

March Edition

11.3.20

Hello Everyone!

As you read this edition of the newsletter you will find out about the exciting work that our school parliament have been doing with Telford and Wrekin Catering Services. I am pleased to announce that we are now able to extend our food options at lunchtime and from the start of our new menu (Summer Term), if children do not fancy the main meal on offer, they can choose the vegetarian option instead - whether they are a veggie or not! They do not need to 'order' this or give advanced warning, they can just turn up at the counter at lunchtime and choose from the meat option or the vegetarian option. Thank you to Telford and Wrekin catering for working with us to make this offer.



Thank You Friends!

We would like to say a big THANK YOU to the Friends of the School. With their support we have purchased a new fantastic resource to support children in the early stages of reading. Read Write Inc Book Bag Books are very engaging fiction and non-fiction texts and are proving very helpful with reading progress. The books are completely phonetically decodable and match up precisely with the sounds the children are learning in their phonics groups. They also contain comprehension activities for parents to enjoy with their children. We are really pleased with how they have been received by both the children and parents. Thanks so much for your positive feedback, it's great to see the children enjoying their new Book Bag Books and proudly demonstrating their progress.



Audit of School Fund

Our School Fund accounts have had their annual audit by Telford and Wrekin's Audit Service. The audited accounts can be found on the school website.



Our New-Look School Lunch Menu

Our School Parliament have been working extremely hard over the last term to make changes to our school lunch menu. The children have been part of a working group, working alongside Niki Andrews and members of Telford and Wrekin's catering team, to make changes to the meals we offer in school. Firstly, the children carried out a questionnaire in their classes to find out which meals were liked or disliked by most children. They told their classes about the strict guidelines that had to be followed when devising a menu to ensure it was nutritionally balanced. The School Parliament presented their findings at the next working group and then work began on making changes to the school menu. During this work, the children even got to sample a range of delicious healthy muffins, voting for their favourite choices, which feature on our new menu.

We used our whole school voting boxes to help us to select the theme for the new look menu and then the School Parliament worked with a graphic designer to customise the menu to reflect our school. When you see our new menu, I'm sure you'll agree they did a fantastic job!

But they didn't stop there...



The School Parliament fed back on many occasions how much our children would like tomato ketchup to be served with meals, however they were told that the guidelines do not allow this because of its high sugar content. Taking this view into account, over 80 children in school were given the opportunity to work with Niki Andrews and make an alternative healthy tomato sauce, using a range of vegetables, which can be served alongside the school meals in place of ketchup. The children had a great time making and tasting it and agreed that this alternative sauce was delicious!

We are extremely proud of the hard work all the children have put into this project. Well done Dothill!

Dear Parents/Carers

The arrival of the Knife Angel in the Borough presents an ideal time to reflect on our community and the harm caused by knives. We are not the national centre of knife crime committed by young people – but we are not complacent. West Mercia Police and schools in the Town are committed to working together to protect our young people from becoming victims of knife and weapons crime.

We use a range of tactics including educational inputs and in-school searches to ensure that students are well-informed about the consequences of carrying weapons, and identify those that continue to do so.

It is important that the police, schools and families work together to protect young people. To do this, parents and guardians should be aware of the warning signs and talk to children and young people about carrying weapons. The consequences of being found in possession of a knife are serious and long lasting, affecting education, employment and travel opportunities, but most crucially, life.

Some young people carry weapons because they feel it will provide protection or increase the respect they are given by their friends, but the sad fact is that they are more likely to become victims of serious violence. Parents should also be aware that girls sometimes carry or store weapons for their boyfriends or other male friends because they believe they are less likely to be stopped by the police. Their reasons are often misguided loyalty or love, but it is still a crime if they are caught carrying a knife or other weapon.

WARNING SIGNS

These signs don't always mean the worst is happening and could just be normal teenage behaviour:

Have they become withdrawn from the family and/or school?

Is their school or college reporting worrying changes in behaviour, academic achievement or attendance?

Have they lost interest in positive activities such as sports clubs?

Do they stay out unusually late without giving a reason and are vague about their whereabouts?

Have they stopped seeing old friends and started hanging out with a new group?

Are they secretive about the contents of their bag?

Are they defensive if you ask what is in their possession or if they are hiding anything?

Has their attitude changed about carrying knives/weapons? For example, justifying it by saying people carry them for self-defence?

Have any items gone missing from the kitchen, tool box or garage?

Have you found a weapon hidden amongst their possessions?

WHAT TO DO IF YOU'RE CONCERNED

Speak to them calmly and explain the risks and consequences. Further advice on talking to your child is available at:

www.noknivesbetterlives.com/parents/having-the-conversation

You may wish to contact **a member of the Pastoral Team** at school if you feel your child isn't listening or is at risk. We can talk through your concerns and plan a way forward together.

If you or your child are aware that other young people in school or the community are carrying knives or weapons, you should contact the police directly via 101. Alternatively you can contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or via www.crimestoppers-uk.org

If a crime is taking place or a life is in danger, call 999 immediately.

SCHOOL POLICY FOR WEAPONS POSSESSION

It is essential that we work together to reduce the chances of children bringing a weapon to school. Ours, like most other schools, will take firm action in relation to any student found to be carrying a knife, both on and off the school premises, and the police will be informed. This may include the use of permanent exclusion as a sanction.

THE POLICE RESPONSE TO WEAPONS POSSESSION

Where young people are involved in crime, the police will try to avoid criminalising them; however, carrying a knife or other **weapon is very serious and the most likely result will be a charge and court appearance.**

If you would like to discuss this issue in more detail, please contact the school.

Yours faithfully,



Supt Jim Baker
Local Policing Commander



HOW IT WORKS



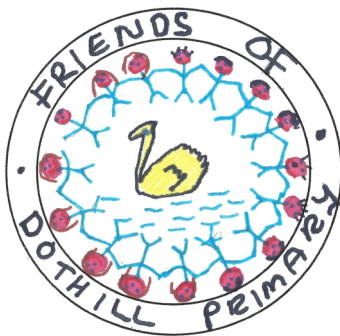
Each class has their own bottle for collecting 5p coins. Once each class has completed the challenge, the coins in each bottle will be counted and the class with the most 5p coins will win the prizes!

Winning Class Prizes – non uniform day/ mufti, first into dinner and use of the wooden play area.

Raid your money boxes, save your change, ask friends and families, look down the back of the sofa and help your class fill their bottle.

A fun challenge for the whole class to join together and help raise funds for the school. **Challenge runs: every Friday (drop off & collection) from Friday 20th Feb until Fri 27th March for 5 weeks. (Total: will be averaged against the number of pupils in the class.)**

The winners will be announced in assembly on Monday 30th March and the winning class day will be on Wednesday 1st April.



Friends Page



Contact us today and get towing!

Telford Towbars
Installation specialists

Unit 503, Queensway Business Park, Hadley Park, Telford TF1 7UL

T: +44 (0)1952 608750

www.telfordtowbars.co.uk

The friends would like to make a special thank you to **Telford Towbars** for their recent kind donation towards the exercise equipment.

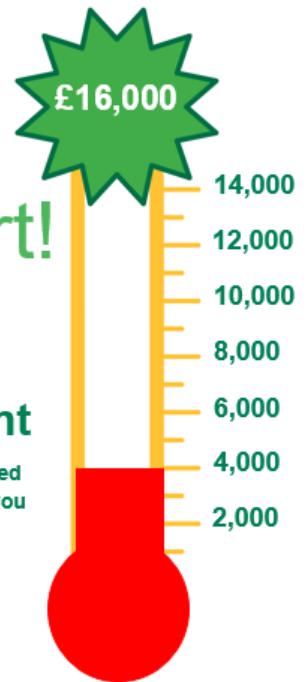
If your company are able to donate please get in touch
friendsofdothillschool@gmail.com

A great start!

TARGET:

Playground exercise equipment

We have lots of future events planned to help us reach our target! Thank you for all your support so far.



FUNDS RAISED

Winter Disco

£500

Friday 20th March
Doors open at 6pm • Eyes down at 6:30pm

BINGO!

Adult £3.00
Children free

Chocolate Prizes •
Tuck shop open •
£1 per book (4 games included) •

Adults can bring your own booze.
Please note that children must be accompanied by an adult.

Friends of Dothill School

Parentkind Member Association

Do any parents, families or friends work for a company listed below?

If so, the Friends are looking for further match funding towards our goal of buying new playground exercise equipment and would welcome your help.



UK Companies currently running Match Funding schemes

Match funding involves a funder (whether an employer, governmental department, grant-making trust, or individual donor) agreeing to **match**, or partially **match** a number of donations to our charity.

Friends of Dothill end of term

Cup Cake & Krispy Kreme Sale



3:20pm Friday 3rd April

Parentkind
Member Association

Friends of Dothill

March	April	May
5p Fridays – 13 th , 20 th & 27 th Bring your own booze Bingo – Friday 20 th	Cupcakes & Krispy Kreme Doughnuts – Friday 3 rd	Mufti – Friday 15 th £1 wear something you love
June	July	
Mufti – Friday 26 th Donations for summer fair	Summer Fair - Friday 10 th Summer Discos – Tuesday 14 th	

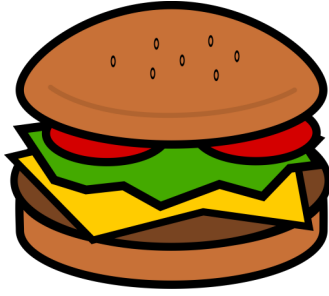
CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Parentkind
Member Association

Easter Lunch

Tuesday 31st March 2020 - Easter Theme



Beef/Veggie burger in a bun
Wedges
Sweetcorn

Chocolate Easter nests
Fresh fruit
Yoghurts



IMPORTANT: You must have enough credit on your account on this day to pay for this meal as it is the last day of the financial year and debt cannot be carried over. Thanks.

Orienteering Competition

On Tuesday 28th January, eight year five children represented Dothill in the Telford and Wrekin Primary Schools Orienteering Competition held at Chetwynd Deer Park. The course took place on undulating ground and proved to be both very exciting and challenging, as the competitors had to find all the markers hidden on the course, as well as completing it in the fastest possible time. The children took part in teams of two and definitely improved their map reading skills! The Dothill teams all did exceptionally well and we are proud to announce that Francesca and Mason were the second fastest team to complete the course and to identify the markers correctly and, as a result, have been chosen to represent the Telford and Wrekin Langley School Partnership in the Shropshire Schools Summer Games. Well done to all the children on their brilliant achievement. Dothill Orienteering Team: Kyla, Ben, Abigail, Dereese, Scarlett, Sam, Francesca and Mason.



Important Reminder!

Please remember to bank your cheques if you had a refund for Autumn Term Football Club, a refund for Young Voices Tickets, or Arthog Remission Refunds.

Cheques are cancelled 6 months from the date of issue so the ones for Football Club will be cancelled at the end of March 2020!



Anti-Bullying Charter

Each year, pupils and staff sign up to our anti-bullying charter to state clearly that we don't want bullying to happen but if it does we will tell and we will deal with it.

If you would like to sign our parent charter then please complete the slip below and return to the class teacher. Thank you.

We believe that bullying is wrong and we do not want it to happen at Dothill

We will not stand by and allow bullies to get away with it.

We will give our children the chance to talk to us about their worries or concerns.

We will report any concerns about bullying to school and work with them to deal with any issues.

Parents Anti-Bullying Charter

I support the Dothill Anti-Bullying Charter.

My child/ren is/are:

Signed:

Diary Dates - March to July 2020

Thursday 12th March	Y1 visit to Weston Park - see letter dated 31st January
Thursday 12th March	Y5 PE event at Charlton School - PE kit needed
Thursday 12th March	Y6 meeting for parents re: SATs - 5:00-5:30pm in the big hall - see letter dated 26th February
Friday 13th March	Tickets for Y3/4 Performance will be sent home with your child
Tuesday 17th March	Class 2A visit to Attingham Park - see letter dated 10th January
Wednesday 18th March	Class 2T visit to Attingham Park - see letter dated 10th January
Thursday 19th March	School Photo Day
Friday 20th March	Boozy Bingo - see PTA Friends pages in the February and March newsletters
Tuesday 24th March	Y3/4 Spring Performance (1 of 2) 2:00-3:00pm - entry is by ticket only which needs to be requested in advance - see letter on class page on website
Wednesday 25th March	Y3/4 Spring Performance (2 of 2) 9:30-10:30am - entry is by ticket only which needs to be requested in advance - see letter on class page on website
Wednesday 25th March	Cross Country for selected children (1 of 3) - 3:30pm to 5:30pm at Telford Town Park - see letter on website dated 5th March
Wednesday 25th March	Dothill Choir at Telford Sings, The Place, Oakengates, 4:00pm to 7:00pm - see letter sent out
Thursday 26th March	Y4 Easter Experience at All Saints Church - more information to follow
Friday 27th March	Y3 Easter Experience at All Saints Church - more information to follow
Friday 27th March	Y5 trip to see the Knife Angel, Southwater, Telford - see letter dated 7th February
Monday 30th March & Tuesday 31st March	Parents' Meetings 3:30-7:00pm Monday and 3:30-6:00pm Tuesday - see letter dated 24th February
Tuesday 31st March	Themed Lunch 4 of 6 - see menu in this newsletter. No need to book, pay on the day/ensure your child's account is in credit.
Wednesday 1st April	5p Friday prize day - see PTA Friends pages in the February and March newsletters
Wednesday 1st April	Cross Country for selected children (2 of 3) - 3:30pm to 5:30pm at Chetwynd Deer Park, Newport - see letter dated 5th March
Thursday 2nd April	Y5 trip to Keele University - 8:30am to 3:15pm - see letter dated 13th February
Monday 6th April to Friday 17th April	Holiday
Wednesday 22nd April	EYFS visit to the Exotic Zoo - see letter dated 24th February
Wednesday 22nd April	Cross Country for selected children (3 of 3) - 3:30pm to 5:30pm at Telford Town Park - see letter dated 5th March
Friday 8th May	Bank Holiday
Friday 15th May	Wear What You Love - see PTA Friends page in February's newsletter
Thursday 21st May	Themed Lunch 5 of 6 - menu will be added to the newsletter. No need to book, pay on the day/ensure your child's account is in credit.
Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May	Summer half-term holiday
Monday 1st June	PD Day - no children in school
Tuesday 2nd June to Friday 5th June	Theme week - class teachers will update parents on the year group theme for all classes nearer to the time
Monday 15th June to Friday 19th June	Y6 STAR programme in school
Wednesday 17th June	Open morning for current parents/carers to view books - 9:15-10:00am (note new times)
Tuesday 23rd June	KS2 Sports Day (morning)
Thursday 25th June	EYFS/KS1 Sports Day (morning)
Friday 26th June	Mufti Day for Summer Fair - see PTA Friends page in February's newsletter
Friday 3rd July	Summer Fair 2:30pm to 4:30pm - see PTA Friends page in February's newsletter
Wednesday 8th July	Arthog Information Meeting for Y5 parents/carers (4:45-5:15pm) re: 2020/21 visit
Thursday 9th July	Y6 private party - see letter issued by Y6 parent
Monday 13th July	Reports issued to parents/carers
Tuesday 14th July	School Discos - see PTA Friends page in February's newsletter
Wednesday 15th July	Y5/6 Summer Performance (1 of 2) 1:30-2:30/2:40pm - more information to follow
Thursday 16th July	Y5/6 Summer Performance (2 of 2) 9:30-10:30/10:40am - more information to follow
Thursday 16th July	Themed Lunch 6 of 6 - menu will be added to the newsletter. No need to book, pay on the day/ensure your child's account is in credit.
Friday 17th July	Last day of Summer Term
Monday 20th July	PD Day - no children in school
2020-2021	Term dates issued in December 2019 newsletter and on the website
Monday 1st to Friday 5th February 2021	Y6 Visit to Arthog - see letter dated 14th February 2020 - in you want your child to attend, please return the slip and deposit before Friday 27th March 2020. Full payment due before 3pm on Friday 19th June 2020.
2021-2022	Term Dates attached and on school website

Dothill Primary School - Term Dates 2021-22

Autumn Term 2021:

PD Days 1 and 2: Thursday 2nd September and Friday 3rd September

Term Time: Monday 6th September to Friday 22nd October

Holiday: Monday 25th October to Friday 29th October

PD Day 3: Monday 1st November

Term Time: Tuesday 2nd November to Friday 17th December

Holiday: Monday 20th December to Monday 3rd January

Spring Term 2022:

PD Day 4: Tuesday 4th January

Term Time: Wednesday 5th January to Friday 18th February

Holiday: Monday 21st February to Friday 25th February

Term Time: Monday 28th February to Friday 8th April

Holiday: Monday 11th April to Friday 22nd April

Summer Term 2022:

Term Time: Monday 25th April to Friday 27th May

Bank Holiday: Monday 2nd May

Holiday: Monday 30th May to Friday 3rd June

PD Day 5: Monday 6th June

Term Time: Tuesday 7th June to Friday 22nd July

Programmed PD Days x 5: Thursday 2nd September 2021
Friday 3rd September 2021
Monday 1st November 2021
Tuesday 4th January 2022
Monday 6th June 2022