DOWNHAM C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

INSPIRING ALL TO SOAR TO NEW HEIGHTS

CHALLENGE - CREATIVITY- CRITICAL THINKING- COLLABORATION - COURAGE

Edition 6: 9th October 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Today was the first of our special lunches, where parents and family members of our EYFS children were invited in to share lunchtime with us. We really do love it when we open our doors and welcome visitors in! I hope that everyone who joined us thoroughly enjoyed the experience. A huge thank you to Mrs Sexton and Mrs Patten for catering for everyone so wonderfully and making the event so special!

Please don't forget to enter our competition to design a mural for our school hall - details of which can be found to the right. The closing date is next Wednesday!

This week, Isabelle and Imogen were presented with book tokens from Mr Tobin for their entries into the competition to design a poster for the Berlesduna 10th anniversary. Well done, girls!

Also well done to those pupils who took part in the Poetry Slam this week. I have had such positive feedback from children and parents about the event and they certainly made us very proud.

On Wednesday of next week, we will be hosting an External Safeguarding Audit at school. As part of this process, you may notice the visiting safeguarding consultant on the school gate during drop-off and collection times. We take the safety and well-being of all our children extremely seriously, and routine audits like this allow us to continuously review, validate, and uphold the highest standards of safety across our school site.

I wish you all a lovely and restful weekend.

Miss Bailey, Executive Deputy Headteacher (NPQH)



PTA MAKE THE RULES DAY!

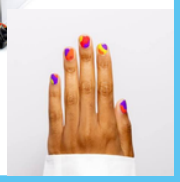


One of the children's favourite days is back! Next Friday, you can pay £1 for every rule you make. You can choose from:

- Juice in your water bottle
- Chocolate in your lunchbox
- Bring a teddy bear to school
- Wear trainers
- Tattoos/nail varnish



The PTA will be collecting cash/card on the gate on Friday morning.



WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

EYFS - 93.2%
Year 1 - 93.9%
Year 2 - 100%
Year 3 - 97.5%
Year 4 - 96.8%
Year 5 - 97.7%
Year 6 - 96.7%
Total - 96.5%



WELL DONE NIGHTINGALES!

DATES FOR AUTUMN TERM

(new or changed dates in blue)

12 Oct - Year 6 ECFRS Online Exploitation and Knife Crime workshops
13 Oct - Netball tournament
15/16 Oct - Bikeability for Group A
15 Oct - Cross Country Race 1
15 Oct - Year 2 trip to Essex Fire Museum
16 Oct - PTA Make The Rules Day
16 Oct - Foodbank donations close
16 Oct - Year 5 Class Assembly 9am
19 Oct - Year 3 Class Assembly 2.15pm
20 & 21 Oct - Parents Evening
21 Oct - ECFRS Firework Safety assemblies
22 Oct - Year 6 Parent/Grandparent lunch
22 Oct - PTA Discos after school
23 Oct - INSET Day
23 Oct - Start of PTA Scarecrow Trail
2 Nov - INSET Day
3 Nov - First day of Autumn 2
4 Nov - PTA Laser Show after school
6 Nov - EYFS & Year 3 Dental Visits
10 Nov - Flu immunisations
11 Nov - Worship Group at War Memorial
12 Nov - Cross county race 2
13 Nov - Non-uniform day for hamper donations
18 - 24 Nov - Scholastic Book Fair
19 Nov - Hate Crime assemblies for Y5 & Y6
20 Nov - Year 5 Parent/Grandparent Lunch
23 & 24 Nov - Bikeability for Group B
28 Nov - PTA Christmas Bazaar
1 Dec - Blessing of our Christmas tree
2 Dec - Panto trip
8 Dec - KS1 Nativity 9.30am
9 Dec - KS1 Nativity 9.30am
10 Dec - EYFS Nativity 2pm
14 Dec - Year 6 Christingle Service at St Margaret's Church
16 Dec - Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day
17 Dec - Class Parties with a very special visitor! 🎅
18 Dec - Last day of Autumn 2

FOODBANK DONATIONS:

Just a little reminder that Friday is the final day we will be accepting donations for our Harvest collection. We would be grateful for donations of tea, rice, pasta, biscuits, jam, cereal, tinned fruit and vegetables. All food collected will be donated to families in need in the local community. Thank you for your compassion and generosity.



HEADTEACHER'S CUP:

This week's Headteacher's Cup goes to Imogen in Nightingales, for showing courage and resilience in taking part in our Berlesduna Poetry Slam competition! Well done, Imogen!



OUR DOWNHAM 5C AWARD WINNERS FOR THIS WEEK:

Year 1 - Ayaan for Challenge
Year 2 - Summer for Challenge
Year 3 - Ada W for Challenge
Year 4 - Out at the British Museum today!
Year 5 - Mason for Challenge and Compassion
Year 6 - Taliyah for Challenge