

Dear DMS families,

On Monday Year 6 pupils went to WOEC for an action-packed day of outdoor activities. Tuesday saw our Year 8s pose for their year group and class photographs which I'm sure they will treasure, remembering their time at DMS. On Wednesday some Year 8 pupils had another enhanced transition session to prepare for their move to THS in September and I took a group of Year 7 pupils to a careers event at the Dorset Museum (more about that later). On Thursday a group of students from our PD Base went to the Sailing Academy and took part in various sailing related activities – sadly it was too windy to get out on the water. On Friday the Year 6 pupils who are working towards their Civic Award (a stepping stone to the Duke of Edinburgh Award) set off for an overnight camp. 30 pupils from Years 7 & 8 represented the school at a Wessex Collaborative Art Event at THS.

Don't forget you can still get involved in more fun and games by joining us tomorrow at the DMS Summer Fete between 12 and 3pm. We really hope to see everyone there.

Mrs Hammonds

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Important dates for your diary

28th June	Summer Fete – Free entry – 12 to 3pm, lovely family day out, lots on offer!!
8th July	'Aladdin' the musical performance at the Corn Exchange – 7pm (doors open at 6.30pm)
9th July	'Aladdin' performance at the Corn Exchange - 7pm (doors open at 6.30pm)
11th July	SEND Coffee morning for parents/carers - 9.15 to 10.15am
11th July	PTFA Disco – Years 4 & 5: 5.00pm to 6.00pm – Years 6, 7 & 8: 6.30pm to 7.30pm
14th July	End of term assembly Y5 – THS – 2pm to 3pm – parents/carers welcome
15th July	End of term assembly Y6 – THS – 2pm to 3pm – parents/carers welcome
17th July	End of term assembly Y7 – THS – 2pm to 3pm – parents/carers welcome
17th July	Leavers assembly Y8 – THS – 7pm to 8.30pm, doors open at 6.30pm

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Careers Update

At Dorchester Middle School we aim to encourage and inspire our pupils to think about their future selves and to consider career options, exploring different routes and possibilities. We work towards fulfilling the Gatsby Benchmarks which are standards set out to measure our careers provision. As part of this work, 13 Year 7 pupils went with Mrs Hammonds and Mrs Clements to the Dorset Museum on Wednesday to find out about different roles within the organisation and to have a go at planning their own exhibition in the Victorian Hall. From September we hope to be able to organise many more events like this and will be looking for local businesses who would be able to offer an 'experience of the workplace' to a group of pupils. Please get in touch if you think you can help.

On Thursday, Joanne Small from the Dorset and Somerset Training Provider Network talked to Year 8 about apprenticeships.

<https://skillsengland.education.gov.uk/apprenticeships>

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Parent Question of the Week

How can we as families continue to support the fundraising for the school?

1. As you may be already aware, you can now collect blue chips when you do your shopping at the local Tesco. Please make sure to get your chips every time you shop and place them in the DMS slot. This scheme will help us raise needed funds to upgrade our music department!! **The voting will commence in store from the first week in July 2025 until the end of September 2025.**

2. We have also been invited by the Dorset Echo to participate in their exciting token collection competition. The prizes are: 1st Prize: £1,000 Amazon Voucher, 2nd Prize: £500 Amazon Voucher. **Raffle Prizes:** All participating schools will receive a runner up prize to use as a raffle prize in future school events or fundraising. **How to Win:** The school that collects the most tokens per pupil will be the winner. **Closing Date:** All tokens must be returned to schools no later than Friday 11th July 2025. We will have a box in Reception to collect them, bring as many as you can!!

Pupil Question of the Week

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What will happen to the work we created as part of the Jane Austen project?

We have heard from the team at the Dorset Museum this week, about the plans they have for your work. Your Jane Austen - Sea inspired project will be going up in the Community Space at the Dorset Museum & Art Gallery next week.

They hope to have the exhibition open by Thursday 3rd July and it will run until 14th September alongside the 'Jane Austen: Down to the Sea exhibition'.

Why don't you take your family and friends along to enjoy your work?

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IMPORTANT REMINDER

PTFA Summer Fete, Raffle and Show Competition

Don't forget this Saturday 28th June is our Summer Fete!!!! The weather is going to be amazing, so come and join us for a lovely day out with your families, there are activities for everyone!! We'll have a bar, BBQ, music, games and the massive raffle. Do join us from 12 until 3pm, and if you want to get involved in any way or can help with anything, please contact the PTFA at: ptfa.dms@gmail.com.

The deadline to return the raffle stubs and monies was yesterday, so if you still have some, please do bring them to the Fete tomorrow.

We'll also have the Show Competition at the Fete!! The theme is the 'Seaside'; remember that all the entries need to be in the school by 11am on the day (in the Textiles room). Payment can be made by cash or card.



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PTFA/DMS Sponsored Community Challenge for pupils



You may have seen our Facebook page already; were you as impressed as we were about the incredible sum raised at our Sponsored Sports Community Challenge?? We raised the huge amount of **£4,129.64!!!!**
 We all did it!! How amazing is to achieve this as a school community, pupils, staff, families and friends of DMS. Thank you!!!

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Reading Volunteers Needed! from September 2025

Do you love books and have a little time to spare, or know someone who does?

We're looking for volunteers to hear pupils read in the new academic year. We already have a lovely group of enthusiastic reading volunteers and would love to welcome a few more!

Just an hour a week can make a big difference to a child's confidence and enjoyment of reading.

No experience needed — just enthusiasm and a friendly face 😊

If you're interested, or know someone who might be, please contact me (Mrs James) at: ejames@dms.wessex.ac

Thank you very much in advance!!

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Celebrating our amazing pupils

Our very own Madison in Year 6 has obtained nothing less than a **Black Belt** in TaeKwon-Do!!

Huge congratulations to Maddie for this amazing achievement at such young age. You are an incredible role model Maddie, all your practice and hard work really paid off.

We are all very proud of you!!!



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More pupils to celebrate!

A HUGE congratulations to Daniel, in Year 7, who has been accepted into the National Open Youth Orchestra as a drummer starting in September. This is incredibly hard to get into - competing nationally with many other players!!

Well done Daniel! We at DMS are so proud of you and cheer you on!!



What is happening in our Community

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Non-Uniform Day – in exchange for tombola prizes

Our PTFA and us would like to thank everyone for all the fantastic tombola donations!! So many were received that there will be enough for 3 tombola stalls at the Summer Fete!!



Year 6 WOEC trip

Our Y6s had the most fantastic day on the second and last WOEC trip, it was quite an adventure including a delayed train on the way back. The weather was perfect! Here are some of the highlights of the day.



Year 5 pupils – 1st Schools Assemblies

For the last 2 weeks we have the best ambassadors of our school on a 'Road Show', meeting the new pupils coming in September 2025 to our Y5 classes.

Mr Webb, Mrs Ray and some of our Y5 pupils visited Damers, Winterbourne Valley, Cerne Abbas and Prince of Wales first schools to tell them all about DMS.



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And finally...

Come and join us for some summer fun at the Fete tomorrow – the weather looks good and the programme of events and stalls looking fantastic! I hope to see you there!

Have a great weekend,

Mrs Hammonds