DOTHILL NEWS

20th 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!

The theme of our assembly today was **kindness**, and we couldn't be prouder of the children who were nominated by their teachers.



We heard about children who are consistently kind and hardworking, a joy to teach, and wonderful role models for others. Pupils were recognised for looking after their classmates, greeting visitors politely, showing compassion and kindness, and supporting others when they are finding things difficult. We celebrated children who never give up, stand up for what is right, lead positively on the playground, and contribute as supportive members of their team. One pupil was praised for their thoughtful reflection, another for being an exemplary friend, and several were recognised for showing care and kindness every day, including supporting a teacher who was not feeling their best.



We also had an out-of-school achievement to celebrate, with one pupil sharing their success in **Judo**, which was fantastic to hear.

The **Dazzling Dotties Trophy** was shared between our **EYFS class**, who were outstanding during Thursday's fire drill, and **Miss Dhariwal's class**, who have made her extremely proud this week through the way they care for and support one another.



Finally, **Mrs Harvey** announced the winners of our **Key Stage 2 Anti-Bullying Poster Competition**. The winning posters, pictured below, were selected from a remarkable range of entries. The standard was exceptionally high, making the judging process incredibly difficult. Congratulations to all who took part and helped promote such an important message across our school.









Well done to all our award winners and thank you for continuing to make Dothill such a kind, caring and supportive community.

News and Highlights this Week

Friendship Enrichment Week

This week, children across the school have taken part in our Friendship Enrichment Week, focusing on the themes of **Kind Minds, Kind Words and Kind Actions**.

We launched the week on Monday with our **Odd Socks Day**, celebrating individuality and reminding everyone that our differences make us unique. During a special assembly, we explored the importance of friendship, what makes a good friend, and how our actions can help others feel valued and included.

Throughout the week, pupils have taken part in a range of activities linked to friendship, kindness and anti-bullying. In **Key Stage 1**, children discussed the difference between **bullying and unkind behaviour**, helping them to understand how to recognise and respond to different situations. In **Key Stage 2**, pupils focused on the importance of **not being a bystander**, learning how to speak up, seek help and support others when they witness unkind behaviour.

As part of the week, Key stage 2 children were invited to enter a poster competition linked to our friendship themes. We were incredibly impressed by the creativity and positive messages shared. A winning design was selected from each Key Stage 2 class, with winners receiving a special certificate and a card game to enjoy with family and friends.

We are extremely proud of the thoughtful discussions, kindness and maturity shown by our pupils throughout the week. Together, we continue to build a school community where everyone feels safe, respected and valued. 💙

Coffee Morning with PODS

We would like to invite parents and carers to join us for our next **Coffee Morning on Tuesday 24th November from 8:30am to 9:30am in the Small Hall**.

We are delighted to be welcoming **PODS (Parents Opening Doors)**, a local parent support group that provides information, advice and support for families. This is a great opportunity to meet other parents, share experiences and find out about the support available within our local community.

Miss Brotherton will also be available for an informal chat. Whether you have a question, would like some advice, or simply fancy a friendly conversation, we would love to see you there.

Come along and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee in a relaxed and welcoming environment. Everyone is welcome!

Fire Drill Safety

We carried out a whole-school fire drill this week. All pupils and staff evacuated safely and speedily in just over three minutes 😊 We were particularly proud of the children, who followed instructions calmly and sensibly throughout, demonstrating excellent awareness of our safety procedures.

Their excellent behaviour, alongside staff's effective implementation of procedures, ensured a smooth and successful drill.

School Choir at Wellington Christmas Lights Switch On

Our wonderful school choir have been invited to sing at the Wellington Christmas Lights switch on: Saturday 28th November. We are scheduled to be singing between 2.45pm to 3.15pm. Children who can attend need to meet Mrs Maltby at 2.30pm in the Market Square. Children must be supervised at this event by parents/carers. If you have any questions, please speak to Mrs Maltby. More details about this event are at the bottom of this newsletter. We hope to see many of you there either as choir, or to enjoy the singing!

Growing Together at Gardening Club!





Our Friday lunchtime **Gardening Club**, led by Mrs Longland, has been flourishing this term! The children have shown incredible enthusiasm and dedication as they care for the plants in our raised beds and work together to transform the Quad area in Key Stage 1. They have demonstrated our school values brilliantly through teamwork, responsibility, perseverance and pride in their environment.



We are so proud of the positive difference the children are making to our outdoor spaces, and we have lots of exciting ideas for the future. To help our project continue to grow, we would love to hear from any **green-fingered parents, grandparents or family members** who might be willing to share some time, knowledge or expertise with us. Whether you are an experienced gardener or simply enjoy being outdoors, your support would be greatly appreciated. Together, we can create beautiful, engaging spaces for our children to learn, explore and enjoy for years to come!

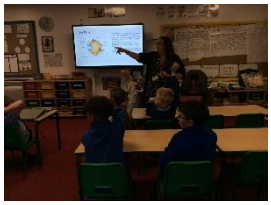
School Fund Accounts

We are pleased to confirm that the annual audit of the school fund accounts has now been completed and approved by governors. In line with our statutory requirements, the audited accounts and audit certificate will be submitted to Telford & Wrekin Council and published on the school website this week for public access. Here is the link to the information: Finance | Dothill Primary School

Workshop for Year Three Children

Year 3 were pleased to welcome Emma Jeffries from Telford & Wrekin Council to school as part of our Friendship Week activities. Emma taught the children about visual impairment and how it can affect everyday life.

Through a range of practical activities, the children developed their understanding and empathy by experiencing some of the challenges that people with visual impairments may face. This was a valuable learning experience that linked perfectly with Dothill's Friendship Week focus on kindness, inclusion and understanding others.









Keeping Everyone Safe Around School

We would like to remind all parents and carers to park considerately when dropping off and collecting children. Please avoid parking on pavements, blocking footpaths or driveways, or stopping in a way that forces pedestrians, pushchairs or wheelchair users into the road. We have also received reports of vehicles being driven along pedestrian pathways, which presents a significant safety risk to children and families. Please help us keep everyone safe by parking responsibly and showing consideration for others.

We would also appreciate your support in reminding children that bicycles, scooters and similar wheeled items must not be ridden on the school grounds. Children should dismount before entering

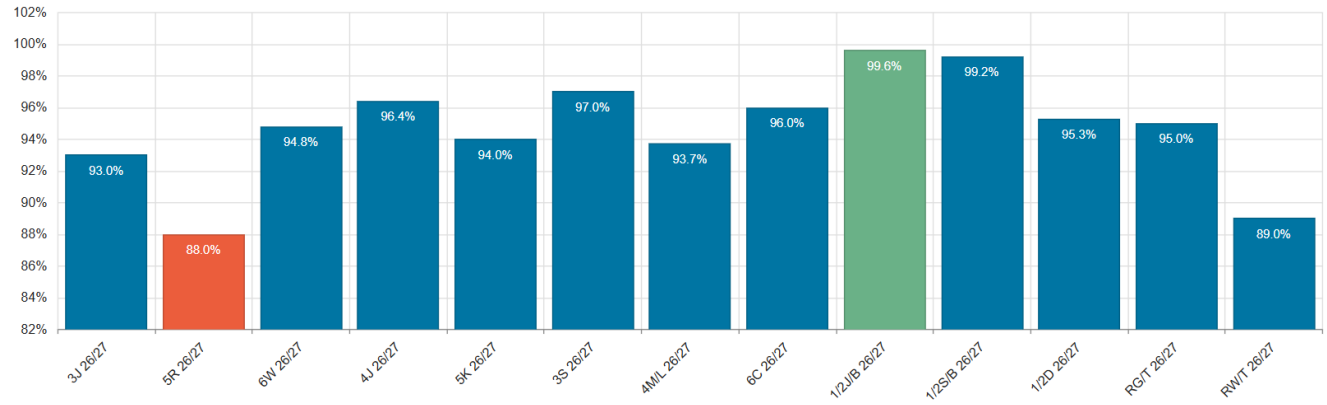
the site and walk their bike or scooter until they have left the school premises. This includes pathways leading into school, where pedestrian traffic is particularly busy.

By working together and modelling safe, respectful behaviour, we can help ensure that all members of our school community arrive and leave school safely each day. Thank you to the many families who help keep our school community safe at the start and end of the day and for your continued support.

I wish you all a wonderful weekend! 😊

Attendance

A huge well done to all of our children and families for their commitment to attendance this week. We are delighted to celebrate the fantastic attendance achieved across many of our classes, with **1/2 JB leading the way with an outstanding 99.6% attendance**, closely followed by **1/2 SB with 99.2%**. Several other classes also achieved attendance above 95%, demonstrating a strong commitment to making the most of every learning opportunity. Regular attendance is vital for children's progress, confidence and wellbeing, and we thank parents and carers for their continued support in helping children arrive at school every day, on time and ready to learn. Let's keep working together to make every day count!



Reporting Your Child's Absence

To help us keep all children safe and maintain accurate attendance records, parents and carers **must contact the school on every day of their child's absence** and provide a reason for the absence. This is in line with our school attendance policy.

If we do not receive a phone call explaining your child's absence, the absence will be recorded as **unauthorised**. Under current attendance regulations, each school day consists of two registration sessions (morning and afternoon). Therefore, one day of unexplained absence will result in **two unauthorised absence marks**. Parents should be aware that where a child accumulates **10 unauthorised absence marks within a 10-school-week period**, the Local Authority may consider issuing a **Penalty Notice** in line with national attendance guidance.

The current penalty notice amounts are:

- **First offence:** £160 per parent, per child, reduced to **£80 if paid within 21 days**.
- **Second offence (within 3 years):** £160 per parent, per child, with **no reduced rate**.
- **Third offence (within 3 years):** A penalty notice cannot normally be issued, and the Local Authority may consider prosecution instead

Thank you for your support in ensuring absences are reported promptly and attendance remains a priority for every child.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

🍁 **Autumn 11: Staying Active for Wellbeing**



Move for Your Mood

Physical activity is one of the best ways to support emotional wellbeing.
Being active can:
🤸 Improve mood 🤸 Reduce stress 🤸 Increase concentration 🤸 Boost confidence

Activities do not need to be organised sports. Children can benefit from:

• Walking • Dancing • Scooting • Playing games outdoors • Family activities
Moving our bodies helps our minds feel healthier too.

Reception

This week, Reception has been taking part in Friendship Week through our work on *The Rainbow Fish*. The story has helped us talk about friendship, kindness, sharing, and the importance of making everyone feel valued and included. Through stories, discussions and play-based activities, the children have explored what it means to be a good friend and how their words and actions can affect others.

At Reception age, children are still learning important social skills such as taking turns, sharing, solving disagreements and understanding other people's feelings. During Anti-Bullying Week, we focus on helping children develop these skills and build positive relationships. We encourage children to use kind words, listen to others, include everyone in their play, and seek help from a trusted adult if something is worrying them.

You can support this learning at home by talking about friendships with your child. Encourage them to think about what makes a good friend, how they can show kindness to others, and how they might help someone who is feeling left out. Reading stories together, modelling respectful behaviour, and praising acts of kindness can all help children develop empathy and confidence in their social interactions.

By working together, we can help our children build the foundations for positive relationships, resilience and respect for others. We are incredibly proud of the thoughtful conversations and caring behaviour we have seen throughout the week as the children continue to learn how to be kind, supportive and inclusive members of our school community.

EYFS Stay and Play. Please also see the flyer for information about EYFS Stay and Play Sessions in December.

SEND

🤖 **Festive Gardens SEN Night** 🎄

Looking for a calmer festive experience? The Festive Gardens SEN Night at Chelsea & Maxwell Gardens, Telford Town Park, offers a relaxed, SEND-friendly evening with reduced noise, fewer lights, limited visitor numbers and a quiet space available. Families can enjoy festive light displays, storytelling, Lego activities, animal encounters and a visit from Santa. No proof of disability is required.

Dates: 17 – 21 December | **Tickets:** Adults £2.50, Children £1.50, Group of 5 £8.00.

🎁 Find out more and book via Tickets Telford: [Festive Gardens SEN Night - Tickets Telford]

Happy Healthy Active Holidays

The **Christmas Happy Healthy Active Holidays** programme is coming soon, packed with exciting activities, festive fun and magical experiences for children and families.

Bookings open today: 20 November 2026 Find out more here: Happy Healthy Active Holidays

PODS Christmas Events

Christmas at PODS - This year, as in previous years PODS are delighted to be bringing you 2 events to choose from, please book onto the most appropriate event for your family. Booking is open now. Please only book onto one event.

Christmas Party - Sunday 6th December 2026 12.30pm-2pm or 3pm-4.30pm, Sinclair Sports and Social Club, Ketley, Telford TF1 5AD.

A lively Christmas Party with a disco, flashing lights, finger buffet and a visit to Santa's Grotto. £5 per attendee, (everyone MUST have a ticket), children's tickets include a gift.

To book, please click on the links below:

PODS Christmas Party at Sinclair Sports and Social Club event tickets from TicketSource – 12:30 – 2:30

PODS Christmas Party at Sinclair Sports and Social Club event tickets from TicketSource – 3:00 – 4:30

Dates for your diary

Autumn 2026

PODS 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



Ready
Respectful
Safe

BE YOUR BEST

Friends event: Festive YES Day	18.12.26
End of Autumn Term	18.12.26
Spring Term Begins	5.1.27

Other Notices



WELLINGTON CHRISTMAS LIGHT SWITCH ON EVENT

SATURDAY 28 NOVEMBER

MARKET STREET CLOSED FROM 9AM : EVENT STARTS AT MIDDAY

WELLINGTON MARKET SQUARE

12.00 NOON FESTIVE MUSIC AND MASCOTS
12.00 NOON- 3.00PM SNOW GLOBE
12.45PM - 1.15PM ERCALL WOOD ACADEMY
1.15PM - 1.45PM TADLOP
1.45PM - 2.15PM ST PATRICKS PRIMARY SCHOOL
2.00PM-4.00PM LED ANGELS AND STILT WALKER
2.15PM - 2.45PM TELFORDAIRES
2.45PM - 3.15PM DOTHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL
3.15PM - 3.45PM WELLINGTON (TELFORD) BRASS BAND
3.45PM - 4.15PM WREKIN VIEW PRIMARY SCHOOL
4.15PM - 4.45PM TELFORD MUSIC SCHOOL
4.30PM - 5.30PM LED ANGELS
4.45PM WELLINGTON (TELFORD) BRASS BAND
5.00PM MAYOR OFFICIALLY TURNS ON THE LIGHTS

WELLINGTON LIBRARY AND [illegible]

11.00AM TILL 12 NOON
FESTIVE CRAFT WORKSHOP

ODEON

FESTIVE SATURDAYS SCREENING
EACH WEEK FROM 28TH NOVEMBER
FESTIVE TREAT WITH EACH BOOKING

[illegible]

WIN THE OPPORTUNITY TO SWITCH ON
THE LIGHTS WITH THE MAYOR OF WELLINGTON
KEEP A LOOK OUT FOR FURTHER DETAILS

ST JAMES [illegible]

1.00PM - 3.00PM SANTA IN HIS GROTTO
12.30PM-3.30PM FACEPAINTING
FREE CANDYFLOSS

ALL SAINTS CHURCH

12.30PM - 1.00PM COMMUNITY MUSICAL
1.15PM - 1.45PM PUPPET SHOW
2.00PM - 2.30PM & 2.45PM - 3.15PM
FESTIVE SCIENCE SHOW WITH
ELEMENTORY ENTERTAINMENT
3.30PM - 4.00PM BELFRY THEATRE

Dothill
Primary School
Learning Together
for a Brighter Tomorrow

Support
Connect
Belong

SEND Coffee Morning

A relaxed and friendly opportunity
to chat, ask questions and find out more.

Tuesday
24th November

8:30am – 9:30am

Small Hall
Dothill Primary School

All welcome!



Join Miss Brotherton (SENDCo) and volunteers from PODS Telford for an informal coffee morning.

Share experiences

Get information

Meet others

Find support

PODS
Telford
Parents Opening Doors to Support

Together for every child

Inclusive | Supportive | Stronger Together