



Durweston
CE Primary School

Head teacher: Nicola Brooke

Email: office@durweston.dsat.org.uk
Website: www.durweston.dorset.sch.uk

‘Feed the mind, nurture the spirit, free the imagination.’

19th March 2023

Newsletter

Dear Parents,

I confess Friday was a difficult day. For one reason and another, 8 members of staff were not in school and no supply teachers were available anywhere.

But then Mrs Turner sent me these pictures of Starfish in the forest and I remembered why, despite its many challenges, this job is the best in the world.



Sadly, I didn't get a minute to take a photo of all the fabulous children who came to school on Friday dressed in red or green or both! Thank you for all the contributions to Comic Relief. Remember it's Mufti on Monday, but this time we are asking for raffle prizes. Time to dig out those unwanted bottles of wine and boxes of chocolate..... 😊

All sorts of other things have been going on over the last two weeks. It was great to see so many parents at the **Book Look**, despite the terribly short notice I gave you. Our Year 6s went to the Blandford School last Tuesday to take part in a **Maths Matters** day with the other Year 6 children from the Blandford Schools Network. Our **netballers** had a match against Spetisbury on a very wet and miserable afternoon, and were unlucky to lose in the last quarter. And Porpoises fed the whole school **toasted sandwiches** on Thursday afternoon. I failed to take photos of any of these events 😞. I promise to try harder in future. The PTA have given us some money to buy new school phones for each class to use as cameras. Does anyone have any recommendation for a not-too-expensive phone which takes really good photos, especially in low-light levels (eg in the church)?

Industrial action

Thank you. That's all I want to say.



Diocese of Salisbury
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Sometimes you have to admit you’re wrong

Some of you may know that panto is my one of my least favourite things (alongside Brussel sprouts and dressing up.) So it was with much trepidation that I accepted an invite to the production of Aladdin at the village hall last Sunday afternoon. But I was wrong! It was brilliant. Honestly. Costumes, acting, production – even the jokes were alright. Clearly a HUGE amount of thought and work and care had been put into the whole thing and it really showed. I loved the fact that children and adults of all ages were included, and many revealed a completely unknown side to their characters – from Elani in Handy Paws to Mrs Compiani, (Harriet in Seahorse’s mum) who I did not recognise AT ALL! I can’t say that I’ve been totally converted, but I’ll certainly be buying a ticket for next year’s performance.



Next week

Unbelievably, there are only two weeks left of this term. Some children are off to the Blandford School on Tuesday evening for the Blandford Schools’ Networks annual **Sing Up concert**. Mrs Saint will be sending details to the parents involved. Seven Year 6s are going to Bryanston Prep for **Bold Voices**, a day discussing stereotypes and how they can affect our lives. Thursday afternoon, we are hosting a **cross-country** event for the local primary schools and Friday is **Open Afternoon**. Children need to bring the work they have completed to school on Friday morning; parents, please come from **3pm** to enjoy the show. Please remember that you can’t take your child home until 3.30pm, but we will provide tea and coffee in the hall whilst you wait.

And don’t forget that there is **BINGO on Thursday 30th March** in the school hall. Arrive at 6.30pm; eyes down at 7pm. Children and adults – all are welcome.

Handy Paws

We still haven’t found a replacement for Helen in Handy Paws; apparently there is a dearth of nursery staff across Dorset. From Monday, Mrs Riley is returning to Seahorses and Mrs Carroll is going to take over in Handy Paws. ‘What is happening in Starfish?’ I hear you cry. It’s OK – the lovely Mrs Craig is going to step into the breach. If you know of anyone with a DfE approved Early Years Level 3 qualification who might be interested in working at our lovely school, please do let them know we are looking.



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Hope the sun continues to shine on us all this week!

Best wishes

Nicola Brooke



DATES FOR THE DIARY 2023

Monday 20th March

Mufti Day – please bring in raffle prizes for Bingo night and Coronation Celebration

Friday 24th March

Open Afternoon

Thursday 30th March

PTA Bingo 6.30pm for 7pm School hall

Friday 31st April

End of Term

Summer Term

Monday 17th April

Children return to school

Friday 5th April

Coronation Celebration

Monday 8th April

KS2 SATs week

Wednesday 17th April-

Porpoises to Land and Wave

Friday 19th April

Friday 26th April

Porpoises Sailing at Weymouth

Summer Half Term

Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June

Wednesday 21st June

Sports Day Years 1 – 6 - 9.20am to 12pm

Thursday 22nd June

Handy Paws and Reception Sports day 9.20am

Tuesday 4th July

Transfer Day for Y6s. Day in new classes for Years 1 – 5

Wednesday 12th July

Summer performance



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