



Dinglewell Infant School

Newsletter

November 2024

Message from Mrs Barby

I hope you've had a lovely half term and were able to make the most of the dry weather. This term we are focusing on the school value of Honesty and your help in promoting this value at home would be much appreciated. All year groups have started new topics this term:

Reception: Autumn and Winter Celebrations

Year 1: Whatever the Weather

Year 2: London's Burning!

On the school website you will find curriculum overviews for parents/carers and optional projects for Year 1 and Year 2 which they can do at home to support their learning.

Year 1 will be going to Westonbirt Arboretum on Monday 11th November to support their learning about seasonal change. Thank you as always for supporting your child's learning.

Attendance (Every Minute Counts)

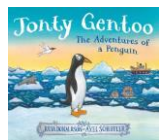
The Government is very clear that school attendance is **mandatory** and we are required report all non-attendance and lateness daily to the DfE.

Please remember that it's really important for children to be in school, on time, and to attend every day. Arriving late can be very disruptive for your child, the teacher, and the other children in the class.

Our attendance last term was 95%, and has dropped at the beginning of this term to 94.5% (which is below the National & Local Authority Average). This is very unusual for us as a school, so if you are a planning a holiday, please remember to check the school website for term dates before booking. Thank you for your support with this matter.

October's Book of the Month (by Miss Hills)

Our Book of the Month for October was 'Jonty Gentoo' by Julia Donaldson. Written in her well-known rhyming style, it tells the story of a little gentoo penguin who decides to leave the zoo and head for the South Pole. Unfortunately, he heads in the wrong direction and ends up in the North Pole! Will he make it to Antarctica? This is a lovely book which brings the opportunity to discuss the differences between the polar regions and the wildlife that live there, whilst enjoying a wonderful story.



Remembrance Day

Remembrance Day holds significant importance, and we believe that it is essential to educate our pupils about its meaning and relevance. We take this opportunity to honour and remember the brave men and women who have served our country and poppies will be on sale in your child's classroom every day this week. Please send your child with a donation if you would like them to purchase a poppy.



Our Numbots champions for October are **Class 1** with **65%** playing last month.



Housekeeping

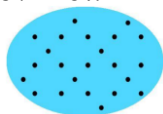
Please can we remind all parents and carers to abide by parking regulations and to be considerate when parking in the streets neighbouring the school. It is disappointing to hear about illegal and inconsiderate parking and it can make crossing the road incredibly dangerous for our pupils and families.

Parent Consultations

Parent consultations are being held on Tuesday 12th November 3.40 - 6pm and either Wednesday 13th or Thursday 14th November from 1.30 - 5pm. Please book your appointment via EduLink. Please wait in the school hall prior to your appointment, the teacher will have your child's books with them and will discuss them with you.

Maths Challenge: November 2024

This month's activity is 'How Many Dots'. How many dots can you see? How did you count them? Talk with your family about how they counted the dots. How can you check that your answer is correct.



I would love to hear how you counted the dots, so please send your thoughts to Mrs Bishop and the these can be shared on the school website to celebrate maths at home.

ebishop@dinglewells-inf.gloucs.sch.uk

Play Leaders

Mrs Beer is thrilled to welcome Ethan and Nola from Class 4, Harry and Anowa from Class 5, Hallie and Lorimae from Class 6, Alfie and Effimie from Class 7, Cora and Lewis from Class 8 and Bo and Beau from Class 9 as our new playleaders.



The children are proudly wearing their Play Leader badges.

Active Challenge

A huge thank you to everyone that participated in last month's Catch and Clap 60 second challenge.

This term's challenge is: 'Make a Sleigh' Can you make your very own sleigh? Big or small. You could use junk modelling or decorate something that you already have. Be as creative as you like. I would love to see photos, please send them to:-

class2@dinglewells-inf.gloucs.sch.uk

A record sheet will be sent home in bookbags and all returned challenges will be entered into a prize draw at the end of the term.



We will once again be taking part in BBC Children in Need on **Friday 15th November**.

The children can come to school wearing anything spotty in exchange for a donation. **Please do not send cash into school, donations should be made via Parentpay, thank you.**



School Council

Mrs Bishop and Mr Bracey welcomed the new Key Stage 1 School Council members to the first meeting on Thursday 24th October.

Class 4 – Margo and Maisie

Class 5 – Dominic and Cesca

Class 6 – Indie and Matilda

Class 7 – Madison and Conor

Class 8 – Isabella and Jacob

Class 9 – Orla and Grace

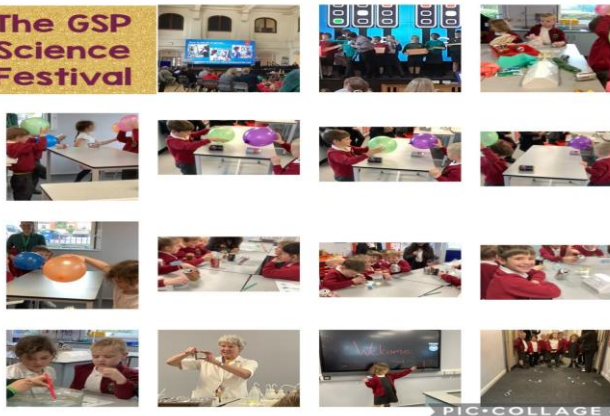
They discussed the purpose of the school council and have agreed to focus on pupil behaviour at the next meeting.

Science Festival

Mrs Bews, our science lead, took a group of Year 2 science ambassadors to the GSP science festival. They not only enjoyed hosting a Dinglewell Infant School stand but also visiting the stands hosted by other Gloucester schools. They also had the opportunity to carry out different experiments in the laboratory.



The GSP Science Festival



Harvest Festival

Yesterday, I was very privileged to attend the Harvest Festival. It was lovely to see the school full to capacity with parents and children. The children arrived in the hall and placed their donations on the harvest table, which was eventually overflowing with gifts.

The donations were gratefully received by Captain Addis, on behalf of the Salvation Army. He explained how they would become part of 1000 food parcels for families within Gloucester. Each year group sang a Harvest song beautifully and the finale was a whole school song. It was an absolute privilege and joy to be part of this Harvest Festival.

Nathan Bishop, School Governor



Mrs Beer took a group of Year 2 girls to the Gloucester School Sports Network **KS1 Girls Tag Rugby Festival**. It was a wonderful introduction to tag rugby in a girl's only environment and they all had a wonderful time and were a total credit to the school.



Mrs James also took a small group of children to the KS1 and KS2 SEND Tenpin Bowling Festival.

Look Who's Talking!

We are excited to be taking part in The Key Stage 1 category of the *Look Who's Talking* competition, run by Gloucestershire Association of Primary Headteachers (GAPH). This competition is open to our children in Year 1 and Year 2 who would like to take part.

**LOOK
WHO'S
TALKING!**

It is an oracy competition in which children are invited to talk for two minutes about absolutely anything that they choose! The first stage of the competition will take place early in January when children talk to their class about their chosen topic.

From this first heat, a 'Star Speaker' will be chosen from each Year 1 and 2 class and these children will then take part in a Whole School Heat. One child will then be selected to represent Dinglewell Infant School in the next stage of the competition when they will compete against children from other local schools. Further details, including information about when the class heats will take place will be given nearer the time, but in the meantime, if your child is interested in taking part, you might like to have a chat with them about what their chosen topic will be and what they'll say in their two-minute slot.

Friends of Dinglewell Infant School

We are very fortunate to have a dedicated and committed Friends of Dinglewell Infant School who work tirelessly to organise events and fundraise for the school. Last term they organised a successful quiz night and a school disco; which together raised a fabulous total of £746.

The children have all created a unique piece of Christmas artwork which will be available on a range of gifts for you to purchase, raising funds for the school. Information will be sent home in bookbags shortly.

The FoDIS are also organising a Wreath Making workshop on **22nd November** and are busy finalising details for the Christmas Fayre on **Friday 6th December**.

The FoDIS are always on the lookout for new members and fresh ideas so please reach out and contact them if you can help in anyway:

Dinglewell-Infants-PTA@outlook.com

Regular meetings are held at The Wagon and Horses, so please do pop along and offer your support. The November meetings are on Wednesday 13th and Wednesday 27th of November at 19.30 pm



Friends of Dinglewell Infant School

Christmas Wreath Making Evening

Friday 22nd November
Doors open 7pm - 7.30pm start

£35 per person

To purchase tickets please contact:
dinglewell-infants-pta@outlook.com

Drinks & Snacks available to purchase (Cash bar)

Tickets include all the materials needed to create your very own Christmas Wreath, with guidance from 'The Flower Bowl' professional florists, plus a glass of fizz and chocolate on arrival.
(Please bring sharp scissors or secateurs if possible)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Term 1 2024/25

Starts Monday 2nd September Ends Friday 25th October

Term 2 2024/25

Starts Monday 4th November Ends Friday 20th December

November

4th INSET day—staff only to attend
5th Children return to school
6/7th Parent Drop-ins
11th Y1 trip to Westonbirt
12/13/14th Parent Consultations
15th Children in Need – wear spots, donations via Parentpay
22nd FoDIS Christmas Wreath Making Workshop

December

6th FoDIS Christmas Fayre
16th Reception Christmas Concerts (1 morning, 1 afternoon)
17th Year One Christmas Concerts (1 morning, 1 afternoon)
18th Year Two Christmas Concerts (1 morning, 1 afternoon)
19th Christmas Party Day – packed lunches needed

Term 3 2024/25

Starts Monday 6th January Ends Friday 14th February

January

6th INSET day—staff only to attend
7th Children return to school

Term 4 2024/25

Starts Monday 24th February Ends Friday 11th April

February

Term 5 2024/25

Starts Monday 28th April Ends Friday 23rd May

May

5th Bank holiday

Term 6 2024/25

Starts Monday 2nd June Ends Friday 18th July