



# DILTON MARSH CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Newsletter 1 Term 3 - Friday 12th January 2024

Dear parents

Yesterday Mrs Lawrence and I travelled to Birmingham with the choir and their families to take part in the Young Voices concert. This is an amazing experience where they sing alongside thousands of other children in a national arena to form 'The largest Children's Choir Concert in the World'.



### This week's Spotlight - Attendance

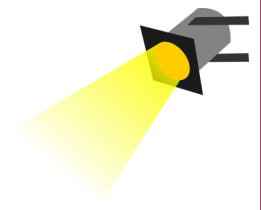
The target for all pupils is to achieve 100% attendance and 100% punctuality. The minimum expectation for all pupils is 97% attendance over the academic year.

Our current attendance is 96%. Our aim for the rest of this academic year is to improve this and that is everybody's responsibility to work to achieve this.

One of the areas where we need to improve is punctuality. Pupils must arrive in school by 8.40am each day. Over the last two terms, there were 279 occasions when late marks were given. When pupils arrive late, they miss out on essential instructions given at the beginning of the lesson. This can significantly reduce achievement, regardless of academic ability. Your child may also feel awkward arriving to the classroom when everyone else is settled. Furthermore, when one pupil arrives late, it disrupts the entire class and the teacher – everyone's education is compromised.

We understand that there may be rare occasions when you are unavoidably late due to unforeseen circumstances. Regular lateness however, would suggest that morning routines at home may need changing.

This term we will continue to monitor attendance **and** lateness weekly. Parents will be notified if there are concerns about lateness via a letter. If lateness continues, parents will be invited to attend a School Attendance Meeting where help will be offered to meet targets set to improve attendance.





## Look what we've been up to in our first week back!

### Lime Class

We have been singing 'Auld Lang Syne' and talking about how different people welcome in the New Year!



### Cherry Class

We have been learning all about our senses and carried out an experiment to test how useful our senses are.



### Ash Class

We are reading Little Red Reading Hood to help with our writing, we went outside to explore the trees so we could use most of our senses to collect adjectives and ideas for our sentence stacking in English.

We have also had a busy week, finding out food chains in Science and using our times tables to solve problems.



### Willow Class

In Willow Class we've made a brilliant start to the term. We've been comparing multiplication and division facts in maths and lots of us are now rock stars on TT Rock Stars! We've also started our new writing and had great fun performing 'The Dragon Who Ate Our School!' In science we've been learning about forces and spent Wednesday afternoon using toy cars to see which surfaces created the most friction.

### Chestnut Class

In Chestnut Class we have started our Maths block on multiplication and division and have worked quickly through our work, this has really impressed Mrs Bown on the first week back! Madeleine has said, "Maths has been easy this week and fun!"

We have also started our Science block on Electricity. We were given a battery pack, batteries, 2 wires and a bulb and had to create a circuit to make the bulb light up. "I was excited because I've never done this before and happy because it worked!" – Juno.

### Beech Class

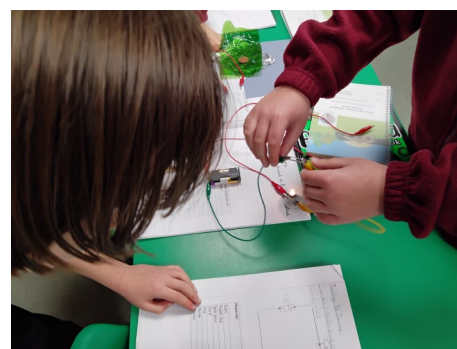
This week in Beech Class we have been learning about the properties of materials. We have learnt how to test magnetism, transparency and hardness. We have also been learning about electrical and thermal conductors and insulators. We had a go at testing different materials using simple circuits to see if the material was a conductor or insulator. We found out that:

"A coin is a conductor which means it can allow electricity to pass through it, this meant the circuit was complete and the bulb lit up." Oscar

"A rubber is an insulator because it does not allow electricity to pass through it." Freddie H

### Oak Class

This week in year 6 we have had another SAT practice though we only did the maths papers. It's important that we do SAT practices as it lets us see how we are improving – we are really pleased with our improvement in arithmetic. Our new English writing unit is newspapers – we've written some headlines using puns and some straplines using alliteration. We've learned about the circulatory system in science – did you know that the 3 main parts of the circulatory system are the heart, blood and blood vessels? We also had a visit from the Road Safety Team who reminded us about the importance of always wearing a cycle helmet and of wearing a seat belt.



## Let's celebrate!

### Headteacher Awards:

- \* Tilly T from Cherry Class for great independent maths, spotting mistakes and making them right.

### Star of the Week:

<b>Lime Class</b>	Eden for having a great learning attitude in the first week back.
<b>Cherry Class</b>	Natalia for always showing all of our values, particularly perseverance in our writing this week.
<b>Ash Class</b>	Chasie for always showing compassion in everything he does.
<b>Willow Class</b>	Logan giving 100% to all of his learning.
<b>Chestnut Class</b>	Charlie for being motivated and organised in his work this week.
<b>Beech Class</b>	Olivia for her excellent teamwork skills when solving tricky problems.
<b>Oak Class</b>	Logan for perseverance.

### Dilton's Maths Magicians:

<b>Lime Class</b>	Casper for working really hard on his number formation.
<b>Cherry Class</b>	Max for doing some amazing reasoning using resources to check his own answers and prove that he is right.
<b>Ash Class</b>	Alexis for explaining how she used her times tables facts.
<b>Willow Class</b>	Elena for clear and accurate number sentences.
<b>Chestnut Class</b>	Faye for confidently sharing answers.
<b>Beech Class</b>	Orla for excellent perseverance with long multiplication.
<b>Oak Class</b>	Noah and Ethan for progress in arithmetic.



### **TT Rockstars:**

In the last 7 days these children have earned the following certificates:

Most improvement in accuracy – Rose in Chestnut

Most improvement in Studio Speed – Emily in Willow

Biggest increase in correct answers – Max in Chestnut

Star of the week – Highest number of minutes played – Oliver in Oak

Biggest increase in coins earned – Max in Chestnut

### **FODS update**

#### **Happy New Year from FODS!**

Thank you to everyone who supported the Luxury Christmas Hamper Raffle. A brilliant £770.51 was raised for school trips, plus we really appreciate the £81.42 collected at the Stormore Carol Service.



#### **Unwanted Christmas Gifts**

If you have any unwanted Christmas gifts we'd love them for the raffle at the quiz night. Please drop any items into the office by Weds 17th January. Thank you!

#### **FODS meeting Monday 5th Feb**

If you'd like to find out more about FODS activities or interested to get involved please join us for a drink at The Hollies, 7:30pm on Monday 5th February or speak with our Chair Amy Pittaway or a FODS rep.

## Nut Free School

Please can I remind parents that we are a Nut-Free school. This means that items such as peanut butter / Nutella sandwiches, cakes or bars with nuts etc must not be brought into school for snacks or part of a packed lunch.



Whilst staff cannot monitor all lunchbox items, if we do find any of these food types in school then we will remove the item and / or the child to an alternative space to avoid the risk of any cross-contamination.

Thank you for your continued support with this to keep our children safe.

## Dates for your diary

Tuesday 16th January	Walk Safe practical - Willow Class
Saturday 20th January	FODS Quiz Night
Monday 5th February	FODS meeting at The Hollies, Westbury 7.30pm
Tuesday 6th February	Dance Festival at The Forum, Bath
Friday 9th February	End of Term 3 (normal finishing time)
Monday 19th February	Start of Term 4
Monday 4th March	Lime Showcase
Tuesday 5th March	Year 5 & 6 trip to Houses of Parliament (Details to follow)
Tuesday 5th March	Willow Showcase
Tuesday 12th March	Chestnut Showcase
Wednesday 13th March	Beech Showcase
Thursday 14th March	Ash Showcase
Tuesday 19th March	Oak Showcase
Tuesday 26th March	Cherry Showcase
Thursday 28th March	End of Term 4 (12pm finish)
Monday 15th April	Start of Term 5
Friday 24th May	End of Term 5 (normal finishing time)
Monday 3rd June	Start of Term 6
Tuesday 4th June	Rags2Riches collection
Friday 7th June	Class photos
Monday 10th - Wednesday 12th June	Oak Class residential to Tile Barn
Wednesday 19th June	Lime Showcase
Thursday 20th June	KS1 Dance Festival at Bath Forum
Monday 24th & Tuesday 25th June	Matravers Year 6 Transition Days
Tuesday 2nd July	Chestnut Showcase
Wednesday 3rd July	Beech Showcase
Thursday 4th July	Ash Showcase
Monday 8th & Tuesday 9th July	Kingdown Year 6 Transition Days
Tuesday 9th July	Willow Showcase
Wednesday 10th July	Cherry Showcase
Monday 15th July	Oak Class production
Friday 19th July	End of Term 6 (12pm finish)