DOWNHAM C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

INSPIRING ALL TO SOAR TO NEW HEIGHTS

CHALLENGE - CREATIVITY- CRITICAL THINKING- COLLABORATION - COURAGE

Edition 6: 6th November 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was wonderful to welcome the children back to school on Tuesday following the break, and looking very smart in their winter uniform. This week, we have been deeply saddened to hear the news regarding the upcoming closure of Ramsden Heath Pre-School in December. For many years, the pre-school has provided countless local children with a wonderful start to their education, and its closure will undoubtedly be a significant loss to our village and wider community. Our thoughts are with the dedicated staff, families, and young children affected by this change. We know how important early years settings are in building strong foundations for primary education, and we will do everything we can to support impacted families through this transition.

On the topic of of early years, our tour dates for next year's EYFS intake have been immensely popular. All six dates were immediately booked up, and we have had to add three more dates due to exceptional demand. You can see the remaining dates below.

Next week, we have another busy week in school. On Monday and Tuesday of next week, several of our fence panels and the wooden gates on the KS2 playground are being replaced. Furthermore, all overhanging branches on the field are being cut back to ensure the children's safety. Also on Tuesday, our new mural in the hall is being installed. We cannot wait for the children to see it, especially those children who chose a Bible story to be included in the design. It is going to provide a wonderful focal point for our daily act of Collective Worship. We are very grateful to Berlesduna for funding both of these projects. We will look forward to sharing photos with you next week. Finally, please remember that on Tuesday, we have a non-uniform day where the children are invited to wear red and black in return for a donation to the Royal British Legion. On Wednesday, I will be taking some of our pupils to the War Memorial in the village to commemorate Remembrance Day. Some of our older pupils will be reading prayers they have written. You are very welcome to join us at the War Memorial at 10.45am. Thursday sees the second of our Cross Country races for the year and the BAT Maths Challenge. Our week concludes with a non-uniform day on Friday, in return for a donation to your class hamper, and a coin or two for Children in Need.

Please note that our Christmas Bazaar will now be held during the afternoon of 2nd December. When the children return from the panto at lunchtime, they will get chance to enjoy the stalls in the afternoon, before family members are welcome to come along and share the fun from 3.15-4.30pm. We really hope you will come along and join us!

I wish you all a lovely weekend. If you are going to a fireworks display, or having fireworks at home, please have fun and stay safe! Miss Bailey (NPQH)

NEW EYFS TOUR DATES

If you would like to come and look around our lovely village school, there are tours on the following dates:

Thursday 5th November at 11am - FULL
Friday 20th November at 10am - FULL
Tuesday 24th November at 9.30am - FULL
Monday 7th December at 9.30am - SPACES REMAIN
Thursday 10th December at 10am - FULL
Tuesday 15th December at 9.30am - SPACES REMAIN

Please telephone 01268 710387 to book a place!



DATES FOR AUTUMN TERM:

(new information or changed dates in blue)

10 Nov - Flu imunisations
10 Nov - Netball tournament event 2
10 Nov - Non-uniform day to raise money for The Royal British Legion (wear red and black)
11 Nov - 10.45am Worship Group/selected pupils at War Memorial
12 Nov - Cross county race 2
12 Nov - Berlesduna Maths Challenge (invited pupils)
13 Nov - Children In Need & non-uniform day for class hamper donations (see right)
13 Nov - Shoeboxes collected
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
23 & 24 Nov - Donations collected for PTA Christmas Bazaar
30 Nov - Amazing Christmas workshops in school for EYFS and Yrs 1-3
1 Dec - Blessing of our Christmas tree
1 Dec - Christmas postbox opens
2 Dec - Panto trip (am)
2 Dec - PTA Christmas Bazaar (pm)
4 Dec - 9.30am EYFS Nativity
8 Dec - 9.30am KS1 Nativity
9 Dec - 9.30am KS1 Nativity
14 Dec - 5pm Year 6 Christingle Service at St Margaret's Church
14 Dec - EYFS National Child Measurement Programme checks
15 Dec - 4.30pm Years 3, 4 and 5 Christmas concert
16 Dec - 4.30pm Years 3, 4 and 5 Christmas concert
16 Dec - Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day
17 Dec - Class Parties with a very special visitor! 🎅
18 Dec - Last day of Autumn 2





HEADTEACHER'S CUP:

This week's Headteacher's Cup goes to Meadow in Year 2. Meadow always works hard and tries her best in all subjects. She has a wonderful attitude to school life and I am very proud of her. She reads regularly at home and is making huge progress as a result! Well done, Meadow!



OUR DOWNHAM 5C AWARD WINNERS FOR THIS WEEK:

Year 1 - Winnie for Creativity
Year 2 - Chloe for Creativity
Year 3 - Arthur for Challenge
Year 4 - Martha for Critical Thinking
Year 5 - Oscar for Challenge
Year 6 - Lorcan for Challenge

Safeguarding
at Downham C of E Primary School

KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY.



Our commitment

At Downham C of E Primary School we are committed to ensuring that every child feels safe, valued, listened to and supported.

What is safeguarding?

Safeguarding means protecting children from abuse, neglect, exploitation and other forms of harm, both in school and outside school, including online. It also means promoting children's welfare and helping them to achieve the best possible outcomes.

What does our Safeguarding Policy cover?

Our policy explains how we:

- Protect children from abuse, neglect and exploitation
- Identify concerns early and provide appropriate help and support
- Respond to bullying, child-on-child abuse and harmful behaviour
- Promote online safety and help children understand how to keep themselves safe
- Support children's mental health and emotional wellbeing
- Work in partnership with parents, carers and external agencies
- Ensure staff understand their safeguarding responsibilities and know how to report concerns

Our Safeguarding Team

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and Deputy DSLs lead safeguarding and child protection arrangements in school.



Ms Walker
Executive Headteacher; Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL)



Miss Bailey
Executive Deputy Headteacher; Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)



Miss Proctor
Assistant Headteacher; Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL)

Working together

We work in partnership with parents and carers, staff and external agencies to keep children safe. We listen to children and make sure their voice is at the heart of what we do.



How to report a concern

If you are worried about the safety or wellbeing of your child or another child, please contact the school office and ask to speak to the DSL or one of the deputy DSLs.

Please share any concerns as soon as possible so that we can consider what support or action may be needed.

All concerns are taken seriously

Information is handled sensitively and shared with relevant professionals where necessary to protect a child.

If a child is in immediate danger, contact the emergency services.

Read the full policy

Our full Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy (September 2026) is available on our website.

If you have any questions about safeguarding at our school, please contact the school office.

the WHITE HORSE
RAMSDEN HEATH

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RAMSDEN HEATH

Christmas Market

SATURDAY DECEMBER 5TH

2PM

Festive Stalls

HANDMADE WREATHS
FESTIVE CAKE SWEETS & TREATS
FLORALS
MULLED WINE
MULLED CIDER
CHRISTMAS CARDS
HOT CHOCOLATE
TOMBOLA
HANDMADE GIFTS
CRIMBOL DOG DELIGHTS

LIVE MUSIC

LOCAL CHARITIES

LOCAL BUSINESSES

LOCAL PEOPLE

ALL AT THE LOCAL

CROCHET & CANDLES
BOOKS FOR ALL AGES
TOYS TEDDIES
PERSONALISED GIFTS CHAINS JEWELLERY
SOYA CANDLES
TREE DECORATIONS
TODDLER KEEPSAKES
HOME FRAGRANCE
DWH HANDMADE SHELVING
AND MUCH MUCH MORE

the WHITE HORSE
RAMSDEN HEATH



