

Dear DMS Families,

What a fabulous week we have had at DMS with our amazing House Captains and Vice Captains introducing themselves to their entire houses during assemblies. Not only did they talk about the values that they have as individuals, but the assemblies discussed the attributes of all houses. On Monday, Arlo and Tilly led the Malala assembly, Amber and Issy did LeBron on Tuesday, Wednesday saw Riley and Catherine-Rose introduce themselves for Simmonds and Mollie and Leo finished the week with the Attenborough assembly yesterday. Apparently Mr Murray was a little bit biased in his delivery of the assemblies, wanting Attenborough to win, so I'll try to re-address it – Malala are the best! (All staff as well as pupils are allocated a house).

Our extra-curricular clubs have been incredibly well attended so far and we had our first fixture this week, with a mixed year 5 and 6 football team beating Sunninghill 8-1 on Wednesday evening. If your child would like to attend any of the extra-curricular clubs on offer, please see the Arbor app.

Have you thought about before and after school wraparound care for your child? Our wraparound team provide supervision and activities at DMS from 7:30am until 5:30pm every day for all pupils. Before school, your child will be able to have breakfast in the hall and play games with other pupils for £6. After school, we break the sessions into 1 hour slots to enable your child to attend a club if they wish. Snacks are provided, along with numerous activities to participate in. For £17, we could supervise your child from 7:30am until 5:30pm if you wished. Places can be booked on the day.

Wraparound Breakfast Club	7:30am – 8:30am, £6.00
Wraparound After-School Club	3:30pm – 4:30pm, £6.00, 4:30pm – 5:30pm, £6.00 3:30pm – 5:30pm (2 hours), £11.00

You may be able to get help paying for childcare. You can check what support you could receive by using the official government Childcare Calculator: <https://www.tax.service.gov.uk/childcare-calc/>

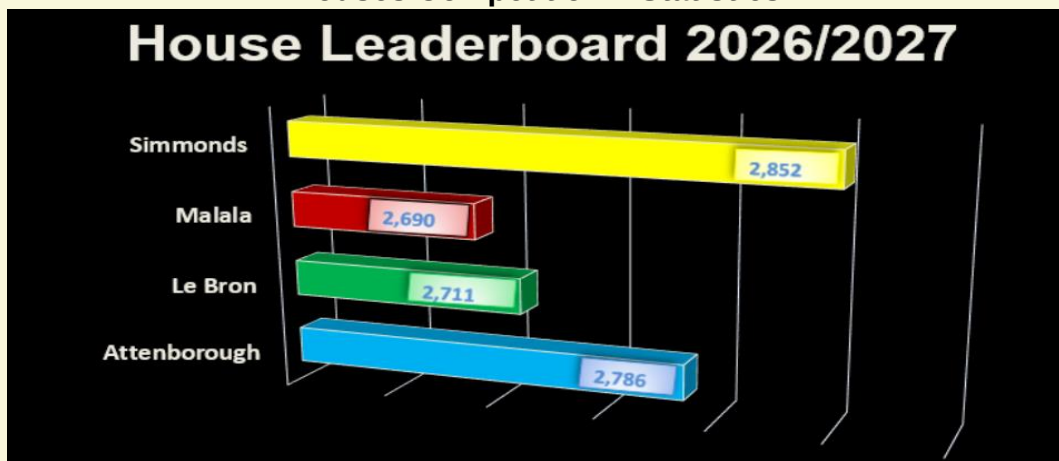
If you would like any further information, please contact Mrs Nikki King who is our Wraparound provision lead nking@dms.wessex.ac

Miss Clements

Important dates for your diary

28th September	Y5 settling in evening for parents/carers - from 3:45pm
1st October	Open Morning for Y4 families – School Hall – 9:15 to 10:15am
13th October	Open Evening for Year 4 families – School Hall – 4:30 to 6:00pm
9th October	Y5 Stonehenge trip – more info to follow
15th October	Y6 Winchester Science Museum trip – more info to follow
16th October	PTFA Family Quiz Night – School Hall - evening
13th November	PTFA Boogie Bingo – School Hall – after school

Houses Competition – Statistics



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Parent Question of the Week

I've heard that Year 5 families are having a Settling In Meeting with tutors on Monday. What is this, and when will I have the chance to meet my child's teachers?

On Monday, Year 5 parents and carers are invited to meet with their child's Homebase Tutor to talk about how they have settled into life at Dorchester Middle School. This is a valuable opportunity to discuss your child's transition, wellbeing and early progress.

There will also be opportunities throughout the year to meet your child's subject teachers at our Parents' Evenings: **Year 6:** 25 & 26 November, **Year 8:** 13 & 14 January, **Year 5:** 3 & 4 March, **Year 7:** 21 & 22 April.

Please remember that you do not need to wait until Parents' Evening if you have a question or concern about your child's progress. Our staff are always happy to help, and parents can contact subject teachers by email at any time.

Working in partnership is key to helping every child succeed, so please get in touch whenever you need support or advice.

Pupil Question of the Week

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Can I go to Breakfast Club?

If you are in Year 5 or 6, then yes you can! Miss Clements, Mrs King and Mr and Mrs Gillet will be there to welcome you.

From 8:30am, all you need to do is come to the school hall door, the same where you line up for lunch, sign in with us and then go through to the kitchen area where you can choose from a selection of cereal, fruit and toast. After you have eaten, you may like to play some of the games we have available such as: Connect 4, Guess Who?, Jenga or Snakes and Ladders. It is open until 9am, but if you are in Year 6, you will need to eat and go upstairs from 8:45am.

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Reading News

On Wednesday morning a team of our Year 6 Reading Ambassadors took part in the National Junior Reading Championships.

This was a heat of a national quiz for primary school children which takes place on-line. DMS competed with 7 other schools and we linked up and competed on-line using the big screen in the Library.

The team answered 60 different questions about books in over two hours and in between cheered for their team. They didn't make the final but everyone had a great time and we are very grateful to the PTFA who funded the competition entry fee.



Very well done to last week's winners of ROARS Certificates!!



Year 5



Year 6



Year 7



Year 8

Celebrating our amazing pupils...

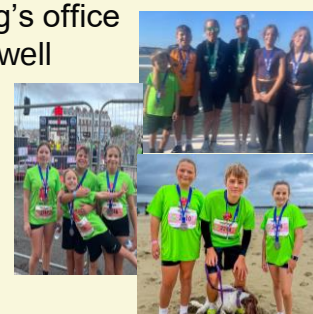
Lenny in Year 5, has become really interested in D-Day and WWII recently. On his spare time at home, he decided completely independently, that he wanted to create a huge D-Day scene, and ended up taking over a very large section of his home's floor with it! Well done Lenny for taking an interest on this subject and for your creativity!!



A big well done to Emily and Jocelyn in Year 6 who were sent to Mrs King's office for a head teacher gold sticker! Native American art work! Beautiful and well deserved!



Last Saturday, Josh H in Year 7, Evie W in Year 6 Seth B in Year 5 and their siblings (ex-DMS) took part in the Weymouth Ironkids!! Their parents followed by taking part in the Weymouth Ironman 70.3 on Sunday! The children are very proud of their achievement as are their parents; we are super proud of all of them!!



More amazing pupils to celebrate!!

Continuing with the running theme, we wanted to give the biggest shout out to our amazing DMS running club!! This group of pupils and the members of staff who run it are so passionate and committed that come rain or shine they will be in school every Thursday before 8am to start the day running near the school. Thank you Mr Palmer, Mrs Ray, Ms Bullick, Mrs Minchella, Mr Roberts and Mr Sadler for making sure they do so safely!!



We are very lucky to have the Forest School do lots of amazing projects with our children. This week, Tyler, Daniel, Joel, Alfie, Mila and Lacie from Years 5 and 6 had a wonderful afternoon, learning how to make shelters. They did such a great job and they really enjoyed the whole process.



Our Eco Club has achieved a major milestone by receiving the Eco-Schools Green Flag: Distinction Award! UNESCO defines a Green School as, 'A learning institution that takes a whole-of-institution approach to Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), in particular by addressing climate change through its teaching, facilities and operations, school governance and community partnerships. Green Schools aim to promote knowledge and skills for the social, economic, cultural, and environmental aspects of sustainable development'. This is such an amazing recognition, as it means that when you become an accredited Green Flag Eco-School, your setting also becomes recognised as a UNESCO-aligned Green School!! How fantastic is this!!

A huge thank you to Ms Sharman and Mrs Whiter for leading the club and to our amazing Eco warrior pupils (and ex pupils!!), for being so passionate about it and making this happen.



What else is happening in our community?

Mental Health Support Team - MHST

We are very lucky to have the MHST come into our school with a variety of resources. They work closely with us and families to support our children. The following workshops for parents/carers will be held in our school:

Monday 19th October 9am - 10.30am: Supporting your Child with Anxiety

Monday 1st March 3.45pm - 4.45pm: Difficulties with Sleep

Monday 7th June 3.45pm - 4.45pm: Supporting you Child with Anxiety

Please use the following link to book your space, we need a minimum of 6 people to go ahead with the workshops: [19th Oct Free MHST Parent Carer workshop - Fill out form](#)



Science - Year 7

Year 7s were introduced to Bunsen burners today! Learning the safe and roaring

Design Technology – Year 8

In DT, Pupils in Year 8 were challenged to make the perfect square out of many different materials! A challenge that is taken very seriously as there is usually a prize of sweets for the winner each time!



Parking on Coburg Road

We have received some complaints from our neighbours on Coburg Road about the parking outside the school. We have noticed that unfortunately parents/carers, are often dropping off and collecting children, whilst parked on the zig zag lines outside of the gates, and other times blocking neighbours' driveways, which also has caused disruption in the road. Thank you in advance for your cooperation and understanding.

And finally...

Don't forget that we have curriculum visits to Stonehenge (Y5) and Winchester (Y6) coming up in October. Please ensure that you get the permission forms returned as soon as possible and contact the office if you have any queries regarding the trip or payment. The trips tie in with their learning in lessons, so we would like every child to attend.

Miss Clements