



Wise Owls News

Summer Term One 26th May 2023

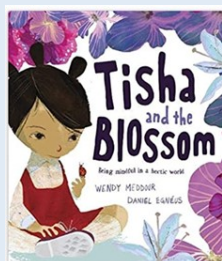
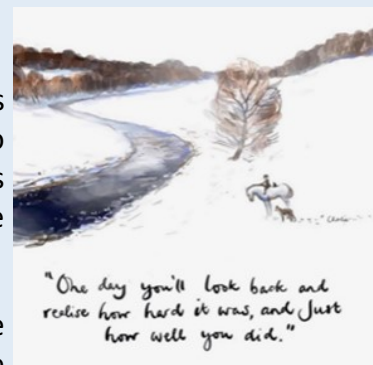
Welcome to Doddinghurst Infant School Newsletter

Dear Parents, Carers & Friends,

A warm welcome to you all as we reach the end of a busy first half of the summer term and I hope you all enjoy the week off with your families. It has to be said this half term has been full of sporting news. We have, with the passionate support and competitiveness of Mrs Salmon, put Doddinghurst Infant school back in the Sporting arena. No matter what we do, where we go, or if we win or lose, our children are enthusiastic and respectful in the best form of competitive spirit. Well done to them, I am so proud of them all. Similarly, our congratulations to those children who have achieved personal goals in outside clubs it is always good to celebrate their achievements too. There is of course much to look forward to in the coming (and final) half of term: it's going to be a fully exciting finish to the year, and we're looking forward to experiencing it together.

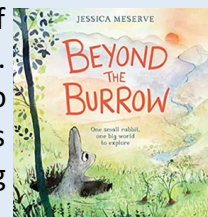
I have been so incredibly impressed with our Year 2s. They all sat their SATs tests with such resilience and determination. Their teachers and I were so proud of them. After half term, Year 1 children will be taking the phonics screen, please continue to read with your child over the half term and practice real and nonsense words. Check the internet for some examples!

I'm sure we have all enjoyed the late arrival of the sun. With this in mind we have to think about safely protecting the children from the harmful rays of the sun. I would like to take the opportunity of reminding parents to please ensure that all children are provided with protection from the sun. Please provide your child with a Doddinghurst Infant School cap (clearly named) and apply sun cream to them before they come to school, if necessary.



This half term we recommend a couple of good reads which we think the children will love reading. We begin with 'Tisha and the Blossom' by Wendy Meddour, this is a thoughtfully crafted story about the importance of stillness and calm in children's lives. The busy bustle of the main character (Tisha) and her family, and the consistent refrain of 'hurry up' is a chord that might resonate with many of us. The benefit of finding time to not hurry, similarly, is a takeaway that's likely to hit home.

'Beyond the Burrow' by Jessica Merserve, falls definitely into the fun-to-read category. It's really a story of bravery, but that doesn't make the rabbit protagonist's adventures and her new found friends—a giant anteater and a pangolin, any less amusing and entertaining.



Enjoy the time with your families, filled with restful, restorative and (most importantly) fun activities. Stay safe over the break and don't forget to read. Thank you for your continued support, Mrs Nicholson



What it's called	What it's like	Going to school	Getting treatment	More advice
Chicken Pox	Rash begins as small, red, flat spots that develop into itchy fluid-filled blisters	●	Pharmacy	Back to school 5 days after on-set of the rash
Common Cold	Runny nose, sneezing, sore throat	●	Pharmacy	Ensure good hand hygiene
Conjunctivitis	Teary, red, itchy, painful eye(s)	●	Pharmacy	Try not to touch eye to avoid spreading
Flu	Fever, cough, sneezing, runny nose, headache, body aches and pain, exhaustion, sore throat	●	Pharmacy	Ensure good hand hygiene
German measles	Fever, tiredness. Raised, red, rash that starts on the face and spreads downwards.	●	G.P.	Back to school 6 days from on-set of rash
Glandular fever	high temperature, sore throat; usually more painful than any before and swollen glands	●	G.P.	Child needs to be physically able to concentrate
Hand, foot & mouth disease	Fever, sore throat, headache, small painful blisters inside the mouth on tongue and gums (may appear on hands and feet)	●	G.P.	Only need to stay off ill feeling too ill for school
Head lice	Itchy scalp (may be worse at night)	●	Pharmacy	
Impetigo	Clusters of red bumps or blisters surrounded by area of redness	●	G.P.	Back to school when lesions crust or 48 hours after start of antibiotics
Measles	Fever, cough, runny nose, and watery inflamed eyes. Small red spots with white or bluish white centres in the mouth, red, blotchy rash	●	G.P.	Back to school 4 days from on-set of rash
Ringworm	Red ring shaped rash, may be itchy rash may be dry and scaly or wet and crusty	●	G.P.	
Scabies	Intense itching, pimple – like rash Itching and rash may be all over the body but commonly between the fingers, wrists, elbows, arm	●	G.P.	Back to school after first treatment
Shingles	Pain, itching, or tingling along the affected nerve pathway. Blister-type rash	●	G.P.	Only stay off school if rash is weeping and cannot be covered
Sickness bug/diarrhoea	Stomach cramps, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea	●	Pharmacy	See GP if symptoms persist after 48 hours
Threadworms	Intense itchiness around anus	●	Pharmacy	Ensure good hand hygiene
Tonsillitis	Intense Sore throat	●	Pharmacy	See GP if temperature lasts more than 48 hours or cannot swallow
Whooping cough	Violent coughing, over and over, until child inhales with "whooping" sound to get air into lungs	●	G.P.	Back to school after 5 days of antibiotics or 21 days from onset of illness

See www.patient.co.uk for further information on each of these conditions

This leaflet has been produced in partnership between



This information is a guide and has been checked by health professionals however, if you are unsure about your child's wellbeing we recommend you contact your pharmacy or GP to check.

1st = Swifts - 97.3% 2nd = Chaffinches - 95.4% 3rd = Swans - 94.9%

4th = Kingfishers - 94.8% 5th = Robins - 93.6% 6th = Woodpeckers - 92.9%

WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE: 94.8%

EYFS UPDATES

SWIFTS and WOODPECKERS

What a busy half term we've had in Reception! When the children returned to school they found a caterpillar growing kit, which was a big clue about our new class story—*The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. We loved reading the story and all agreed the caterpillar was very greedy. The children were very creative and worked collaboratively to make a large life cycle of a butterfly, exploring colours and textures. Using their knowledge of the story, the children created their own story map, then wrote the story sequencing the main events.



Then our attention moved onto to a special event — the King's Coronation. We read *The King's Hats* and *The Queen's Hat*, learning new vocabulary linked to the royal family and coronation. As a school, the children participated in a crown parade, performed 'Coronation Day' song as a school and had a royal feast,



finishing up with a live performance from 'Kidz Pop'. We would like to thank Rev Ann and Dagwood Trust for donating a beautiful book mark to each child, to mark the important event. What a fabulous party we had to celebrate a momentous occasion!

We returned our focus to living things and the natural world in our local environment. This time the children were learning about worms through our books *Yucky Worms* and *Superworm*. The children received a letter from a very unhappy worm so they made it their aim to find out as much information as possible about worms and how they are vital to the growth of plants and flowers. The children became budding authors and wrote their own non-fiction books about worms and demonstrated they could read their writing aloud to an impressed audience of Year 2s.



In Maths the children explored doubling and sharing. Then moved onto odds and evens, understanding that odd numbers can't be shared equally and even numbers can be shared fairly. The children had great fun, applying their knowledge of odd and even amounts by playing tug of war in the garden with odd and even amounts of players on each team.



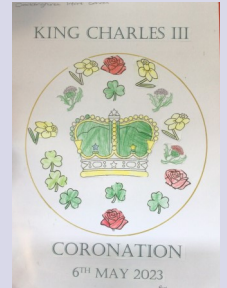
On the final week we were all excited to find our caterpillars had transformed into beautiful butterflies. We came up with names for them, before releasing them into the wild in our school sensory garden. Each day, we relished the opportunity to get outside, dig for worms and visit the pond area to track the growth of the tadpoles.



It has been a fun filled half term and we would like to thank all our families for their support. We hope you all have a lovely break.

YEAR ONE UPDATES CHAFFINCHES and ROBINS

Wow! This half term has flown by—must be all the Bank holiday weeks that we have had. Almost time to be moving on to Year 2! Of course we must start this half-term’s round-up with our wonderful coronation celebrations. We spent a busy week learning facts about the life of King Charles III, including how he grew up , his schooling and what would happen on the day of his coronation. The children did well to remember these facts and to write them; even remembering to use capital letters and full-stops. We extended our Geography knowledge of the countries of the United Kingdom, when we looked at the King’s Coronation emblem that was made from the different national flowers—rose, daffodil, thistle and shamrock. We made our own versions, they have turned out beautifully.



There was our whole school celebration. The crown parade was the highlight of the day—they were amazing and so creative—well done to the mums and dads, aunties, uncles and friends who helped to create them. For the coronation party we were responsible for making cheese twists—a really easy snack to make and even easier (and tastier) to eat! We really enjoyed singing our coronation song with the whole school and also dancing to great music provided by Miss Broom and her sister.



We started the half term with a story by Julia Donaldson—‘The Snail and the Whale’. This was a great way to begin our new whole school theme, ‘Location, location, location’. We spent a lot of time focusing on the descriptive language that Julia Donaldson uses to tell us what different settings, or locations, in the story are like. We then used our own adjectives to write descriptive sentences for scenes from the book. We spent a long time learning a simplified version of the story, using actions to help us remember key words like ‘next’, ‘then’ and ‘finally’. We are wondering how many the children can still remember! We then made the story our own by changing the two main characters that the children used to write a new story.

Our maths learning this half term has been based around shapes—2D flat shapes and 3D solid shapes. We have looked for these shapes in the environment and identified them around us. Then we learnt all the maths vocabulary we needed to describe the properties of these shapes—like sides, vertices, edges and faces.



Forest school has also been fun this term—lots of making! It started with bows and arrows and then on to building dens and shelters, and sawing the wood to hold up the tarpaulin. We also enjoyed some relaxing time in hammocks that we strung up between the trees.

Have a great half term break—fingers crossed for lots of sunshine! See you in June!

YEAR TWO UPDATES

SWANS and KINGFISHERS

We have spent the last half of the Spring Term travelling back in time to **1912** and have been learning about **'The Titanic'**. We have found out so many interesting facts about the ship's tragic maiden voyage. We have discovered that there were 2,224 passengers on board the ship but only 16 lifeboats, and that the boat was built by The White Star Line Shipping Company in Belfast! We will continue to learn more about the journey as we move into the last half of the Summer Term.



At the start of May we continued learning about **money**. As a year group we completed lots of practical Maths challenges and solved problems involving adding and subtracting different amounts of money. We have also been working very hard to find the properties of **2D and 3D shapes**. We are looking forward to learning about telling the time after half term.



We had a blast celebrating **The King's Coronation**; we made flags, crowns and sang songs to mark the historic occasion. We welcomed the band 'Kidz Pop' to the school and danced the afternoon away during a whole school celebration. We hope you all enjoyed watching the videos we uploaded to Seesaw!



We have been extremely busy this half term with **sporting competitions**. We have taken part in Tennis, 3 Tees Cricket, Quad Kids, multi-skills and football competitions. All children, in every event, did incredibly well, but our cricket team won their competition maintaining an undefeated record for another year!

Congratulations to all the children that took part and represented our school so well!

Science this term has been so much fun! We have been learning about plants and how they grow. We know that for a plant to grow it needs light, air, nutrients and space. We have also identified and described the basic structure of a variety of common flowering plants, including trees. We will learn more about plants as we move into the last half of the Summer Term.

We all impressed our teachers in **English** when we told an alternative version of the famous children's story **'The Snail and the Whale'**. We spent two weeks learning the original story and wrote postcards as well as described characters and settings. Then we worked independently to change the story from its original form, and created our own version. Our teachers thought that it was some of the best writing we have done this year and decided to showcase our work to other local schools.

The Year Two team would like to wish you all a restful and happy half term. We hope that everyone enjoys spending time with their family and friends. We will see you back at school on **5th June** when we will be entering our final half term at Doddinghurst Infant School!



29th May — 2nd June inclusive Half Term break
Pupils return to school on Monday 5th June 2023



UPCOMING DIARY DATES

12th—16th June		Phonics Assessment Week
19th—23rd June		Healthy Living / Sports Week
22nd June	9:15am	Sports Day
28th June	3:00pm	Sharing Hour
14th July	10:00am	Year 2 Leavers Assembly
17th & 18th July	3:00pm	EYFS and Year 1 Parents meet new class teachers
19th July	6:00pm	Year 2 Leavers Disco
20th July		Soak the Teachers—Last day of school!
21st July		INSET Day—Non Pupil Day

SUMMER HOLIDAYS

COMMENTS, IDEAS OR SUGGESTIONS

26th May 2023

If you have any comments, ideas or suggestions, please write in separately. We welcome your comments.



Do you have a worry about one of our Children?

Please telephone or visit the school and ask to speak to Mrs Nicholson or in her absence Mrs Gutteridge.

01277 822721



DODDINGHURST INFANT SCHOOL

Doddinghurst Infant School
 Church Lane
 Brentwood
 CM15 0NJ
 admin@doddinghurst-inf.essex.sch.uk