

Dear DMS Families,

Welcome to the latest edition of the DMS Dozen and my first of this academic year. My role at DMS includes supporting pupils and families who are eligible for free school meals, developing and coordinating careers opportunities across the school, and organising extracurricular clubs, parents' evenings and open mornings. I look forward to working closely with out families throughout the years and sharing updates opportunities, and celebrations from across the school.

This week, pupils from all years have been developing their cycling skills through our Bikeability sessions. Many of our pupils choose to cycle or scoot to school, so it is important that they understand how to travel safely and responsibly on the roads. We are grateful to all the instructors involved in delivering these important sessions and helping to keep our pupils safe. It was wonderful to welcome parents into school on to occasions this week. On Monday evening, Year 5 parents joined us for our Settling In Evening, providing an opportunity to meet their child's tutor and put a face to a name. Then, on Thursday morning, we welcomed Year 4 parents who visited to learn more about life at DMS and to have a look around the school.

Next week we have our first curriculum trip of the academic year as Y5 venture out into the wilds of Wiltshire to visit Stonehenge. We have been comparing Stonehenge and the Pyramid of Giza in our lessons so it will be a great opportunity to see it firsthand. Don't forget the waterproofs and the travel sickness medication!

Please don't forget to join us for the Family Quiz Night on Friday 16th October from 6pm, in the school Hall. For our new parents, it is always great fun for the whole family and beware, the staff gets really competitive!!

I hope you enjoy the rest of the newsletter as we share some of the highlights from our week.

Mrs Hammonds



Important dates for your diary

9th October	Hello Yellow Day – substitute an item of uniform for something yellow
9th October	Y5 Stonehenge trip – more info to follow
13th October	Open Evening for Year 4 families – School Hall – 4:30 to 6:00pm
15th October	Y6 Winchester Science Museum trip – more info to follow
16th October	PTFA Family Quiz Night – School Hall - evening
19th October	MHST Workshop for parents: supporting your child with anxiety - 9am to 10:30am
13th November	PTFA Boogie Bingo – School Hall – after school

Hello Yellow Day – Friday 9th October

Next **Friday 9th October is Hello Yellow Day** - which is World Mental Health Day. As every year, we are inviting pupils (and members of staff), to substitute an in item of their uniform for something yellow, **in exchange for £1.00**. This year, all the monies collected will go to Mosaic, to support the amazing work they do.

Mosaic is a wonderful charity which supports children and young people across Dorset, who have been affected by the death of someone close to them, such as a parent, sibling, friend or a member of their extended family. Mosaic's work is based around specialist bereavement counselling for children, aimed at listening to the child, understanding their grief and anxiety and helping them to ask questions about death, find ways of dealing with their emotions and most importantly, to communicate with others, including their friends.



When do we need to get our application in for our child's place at secondary/upper school?

Are you the parent of a Year 8 pupil? Unbelievably it is already time to start thinking about the next stage in their education.

The closing date for September 2027 secondary and upper school applications is 31 October 2026. Any application or change made after this date will be classed as late. This means it will not be considered until after the on-time round.

You will be informed of your outcome:

- On 1 March 2027 if you applied on time (by 31 October 2026)
- On 30 March 2027 if you apply late (between 1 November 2026 and 28 Feb 2027)

If your child has an EHCP you will follow a different process. Please click on the link below for more details:

[Apply for a school place if your child has an EHCP - Dorset Council](#)

Pupil Question of the Week

What trips are we going on this year?

Each year group will be going on a curriculum trip – that means a trip that will be linked to classroom learning.

Year 5 visit Stonehenge as part of their history topic this term. Year 6 are heading to the Science Centre and Planetarium in Winchester to find out more about the topics they cover in science also this term.

Later in the year, Year 7 go on a field trip to Lulworth, building on their knowledge and understanding of coasts. And finally, Year 8 go on a local trip to explore the river system on the outskirts of Dorchester.

There are other smaller trips, that don't involve an entire year group dotted throughout the year so keep your eyes peeled for more information about those!

Residentials are big news at DMS! Year 5 go to the New Barn Farm in Bradford Peverell in March, and Year 7 have planned a PGL trip to the Isle of Wight. Don't worry if you are in Year 6 or Year 8 as there are trips planned for you too!

Food Tech News

With the Food Tech room complete refurbishment, and the children having new aprons, we needed to get our Food Tech teachers and technician new Chef jackets to go with!

Here we have Ms Sharman and Mrs King modeling the new jackets.

We are only missing Mr Duffy to try his!





Year 5

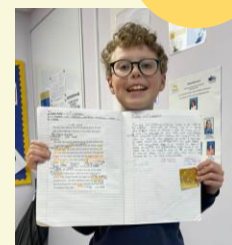
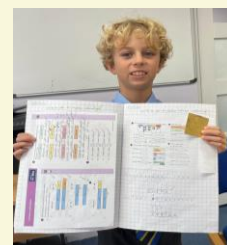


Year 6

(Years 7 and 8 did their Houses assemblies instead, we'll have their photos next week)

Celebrating our amazing pupils...

Two fabulous pupils received a Headteacher sticker this week for their brilliant work! Sonny in Year 5, for his beautifully presented and accurate maths work, and Gregory in Year 7, for an exciting and gripping piece of writing! Well done boys!



A huge thank you to our House Captains and Prefects who helped during the events we had this week at school. First the Year 5 Settling In Evening on Monday, and then on Thursday, when they showed new parents around the school during the first Open Morning, making us proud as usual that they represent the school. Well done and thank you to all of you!!

More amazing pupils to celebrate!!

Well done year 8s, you were brilliant in the County Cup match against Allenborne but sadly it wasn't to be. The team narrowly lost by score line but gained through a tremendous show of character. The players stuck together and showed great teamwork. Onwards and upwards!



HUGE congratulations to Benjamin - who has achieved his Elements of Power Vessel Intermediate, so he has ranked up to an Intermediate Cadet. He sailed from Torquay to Salcombe to Dartmouth and then to Portland, with a couple of nights there doing various night sails, and then into Weymouth. What a great achievement Benjamin!!

Following on the incredible journey of our very own Leo in Year 8, we are so proud to let you know that he was on BBC 2 on Wednesday on 'The real strictly come dancing!'. Here is the link if you would like to watch it: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m002p0s0/access-all-areas-the-real-strictly-come-dancing>

House Leaderboard

Friday 2nd October 2026

Simmonds

Attenborough

LeBron

Malala



3,869

3,739

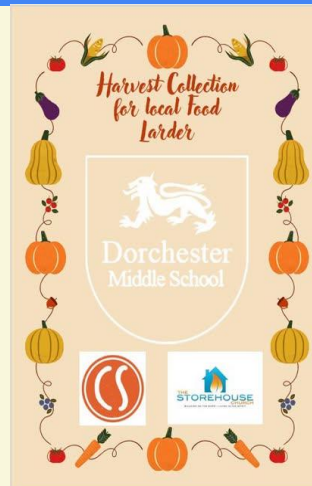
3,716

3,698

What else is happening in our community?

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Harvest Food Collection: We are so pleased to share that DMS will be helping out the Storehouse Church again this year and bringing in donations for their Harvest food collection parcels. Last year as a school we donated almost one tonne of food towards their foodbank - it was an incredible achievement! This year we will try to do the same again! Please see the list below, check what tutor group your child is in, and we ask if you would be kind enough to donate that item and bring it into school. There will be a crate per tutor to collect items. Please can items start making their way into DMS from the 7th October? The Student council and Pastor Mark Topps will take these on the 14th October to the Storehouse church - to weigh, package and distribute to those who would be grateful for the support. A big THANK YOU in advance for your generosity!



Please start bringing in your food from Wednesday 7th October until Wednesday 14th October.

- Cereals – 5A
- UHT Milk – 5B
- Tinned Meat – 5C
- Tinned Fruit – 5D
- Tinned Veg – 5E
- Cooking sauces – 6A
- Baked Beans – 6B
- Soups – 6C
- Biscuits – 6D
- Rice Puddings – 6E and ROARs
- Tinned Tomatoes – 7A
- Custard – 7B
- Coffee – 7C
- Tea bags – 7D
- Microwave Rice – 7E
- Men's Toiletries – 8A
- Women's Toiletries – 8B
- Toilet Rolls – 8C
- Shampoo – 8D
- Tinned Tuna – 8E



PTFA News: Thank you so much to our fantastic PTFA for supporting all the events we have in school during and after school hours. They are a constant presence when we welcome our parents and carers and other visits in the school. They are so kind, making sure we have drinks for our visitors! Don't forget that their **AGM is on Monday 5th October at 4pm** in the school library, everyone welcome! They will be electing the new committee (all roles available), followed by a normal meeting. Do come and meet this fantastic team!

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And finally...

There has been plenty to celebrate, from exciting learning opportunities and curriculum enrichment activities to welcoming families into school and seeing our pupils represent DMS so positively.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We look forward to sharing more of our pupils' achievements and experiences with you throughout the term. Have a wonderful weekend!

Mrs Hammonds