

Dear DMS families,

We have had another busy week at school, and you will see from our Celebration News all of the amazing achievements that have been made.

One thing that we have celebrated this term is the variety of opportunities that the advancements in technology are allowing our students. These changes in the support that we offer, mean that students are able access our curriculum more independently whilst in school. Having a range of different options means that we can tailor the learning for those that may need it for a range of reasons.

These new technologies come in a variety of options. We now have lots of children using chromebooks in lessons to support them to be able to write. This is sometimes by typing but also we have the option of speech recognition to write for them.

We are also supporting children to use reading pens which help our children read texts when reading may be difficult for them. Another technology that we can use for those that may be finding it difficult to get into lessons, is our AV1 robots. These let a child join a lesson remotely without accessing the room and ensure they don't miss out on learning. This has been really helpful for some of our children with physical disabilities and those who struggle to come into school.,, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X5RdzEBKA6E>

Ms Layfield

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Important dates for your diary

27th & 28th November	Y6 Parents' Evenings - face to face at DMS to see subject teachers
28th November	Flu jab offered to pupils - parents have opted directly online
9th December	Gabrieli Roar concert - Exeter (Choir group)
11th December	Pupils' Christmas dinner - please book up to the week before
11th December	Carol singing at Tescos (after school - Choir group)
11th December	Year 6 - end of term assembly at THS - 1.15-3.15pm
12th December	Open Morning for new Y5 Parents (September 2025) 9-11am
12th December	Years 5 and 6 - songs around the Christmas tree - Playground from 2.30pm
13th December	PTFA Disco - KS2 5-6pm and KS3 6.30-7.30pm
16th December	Year 5 - end of term assembly at THS - 1.15-3.15pm
18th December	Carol Service - Dorford centre - 7pm
19th December	Choir visit to YMCA - Carol singing

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WW1 Exhibition - Year 8

Well done to the Year 8s who participated in our annual W.W.1 exhibition that took place in the Drama Hall today. They were tasked with their own creative response to our W.W.1 topic in English, and we had so many lovely pieces of work brought in, from models, paintings, poems, family history to some Bake Off-worthy cakes, that it was really difficult to choose a few images to show you here, we'll post more on Facebook.

Thank you to everyone who participated!!



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Parent Question of the Week

“When is my child’s parents evening ?”

We are really excited as all our parents’ evenings this year are face to face and we love getting to speak to parents and talk about their children’s successes.

Year 6 parents will be the first year group to have the opportunity to meet with their children’s subject teachers next week on the 27th and 28th November, please remember that there are no appointments available to book with the class teacher or year lead, just subject teachers. Don’t hesitate to contact the school office if you have difficulties booking the appointments.

Our Year 8 parents evening will be next and will take place on 16th and 17th January between 4 and 6pm. More information on how to book to follow soon.

Pupil Question of the Week

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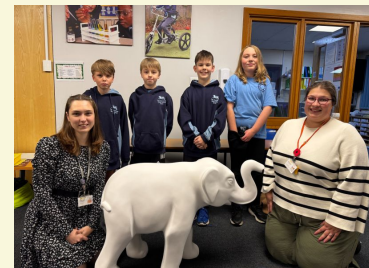
“Why is there an elephant in school?”

Miss Easton and Miss Ashley are delighted to announce that DMS have adopted one of Weldmar Hospice's "Stampede by the Sea" baby elephants.

A very special herd of elephants will be arriving in Bridport, West Bay, and Lyme Regis in the spring of 2025!

"Stampede by the Sea" is raising funds for Weldmar Hospicecare, who provide specialist end of life care for local adults with a life limiting illness, and support for their loved ones.

You are invited to join us on Friday 29th November, 4pm - 5pm in the school hall where we will be raising funds towards the project! There will be competitions, prizes, cakes and more!



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Reading News from Mrs James & Mrs Jeffery

The new graphic books recently added to the library have been very enthusiastically received. The *Amulet*, *Investigators*, *Baby Sitters Club* and *Bunny Vs Monkey* series are extremely popular with Years 5 and 6 and the pupils are using the library reservation system to make sure they get to read the books that they like. Years 7 and 8 have also been quick to borrow the library’s first manga set. Crime, thrillers and horror are also still popular with KS3 and *The Hunger Games* series is being enjoyed by pupils across the KS3 classes.

Diaries - both *Wimpy Kid* and *Dork* – remain a favourite and we are grateful to everyone who has donated their unwanted copies to the library so that we can easily replace these books when they get worn out. If you would like to donate any spare books in good condition to the school library, please get in touch.

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ROARS

Well done to our Year 8 pupils who received their ROARS this week!

We are very proud of you all!



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Celebrations

Our Year 7 Rugby Team secured their first trophy of a new School year today and with a dominant 15-0 triumph over near rivals St Osmunds-in the Final.

As per usual, we love Mr Roberts narrative of events!!!

“It was an arresting sight and one that I adore, the Year 7 Rugby Team ,competing with every ounce of legitimacy against attritional West Dorset Schools.



DMS were ruthless this afternoon and had just one setting-attack! Bone-jarring collisions, thrilling tries and a seesaw contest that hung in the balance until the final stages, it was a School tournament that had everything.

DMS had the most sedulous of players, efforts were both unrelenting and uncompromising. Glorious failure. If ever a school sporting contest summed up that phrase it was Ozzies gallant effort against the imperious Dorchester Middle School.

Huge thanks to Mike Sprules for his tireless work and experience. Mr Roberts”

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Year 5 News

Last week, we welcomed the Year Four teachers from our Feeder First Schools into school to see how their children from last year were getting on at DMS. To say that they were delighted to see each other would be the understatement of the year - was like showing celebrities around the school! This is the last part of the transition process from Year Four to Year Five. Now it all starts all over again...



DMS Choir

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Our fantastic Mrs King has taken the DMS Choir to The Thomas Hardy school today, to rehearse the amazing selection of songs they have lined up to perform at the Gabrieli Roar concert being held in the Exeter Cathedral on the 9th December! They all had a great time.



We have such talented children at DMS!!!!

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What's happening in our community?

WW1 Exhibition - Y8

Here are some more photographs of the amazing work our Y8s did for the exhibition.



PTFA News

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Bingo night, we had an amazing evening and wonderful prizes went home. Don't forget that the next event is the PTFA Disco on Friday 13th December, KS2 from 5 to 6pm and KS3 from 6.30 to 7.30pm.

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And finally...

The lead up to Christmas for most of us is always an exciting time, but we know this half term in schools can start to get really busy with festive activities, celebrations and christmas lunches and it can all feel a bit overwhelming at times. These often get communicated through the schoolcomms app. Please do phone or come into the office if there is any problems with you receiving communications from the school, as it would be very sad that children are missing out on what is going on.

മിക്കവർക്കും ക്രിസ്മസിലേയ്ക്കുള്ള ലീഡ് എപ്പോഴും ആവേശകരമായ സമയമാണ്, എന്നാൽ സ്കൂളുകളിലെ ഈ അർദ്ധ കാലയളവ് ആഘോഷ പരിപാടികൾ, ആഘോഷങ്ങൾ, ക്രിസ്മസ് ഉച്ചഭക്ഷണങ്ങൾ എന്നിവയിൽ ശരിക്കും തിരക്കിലാകാൻ തുടങ്ങുമെന്ന് ഞങ്ങൾക്കറിയാം. സ്കൂൾകോംസ് ആപ്പ് വഴിയാണ് ഇവ പലപ്പോഴും ആശയവിനിമയം നടത്തുന്നത്. ഇതിൽ എന്തെങ്കിലും പ്രശ്നങ്ങളുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ ദയവായി ഫോൺ ചെയ്യുകയോ ഓഫീസിൽ വരികയോ ചെയ്യുക, കുട്ടികൾ എന്താണ് സംഭവിക്കുന്നതെന്ന് കാണാതെ പോകുന്നത് ഞങ്ങൾ വെറുക്കും.

Ms Layfield