

Dear DMS Families,

Another busy week has flown by! The sunshine has made a welcome appearance and pupils have enjoyed spending time out on the field this week - running around, cartwheeling and making the most of the space.

While pupils have been enjoying the outdoors, something special has also been taking shape on the outside of the technology building. Artist Mirek Lucan has begun creating a mural for our Friendship Area. Each day, pupils have been watching as plain brickwork is slowly transformed into a beautiful piece of artwork. Below is a preview of the design - next week we will reveal how it looks on the side of our building!

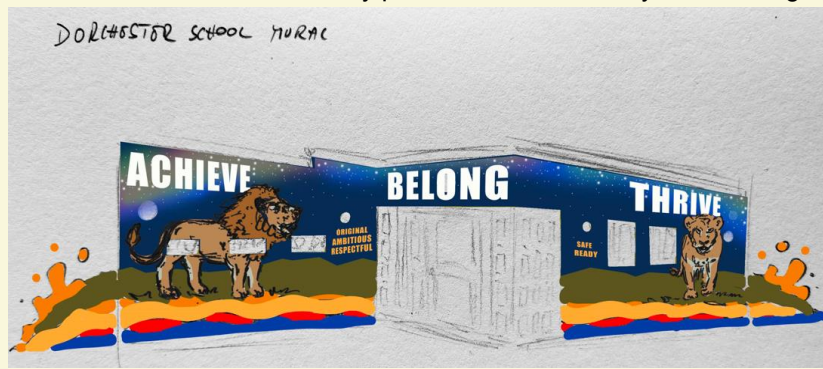
The mural features three powerful words: **Belong, Achieve and Thrive** - values we hope and strive for all our children to experience during their time at DMS. Using these three words, here is a snapshot of what we have been up to this week.

Belong: This week saw the restart of our clubs, including some fantastic new additions. There are lots of musical clubs (which many pupils are thoroughly enjoying), alongside the start of our summer sports clubs, prop-making, science club, and many more. We strongly encourage pupils to get involved, as clubs are a wonderful way to make new friends and develop a sense of belonging across the school.

Achieve: As our Year 6 pupils approach their SATs, the MSHT team have been supporting them in school, helping pupils stay calm, quietly confident, and relaxed. Our focus has been on reducing worry and stress, making sure pupils feel supported as they work towards achieving their absolute best. We are incredibly proud of how hard they are working and the positive attitude they are showing.

Thrive: As you know, it is trip season! We always look for opportunities to take learning beyond the classroom. This week included the Geography river trip (see the photos below!), with upcoming visits planned to see the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and a trip to Bletchley Park to study code-breaking for our Computing Club pupils.

Mrs King



2

Important dates for your diary

24th April	Support Hub and Food Bank – Community First at DMS – 3:15 to 4:30pm
24th April	PTFA Quiz Night – DMS Hall - 6pm for a 6:30pm start
1st May	Inset Day – School closed to pupils
30th April	Drama Club's Trip to Southampton - Mayflower – Matilda the musical
6th May	Y8 Residential trip to Torquay
11th – 14th May	Y6 SATs
15th May	PTFA end of SATs Disco
20th May	Y7 Residential trip to Exmoor

3

Reading News
Reading Ambassadors Announcement

We're excited to share that our new Reading Ambassadors will be announced next week!

We had over 60 applications, so it has taken us a little while to read through them all carefully. We have been really impressed by pupils' effort, enthusiasm, and brilliant ideas for encouraging a love of reading across DMS.

A massive thank you to everyone who applied - you should feel proud of your application. If you are not selected this time, don't worry, there will be lots of other chances to get involved and help promote reading around the school.

We can't wait to introduce you to our new Reading Ambassadors!!

Are there any volunteering Opportunities in School?

We are always grateful for the support of our volunteers and greatly appreciate the time and commitment they give to our school community. At present, we are looking for additional help in the following areas:

- Volunteer readers
- Design and Technology support
- Food Technology support

If you are interested and have any availability, please share this with Mrs Araya.

Parents and carers who would like to volunteer in Reading, Design & Technology, or Food Technology are warmly encouraged to get in touch. Do contact Mrs Araya at:

aaraya@dms.wessex.ac

Pupil Questions of the Week

When is our next interhouse competition?

Funny you should ask that!

Next week we kick off with our interhouse netball tournaments, and we'll see if the winners for this round will be Malala, Le Bron, Attenborough or Simmons!

It's all to play for! The matches will take place in tutor times and the finals played out by the end of the week.

Mr Palmer and Miss Clements will be running these and will look forward to watching you all compete and announcing the winners!

Good luck!!



Careers News

We have attached some very useful information about Careers, shared with us by Dorset Careers Hub.

Whilst the information is intended for pupils, it might also help parents in terms of supporting their children by discussing career options.

Jan - Mar 2026

Labour Market INFORMATION

- Average yearly pay for full-time jobs (2025)**
 - Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole area: £37,500
 - Dorset area: £37,500
 - England (overall): £39,300
- Jobs in the area**
 - About 357,000 people have a job
 - That's 79.2% of people who are old enough to work
- People without jobs in the area**
 - About 14,300 people don't have a job - that's 4 out of every 100 people who are old enough to work
 - A further 79,700 people aren't working and aren't looking for a job - that's about 17 out of every 100 people
- Population changes over 10 years**
 - Overall population: up by 5.3% (England: up by 7.8%)
 - Ages 16-24: down by 1.5% (England: up by 1.2%)
 - Ages 65 and over: up by 14% (England: up by 15.5%)
- Types of jobs**
 - 14 out of every 100 people work for themselves (self-employed)
 - 86 out of every 100 people work for someone else (employees)
- Biggest job areas in Dorset (2024)**
 - Health and Social Care: 55,000 jobs
 - Shops and Retail: 49,000 jobs
 - Hospitality (hotels, restaurants): 38,000 jobs
 - Manufacturing (making things): 28,000 jobs
 - Education (schools, colleges): 27,000 jobs
- What Dorset is good at (compared to the UK)**
 - Maritime (things related to the sea)
 - Metalworking technology
 - Visitor economy (tourism)
 - Building services
 - Precision technology

Dorset Data

- Jobs that need higher skills**
 - Programmers and software developers: 2,300 jobs
 - Teachers: 2,500 jobs
 - Nurses: 4,300 jobs
 - Bookkeepers / Finance: 2,100 jobs
- Job adverts**
 - 86,000 jobs advertised in the last year
 - 7,200 jobs advertised last month
 - Peak was 11,500 jobs in 2022
 - 84,000 previous year
 - About 7,000 employers advertised jobs, including NHS, JPMorgan Chase, BAE Systems, Bournemouth and Poole College, Barchester Healthcare, Agincare Group, Compass
- Top skills employers want**
 - Auditing
 - Communication
 - Customer Service
 - Continuous Improvement Process
 - Personal Care
 - Detail Oriented
- Most wanted jobs in the last year**
 - Care workers and home carers: 10,700 jobs
 - Sales: 5,400 jobs
 - Cleaners: 4,900 jobs
 - Teaching assistants: 3,900 jobs

Sources: ONS (Nomis) and Lightcast.

Your career starts here. Find out more:
Talk to your teacher, tutor, careers adviser, parent or carer, or scan:

- Dorset Careers Hub
- National Careers Service
- DSTPN 'Your future. SORTED!' directory

Dorset CAREERS HUB | THE CAREERS & ENTERPRISE COMPANY

DMS PTFA Presents

FAMILY FUN QUIZ NIGHT

Join us for an evening of fun with a family quiz, raffle, bar and refreshments!

Friday 24 Apr 6pm for 6.30pm start

£3 per person

Pay on the door, cash and card payments accepted

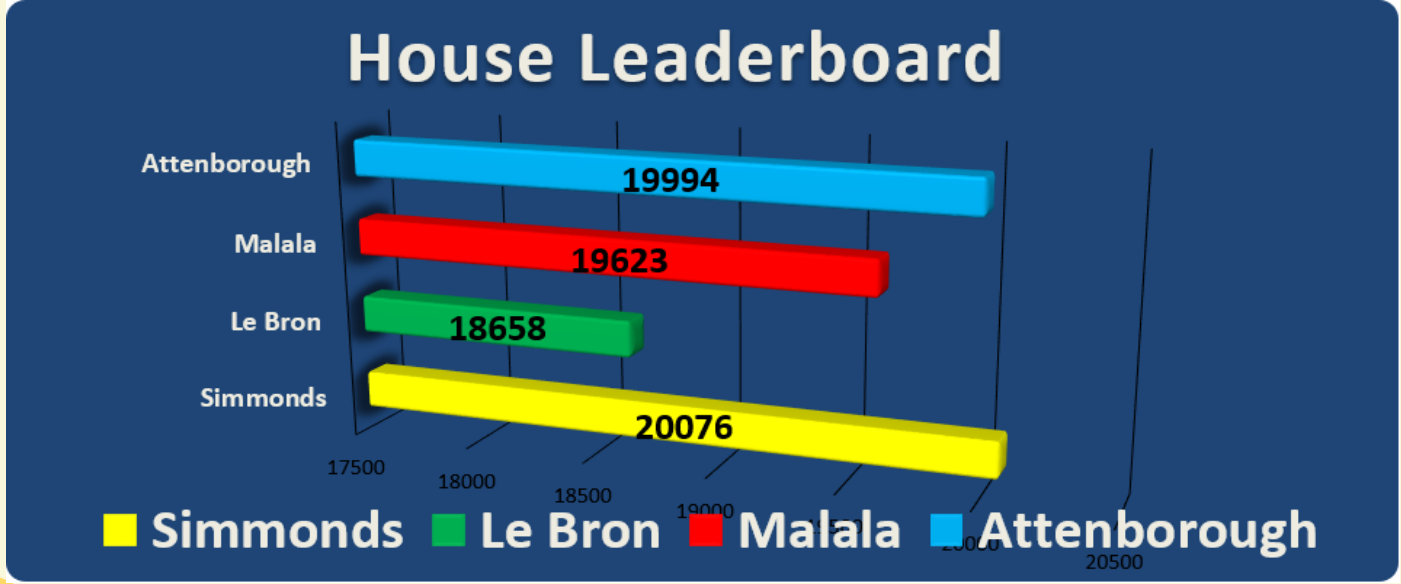
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PTFA News

The day has come! It is Quiz Night tonight!!!! Doors will open at 6pm for a 6:30pm start, only £3.00 per person; you can pay at the door, cash and card payments accepted. The winning team on the night will receive a fun-filled hamper packed with treats, games, and activities for everyone to enjoy. **We are also introducing an additional prize:** if a team made up of **children from the same class enters and wins, they will earn an Amazon voucher for their class!!** This can be used for books, games, or wet play activities—something the whole class can benefit from. We'd love your support in encouraging your children to get involved. It's always a fantastic evening and a great way to support our DMS community. If you want to contact the PTFA, because you have queries, or you would like to support them in any way, on this fantastic events, please email them at: ptfa.dms@gmail.com

DMS Houses Leaderboard

Up to the current week...



Celebrating our amazing pupils...

In June 2024, we sadly lost Archie M who was a much loved member of the DMS community. Archie was a shining light, who never let his illness get in his way, academically and socially. Archie is greatly missed by his friends and staff here at DMS.

Archie's family and friends have set up a charity in his honour: "Archie's Warriors". Along with them, we would like to invite the DMS community to the next big fundraising event "RED FOR ARCHIE". On Saturday 16th May 2026 at the Great Field, Poundbury, they are hosting a fun-run to celebrate Archie and all he encompassed. Registration from 12:30pm at PiPs Café, tickets are £6 a runner, with the first wave of runners starting at 2pm. Join us, take part and support this fantastic cause!!

Read Archie's Story @ www.archieswarriors.com

RED FOR ARCHIE
Colour Fun Run 2026
Saturday 16th May
The Great Field, Poundbury, Dorchester

Join the fun in memory of Archie!

RED FOR ARCHIE

Take part in our 3km colour run, around the Great Field, for a fabulous cause!

Registration starts 12:30 @ Pips Cafe
1st Wave of Runners commence at 2pm

Tickets £6 per runner

With thanks to our sponsors

Register now!

On Monday and Friday this week all our pupils in Year 8 have been involved in our geography and history field trips. Children have been down at the River Frome taking measurements of the river's outline, which gives them real data to investigate the journey of our local river and see how its profile changes from its source to its mouth. In addition, children have visited particular places in Dorchester with significant historical links to the curriculum. This has included Shire Hall Museum where they were able to gain a contemporary view of the court that tried the Tolpuddle Martyrs as well as investigate the plight of other prisoner from our local history. Furthermore, to strengthen their learning about World War One, the children have visited the sight of the German Prisoner of War Camp and the German War Memorial. The weather was perfect for some outdoor learning!!



What else has been happening in our Community?

11

Last week, our Year 5 children had the amazing visit of the Explorer Dome which was absolutely BRILLIANT! The children had the BEST time and learnt so much - the awe and wonder was incredible and a joy to watch. The pictures do not do the session justice. The timing is spot on as in Year 5 we are about to embark on our Earth and Space topic in Science. Not only that, our next text in English links in rather nicely too!!



In Year 6 we are learning about basic first aid this term. Our school's main First Aid responder, Miss Sales, shared the importance of putting a person in the recovery position, how we make them safe and what to do at every stage. We learnt so much!!



12 And finally...

As we head into a bright and sunny weekend, we hope you all get the chance to relax and enjoy the lovely weather. Please remember suncream and hats as the sunshine continues. Thank you for another great week, and we look forward to seeing everyone back at school next week.

Mrs King