

# NEWSLETTER

INSPIRING ALL TO SOAR TO NEW HEIGHTS

CHALLENGE - CREATIVITY- CRITICAL THINKING-  
COLLABORATION - COURAGE



## Edition 30: 22nd May 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

### ★Sports Week Spectacular!★

What an absolutely action-packed, high-energy Sports Week we have had! From testing our aim in archery, to cheering on our houses, the school has been buzzing with teamwork, try-your-best attitudes and plenty of smiles.

Here is a look back at our incredibly busy week:

- An Inspiring Start: We kick-started the week with a fantastic, fun, and interactive assembly led by Mrs. Crook, which got everyone pumped up and ready to move.
- House Games: On Monday afternoon, the competitive spirit was alive as children represented their houses in a series of traditional games and races. The teamwork and encouragement on display were wonderful to see.
- Forest School Fun: EYFS, Year 1, Year 2, and Year 6 all enjoyed special outdoor adventures during their Forest School sessions.
- Teddy Bears Picnic: Year 1 had a magical time at Mayflower, taking part in games and activities alongside some very special furry guests.
- Ready, Aim, Fire! Many of our children got to channel their inner 'Robin Hood' this week, stepping up to the target and practicing their archery skills.
- Power Hour Takeover: On Thursday afternoon, Kiszy—who runs our popular Wednesday Power Hour club—joined Key Stage 2 for an energetic sports session.
- Bonus Activity: On top of all these special events, children also participated in extra PE lessons throughout the week to keep their fitness levels soaring.
- We also welcomed Bright Boots on Thursday who delivered World Cup-themed football sessions for every class. The children had a fantastic time developing their skills, teamwork and confidence.

### Looking Ahead...

The sporting fun isn't over yet! We are already looking forward to the main event: our Annual Competitive Sports Afternoon on Wednesday 24th June. Make sure to mark your calendars—we can't wait to see you there to cheer the children on! A big thank you to all the staff, visitors and pupils who made this week such a roaring success.

We wish you all a wonderful half-term, and look forward to seeing you all again on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June, for the final half-term of this academic year.

Miss Bailey, Executive Deputy Headteacher (NPQH) and Miss Proctor, Assistant Headteacher

## WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

EYFS - 95.9%  
Year 1 - 92.7%  
Year 2 - 91.3%  
Year 3 - 97.6%  
Year 4 - 93.3%  
Year 5 - 94.0%  
Year 6 - 94.2%  
**Total - 94.3%**



**WELL DONE DUCKLINGS!**

## MEET THE STAFF MEMBER - SHARON WATERMAN

I moved to Downham 20+ years ago and have two daughters, who both attended Downham CofE school and are now grown up, I also have two granddaughters who I adore. Rolo is our chocolate labrador retriever, who is full of energy, which keeps me on my toes.

Over the years I've helped at a local dance school for their shows, at local Brownies and Ramsden and Downham Cubs. I was a Scout leader for over ten years and have been on several international camps to Belgium for 100+ scouts from the Billericay and Wickford area.

I first started Downham school around 18 years ago as a parent helper and soon joined the teaching team. Over the years, I helped run various before and after school clubs such as sewing, cooking, and dancing.

Outside of school, some of my favourite things I like to do are dancing, reading, and going on long walks with Rolo.

## IMPORTANT DATES:

- 1<sup>st</sup> June: First day of Summer 2
- 1<sup>st</sup> June: Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check this week
- 2nd June: Year 5/6 cricket at Wickford Cricket Ground (invited pupils)
- 3rd June: 9am EYFS Class assembly
- 8th June: Year 1 Phonics Screener Check this week
- 10th June: EYFS trip to Barleylands
- 10th June: 9.30am Meeting for new EYFS intake in hall (parents only please)
- 14th-17th June: Year 6 Residential
- 16th June: 7pm Junior Music Festival
- 17<sup>th</sup> June: PTA World Cup day (wear something red, white or blue)
- 18th June: BAT football and netball tournaments (invited pupils)
- 18<sup>th</sup> June: Year 2 Mini-games
- 19<sup>th</sup> June: Year 1 lunch with a special man in their lives
- 23<sup>rd</sup> June: District sports (selected pupils)
- 24th June: Class photographs
- 24th June: Sports Afternoon (details to follow)

## POLITE REMINDER

One day this week, there were **24** children expecting a hot meal, but no lunch had been ordered for them. **Please ensure that all lunches are booked by 8am on the day.**

