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Dear DMS Families,

It may have been a short week but there has still been so much going on for our students this week.

Our Year 8s left school on Wednesday to go on their final residential with DMS. They headed off to Torquay and had a marvellous time enjoying a range of outdoor adventure activities. I hope you have all been able to see the photos that have been shared on our Facebook page. It has looked like a lot of fun!

We also had our Year 7 parents in school on Thursday for the information evening looking ahead to the Year 7 residential on the 20th May.

Summer term is always a busy one for transitions. Mrs Ray has been busy putting together the transition plan for those joining us next year and she and I will start visiting schools to get to know the new children. There is also the transition of our Year 8 to Year 9.

Over the next few weeks, I will be meeting with the Thomas Hardy School's team to make sure that they are aware of all the adaptations and support that is needed to be in place to help our students with SEND have a smooth transition to upper school.

Have a lovely weekend!

*Ms Layfield*

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### Important dates for your diary

11th – 14th May	Y6 SATs
15th May	PTFA end of SATs Disco
20th – 22nd May	Y7 Residential trip to Exmoor
25th – 29th May	Half Term Break – School closed to pupils
3rd June	Y7 Lulworth Trip
6th June	Community Open Morning – 10am to 12pm - (future Y5 pupils)

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### Introducing this week...

Miss Cutler has recently joined us as the new Supervisory TA, phonics and reading. Miss Cutler is enjoying being back at DMS, after attending here as a student 25 years ago!! She previously worked at Manor Park First School and has lots of experience.

During the winter months she is involved with her son's rugby club and spends most weekends getting wet and cold on the side lines during training and matches.

Having grown up in Dorchester, she loves the history of the area and taking in the beautiful countryside views, by walking with her family and dog, Finn.

When at home Miss Cutler likes to spend her time snuggled up on the sofa with a cup of tea and a blanket watching the latest series on Netflix. Welcome to DMS Miss Cutler!!



## What can I do to help prepare my child for their SATS?

It is important that your child is coming into school as relaxed as possible for their exams.

The most important things you can do at home is make sure that they have a good night's sleep and eat a good breakfast every morning. We will have SATs breakfast at school that you child is free to join. I have been promised that treats have been ordered! When they get home give them time to relax and do things that they enjoy. They have all worked so hard they are ready for the challenge.

## Pupil Questions of the Week

### What do I need to bring in with me for SATS?

You do not need anything special; it will be the same as when you have done your mocks. Remember your water bottles and have a pen and pencil with you. It does not matter if you forget though, as your teachers will have spare stationary that you can borrow if you need to.

The main thing is that you come into school on time and relaxed. You have all worked hard and do not need to worry about the SATs. Your homebase tutor will be with you in the morning to help you get ready and calm the nerves.

Good luck, we know you can do it!!

### PTFA News

Our fantastic PTFA continue to work behind the scenes on the next upcoming events. On Friday 15th May from 5 to 6pm, for Years 5 & 6 and from 6.30 to 7.30pm for Years 7 & 8, this is one of the children's favourite events!! Get your tickets for only £3.00. Tuck shop with drinks and snacks available on the night.

Please bring cash!!

**The DMS Community Challenge**  
**Tuesday 9 June**  
 in school time

Run, walk or jog 200 metre lengths of the field

Fundraise sponsorship for the PTFA

Collect a token for every length completed

House points will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th

Scan QR code to donate

**DMS PTFA DISCO**  
**Friday 15 May**

Yr 5 & 6 – 5pm – 6pm  
 Yr 7 & 8 – 6.30pm – 7.30pm

**Tickets £3**

Scan QR code to buy, or use link  
<https://pay.sumup.com/b2e/Q4KRYBDV>

Enter child's name and class in full name box

**Tuck shop with drinks and snacks on the night – please bring cash**

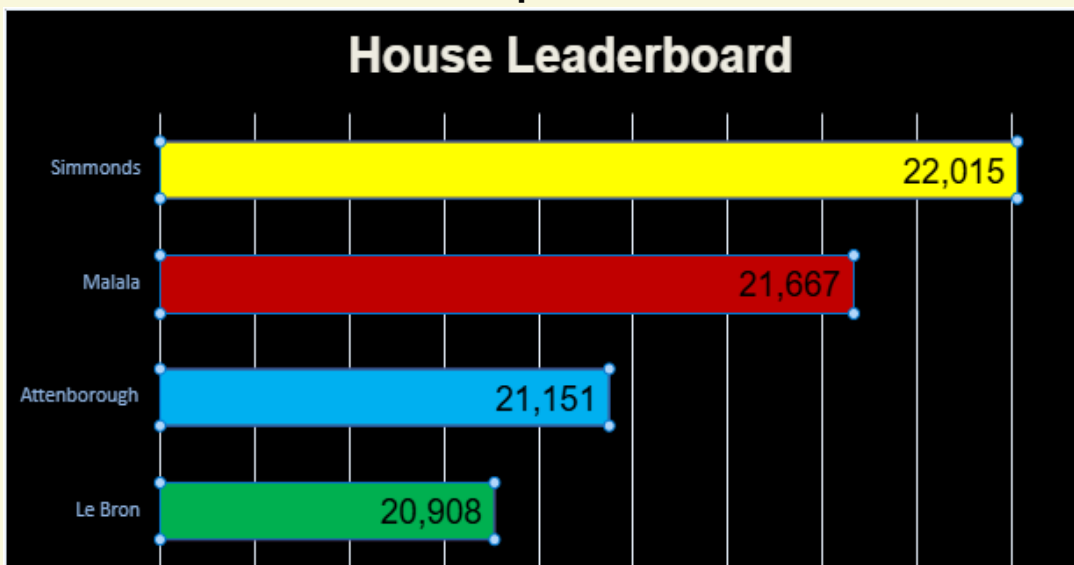
On the 9th June and for the second year, we will have the DMS Community Challenge!! Pupils are invited to run, walk or jog 200 metre lengths of the school field (during school hours). They will collect a token for every length completed and house points will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th places!! Detailed information has been sent home by email to all our families.

Today we celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of the legend that is Sir David Attenborough! In honor of his centenary, the members of our Eco Club have created a beautiful banner with their well wishes to him - a man whose broadcasting career began in the 1950s and is still ongoing! He has had an extraordinary journey through decades of exploration and discovery in the natural world. We even have a schoolhouse named after him!! We want to thank David Attenborough for his decades of service to the advocacy of 'Our Planet', a cause that runs deep to the core of the Eco Club's ambitions. **Happy Birthday, Sir David!!**



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## DMS Houses – Updated Leaderboard



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## Celebrating our amazing pupils...

We love it when our DMS pupils go the extra mile!! The lovely Rebekah in Year 6, has ALWAYS wanted to donate her hair to the children's charity 'Little Princesses trust'. She will be Cutting 19 inches of her hair on the 6th June!! It costs around £700 to make just one wig, so she is also running 5km for the first time, to raise more money and make this possible. Please do support her by donating on her JustGiving page (detailed information is attached). We are so proud of you Rebekah!!!



Our very own Sebby in Year 8 has been signed by Exeter football academy after a successful 8 week trial!!!. Bournemouth FC were also time, but he chose to try out with Exeter after hearing a lot of positive reports. Sebby is very happy about this achievement but knows that the hard work starts now!

This is a remarkable achievement, and we are so very proud of Sebby!!

Our pupils from the Performance Arts Club, had the chance to go to the Mayflower theatre in Southampton last week, and watched 'Matilda' live!!

All of them will be performing at the DMS production of 'Matilda' on 29th – 30th June and 1st July.

This show really inspired them as they rehearse week by week. We are looking forward to seeing their efforts. Thank you Mrs King for leading it all!!!!



## What else has been happening in our Community?

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- Have you seen how amazingly our school site is looking this Summer term? There have been so many improvements to the inside and the outside of the school. Our Forest School looks fantastic! Our children have worked so hard to keep it tidy and it is another special space for outdoor learning, and the finished mural in the playground is giving lots of colour to the pupils' breaks!!!

**CASTERBRIDGE CANTER**  
 CHARITY FUNDRAISER FOR  
 DORCHESTER MIDDLE SCHOOL PTFA  
 Wednesday 8th July at 7pm  
 10K & 5K trail race

Exciting new trail running event near Dorchester on private land - a unique opportunity to run around areas that are not open to the public. It promises to be an enjoyable evening with bar, BBQ and lots of cake! Find us on Facebook for more information.

5K - MINIMUM AGE 13 ♦♦♦ 10K - MINIMUM AGE 16  
 \*\*\* Discounted entry price for teenagers \*\*\*

CHIP TIMING ♦ FULLY OFF ROAD ♦ PRIVATE LAND ♦  
 BAR ♦ BBQ ♦ CAKE

ENTRIES NOW OPEN AT  
[www.casterbridgecanter.co.uk](http://www.casterbridgecanter.co.uk)  
 OR SCAN QR CODE



- On the 8th July from 7pm, Casterbridge Canter has organised a fundraiser to support the DMS PTFA. This is an exciting new trail running event near Dorchester on private land. This is a unique opportunity to run around areas that are not open to the public. It promises to be an enjoyable evening with bar, BBQ and lots of cake!!! Entries are now open at: [www.casterbridgecanter.co.uk](http://www.casterbridgecanter.co.uk)

- Help launch Dorchester's first ever Kite Festival by **designing a kite to represent our town** and create 'A Celebration of Dorchester'. Use your creativity and imagination to decorate the template. We have templates available in the workshops (if pupils would like one already printed). Designs will be judged by the Mayor of Dorchester. The winning design will be made into a real kite by an artist and flown by the Mayor to start and end the festival! The deadline for entries sent to the organisers (details on the PDF attached) is midday on **Friday 15th May**. Mrs Gowers will take entries from DMS on **Thursday 14th May** in the morning if children prefer to bring them to school.

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## And finally...

A couple of weeks ago Miss Easton and I joined other schools in the area to start our journey with My Time Young Carers to become Young Carer Champions. My Time is a fantastic charity we have worked with for a couple of years now, who support Young Carers across Dorset. We have children in school who are Young Carers and we want to make sure that we are giving them every opportunity whilst with us to achieve alongside their peers but also have the added help and support when they may need it. Over the next week, Miss Easton is going to be meeting with them to see what support they may like.

If you think that your child may be a Young Carer for someone in the family, please contact the school office so we can involve them in our work and make sure they get support and opportunities that come along.

*Ms Layfield*