesday 20 th December	Christmas Service – last day of term

