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Dear DMS Families,

This half term is packed with activity, and it's been wonderful to see so many pupils getting involved in a wide range of fun events.

Some Year 8 students have begun their transition sessions with The Thomas Hardy School, helping them prepare for the next stage of their education. In addition, our KS3 pupils enjoyed a performance from the THS drama club this week, which was very well received.

Our community run was a fantastic success once again. It was lovely to see every pupil across the school taking part, with plenty of healthy competition between the houses! Most impressive of all was the incredible amount of money raised. Mr Palmer will share the final total once all donations are in, but in the meantime, thank you all so much for your generosity and support.

We are incredibly fortunate to have such a dedicated PTFA. This wonderful group of parents continues to make a real difference to life at DMS, helping to enrich so many of the learning experiences we offer our pupils.

This week, we waved goodbye to our Year 6 pupils as they set off for their residential at WOEC. Parents, be prepared - we expect some very tired children when they return after what will no doubt be an amazing experience!

Looking ahead, we are busy preparing for Sports Day next week, and the forecast is looking promising! Throwing events have already taken place, and excitement is building for one of the highlights of our school calendar. Parents are warmly invited to come along, watch the events, and enjoy a picnic with their child at lunchtime.

Another major highlight coming soon is our school production of 'Matilda'. Tickets are now available via the following link: <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/events/landing/115258>. You can also find the link on our Facebook page, and it has been sent out via email today – Snap your tickets up fast, they will sell quickly.

Finally, we will be sharing photos from today's non-uniform day on our Facebook page-do keep an eye out!

Mrs King

Important dates for your diary

10th to 12th June
12th June
 17th June
20th June
 29th, 30th June
 1st July
7th July
 10th July

Year 6 Residential trip – Weymouth
Non-Uniform Day – in exchange for prizes for the Summer Fete's tombola/raffle
Sports Day – more information to follow, after half term
Summer Fete
Matilda Performance – Bay Theatre, Weymouth - 7pm
Matilda Performance – Bay Theatre, Weymouth - 7pm
Transfer Day
Y5 trip to Monkey World

Reading News

DMS has received the Go All In Participation Award, the first of three from the National Year of Reading 2026, recognising the school's Spring Term work on "In the Room."

To earn the award, staff took part in training, explored research, completed activities and reflected on how reading is promoted across classrooms and subjects. This links to the school's whole school reading focus, helping to make reading a visible and valued part of everyday life at DMS.

SCHOOLS PARTICIPATION AWARD

IN THE ROOM

Dorchester Middle School
has completed the National Literacy Trust's
Spring Term Programme and are going all in
for the National Year of Reading.

Jonathan Douglas Jonathan Douglas CBE Hon FRSL
Chief Executive, National Literacy Trust



Change your story

My child would like to get more involved with music – how can they do this?

Mr Shortman is running lots of music clubs, but there is also another scheme that Wessex music provides – The TOPS scheme...

Wessex Schools Music works with local music teachers to provide instrumental tuition for children within the Wessex schools and affiliate schools during the school day. As the benefits of participating in music are so significant, we want all of our students to have the opportunity to benefit, regardless of background, current ability, or financial circumstances. This is why we have created our TOPs scheme, and we would love your child to take part! What does it mean to be on the TOPs scheme? The TOPs scheme is the 'Tomorrow's Orchestra Project' — a scheme designed to help beginner students get started on a range of orchestral instruments by offering partially subsidised lessons and instrument hire.

Scan the bar code to learn some more. The scheme is open to all Year 5 and 6 students at the Wessex MAT Middle Schools.



Pupil Question of the Week

Will I get to see the 'Matilda' show?

Yes!!

We are delighted to confirm that all pupils will have the opportunity to watch our school production this year(your friends who are in the show are also excited that you will get to see it!)

Last year, we were aware that some pupils missed out due to the limited size of the theatre we had hired.

This year, performances will take place at the Bay Theatre, allowing everyone to enjoy the show. Parents will have received a consent form to give permission for their child to travel by coach to the theatre during the school day with their year group. This trip is free of charge.

PTFA News

Our much awaited **SUMMER FETE** is taking place on **Saturday 20th June** from **12 to 3pm!!!!** You don't want to miss out on this, it is always an amazing event which brings our school community together and you can enjoy BBQ, bar, games, raffle, tombola and lots more!!

This week, the children would have received the Raffle books for the Summer Fete raffle to take home. Did you receive them?? Please return stubs and monies to the school by 19th June. The raffle will be drawn at the Summer Fete on Saturday 20th June at 2:30pm.

See you there!!!



Here are some pictures of the Eco Club getting ready for the Bee Assembly last week. They are working really hard in making our school garden extra inviting for Bees and Bumbles. This is also in preparation for the bronze awards from the: [The UK's bumblebees are in crisis - Bumblebee Conservation Trust](#) in order to create awareness. Eco warriors, you are ROARSome!!!!



Memories of DMS – A Piece of Dorchester History

On Tuesday we were visited by two former pupils of our school. Jenny, who attended DGSG until it closed in 1980, and Barbara. Barbara was evacuated to Dorchester with Haberdashers school in 1939, aged 7. The premises were shared between the Green School and Haberdashers to accommodate the evacuees. She is now 95, amazingly fit, very quick-witted and with a wealth of interesting reminiscences of her time as an evacuee in Dorchester. Catherine, Jess B and Ale from 8D gave them a tour of the school before being joined by Mr Greetham in the library for some refreshments. Our guests had bought gas masks (that Barbara had to carry to school), letters home to parents in London and postcards of Dorset, which were purchased in 1939. There were also exercise books Jenny had brought from the 1970s and countless memories and stories of a largely different, but still wonderful school.

Both Jenny and Barbara commented on the politeness of their hosts, the friendliness of the welcome, the good order of the school and particularly how well kept and presented the school premises are, despite their age. Thank you so much for your visit, Jenny and Barbara! It was so wonderful to meet you and share so many good things about what we have in common: Dorchester Middle School.



Celebrating our amazing pupils...

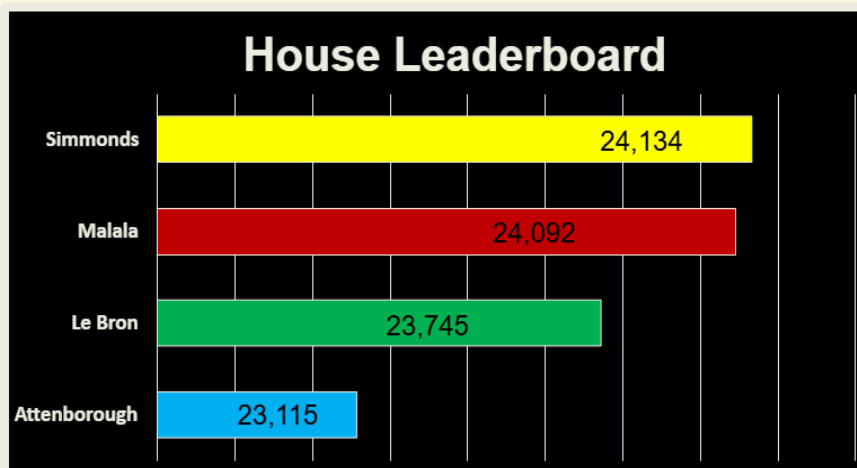
Jamie in Year 6 produced amazing work for the Refugees Week art competition. His artwork was not only very thoughtful and though provoking as to what it takes to be courageous but also the mixed media and collage is a great way to express this. His artwork will be displayed in Loving By Nature at Antelope Walk in Dorchester from the 15th -21st of June.

This weekend, the lovely **Elizabeth in Year 7** competed at the BCA Summer Showdown, a national cheerleading competition in Crawley. Her team received 1st place and awarded 'Hit Zero' (no mistakes). They also won a bid to enter the 2027 European Championships!! What an amazing accomplishment for Elizabeth and her team!!



Well done to all of our Year 7s who participated in the Maths Challenge and for those who achieved a bronze award. Particular congratulations must go to Riley and Izzy who achieved a silver award placing them in the top 25% of pupils nationally – an amazing achievement, well done!

Houses Leaderboard



What else has been happening in our Community?

Community Open Morning

What a FANTASTIC morning! It was beyond fabulous to welcome so many super families through the doors of our amazing school for our Open Morning, especially on such a soggy day. A HUGE Thank You to the wonderful DMS children for being such brilliant School Guides and to the marvellous staff who rocked up to support the school after a very 'full on' week! Our PTFA were their usual amazing selves providing tea, coffee biscuits and pre-loved uniform for all in attendance. We are immensely proud of our school, could you tell?!



Community Challenge Event

The challenge was held on Tuesday, and it involves the children running, walking or jogging 200 metre lengths of the school field. For every length they complete they were awarded a token for their house. At the end of the challenge, the tokens were totalled and house points awarded for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place, the winning House was Le Bron!! As well as a chance to contribute towards winning house points, the children raised sponsorship for the PTFA as part of this event. All monies raised will go towards the educational resources and providing much needed equipment for pupils.

	Malala	Simmonds	Le Bron	Attenborough
Year 5	58.0miles	49.25miles	46.4miles	58.25miles
Year 6	55.34miles	39.25miles	54.3miles	59.75miles
Year 7	39.8miles	44.9miles	44.4miles	31.4miles
Year 8	43.5miles	50.25miles	52.13miles	39.13miles
Total	196.64miles	183.65miles	197.03miles	188.53miles
Position	2nd	4th	1st	3rd



And finally...

Please remember to keep an eye on the school calendar on the DMS website for all the events taking place this term- it's certainly shaping up to be a busy one! The forecast for next week looks much brighter and warmer, so we kindly ask that you apply sun cream to your children before they come to school.

Wishing you all a relaxing and restful weekend as we enjoy the return of the sunshine!!

Mrs King