

DOTHILL NEWS



27th Feb 2026

Don't forget to check the school website for regular updates.

www.dothillprimaryschool.co.uk

Check out our Facebook page: Dothill Primary School, Telford

Contact school on 01952 386870 or
by email on dothill@taw.org.uk

[Dazzling Dotties](#) [Weekly Update](#) [Attendance Reminders](#) [Mental Health](#) [SEND](#) [EYFS](#) [Internet Safety](#) [Important Dates](#)

This Week's Dazzling Dotties!



Today, Mrs Thomas began assembly by sharing how proud she is of the progress everyone is making. Keep up the fantastic work: we are very much looking forward to celebrating this with you at Parents' Evening next week.

This week's certificates were awarded for a wide range of wonderful achievements, including always doing the right thing, showing our values of *Ready, Respectful and Safe*, producing fantastic writing (in both English and French!), and being kind, caring and conscientious. Several children have also excelled in their maths learning, which is brilliant news and something that will certainly delight Mr Kirkpatrick, our Maths Lead!

We also celebrated an impressive number of successes in swimming, judo, gymnastics, Crossbar and football. It was a record-breaking week for certificates, medals and trophies — well done to everyone who took part.

The **Dazzling Dotties Cup** was awarded to **5K** this week, after their teacher shared how proud he is of the whole class, particularly for their creative writing. Enjoy your well-deserved celebrations, 5K!

News and Highlights this Week

It has been lovely to welcome everyone back to school after the half term break. The promise of longer days and the spring is on its way (despite today's drizzle!). It has been a busy start to the term, and it has been lovely to see all the progress the children continue to make across school. We look forward to welcoming you into school for our **parent consultations** next week – an opportunity to chat through your child's progress with their teacher, and see some of the work they have been doing for yourselves.

Next week please note our **Family Hubs coffee afternoon** (further details below) where you can seek support and advice for a whole range of concerns. Miss Brotherton, our SENCo will also be present.

We also have **World Book Day** celebrations taking place on **Friday** next week – I am sure you will have seen the letter from our fabulous School Parliament members earlier in the week! We look forward to a exciting day, planned by Mrs Willoughby.

Wishing you a restful weekend, Mrs Thomas and the team 😊

Telford Sings

Tickets will go on general sale for **Telford Sings 2026** on Monday 2nd March at 8:00am. Tickets can be purchased via the Telford Theatre website: [Telford Theatre @ Oakengates](#)

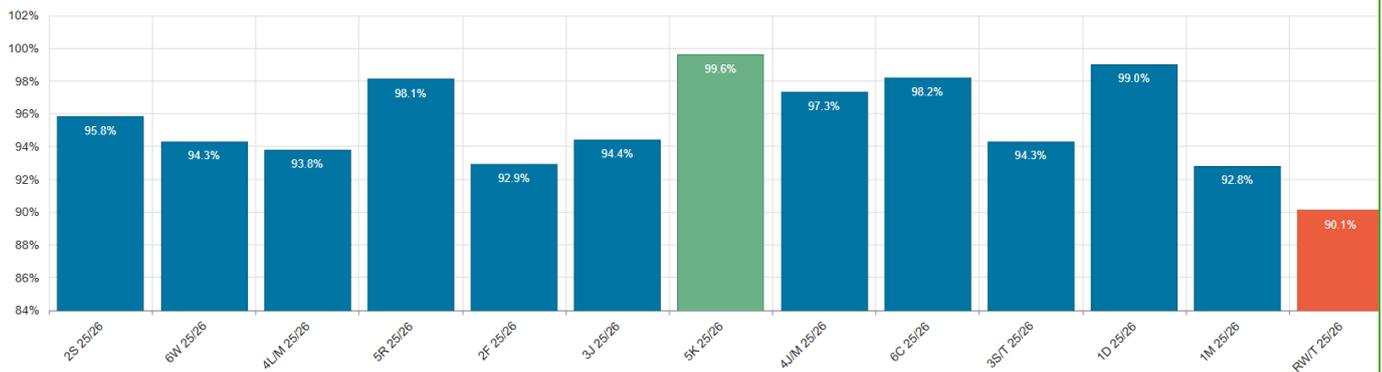
Please note that tickets are only available to purchase online and will not be available on the evening of the event. Tickets will be sold on a first come, first served basis, and as the event has sold out in previous years, we have been asked to share this information ahead of the general sale date to help avoid disappointment.

Our school performance date is on **Wednesday 25th March**.

Attendance

Overall attendance for the whole school this week is 95.4%. A huge well done to 5K with a fabulous 99.6% for this week (almost 100%) and 1d with 99%. Also, well done to 5R, 4JM and 6C with attendance of 98% or above.

I met with our Educational Welfare Officer (EWO) this week and who was pleased to see the improvements of attendance across school and individuals that we have been supporting in school. If you have any attendance concerns then please get in touch – we are always happy to help 😊



Attendance Monitoring

Monitoring Attendance

In addition to monitoring through the daily register, the school will monitor attendance and absence data (including punctuality) half-termly, termly and yearly across the school and at an individual pupil, year group and cohort level.

Specific pupil information will be shared with the DfE on request. The school has granted the DfE access to its management information system so the data can be accessed regularly and securely.

Data will be collected each term and published at national and local authority level through the DfE's school absence national statistics releases. The underlying school-level absence data is published alongside the national statistics.

The school will benchmark its attendance data at whole school, year group and cohort level against local, regional, and national levels to identify areas of focus for improvement and share this with the governing board.

When monitoring attendance, schools are legally required to notify the local authority where pupils are coded I (illness) and who the school has reasonable grounds to believe will miss 15 days consecutively or cumulatively because of sickness.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

Connect With Nature

Spring Scavenger Hunt

Invite children to look for signs of spring—buds, birds, insects, different leaf shapes.

👉 *Wellbeing Impact:* Being outdoors lowers stress hormones and helps children feel calmer. Mindful looking strengthens focus and reduces anxiety.

Cloud-Spotting Together

Lie on a blanket and look for shapes in the clouds.

👉 *Wellbeing Impact:* Shared quiet time strengthens family connection and gives children space to relax and use imagination



SEND

SEND White Paper

This week, the UK Government released its White Paper describing its plans to reform the SEND system. We will be exploring and navigating these changes together in the coming weeks. As a starting point, here are some key points about the intended SEND reforms, directly from the UK Government:

UK Government Blog article: [Schools white paper: What parents need to know about changes to the SEND system – The Education Hub](#)

UK Government Summary Document: [What parents of children and young people with SEND need to know](#)

Telford SEND Family Newsletter

The Telford SEND Newsletter features articles about parent and carer support, health, activities and events as well as welcoming new members of the Local Authority SEND team. It, too, references the White Paper and the changes that we can expect to see over the next few years. The Newsletter contains a message from Laura Goodfellow, Head of SEND and Personalisation:

“This is the beginning of a long journey to change. I want to reassure you that there are no immediate changes to any of the current legal processes currently in place for SEND children and young people.”

You can access this month’s SEND Family Newsletter here: [SEND Family Newsletter - February 2026](#)

Family Hubs Coffee Afternoon

At one of our Autumn Term SEND coffee meetings, you asked if we could explore the Early Help offer and perhaps meet members of the Family Hubs team.

Next Wednesday afternoon, from 2:00 – 3:15pm, we will be holding a coffee meeting with representatives from Family Hubs, who will be on hand to answer your questions and offer support. Here is a copy of the flyer for your information.

Useful links

Family Hubs Offer digital booklet: [family_hubs_offer_booklet_digi.pdf](#)

Family Hubs website: [HomePage](#)

Telford & Wrekin Cooperative Council | Protect, care and invest to create a better borough | Telford and Wrekin FAMILY HUBS

FAMILY HUBS DROP IN AT DOTHILL PRIMARY

DATE: Wednesday 4th March
TIME: 2:00-3:15pm
WHERE:

Come along and meet your local family hubs practitioners
You'll be able to access advice and support and connect
with local organisations.

Support we offer includes parenting and behaviour support, online and community safety, SEND (Special Educational Needs & Disabilities), Domestic abuse support and more.

EYFS

We are excited to share that our Early Years children will soon be exploring a brand-new Garden Centre role-play area, both inside the classroom and outdoors. This space will give children the chance to investigate plants, explore gardening tools, develop early maths and language skills, and take part in rich imaginative play.



Alongside this, we are creating a real outdoor planting area, where children can sow seeds, water young plants and watch them grow before moving them into their permanent spots in the EYFS garden troughs.

This gives them the wonderful experience of seeing the full life cycle of a plant.

To enhance children's learning and offer hands-on exploration, we are hoping to grow a variety of plants that support our curriculum:

Sensory Plants (to smell, touch and observe)

- Lavender
- Mint varieties (chocolate mint, apple mint, spearmint)
- Rosemary
- Lamb's ear (soft, velvety leaves)
- Lemon balm

Plants That Attract Wildlife

Perfect for encouraging butterflies, ladybirds and other exciting mini-beasts for children to investigate:

- Buddleia (butterfly bush – dwarf varieties ideal)
- Marigolds
- Cosmos
- Nasturtiums
- Cornflowers
- Rosemary and thyme (great for bees!)

These plants will help us build children's curiosity about the natural world while giving them real-life opportunities to observe insects, care for living things and ask scientific questions.

How You Can Support Our Garden Centre Project

We would be very grateful for any donations (new or good-quality pre-loved) to help bring the garden centre and planting area to life:

Gardening Equipment & Resources

- Seeds or plants (flowers, herbs, sensory plants, pollinator-friendly plants)
- Small pots, seed trays or biodegradable pots
- Peat-free compost
- Child-safe gardening tools
- Watering cans

Natural Items for Exploration

- Pebbles, pinecones, sticks, shells
- Small logs or wooden discs

Every donation large or small is greatly appreciated and helps us create a richer, more exciting environment for the children's learning.



Dates for your diary



Spring Term 2026

Parent Consultations Week	w/b 2.3.26
Year 5 to watch Matilda Jr at Ercall Wood	3.3.26
Family Hubs Coffee Afternoon 2:00-3:15	4.3.26
Arthog meeting for Year 5 parents 3:15-3:45	4.3.26
World Book Day celebrations in school	6.3.26
Year 1 visit to Ironbridge	11.3.26
Rainbow Room visit to Nature Reserve	13.3.26
EYFS height and weight checks	19.3.26
Year 3 visit to Cosford	19.3.26
Choir at Telford Sings event	25.3.26
Easter Raffle Draw (Friends Event)	27.3.26
Last Day of Spring Term (Easter Holidays)	27.3.26

Summer Term 2026

Return to school (Summer Term)	13.4.26
Year 4 visit to Shropshire Hills Discovery Centre	20.4.26
EYFS visit to Home Farm	22.4.26
Year 3 Egyptian Workshop	27.4.26
Fund 'Raisin' (Friends Event)	Month of May
Bank Holiday	4.5.26
Year 1 Exotic Zoo Workshop	11.5.26
Year 6 visit Telford Town Park	19.5.26
Last day of term (half term)	22.5.26
PD Day (No children in school)	1.6.26
Return to school (Summer 2)	2.6.26
Class Group Photos	11.6.26
Grandparents Tea Party 2pm - details to follow	15.6.26
Sports Day 9am Yr 5/6; 10am EYFS/1/2; 11am 3/4	22.6.26
Year 5 visit British Ironworks Centre	24.6.26
Non-uniform for Summer Fair (Friends Event)	26.6.26
Summer Fair (Friends Event)	3.7.26
End of Year Reports	10.7.26
Family Picnic (12-1pm) More information to follow	13.7.26
End of Term (Summer Holidays)	17.7.26

Ready
Respectful
Safe
BE YOUR BEST