

DORMERS INFORMER

Believe, Aspire, Flourish



A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

Dear Parents/Carers,

The children have returned from half term rested and re-energised for the busy term ahead. You may be aware that the official DfE league tables were published in December. I am delighted to share we have received a letter from the Government, Damian Hinds, Education Minister for Schools, congratulating us on the excellent progress we made in Reading, Writing and Maths in 2023. This means we are in the TOP 5% of all schools in the country. As well as confirming the excellent progress outcomes, this also placed Dormers Wells Primary as the 8th highest achieving school in the Borough, out of 96 schools, in terms of attainment. Click here <https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/schools-by-type?step=default&table=schools®ion=307&geographic=la&for=primary> The incredible achievement reflects the commitment of the whole school community. Thank you for your continued support, working with us, sending your child to school daily, to achieve the absolute best outcomes for your child. I am beyond proud of our staff team and our pupils. I hope you will join me in thanking the staff for all the work they have done to achieve this outcome. You can also say Thank you to an amazing teacher or any staff member: Send a free personalised thank you card through National Thank A Teacher campaign.

Attendance Awards-February 2024

We want all our pupils to achieve 97% and be in the 97 Club and achieve these great outcomes! A big shout out to our amazing children who continue to show a love of learning by coming to school every day. A SPECIAL WELL DONE to the TOP 10 classes for their excellent February attendance-FAB!

Attendance and Punctuality

If your child's attendance below 90%, they are classed as a persistent absentee. We strongly encourage parents whose child's attendance is below 95%, to improve attendance, starting from Reception.

- Statistics show a direct link between under-achievement and poor attendance
- Research shows regular attenders make better progress, both socially and academically
- Regular attenders find school routines, schoolwork, and friendships easier to cope with
- Regular attenders find learning more enjoyable
- Regular attendance encourages responsible learning habits, as well as prepare children for higher education and working life.

Good attendance supports our pupils to flourish both individually and collaboratively, in their personal and academic development.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding that excellent attendance is essential to productive learning and positive life-long habits, which will set them up for success as adults. Continue to support us, improving attendance, as it is important that your child is in school every day learning. Please see link for some information regarding illness:

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Position	Class attendance
1st	6S Turing 99.1% 😊
2nd	4D Attenborough 97.3% 😊
3rd	4W Wangari 97% 😊
4th	6W Johnson 96.3% 😊
5th	6D Hawking 95.9% 😊
6th=	3W Tendulkar 95.6% 😊 3D Farah 95.6% 😊
8th	Y5 Rosen 95.2% 😊
9th	5D Blackman 95% 😊
10th	2W Curie 94.9% 😊
11th	2D Latimer 94.1%
12th	1W Earhart 93.3%
13th	5S Zephaniah 92.8%
14th	YR Mahlangu 91.3%
15th	1D Seacole 90.7%
16th	YR Pollock 88.1%
17th	AM Nursery Raza 87.2%
18th	PM Nursery Raza 85.2%
Overall Feb. attendance	94.5% (TARGET OF 95% NOT MET-just!) 🏆

WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AWARD: CINEMA

Unfortunately, there are still some families who are taking their children out of school during term time for a holiday/visit abroad. The government is planning to increase fines for this. However, we are pleased to announce that all pupils (Reception to Year 6) who have been resilient in braving the cold weather and winter bugs have earned a morning at the Cinema with their friends, as a reward for 100% attendance between the 22nd January to 8th March. Infant pupils will be watching "Trolls Band Together" and KS2 will be watching "Astrix: The secret of the magic potion" in w.b. 11.3.24.

INSPIRE ME WEEK

We are looking for parents/carers to join us during Careers week to talk to their child's/children's class about the skills needed to make it in the workforce. Do you have an interesting and exciting job that requires specific skills (e.g. a business owner, vet, accountant, electrician or dental nurse)? Are you able to talk about a specific skill or personality trait a child might need for future work life? (e.g. teamwork) If yes, WE NEED YOU!! Please contact Miss Forrester or your child's class teacher ASAP, if you can join us during this week, for further details.

PARENTS EVENING and OPEN AFTERNOON: BOOK LOOK

Book Looks and Online Parents evening took place recently, ranging from with 42% (Y4 class) to 92% (Y6 class) attendance. To continue to be the one of the best schools, we need to work together, to ensure your child's makes maximum progress. If you missed your appointment, please contact your child's class teacher to arrange a mutually convenient time. In the parents' survey last term, you asked for face to face interaction and we were delighted to welcome you into school, to look at your child's books. You have fed back to us how much you appreciated seeing your child's books and learning environment and talking to teachers.

A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

SAFEGUARDING: ONLINE SAFETY

As part of safeguarding, we are sending you Online Safety Guides, to further help you keep your children safe online. This month's guide is: Parent Guide to Hacking

READING

Storytelling Week is fast approaching! Look out for on Class DOJO: Dormers Reading Flyer. We have an exciting week of activities including a visit from author, Nathaniel Tomlinson and Book Fair (books are on sale- do come and join us after school). Activities include dress up World Book Day and StoryBox Reading Competition, so please do encourage your child to join in. Happy Reading!

DWHS Top Reading Tips

Reading for Pleasure is at the Heart of What We Do

Games are a great way to engage your child with reading and exposure to new vocabulary.

Below are some games you can play with your child whilst they are reading a book, poster, newspaper or comic.

I Spy

Play 'I Spy' games with picture books:

- ✓ Can you find words beginning with...?
- ✓ Can you find a picture of a ...?
- ✓ How many ... can you see?

Act it out!

- ✓ Act out a scene from a book
- ✓ Or put on character voices when reading

Scrabble

- ✓ Play a game of scrabble, a great way for children to spell words and share words from their books.

Reading Eggs

Don't forget, your children have access to an amazing resource which has hundreds of games to support with their reading! Interactive learning at its best!



KS2 - Murder at the Museum by Alasdair Beckett-King



KS1
I'm (almost) never board by Anna Milbourne

Recommended Read for the Month of February

YOU SAID: (November 23)	WE DID/DO:	WE WILL do in 24-25
Q4. 22% disagreed with: My child has been bullied and the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively. (In 2022 this was 22%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rigorous Behavior policy staff follow • Monitor incidents-No incidents of bullying recorded from 1st Sep • We educate the pupils on what 'Bullying' is • Anti-Bullying Week • Worry boxes in all year groups • SLT duty at lunchtimes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consult with the Junior Leadership Team e.g. posters/leaflets/workshops • Re-instate Playground Friends/Mentors
Q8. 8% disagreed with: The school has high expectations for my child (In 2022 this was 14%).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ambitious end of year pupil targets for learning and attendance • Excellent SATS results, e.g., Top 3 in Borough for Writing • More Able Puzzle Academy • High quality teaching and expectations, recognised by Ofsted June 2022 and the LA • Coding Club at DWHS • More Able Maths at DWHS • Challenging online home learning platforms • Increased pupils achieving at Greater Depth in KS1 and KS2 SATs • Advertise better pupil achievement e.g. DOJO • Top 5% of schools in the country • 8th in the borough out of 96 schools for attainment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Run Open sessions Y1-6 for parents to 'see' our high expectations in practice • Increase 'home' reward letters, celebrating achievement • Increase pupils achieving at Greater Depth in KS2 SATs (Reading)
Q14. 8% disagreed with: I would recommend this school to another parent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waiting lists in some year groups • High performing school • Advertise school via new banners • Twitter (X) page and website 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build the school's PR portfolio: a dynamic and exciting website, creating a buzz online, with key achievements highlighted all year • Shout about our strengths and share • Continue to innovate an inviting and inspiring learning environment
Q17. 8% said NO to: At home my child has access to a digital device eg: laptop, ipad, table or mobile phone.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During pandemic, issued devices and SIM cards to families • Advertise on DOJO/newsletter how to access free data • Provide opportunities in school time for use of online platforms and to complete home learning • On a case to case basis, issued laptops for loan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On a case to case basis, issue laptops for loan (from a donation received) e.g. PP/FSM pupils

A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

Governor of the Month: Jeff Klaasen

I hope this message finds you well and in good spirits. As the staff governor of our school, I am honoured to have the opportunity to serve our community and contribute to the continued growth and success of our educational institution. First and foremost, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to all the dedicated teachers and support staff who work tirelessly to create a nurturing and enriching learning environment for our students. Your commitment and passion are truly commendable, and it is through your hard work and dedication that our school continues to thrive to excellence. As we navigate through the challenges and opportunities that come our way, I am committed to representing the interests of the staff and ensuring that your voices are heard. Whether it's advocating for resources and support, addressing concerns, or championing initiatives to enhance professional development opportunities, rest assured that I am here to serve as a liaison between the staff and the governing body. Apart from my roles in Year 6 and leading Maths in our school, this year I will also take on additional responsibility for teaching and learning across the Trust. Ensuring that there is continuity across Key stage 2 and 3 and sharing excellence between the primary and the high school. Together, I am confident that we can overcome any challenges and continue to make a positive impact on the lives of our students. Thank you for your ongoing support and dedication to our school community.



FREE SCHOOL MEALS: TASTER AFTERNOON

Too many children are still missing out on a free delicious nutritious school lunch, so on Tuesday 27th February we invited all pupils who are eating a packed Lunch to a food tasting session. We had a good turnout of parents and children and there were some very good reviews about the food; "It's delicious", as well as the options that are available. We want all children to be eating a HOT FREE school lunch, so do encourage your child to try it out and save yourself money for the next school year too!

If you are eligible for free school meals, please provide the school with your National Insurance Number or click on the link below, on how to claim, in case your child is eligible for Food vouchers during the holidays AND extra funding for their school from the Government, worth £1,300 per year. That's extra money to spend on enrichment activities, teacher development and targeted support. To see if you qualify please click on the link and inform school as soon as you receive your notification: <http://fsm.bslforum.com/ealing/Dseat.jsp> The Voucher is usually £15 per week, per child. Don't miss out, apply today!

Other support available-Cost of living

Support for children and families from Ealing Council website has lots of information about the different sources of help, benefits, grants and money-saving discounts the council has on offer. Visit for more information:

https://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201320/coSt_of_living_support_and_advice.

Parents might also be interested in the free data sim cards available from Ealing libraries for students. The council's four community hubs include Southall Library, https://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201033/council_and_local_decisions/3073/location, a registered data bank providing sims cards for those who do not have online access or are struggling to pay for mobile data. Anyone struggling to meet food costs, cover their rent or purchase essential items can apply for financial assistance. To find more information or to make an application go to:

https://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201264/help_for_residents/2687/help_with_your_money/2

Information about all the different sources of help, benefits, grants and money-saving discounts on offer is also available:

https://www.egfl.org.uk/sites/default/files/Cost%20of%20living%20leaflet%20with%20translations_0.pdf

Let's Localise- Follow us

An organisation that supports us with fundraising, asking local individuals, organisations and businesses for help. The Infant school is listed on this digital platform but we need to build up our followers. Do follow us on our "Lets Localise page" and share with family and friends, as we pledge for more resources. To follow: <https://www.letslocalise.co.uk/dashboard/school>

Thank you for your continued support with our school priorities: encouraging daily attendance at school, reading, spelling practice and online learning platforms Collins E Books/Reading Eggs, Numbots, My Maths/Mathletics and Times Table Rockstars.

With best wishes,

Mrs Toni George (Headteacher)

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

UPCOMING DATES - MARCH

1/3/24: Secondary school offer
 4/3/24: Storytelling Week including Author visits, Book signings
 6/3/24: GB Meeting
 07/3/24: Y4 visit to Hindu Temple
 07/3/24: 2:45pm Y3 Tendulkar Class assembly
 08/3/24: World Book Day
 08/3/24: International women's day
 11/3/24: Y3 Raza Art Workshop
 11/3/24: KS1 multi-skills event (selected Y1 and Y2 pupils)
 11/3/24: Inspire Me (Careers) Week

12/3/24: Infant 100% Attendance Reward @ Vue Cinema
 13/3/24: Junior 100% attendance Reward @ Vue Cinema
 13/3/24: Y3 Visit to a church
 14/3/24: 2:45pm Y1 Earhart Class assembly
 14/3/24: SEND Pentathlon Challenge Y3-6 selected pupils
 15/3/24: Comic Relief (Red Nose Day) (non-uniform)
 18/3/24: Y5 at DWHS Science week
 20/3/24: Y5D & Y5W class trip to British Museum
 21/3/24: Y5S class trip to British Museum
 27/3/24: Y5 trip to Hobbledown Heath, Dance Festival Y3-6 selected pupils
 27/3/24: Last day of Spring term for Nursery
 28/3/24: Last day of Spring term for Reception to Year 6 @ 1pm

Nursery

Nursery had a great time this month learning about Chinese New Year. We read the story 'The great race' and looked at the different animals. We also discussed how Chinese New Year is celebrated and made a vegetable and noodle stir fry to celebrate. The children wrote their own shopping lists and learned about safety when cooking.



Reception

Last half term, the children in Reception had a 'Under the sea' theme. We have been reading different stories such as 'The Snail and the Whale' and 'The Rainbow Fish'. The children had a theatre company visit them. They ran through the story using different props, actions and instruments.



Year 1

Year One have really enjoyed their Art Topic 'Under the Sea'. During this topic the children have been using a range of techniques to create different sea creatures and the sea itself. The children's final project is using junk modelling to create their own sculpture of a sea creature which we hope to finish very soon.



Year 2

The children went on a school trip to Gunnersbury Museum, where the children had the chance to understand what life was like in London in 1666. The children learnt about how the Great Fire of London started as well as understanding how it spread very quickly. The children loved being able to dress up in the costumes that was typically worn in 1666.



Year 3

Year 3 have been having a fantastic time learning all about artist S H Raza. We have been exploring different ways of presenting art inspired by Raza and we are looking forward to learning so much more



Year 4

Some children in the class had created amazing realistic Stonehenge models linking to our History topic on Anglo-Saxons.



WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

Year 5

Children in year 5 enjoyed the educational and fun out of this world experience of being in a Space dome, even though some had motion sickness. This has inspired some children to become astronauts in the future.



Author Visit

We are very excited about an upcoming author visit from Lucy Nogueira on the 5th of March. You have an opportunity to purchase her books via SQUID now.

HERMAN NEEDS A HOME
A little crab's search for a shell to call home.
Picture book - 40 pages
Hermit Crabs
Recycling & plastic pollution
Conservation
Signed copy of Herman
£7.99

SWÖP THE SATSUMA-SIZED SECRET
Suitable 7+ Chapter Book
Fun read
Black & white illustrations
Dyslexic Friendly Layout
Introduces British Sign Language
First in a new series
Signed copy & bookmark
£7.99

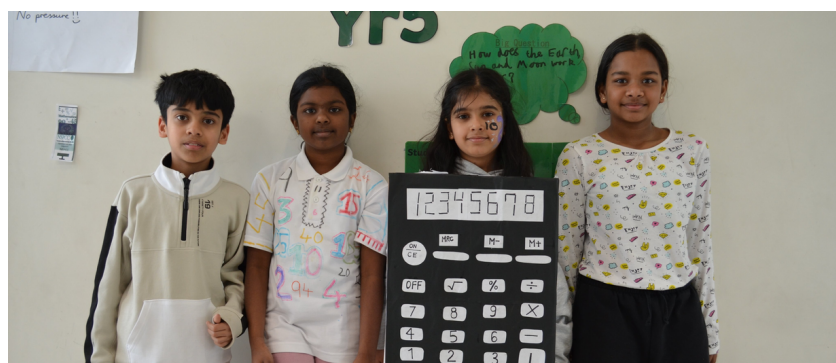
Year 6

The children thoroughly enjoyed the Battle of Britain Bunker Trip, which reinforced their learning of women's roles during WW2. They dressed up as WAAF members and pretended to be plotters in the museum before we went down the 77 steps (60ft below ground) to the bunker.



NSPCC Numbers Day

Students dressed up as numbers, decorated their classroom doors, walked laps around the field, participated in games and face painting, as well as whole school bingo! We had a great time raising money for NSPCC and the school, raising over £600- Thanks for your donations. From football shirts, to human calculators, wizards and dominoes, there were some fantastic costumes to compete with, but everyone looked the part!



WORLD BOOK DAY
1 MARCH 2024

CELEBRATE WORLD BOOK DAY

Sponsored by NATIONAL BOOK TOKENS

Changing lives through a love of books and shared reading

World Book Day® is a charity sponsored by National Book Tokens.



All National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and educators with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. Please visit nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.



Brought to you by



What are they?

'Hacking'

Hacking is the unauthorised attempt to exploit a computer system or network. There are different types of hackers who are usually categorised under 'hats'. White hat hackers are known as ethical hackers and have no intent to cause harm, but rather will penetrate a system to identify weaknesses. Black hat hackers or Crackers are those who intentionally hack to gain unauthorised access to harm or steal sensitive information. Grey hat hackers act more for fun and exploit security weaknesses in computer systems to raise awareness of issues for recognition, political awareness, or financial reward.

What you need to know about... HACKING

Know the Risks

It's Illegal

Hacking is often portrayed in the media as dark, dangerous and cool. However, young people attempting to hack are often unaware that they are actually breaking the law. It is a criminal offence to access or modify data stored on a computer system without permission which is often punishable by law and could lead to a criminal record.

Theft of Personal Data

Cyber criminals collect information in a variety of ways and will try to entice children to an attractive website through offers of free media or products. They will often hide malware in downloadable content which can take over your computer, steal personal data and pass it on to third parties. This can lead to financial and reputational damage, embarrassment, blackmail or even identity theft.

Inappropriate Content

If a child is using an unsecure network, free WiFi or hasn't implemented any necessary security measures, they could leave themselves open to being hijacked by other users. This could leave them open to being sent or exposed to inappropriate images or videos, especially via social media platforms or communication apps.

18+

Safety Tips

Talk about the risks

Encourage discussion with children about what hacking is and what the consequences of being hacked are, as well as those risks if they were to become involved in hacking themselves. Discuss the legalities and the dangers of not keeping accounts and passwords secure.

Be security aware

Talk to children about being security aware. Advise them to seek your help when filling out online forms and make sure they know what to keep private when filling in online profiles such as their date of birth, phone numbers and addresses. Make sure children know the risks of connecting to open/free Wi-Fi.

Tighten protection

Make sure that you have implemented necessary security measures across all devices and apps your child uses. Use passwords that are made up of at least 8 characters consisting of symbols, numbers, uppercase and lowercase letters. Create different passwords for different accounts and use two-factor authentication where possible. Turn off browser pop-ups and location services in apps when not in use and make sure your anti-virus software is up to date.

Further Guidance

Provide support

Try to make sure that child know that they can feel comfortable talking to you. If a child's account has been hacked and they have suffered embarrassment or loss of private information, they may become withdrawn, secretive or emotional so it's important that they know that you will be there to help and can offer them support and advice to help rectify the situation.

Change security controls

If you suspect that a child's account has been hacked or compromised, disable it, change passwords for other accounts that may be linked to it and use a password manager to increase the level of security. If you believe a device has been hacked, update and run your anti-virus software. You might also need to wipe the device and re-install everything.

Seek further help

If you notice that a child is starting to show a deep interest in hacking activities or mentions the dark web or TOR browsers, have a conversation with them about the laws they may be breaking and the possible dangerous consequences. Seek advice from local organisations who may have more specialist knowledge and can provide further guidance.

Our Expert Emma Davis



Emma Davis is a cyber security expert and former ICT teacher. She delivers cyber awareness training to organisations nationally and has extensive knowledge and experience of managing how children access services and apps online.

