DOTHILL NEWS

13th November 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!





A huge well done goes to our pupils this week, chosen for wonderful writing, being fantastic members of their classes and being ready, respectful and safe at all times. We heard about growing confidence, amazing use of adjectives, doing extra writing at home, extra effort in maths, being emotionally intelligent and a pleasure to have in the class. Another was chosen for being kind, which is one of our favourite reasons and underpins all of our community at Dothill.



Out of school achievements were for horse riding, gymnastics, for doing 140 leg lifts at cheer and for scoring five goals in a football match!

The Dazzling Dotties trophy went to all of year 4 for their amazing behaviour on their school trip to Chester: the adults who went with them were very impressed with how they represented Dothill.

News and Highlights this Week

Parent Consultation Meetings

Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended our parent consultation meetings this week. It was wonderful to see so many families engaging in conversations about their children's learning and development.

We know that children achieve the best outcomes when there is a strong partnership between home and school. Without close trust, communication and mutual support, it can be much harder to provide children with the consistent guidance they need. We are grateful for the positive relationships we share with our families and look forward to continuing to work together to help every child flourish.

Friendship Week

We are excited to be holding a special **Friendship Week** across school! Throughout the week, children will take part in activities exploring **friendship, kindness, belonging and anti-bullying**, helping everyone to understand how we can make our school a place where everybody feels safe, valued and included.



We will be launching Friendship Week with **Odd Socks Day!** 🧦 Children and staff are invited to come to school wearing their brightest, funniest or most mismatched odd socks. There is no need to buy anything special. Odd Socks Day is all about celebrating what makes each of us **unique** and reminding us that our differences are something to be proud of.

Together, we will celebrate the message: **Kind Minds, Kind Word, Kind Actions.**

Year 4 Roman Visit to Chester



On Thursday, Year 4 travelled to the Deva Roman Discovery Centre in Chester to bring their learning about the Romans to life. Throughout the day, we discovered what life was really like for Romans living in Britain nearly 2,000 years ago.

We explored a Roman marketplace and were introduced to some of the foods Romans might have eaten, including flamingo tongues, lamb brains and roasted dormice! We also learned about everyday Roman life, including some of their rather surprising toilet habits.

One of the highlights of the day was watching some of the adults take part in a gladiator battle, much to the children's amusement. We then marched through the streets of Chester as Roman soldiers and learned how the Roman army used different battle formations to defend themselves and avoid defeat by the Celts.

The visit was a fantastic opportunity to deepen our understanding of Roman Britain and experience history in an engaging and memorable way. We all had a wonderful day and returned to school with plenty of fascinating facts to share.







A huge thank you to our wonderful parent volunteers who give up their time to accompany our visit. Your help is invaluable and greatly appreciated by both staff and children. Quite simply, without volunteer support, we would be unable to staff many of these events safely and some opportunities would not be able to go ahead.

Educational Visits: Your Support Matters

Our trips and visits play an important role in enriching the curriculum and bringing learning to life for our children. These experiences create lasting memories and provide valuable opportunities that extend learning beyond the classroom.

We have reviewed our programme carefully to ensure that we only arrange visits and experiences that offer genuine educational value and support children's learning. While contributions towards these activities are voluntary, they are essential in helping us to make such opportunities possible.

In recent months, we have seen a reduction in the number of contributions being made. As school budgets continue to be under increasing pressure, we may unfortunately need to review the number and range of visits we are able to offer if contributions do not cover the costs involved. We wanted to share this openly so that families understand the important role their support plays in enabling these enriching experiences to continue.

We are extremely grateful to all those families who contribute whenever they are able, and we remain committed to providing the very best opportunities for our children.

We wish you all a wonderful weekend and look forward to welcoming you back next week 😊

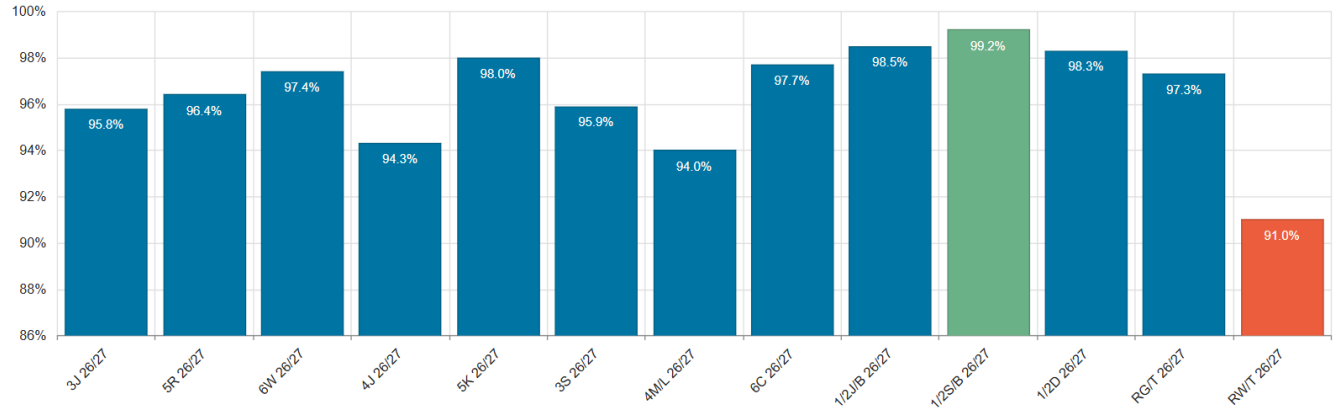
Attendance

Attendance remains a key priority at Dothill Primary School, and we are pleased to report that whole-school attendance this week was **96.4%**, meeting the national expectation.

A special congratulations goes to **1/2SB**, who achieved an excellent **99.2%** attendance and were our highest-attending class this week. Other classes with fantastic attendance included **1/2JB (98.5%)**, **1/2D (98.3%)**, and **5K (98.0%)**.

Every day in school matters, and strong attendance helps children make the most of their learning opportunities and school experiences.

Let's see if we can push our whole-school attendance even higher next week! 🎉📚👏



Every Minute Counts

Did you know? Being 10 minutes late every day adds up to approximately:



⏰ 50 minutes per week

⏰ 3,000 minutes per year

⏰ Around two weeks of learning lost

Thank you for supporting children to arrive at school on time and ready to learn.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

The Power of Sleep

Did you know that sleep has a huge impact on children's behaviour, learning and emotional wellbeing? Good sleep helps children:

- Concentrate in class
- Manage their emotions
- Build resilience
- Feel happier and calmer



Top sleep tips:

🌙 Keep bedtimes and wake-up times consistent.

📱 Avoid screens for at least one hour before bed.

📚 Enjoy a calming bedtime story.

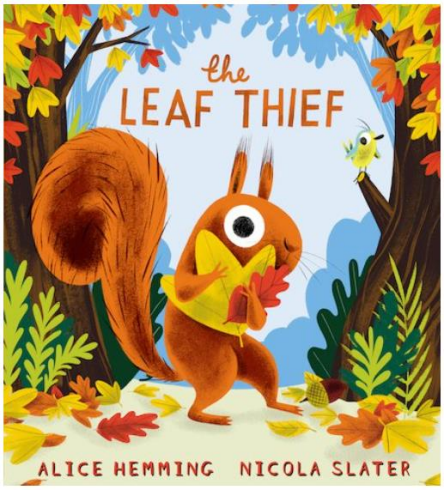
🧸 Create a relaxing bedtime routine.

Many families find that spending ten minutes talking about the day can help children process worries before sleep. Adults need good sleep too! Looking after your own wellbeing helps you support your children.

Need Support?

- The Sleep Charity
- https://www.nhs.uk

Reception



This week, Reception children have thoroughly enjoyed sharing the story *The Leaf Thief* by Alice Hemming. Through the adventures of Squirrel and Bird, we have been exploring the signs of autumn and discussing why leaves change colour and fall from the trees. The children have enjoyed observing the beautiful reds, oranges, yellows and browns appearing around our school grounds, comparing leaves, talking about seasonal changes and noticing how the weather is becoming cooler. We have also been developing our observation skills by discussing what happens to plants, animals and the environment as we move from summer into autumn. The children's curiosity and enthusiasm for the natural world has led to some wonderful conversations, fantastic vocabulary development and opportunities for scientific thinking.

Autumn Hunt Challenge

Why not enjoy an autumn walk together and see how many of these seasonal treasures you can spot?

A red leaf	A yellow leaf	A brown leaf	An acorn	A conker
A pine cone	A spider's web	Mushrooms or toadstools	Birds collecting food	A tree with very few leaves left

If you find any of these (or anything else you find interesting) on your autumn adventures, we would love to see them! Please feel free to send photographs in via your usual communication platform so that we can share and discuss your discoveries in class. Happy hunting!

Dates for your diary

Autumn 2026

Odd Socks Day – wear odd socks to school	16.11.26
Open Evening for Prospective EYFS 5pm	17.11.26
Coffee Morning 8:30am-9:30am	24.11.26
Year 3 Gurdwara Visit	23.11.26
Friends event: Christmas Film Night	30.11.26
Book Fair -open after school	30.11 – 2.12.26
Year 5 Christmas Event 2pm	1.12.26
Open Morning for Prospective EYFS 10am	2.12.26
Year 4 Christmas Event 2pm	2.12.26
Year 3 Christmas Event 2pm	3.12.26
EYFS Stay and Play (RWT) 2:15pm	4.12.26
EYFS Nativity 9:30am	8.12.26
Year 6 Christmas Event 2pm	8.12.26
KS1 Christmas Performance 2pm	9.12.26
KS1 Christmas Performance 9:15am	10.12.26
EYFS Stay and Play (RGT) 2:15pm	11.12.26
Rainbow Room Stay and Play 2pm	11.12.26
Christmas Dinner/ Wear a Christmas Jumper	16.12.26
Meadow Stay and Play/ Christmas Crafts 2:15pm	17.12.26
Woodland Stay and Play/ Christmas Crafts 2:15pm	17.12.26
Friends event: Festive YES Day	18.12.26
End of Autumn Term	18.12.26
Spring Term Begins	5.1.27



Ready
Respectful
Safe

BE YOUR BEST