



Durweston CE VA Primary School

Durweston, Blandford Forum, Dorset

DT11 0QA

Tel: 01258 452277

Email: office@durweston.dorset.sch.uk

Website: www.durweston.dorset.sch.uk

Head teacher: Nicola Brooke



2nd November 2018

NEWSLETTER

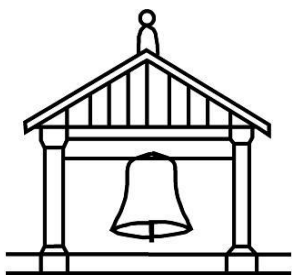
PL8 18/19

Dear Parents,



If you took this picture as evidence, you might think that orienteering is as much about eating biscuits as anything else. In truth, our children also did some excellent map reading and some super speedy running when we took a group of them orienteering at Shilllingstone on Tuesday. (If you look closely, you will also see that Mrs Hoey was there too!) There are three more events in the series with one taking place here on the 13th November – maybe some adults would like to take part?





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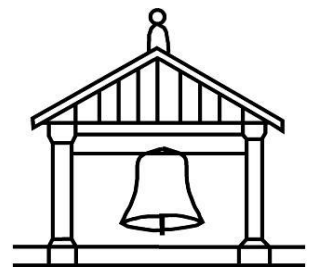
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Harvest



I found the camera! (thank you Faye for keeping it safe). More photos here: <http://durweston-schoolblog.blogspot.com/>.

Lest we forget



Earlier in the year, some of the older children got involved in a project to remember all of the British and Commonwealth servicemen and women who lost their lives in World War One. Our children helped write the name of soldiers who died on small poppies which have now been gathered together into one giant 'Poppy of Honour'.

The memorial will tour Somerset before the end of the year and will be put on show next year at the Tower of London and at Ypres in Belgium.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-somerset-45770528>

Christmas cards

Designs should have come home and been returned to the office by today.





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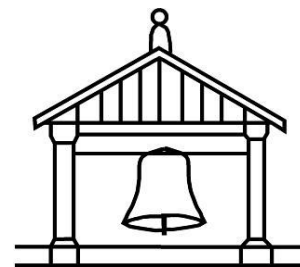
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OFSTED

So, following our monitoring visit from OFSTED last term, the final report will be available on OFSTED's website from next Tuesday. Remember, this visit was just to check whether or not we are taking 'effective action' to improve the school and I am pleased to report that the inspector agrees that we are! He looked specifically at the three areas identified as needing improvement in our last report. These were:

- Leadership and management – the inspector recognised that we have strengthened the quality of leadership, there is a strong culture of respect across the school and governors have a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities.
- Attendance – we now have clear systems in place to reward strong attendance as well as measures to ensure that pupils are not unnecessarily absent.
- Writing – because we are at the early stages of introducing Talk 4 Writing, the inspector acknowledged that some of the younger children are taking a bit longer to show the progress that is more clearly evident in the books of the older children, and that this hasn't been helped by unavoidable teacher absence last year and this year. However, with Mrs De Silva now doing great things in Dolphins, and Ms Glock building on the work that both Ms Stirk and then Mrs Kirwin have been doing in Seahorses, I am confident that all will be well when OFSTED come next time.

If you would like to discuss the report further, please remember there is a Parents' Forum on Tuesday 13th November at 6pm. Please let the office know if you are going to come.

Attendance

Sadly there seems to be a sickness bug in school. We have been reminding the children to wash their hands. Although the 48hr rule might seem a lot, it is there to try and stop these things spreading.

Class	Attendance this week (should be 96% +)	Whole school this week	Whole school this year (we need 96%+)
Starfish	87.06 %	92.88%	96.95 % 😊
Dolphins	94.44 %		
Seahorses	92.41 %		
Sharks	97.33 % 😊		
Porpoises	90.69%		





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Next week...

Parents' afternoon and evenings are on Tuesday and Wednesday next week. There are still slots available if you haven't signed up. If you can't make it into school, the office can help if you ring. If you have an appointment in the afternoon, you are welcome to take your children home after you have spoken to their teacher.



Let's hope the weather stays bright and clear for the weekend – the frost might kill off some of those bugs. Have a great weekend.

Nicola Brooke



Dates for Your Diary

Tuesday 6th November, 2.30pm – 5pm

Wednesday 7th November, 3.30pm – 6pm

Tuesday 13th November, 6pm

Friday 16th November, 8am

Friday 16th November

Friday 16th November, 7pm

Friday 23rd November

Friday 30th November, 2.30pm

Saturday 1st December

Tuesday 18th December

Tuesday 18th December, 2pm

Wednesday 19th December, 6pm

Friday 21st December

Parent's Evening

Parent's Evening

Parent Forum meeting

Individual school photos

Children in Need

PTA Christmas Shopping evening at the Village Hall

Mufti Day for the Christmas Fayre

Open Afternoon

PTA Christmas Fayre

Starfish and Handy Paws Christmas activity morning

Dolphins and Seahorses Nativity

Sharks and Porpoises Carol service

END OF TERM

