



# Durweston CE VA Primary School

Durweston, Blandford Forum, Dorset  
DT11 0QA

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Website: [www.durweston.dorset.sch.uk](http://www.durweston.dorset.sch.uk)

Head Teacher: Liz Wesley-Barker



31<sup>st</sup> March 2017

PL23 16/17

Dear parents,

## Lots of good news!

I'm feeling very proud; so many good things have happened this week.

On Monday, children from Years 3 and 4 went to a Netball Festival at Blandford. It wasn't really about winning (though we did win a few of our games), but more about giving the children some match experience. I had a lovely afternoon watching the children - they played with such enthusiasm and showed great team spirit and sportsman like behaviour.

On Tuesday, Porpoises went to Salisbury Cathedral for a day of art, drama and discussion about Easter. Ms Johnstone came home full of praise for the children's behaviour and attitude, and apparently, all of the adults they worked with were really impressed. Well done and thank you Porpoises.





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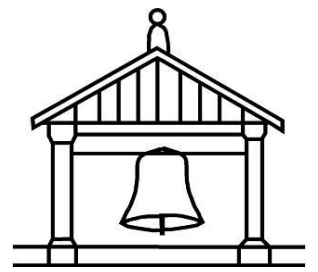
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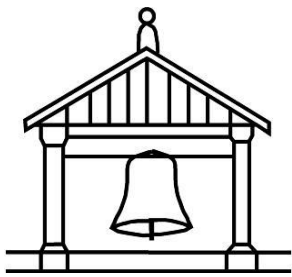
On Wednesday, our tennis team went to play a tournament at Milldown and came home victorious. They won the smallest trophy any of us have ever seen!



Thursday saw our football and netball teams out again, this time playing against Dunbury. The netballers played their best but were beaten by a team with brilliant shooters, but the footballers stormed to victory. Well done to you all for giving your best.

Open Morning this morning was yet another treat. Lots of parents have commented on the children's enthusiasm for their work. It was lovely to see so many of you supporting your children and there was a great atmosphere in school.





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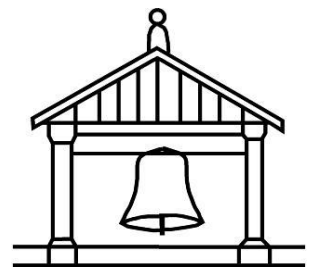
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Many of you will have noticed the colourful tables at the school entrance. If you've been onto the playground, you will also have seen that the boat, the benches and some of the fences have also been painted. This is all thanks to Mrs Sutherland, who has been coming into school at the weekends to make our outside spaces look so beautiful. She's doing a great job. I would also like to say a big thank you to another of our TAs, Mrs Jeans. She has been working with Mrs Plummer to turn our upstairs area into a cosy retreat. They've made curtains and cushions and it's all looking really lovely. We are extremely lucky to have members of staff who are prepared to give up so much of their own time to make our school a better place.

And finally, last week's Red Nose Day cake raised.....



**£110!!!!**

Amazing. Well done to all who were involved in organising and thanks to you all, once again for your generosity.

## Not such good news

Sadly, not all the news this week is good. As I explained at Parents' Forum this morning, there is huge pressure on school budgets at the moment. Our budgets have not been increased for 9 years whilst costs have been constantly rising. The future is looking really very bleak. It is therefore, with huge regret, that I have to announce that we are making our school cook, Mrs Roncaglia, redundant at the end of the summer term. We are really sorry to have had to make this decision as we know that our school lunches have been much better since Mrs Roncaglia has been cooking them on site, but we have had to look at cutting costs wherever we can. From September, our hot school meals will be cooked in Blandford and delivered in.







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## Attendance 26<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> March

Class	This Week	Whole school this week	Whole school this year
Starfish	94.48% Poor	95.8% Requires improvement	95.86% Requires improvement
Dolphins	95.22% Poor		
Seahorses ☺	96.79% Very good		
Sharks	96.26% Good		
Porpoises	96.38% Good		

Well done to the older children this week, especially Seahorses. Let's hope that the better weather will see off this sickness bug.....

## Sport for all

John Scott, who comes in and runs football training, has asked us to promote the new Wild Cats girl's football club that will be running at the Blandford School from the 25<sup>th</sup> March. As well as football training for the girls, there will also be football-related fitness sessions for parents! If you're interested, please ask the office for a letter.

## Looking forward to next week

Only 3 and half days left to go but there's plenty to squeeze in! A group of our children are going to be singing in the Blandford School's Network Singing Celebration on Tuesday; our Tag Rugby team are out on Wednesday; Film Night is after school on Wednesday; Easter Communion Service (with the Bishop of Salisbury) is on Thursday morning and orienteering on Thursday afternoon.

And then breathe and relax.....

Apologies for the lateness of this letter - I will try to do better ☹. Hope you've all had a lovely weekend in the sunshine.

Nicola Brooke





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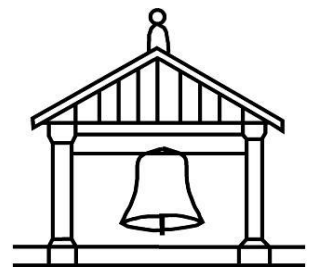
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## Dates for Your Diary

### ***New dates added in bold***

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April, 3.30pm

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April, 11am

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April, 1pm

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> - Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May, 12pm - 4pm

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> May

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May, 7.00 pm**

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> - Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May - Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June

Friday 21 July

PTA Film night

PTA Bingo evening

Easter Communion service

END OF TERM

TRAINING DAY

CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL

Leeson House residential (Year 4 only)

May Day Bank Holiday - School Closed

Durweston Country Fayre

KS2 SATs

**Travelling Trends Fashion Show (Village Hall)**

PGL Barton Hall residential (Year 6 only)

HALF TERM

STAFF TRAINING DAY

CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL

END OF TERM

