

The Dinglewell Post

sharing our news with our community



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Dear Parents,

Welcome to this week's newsletter which is our final one for this term. We have crammed in lots of activities this half-term and next term promises to be equally busy. Copies of the new menu for the Autumn term are now available from Reception. We wish everyone a very pleasant and restful half-term and look forward to seeing everyone refreshed and ready for school on Tuesday 7th November.

FoDJS Autumn Disco

Thank you to everyone who came to and supported our Spooky Autumn Disco on Wednesday. It was lovely to see all the fantastic costumes on display. Big thanks also go to DJ Ross for making the night so enjoyable and all the parent volunteers who offered to help - we couldn't do it without you! The winners of the 'Lucky Squares' were Liepa in 3CW and Ollie in 5SL. We hope they enjoy their ghoulish prizes.

Half term whole-school homework

This academic year, we will be working towards becoming an Ocean Friendly School. Mrs Lyons and the eco warriors are leading an exciting award in collaboration with the Marine Conservation Society. In order to do this, we would like every pupil at DJS to complete this fun quiz to see what you already know about our oceans and how to look after them.

www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/ocean-literacy-quiz

The children have been shown this in assembly today so will know what to do. The quiz should take approx. 10 minutes to complete. We will really appreciate you taking the time to complete it.

Parking

Each week, we include a note asking parents not to use the school car park for picking/up dropping off for after-school/breakfast clubs. Unfortunately this week we have had occasion to be made aware that parents are also parking in the Trefoil car park too and would like to remind everyone that this facility is not available for parents to use. Regrettably we have had several calls from local residents (in Lillesfield Avenue) about inconsiderate parking across driveways and on the pavement

Diary dates in brief:

Monday 6th November - School CLOSED INSET
Tuesday 7th November - School re-opens at 8.30am
Tuesday 7th November - Girls Football v Brockworth (home)
Wednesday 8th November - Harvest celebration
Wednesday 8th November - Whole School Cross Country trials
Thursday 9th November - 5H Forest School
Thursday 9th November - Football v Kingsholm (home)
Friday 10th November -

Monday 13th November - Y2 Parent tours
Tuesday 14th November - Y2 Parent tours
Tuesday 14th November - Netball v Kingsholm (away)
Wednesday 15th November -
Thursday 16th November - Y6 Memorial Walk
Thursday 16th November - Football v Elmbridge (away)
Friday 17th November - 6PB Forest School
Friday 17th November - 4H Forest School

Term 1 - 5th September - 27th October 2023
Term 2 - 7th November - 22nd December 2023
Term 3 - 8th January - 9th February 2024
Term 4 - 19th February - 22nd March 2024
Term 5 - 9th April - 24th May 2024
Term 6 4th June - 19th July 2024

Term Dates 2023-24

Please note them carefully, as terms do not necessarily start on a Monday or end on a Friday.

Copies of term dates for 2023-24 and for 2024-25 are available from Reception

All relevant school policies are available to view on our Website.

Attendance this week is 95.03%

and have asked our local police to step up their patrols to enforce parking restrictions. Please make the local roads as safe as possible for our whole school community and respect our neighbours too.

Closing date for Secondary School applications

Applications for places at Secondary Schools for September 2024 close on 31st October 2023. If you have a child in Y6 please apply by the closing date.

Here is the link to apply:

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-admissions/transfer-to-secondary-school-or-from-middle-to-high-school-september-2024/>.

Alternatively you can ask for a paper copy of the form from School Reception. If you still have any questions you can contact Admissions at Gloucester County Council either by phone on 01452 425407 or email: school.admissions@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Joint Christmas Raffle

We are excited to be holding another amazing Christmas Razzle with Dinglewell Infants PTA this year. We have had some amazing prizes donated in previous years from with our school communities and we are hoping some of you may be able to help again this year. The Christmas raffle is a huge fundraiser for both schools so any offers would be very much appreciated. If you are able to donate a prize or work for a company who might be able to help, please email friendsofdjs@gmail.com

ECO Warrior Visit



On Wednesday 25th October the eco warriors enjoyed a very informative trip to the Gloucestershire Energy from Waste Facility at Javelin Park. During the day, the children learnt that the facility converts the household waste that can't be recycled into energy that is used to power thousands of homes in Gloucestershire. Importantly, this stops the waste from ending up in landfill.

We then had a tour with Mel which included a visit to the control room to watch the enormous 'grabbers' picking up the waste and dropping it into the furnace. We also went to the boiler room and got a glimpse into the incinerator and were amazed by the view through the hatch and the heat we could feel resonating from it. Some of us were glad of our ear protectors as it was very noisy! After lunch, the children played a recycling game and learnt about all the things that can and can't be safely recycled. What a fantastic day where we all learned so much!

Poppies on sale

Poppies and other merchandise are on sale now at School until Friday 17th November. Poppies are available on a daily basis and will be sold in the classrooms every day. This year there is a variety of items available for sale, including reflective poppies for bags or coats, wrist bands and snap bands and the traditional poppies. This year an added bonus is that all the 'traditional' poppies are completely plastic-free and recyclable for the first time ever!

Lantern Project update

Children involved in making our lanterns for this year's parade in Gloucester have been hard at work over the last few weeks. The swans' wings have taken shape as have the maids' arms and bodice. We are very excited to see how these will be assembled!



Y6 Residential Trip 2024

ParentPay is now open for parents to begin making payments but please remember that the payments are on a non-refundable basis should your child change their mind about going. The first payment of £115 should be made by Wednesday 15th November.

Whole School Cross Country Trials

On Wednesday 8th November in the afternoon, all children will take part in the whole school cross country trials. Please make sure your child is in their PE kit with jogging bottoms and trainers that you don't mind getting muddy! This event will take place regardless of the weather.

Half-term ideas

Here are some ideas of things to do over the half term holiday. There are over 100 free ideas of places to go and lots of community events! Click on this link which opens their newsletter.

[Gloucester Rocks - Autumn Newsletter](#)

Y5 SkillZone write-up



Year 5H & 5SL enjoyed their trip to SkillZone this week. Here's a picture of them learning about hazards in everyday situations. They explored different scenarios such as safe travel on buses, how to phone emergency services as well as fire safety and hazards in the home. All three classes have learned a lot from their visits and achieved fantastic results in their safety quiz!

School Photos

All the children have had their individual photos taken this week. Proofs have been sent home with all the children. Parents should use the on-line order form (instructions included with the proofs). Please note that school are not taking photo orders directly, but we will distribute the photos on their return to school. Any questions please speak to Tempest Photography on 01736 751555.

Harvest/Foodbank donations

Although a little later than usual, we will be holding our harvest celebration on Wednesday 8th November with a focus on thankfulness and gratitude. As in previous years, we will be collecting donations towards Gloucester Foodbank, who support families throughout Gloucester and the neighbouring areas. From April 2022 to March 2023, the Foodbank gave out 13,844 emergency food and toiletry parcels. This was a 56% increase to the previous year and since April this year the number of people needing their help has already increased a further 40%. A list of urgently needed items is below - please give if you are able. Any donations can be brought into school between Tuesday 7th and Friday 10th November.

Long-life fruit juice (not chilled)
Tinned/Carton of custard

Tinned tomatoes & vegetables
Tinned rice pudding

Tinned Fruit
Tinned Potatoes
Packet Pasta 'n' sauce
Bottles of squash
Nappies size 5&6

Tinned meat (eg. Corned beef, ham, Frey Bentos pies)
Jars of sauce
Instant mash
Toiletries: shower gel/shampoo/toothpaste
Baby wipes

Drawing Competition by Farr & Farr

To celebrate Halloween and with it being over half term, Farr and Farr are hosting a spooktacular drawing competition.



We want as many people to take part as possible. All ages and skill levels are welcome with prizes to be won! To take part you just need to visit a Farr and Farr branch. These are in Hucclecote and Longlevens. Calling all aspiring artists, Halloween enthusiasts, and lovers of all things eerie and mysterious! Prepare to be bewitched by the spine-chilling excitement of our Spooky House Drawing Competition! Are you ready to unleash your creativity and bring haunted houses to life on paper? If so, grab your pens, pencils, and imagination, because this competition is for you! **The Theme:** Spooky, Haunted Houses and Ghostly Mansions Dare to enter the realm of the unknown as you explore the theme of haunted houses and ghostly mansions. Picture yourself wandering through fog-filled corridors, creaky staircases, and shadowy rooms where ghosts and ghouls might be lurking around every corner. Your task is to capture the eerie atmosphere and haunting beauty of these supernatural dwellings in your artwork. Whether you envision a haunted Victorian mansion, a creepy abandoned asylum, or a ghostly graveyard house, let your imagination run wild and let the spookiness flow onto the canvas! **How to Participate:** Create Your Spooky Masterpiece: Put your artistic skills to the test and create a drawing or painting showcasing your interpretation of a haunted house or ghostly mansion. You can use any medium you prefer - pencils, watercolours, digital tools, or a combination of them all. **Deadline for Entries:** All entries must be returned by the stroke of midnight on **October 31st 2023** to one of our Farr & Farr branches

Operation Christmas Child

We have received information about the Community Packing Day to be held at Christchurch, Abbeydale on Friday 3rd November between 10am-1pm when parents and children have the opportunity to come and pack a shoebox full of lovely donated items. These shoe box gifts will then be sent on their way to a child in need this Christmas time. We only ask for £5 to help with transport and logistical costs. This is the 3rd year this even has been held and it's been popular with children and parents to come and prepare these gifts. Refreshments will be available.

Here are this week's Merit Certificate winners - well done everyone!





Correspondence sent out this week:

Netball letters (team only with revised date)

Football letters (girls team only)

Flu vaccination certificates (for those who had nasal flu spray)

Individual school photo proofs/sibling proofs