

Dear DMS Families,

Well, we continue to move at full speed here at DMS!

Our year group curriculum enrichment trips are now underway, with Year 5 visiting Stonehenge today. I'm sure you'll spot plenty of photos on our Facebook page later! Next week, Year 6 will be heading to Winchester Science Museum to further enhance their learning.

We also have some exciting enrichment opportunities taking place in school. Pupils in Years 6 and 8 will be on author visits up at Thomas Hardy school, while Year 7 will be taking part in a live broadcast linked to the Bayeux Tapestry, bringing history to life through this unique learning experience.

In addition, our Student Council will be visiting Storehouse Church to deliver the Harvest donations we have been collecting. Thank you to everyone who has already contributed. If you haven't yet had the opportunity to donate, there is still time, with the final collection day being Wednesday next week.

I would also like to take this opportunity to give a heartfelt thank you to our PTFA Vice Chair, Jodie, and Secretary, Jo, as they leave the PTFA, as they have dedicated so much of their time and energy to fundraising. Their efforts, alongside those of the wider PTFA team, have helped provide numerous resources and opportunities that have benefited our children.

The PTFA is a fantastic group that is always keen to welcome new members. As Jo shared: *"I've loved every minute of it – the fundraising, the events, the behind-the-scenes organisation, and most of all, the amazing friendships made along the way!"*

To any new parents considering getting involved, please do think about joining this wonderful group. Their commitment makes a huge difference to our school community, and they would be delighted to welcome you. Please contact: ptfa.dms@gmail.com if you are keen. Perhaps try out the bingo event coming up!



Mrs King

Important dates for your diary

13th October
15th October
16th October
19th October
13th November

Open Evening for Year 4 families – School Hall – 4:30 to 6:00pm
Y6 Winchester Science Museum trip – more info to follow
PTFA Family Quiz Night – School Hall - evening
MHST Workshop for parents: supporting your child with anxiety - 9am to 10:30am
PTFA Boogie Bingo – School Hall – after school

House Leaderboard

Friday 9th October 2026

Simmonds

Attenborough

LeBron

Malala



5,065



4,931



4,887



4,770

What do I need to do if my child requires medication during the school day?

If your child needs medication to be administered during school hours, please contact the school by telephone or email to inform us. You will then be asked to bring the medication to the Main Reception. If your child is bringing the medication into school themselves, please let us know when you contact the school.

When medication is dropped off at Reception, you will be asked to complete a Medication Administration Form. If the medication is being brought into school by your child, the form will be emailed to you for completion.

Please note that school staff are unable to administer any medication unless a Medication Administration Form has been fully completed and signed by a parent or carer.

If you have any questions regarding medication in school, please contact the school office, who will be happy to assist you and put you in touch with our First Aid Lead, Miss Sales.

Pupil Question of the Week

Why do we need to walk on the left around school?

Keep to the Left! 😊 You may have noticed teachers saying (or singing!), "To the left!" as you move around the corridors! We're doing this to help make sure everyone feels safe during busy changeover times. Our school has changed a lot over the past year, with new walls, classrooms and learning spaces being added. That's great news because it means we have lots of fantastic areas to learn in, but it also means lots of pupils are moving around the building at the same time. To help things run smoothly, please remember to:

- Walk on the left-hand side
- Move in single file where needed
- Leave enough space for others to pass safely

You've already made a brilliant start, and many of our younger pupils have commented on how helpful this has been. Thank you for doing your part to keep our corridors calm, **safe** and helping you be **ready** for learning!

Reading News Dorchester Literary Festival 2026

Next week, our Year 6 and Year 8 pupils will be heading to The Thomas Hardy School to take part in the Dorchester Literary Festival - Schools Programme.

- Year 8 will meet author Ele Fountain on Monday 12th October.
- Year 6 will meet author Stewart Foster on Tuesday 13th October.

These exciting events will give our pupils the chance to meet the authors, hear about their books and experiences, and find out more about the world of writing and literature.

We hope they have a fantastic time and come away feeling inspired by the authors and their stories!

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Very well done to some of the most recent ROARS Certificate winners!!



**Year 5
(last week)**

**Year 8
(last week)**



**Year 7
(this week)**

**Year 8
(this week)**



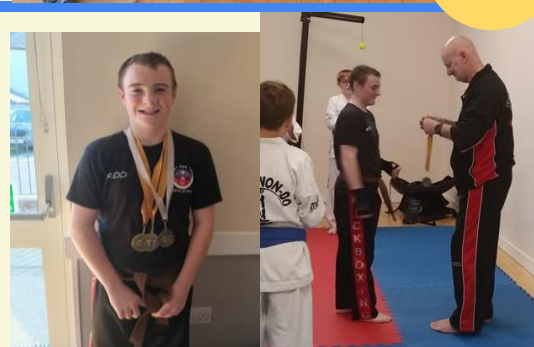
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Celebrating our amazing pupils...

Roo in Year 8 had a home tournament in Charlton Marshall on Sunday with IMA RISING STARS. He did incredibly well, and went back home with not 1 but 3 medals:

- Gold medal for sparring
- Gold medal for power
- Silver medal for combos

We are extremely proud of his courage, dedication and strength along with cheering on and congratulating his kickboxing buddies, no matter what the outcome! Now that is sportsmanship!! Go Roo!!



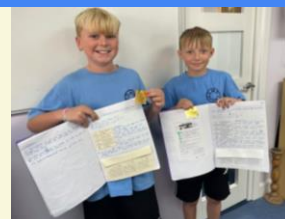
A huge well done to Isabelle for gaining her red belt this week for kick boxing!!! What a great achievement!!



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More amazing pupils to celebrate!!

Well done William and Harry for awesome Science work today! Excellent write ups of your conclusions ! More Headteacher stickers!



Well done Sivani, Freddie and James for their awesome design and tech keepsake box designs! Next stop-making them!



Fantastic graph drawings in Science! Well done Year 6!

Well done to Lily, Charlotte, Tegan and Autumn for their fantastic descriptive writing! Head teacher stickers all round! Mrs Ray was keen to show how hard they have worked. Very well done!!



It is that time of the year again, when the Rotary Club invites our pupils to participate in the Young Artist competition!! Over the years, our children have made us proud by winning the local and national awards!!

This year the theme is 'Friendship' and it can be interpreted as broadly as the Young Artist wishes and does not need to conform to a dictionary definition. Young people are encouraged to use their creativity to show what this theme means to them. The competition encourages young people to be creative; develop skills in traditional, contemporary or digital media; interpret the theme thoughtfully; express personal ideas through their chosen medium or mediums.

Children can create a two-dimensional unframed, piece of artwork based upon the theme, 'Friendship'. Artwork may be created in any medium or mediums for example pen and ink, paint, collage, printmaking or digital formats. Each entrant **MUST** include a brief sentence explaining how their artwork relates to the theme. This sentence must be added to the appropriate section of the entry form. Entries without this explanation will be disqualified.

Who can take part? The competition is open to all young people, provided they fall within the following age groups: Junior Up to and including 10 years old; Intermediate 11 to 13 years old; Senior 14 to 17 years old. Because the qualifying age is based on 31st August 2026, entrants must include their age on the entry form.

Please talk to our Art Teacher, Miss Gardner, if you are interested in participating!!!



What else is happening in our community?

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As mentioned before, our Eco Club children have been very busy behind the scenes and have done incredible work, being awarded 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!!



A Science investigation on a Friday afternoon? Why not?! This is 5E investigating how the height of a ramp affects the distance a car travels. Some of the team work was a joy to observe - we definitely have several super scientists in the pipeline!



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We are looking forward to welcoming prospective Year 4 parents to our Open Evening on Tuesday 13th October, from 4.30pm to 6.00pm. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet both pupils and staff, ask questions, and discover all that DMS has to offer.

A huge thank you to the pupils who have volunteered to stay and talk with our visitors. We are incredibly proud of the way they represent our school and have no doubt they will be excellent ambassadors for DMS. In the meantime, I hope you all have a wonderful and relaxing weekend.

Mrs King