



Durweston
CE Primary School

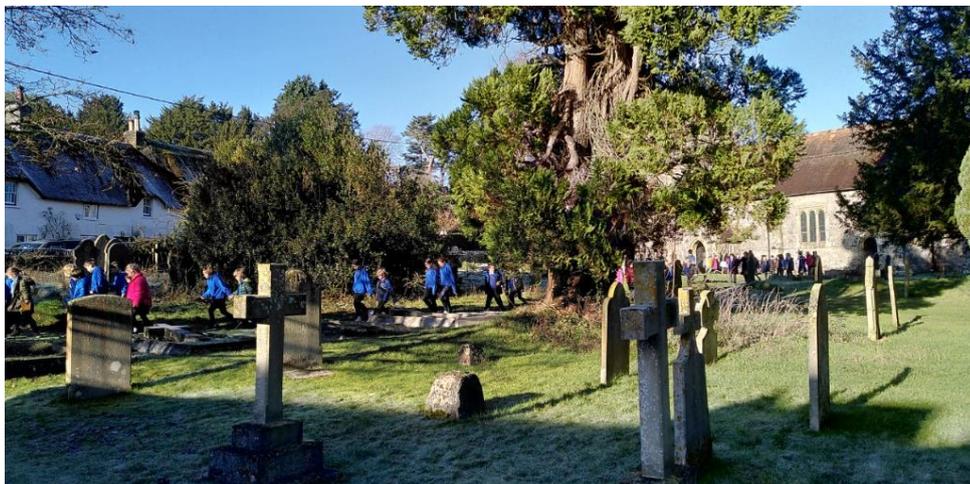
Head teacher: Nicola Brooke

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

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

30th January 2023

Newsletter



It was cold but clear last Friday as the children walked back from Proud assembly in the church.



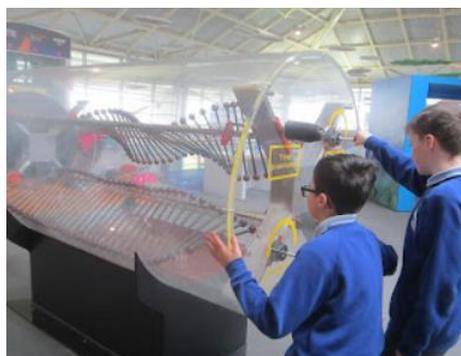
Dear Parents,

Good news and bad news in this newsletter. Let’s start with some a big thank you to Charlie Spiller for finding us a space heater to heat the hall last week. What a fabulous piece of kit! Thanks also to Sam Patten, who brought over a radiator, and to Asa Stevens who also offered to help. Fortunately, the PBS and fan needed to fix our boiler finally arrived from America this week, has been fitted and the temperature is gradually rising. Unfortunately, the boiler in the church has now broken.....



Winchester Science Centre

Sharks and Porpoises had a great time at the Winchester Science Centre this week. Many children said it was the best trip they have ever been on. See what they got up to [here](#).



Diocese of Salisbury
Academy Trust

Durweston, Blandford Forum,
Dorset, DT11 0QA
Tel: 01258 452277





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Super Swimmers



Our swimming team went to Bryanston last week to take part in the Blandford Schools Network Swimming gala. It was VERY loud, but lots of fun. We ended up midway down the table; not bad given we were by far the smallest school there. I failed to get a picture of the Y5 boys’ team whilst we were there – Rohan said it was probably because they spent so much time in the changing room...



Famous parent!

If you did not see Jack Dickson on BBC’s Make it to Market recently, you can still watch it [here](#). Jack is George in Porpoises’ Dad. If you’d like to see more of his paintings, they are on display at the Russel Coates Museum in Bournemouth until 5th March. <https://russelcotes.com/event/jack-dickson/>



Hansel and Gretel

The Paddleboat Theatre Company visited Durweston again last week to perform their version of Hansel and Gretel. I think it was brilliant and the children seemed transfixed. It was paid for, as ever, with funds raised by our PTA.



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Sad farewells

I know many, many of you will be sad to learn that Helen in Handy Paws is leaving us. Helen has been a part of Durweston for many years, and a key member of our Early Years team. It is hard to imagine Handy Paws without her. We wish her all the best in her new job working as part of a team working with children-in-care.

We know she will be brilliant but we will miss her very, very much indeed.



We also said goodbye this week to our guinea pig Miss Piggy who had come to keep Sunny company. She was quite an old lady, but it was still very sad to lose her as she was a very squeaky, friendly guinea pig. Please let us know if you know of any other older, female guinea pigs in need of a home.



Jellyfish's maths!

I was delighted to come across the Jellyfish on Friday, a group Year 1s on Friday who have been working with Mrs Turner and Mrs Riley. They were super proud of the maths they have been learning and were very keen to share.

Tuesday lunchtime clubs

More maths on Tuesday in Mrs Plummer's lunchtime maths club. Open to anyone who wants to catch up on homework or further practice their skills, this is just one of several lunchtime clubs that teachers are offering on Tuesday lunchtimes. No one has to sign up, children can choose a different club each week or not club at all – it's completely up to them.



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Christingle at Candlemas

As long as the work in the church is completed, we will be holding our Christingle service in church on Thursday 2nd February. This coincides with the festival of Candlemas and used to be the official end of Christmas. After much deliberation, I have decided not to invite parents. I am just worried that there won't be enough room for parents as well as children with candles. Instead, I'd like to make a video that we can share instead. If anyone would like to offer their skills, please do get in touch. The service will be at 2.15pm.



Attendance

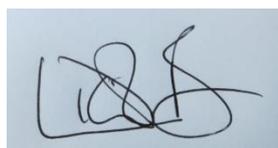
Still lots of bugs around it seems. We are encouraging the children to wash their hands as much as possible to limit the spread of germs as far as possible. We also do ask them to wear coats outside when it is cold, so please make sure you send your child in with one everyday.

Class	Last week	Whole school this year (needs to be above 96%)
Starfish	96.9%	94.6%
Dolphins	96.1%	
Seahorses	92.9%	
Sharks	94.4%	
Porpoises	95.2%	

At least the days are getting longer, if only very gradually - it's wasn't quite pitch black when I left school on Friday. Gives me hope that I might be able to get back on my bike soon. (Of course the hardy Mrs Cresswell has been cycling all through the winter – she puts me to shame).

Finally a picture of the fabulous tower Alfie built in Breakfast Club this week. We don't normally allow children to stand on chairs but his grandmother was in the room at the time.

Hope you all have a week full of good things.



Nicola Brooke
Headteacher





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DATES FOR THE DIARY 2023

Thursday 2nd February

Tuesday 7th February

Tuesday 7th February

Friday 10th February

Friday 10th February

SPRING HALF TERM

Monday 20th February

Tuesday 21st February

Tuesday 21st February

Thursday 23rd and Friday 24th February

Friday 24th February

Friday 24th February

Monday 27th February

Wednesday 1st March

Thursday 2nd March

Thursday 2nd March and Friday 3rd March

Wednesday 8th March, 2pm

Friday 17th March

Friday 17th March

Tuesday 21st March

Wednesday 22nd March

Thursday 23rd March and Friday 24th March

Friday 24th March, 2.30pm

Friday 31st March, 1pm

Christingle

Seahorse class trip to Dorchester

Safer Internet Day

BSN Yr5/6 Netball Tournament at Pimperne

Sharks class to the Climbing Wall

Monday 13th February to Friday 17th February

CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL

Whole school ‘Shroving’ in Durweston.

PTA Pancake flip!

Porpoise class Forest School

Sharks class to the Climbing Wall

Sing Up rehearsal

Bringing Books to Life in school all day.

St. Davids Day

World Book Day

Sharks Forest School

Booklook

St. Patricks Day

Comic Relief Day

Sing Up Performance

Netball match Durweston v Handford

Dolphin class Forest School

Open afternoon

END OF TERM



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