

DOTHILL NEWS



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

www.dothillprimaryschool.co.uk

Check out our Facebook page: Dothill Primary School, Telford

12.12.25

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!



We had a joyful assembly this afternoon, celebrating so many wonderful achievements such as determination, excellent writing, making the right choices when things get tricky, and consistently showing great behaviour.

This week, the **Dazzling Dotties trophy** went to **2F** this week because they have impressed Mr Fury enormously. We also celebrated successes at gymnastics, karate and Brownies. What a talented group!

Well done to all of you, we couldn't be any more proud! 😊

News and Highlights this Week

What a wonderful week of celebrations we've enjoyed with the children!

A huge thank you to everyone who joined us for the Year 3, 4, 5, and Rainbow craft afternoons. These events bring such a special atmosphere to school and offer a lovely opportunity for parents to share in their children's experiences.

This week also saw our reception children shine in their beautiful nativity performance. We were delighted to welcome Mayor Reg Snell to the event, and he shared a message with us that perfectly captured the spirit of the occasion:



Thank you for letting me attend the Nativity today. They were the best in Wellington!

I wanted to bottle up the wonder and smiles they gave in their performance. What a lovely play, it was just so enjoyable to watch.

Please congratulate the staff for all their hard work, which made it a success.

Looking Ahead to Next Week

We're excited for another week of festive fun! Year 6 will enjoy their craft afternoon, and of course, the much-anticipated Year 1 and 2 Christmas Play. The children have been practising hard, and you're in for a real treat!

If you haven't booked your tickets via ParentPay yet, there are still seats available for the **Thursday morning performance** (please note that the **Wednesday afternoon performance is now full**).

On **Monday morning**, we'll be visiting the church. Thank you to all who have volunteered to help; we'll be leaving school promptly at 9:00 a.m.

On **Wednesday**, our fabulous cook Donna and her equally fabulous team will be serving a special Christmas Lunch. We hope the children enjoy this festive meal with the staff!







Finally, to celebrate the season, we invite all children to wear a **Christmas jumper** instead of their usual school jumper or cardigan on the following days:

- **Monday** (for the walk to church)
- **Wednesday** (Christmas lunch)
- **Friday** (as part of 'Yes Day')

As ever, I wish you a restful weekend and we look forward to our next, very busy but fun-filled week!



Message from the friends

 **Festive yes day**  Friday 19th December

-  Come dressed in mufti or your Christmas jumper
-  Wear a festive hat/boppers/hair accessory or crazy hair
-  Bring squash in your water bottle
-  Wear nail varnish
-  Eat pudding first
-  Have chocolate or biscuit for a snack (no nuts reminder)

Here's how it works:

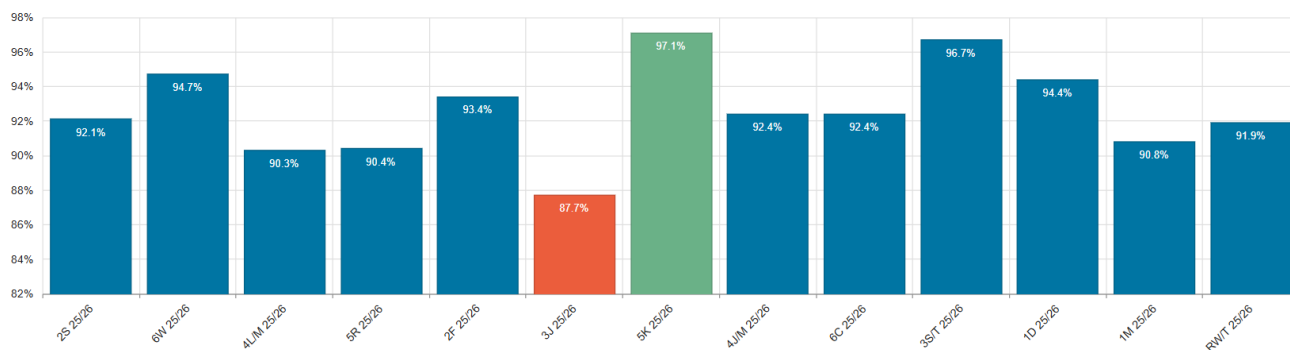
Pay 50p for each individual option you want to say 'Yes' to, or £2.50 to do all of them! Cash to be given into the class teacher on arrival.

Let's get into the festive spirit!  

Attendance

Congratulations to 5K for having the highest attendance this week 😊

Whole school attendance stands at 92.7% this week, which is well below our target of 96.5%. There is quite a lot of illness at the moment but please ensure that your child attends school if they are well enough to do so, try and make appointments outside of the school day, and book holidays during the school breaks.



Reminder – Reporting Illness

If your child is ill or going to be absent from school, then please ensure that you call school first thing. If you have to leave a message on the answer phone please remember to leave your child's name, class and reason for absence, for example, 'Hi, I am calling to let you know that Joe Smith from 4T won't be in today, he has a sickness bug.' This ensures that we are able to mark the register with the correct code.

Following up Unexplained Absence

Where any pupil who we expect to attend school does not attend, or stops attending, without reason, the school will:

- Call the pupil's parent on the morning of the first day of unexplained absence to ascertain the reason. If we cannot reach any of the pupil's emergency contacts, we may contact other agencies to seek advice and support, for example Family Connect or the Local Authority attendance team.
- Identify whether the absence is approved or not.
- Identify the correct attendance code to use and input it as soon as the reason for absence is ascertained – this will be no later than 5 working days after the session(s) for which the pupil was absent.
- Call the parent on each day that the absence continues without explanation, to make sure proper safeguarding action is taken where necessary. If absence continues, we will consider involving an education welfare officer.
- At any point during unexplained absence school or our education welfare officer may complete a home visit. This is to ensure that all is safe and well and offer support.
- Where relevant, report the unexplained absence to the pupil's youth offending team officer.
- Where appropriate, offer support to the pupil and/or their parents to improve attendance.
- Identify whether the pupil needs support from wider partners, as quickly as possible, and make the necessary referrals.
- Where support is not appropriate, not successful, or not engaged with, a notice to improve, penalty notice, or other legal intervention may be issued.



Mental Health and Wellbeing

Kindness Counts at Christmas

Acts of kindness boost wellbeing:

- Make a **handmade card** for someone special.
- Help with **small chores** at home.
- Share toys or books you no longer use.



☒ Wellbeing Challenge:

Do one kind thing for someone every day this week.

Internet Safety

Online bullying, sometimes called cyberbullying, is any behaviour that uses technology and devices to deliberately target or upset someone. At school, we learn about this within our computing and PSHE lessons, understanding how we should behave when using technology to communicate with others.

Here are some Top Tips from Childnet.

Source: [Online Bullying | Childnet](#)

Top Tips

- 1 Always be kind and respectful online. Remember that just because you're not saying it to someone's face, doesn't make it okay. Bullying online is unacceptable.
- 2 Report and block the bullies! Most social media sites and some games have reporting and blocking tools to support users. Our help page has more information on how to report.
- 3 Don't retaliate. If someone is unkind online, being unkind back won't help. In fact, it could make the situation worse and you could end up getting in trouble.
- 4 Save the evidence using screenshots (or a picture of the screen, if a screenshot isn't possible) of offending messages, conversations or other situations online involving bullying.
- 5 Tell someone! Speak to an adult you trust like a parent, carer or teacher for support and advice on what to do next.

SEND

PODS Christmas Opening Hours

During the festive period there will be restricted availability from PODS staff from 5pm Friday 19th December 2025 through until Monday 5th January 2026, as PODS staff and volunteers take a well-earned rest with their families and disabled children.

PODS Hub will be closed during this time too, except for pre booked groups and activities.

PODS will re-open on Monday 5th January 2026.

Responses to emails and messages will be limited. There will be scheduled posts going out on social media, so please look out for them.



In an emergency, please use the numbers below. If you contact PODS, please be aware that it may not be picked up until the next working day.

Family Connect: (Monday – Friday 9am – 5pm excluding bank holidays) 01952 385385

Emergency Duty Team: For anyone who has immediate safeguarding concerns outside of office hours or on a bank holiday, including Christmas Day is 01952 676500.

Childline: 0800 1111 (for children) 0808 802 5544 (for parents)

National Domestic Abuse Helpline: (24/7) 0808 2000 247

Urgent NHS Mental Health Helpline: (24/7) 0808 196 4501

Samaritans: (24/7) 116 123

Mind: 0300 123 3393

Citizen's Advice: 0800 144 8848

Corum: 020 7520 0300

Sensory Snips

Does your child struggle with the sensory experience of having their hair cut? Coming soon to the PODS Hub is 'Sensory Snips': a hairdresser specialising in haircuts for children and adults with SEND. Please contact Cody on 07735 073870 for more information, prices or to book.



SENSORY-FRIENDLY HAIRCUTS AT PODS!

Starting soon, I'll be offering SEN-friendly haircuts every Saturday at Pods in Telford.

What I do
I specialise in haircuts for children and adults with special educational needs (SEN). My goal is to make haircuts a calm, fun, and stress-free experience.

What to expect

- A patient, understanding approach
- Sensory-friendly environment
- Extra time for those who need it
- Flexible, calming support to suit each person's needs

My vision
I'm currently building **Sensory Snips** a dedicated SEN barber shop in Telford, designed with sensory play areas, calming nooks, and accessibility for all.

When:
Every Saturday

Where:
Pods, Telford

Appointments are available —book your slot and enjoy a haircut that puts comfort first!

07735073870 • Cody@sensorysnips.co.uk • Sensorysnips.co.uk

EYFS

In our recent Jigsaw lessons, the children have been exploring the theme of **Celebrating Difference**. We've been learning about what makes each of us special and unique, and how our differences make the world an interesting and wonderful place. Through stories and circle time talks, the children have talked about families, friendships, and ways to be kind and respectful to everyone. They have also started to understand that even though people may look different or like different things, we can all work and play together happily.

Here are some of the key questions we've discussed during this unit:

Can you say how you are the same/different from a friend?

What can you do to make a friend?

What makes a family?

Are all families the same?

What makes you proud?

What are you good at doing?

How can you tell when someone is feeling sad, angry or upset?

If someone is making you feel sad or upset, what can you do about it?



Here are some ideas for supporting your child's Personal, social and emotional development at home.

1

Super Me - Talk to your child about the things that they are good at, at home.

You could talk about things that they are learning to do that support their growing independence.

This could include getting dressed, brushing their teeth, using cutlery etc.

2

Confidence Jar - Ask families to create a confidence jar. Ask the children to decorate a recycled container such as a jar or bottle with craft materials. Families to encourage their child to take responsibility for the jar by noticing when they do something that they are proud of. They can post an object of choice into the jar, such as pom-poms, counters etc. and have this as a visual aid to show them that they are good at so many things!

3

Family Photos - Ask families to look through printed or digital photos of family members. Ask families to explore the questions: Do you all look the same or are you different? Why?

4

My Home - Families are invited to talk to their children about their home/favourite room and why it is their favourite. Children could play a game of 'hide and seek' in the home with family members, exploring different areas!

5

A Play Date! - Invite families to support friendships beyond the classroom by arranging a play date for their child outside of school. This could include a free outing by meeting up at the park or visiting one another's house.

6

Kindness Jar - Families to create a kindness jar in the home – encourage the children and other family members to place pom-poms (or another counter object) into the jar when someone says or does something kind for them.



Dates for your diary



Years 1-6 visit to All Saints Church/Christmas Jumper	15.12.25
Year 6 Family Event: Christmas Crafts 2pm	16.12.25
Whole School Christmas Lunch/ Christmas Jumper	17.12.25
*KS1 Christmas Performance 2:15pm	17.12.25
*KS1 Christmas Performance 9:30am	18.12.25
EYFS Christmas Stay and Play 2:15pm	18.12.25
Festive Yes Day (Friends Event)	19.12.25
Last day of Autumn term (Christmas Holidays)	19.12.25

***Parents will need to book tickets via ParentPay in due course**

Spring Term 2026

PD Day (No children in school)	5.1.26
Return to school (Spring Term)	6.1.26
Young Voices	13.1.26
Wear what you love day (Friends Event)	13.2.26
Last day of Term (half term)	13.2.26
Return to School (Spring 2)	23.2.26
PODS Coffee Morning 9:30	24.2.26
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
Fund 'Raisin' (Friends Event)	Month of May
Bank Holiday	4.5.26
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
Non-uniform for Summer Fair (Friends Event)	26.6.26
Summer Fair (Friends Event)	3.7.26
End of Term (Summer Holidays)	17.7.26

**Ready
Respectful
Safe**

BE YOUR BEST



JOIN US FOR A FREE FAMILY
BIKE RIDE



Christmas GLOW RIDE

18th December
6:00 pm - 7:00pm

Book your free tickets at Tickets
Telford and join the fun!

To hire bikes email:
thebikehub@telford.gov.uk

Telford Bike Hub - Telford Town
Park TF3 4EP



Telford & Wrekin
Co-operative Council

Protect, care and invest
to create a better borough

TravelTelford

