

Dear DMS families,

Welcome back! I cannot believe we are already in the last half term of our academic year. This year seems to have flown by, and this week has continued to be filled with amazing opportunities for our students.

It was our Year 7's turn this week to head off on their residential trip to Osmington Bay and as you may have seen from the photos on our Facebook page, they have had the most fantastic time!

Back at school, students have also been busy with our Year 5s continuing with the Jane Austin Workshops that started last half term.

Some of our SEND students have now started the process of Enhanced Transition to the Thomas Hardy School, with staff coming in to meet with them weekly for the next 6 weeks and help them to feel more confident in what will be the next exciting step in their education.

Miss Layfield

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Important dates for your diary

7th June	Community Open Morning for future Y5 pupils (September 2025 intake) - 10am to 12pm
13th June	DMS Community Challenge – Sponsored Run to support our PTFA
18th June	Sports Day – refreshments provided by the PTFA
19th June	Y6 meeting for parents/carers - Buddens Residential trip – time TBC
19th June	Y5 meeting for parents/carers (future Y6 intake) - Buddens Residential trip – time TBC
20th June	Non School Uniform Day – Please bring a tombola prize suitable for the Summer Fete
28th June	Summer Fete – Free entry – 12 to 3pm
8th July	'Aladdin' the musical performance at the Corn Exchange – 7pm (doors open at 6.30pm)
9th July	'Aladdin' performance at the Corn Exchange - 7pm (doors open at 6.30pm)
11th July	SEND Coffee morning for parents/carers - 9.15 to 10.15am

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DMS Community Challenge

We are very excited to share with you The DMS Community Challenge! The challenge will be held on Friday 13th June and is an event that all pupils will get involved in. The challenge involves the children running, walking or jogging 200 metre lengths of the school field. For every length they complete they will be awarded a token for their house. At the end of the challenge, the tokens will be added up and house points awarded for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place.

As well as a chance to contribute towards winning house points, we would love the children to also raise sponsorship for the PTFA as part of this event. All monies raised will go towards educational resources and providing much needed equipment for pupils.

Please donate by Friday 13th June.

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/dms-ptfa-1>

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Parent Question of the Week

Why is the SEND Coffee morning always on a Friday?

The SEND coffee morning has historically been on a Friday to accommodate Ms Layfield's teaching schedule. We are working to find different days and possible times in the new academic year to accommodate more parents so they can fit these meetings around their own schedules.

If you have any feedback for these meetings, or you have questions needing answers and you can't make the coffee mornings, please email Mrs Araya at: aaraya@dms.wessex.ac

Pupil Question of the Week

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Why can't we use our phones at lunch?

You will be aware that last half term we brought in the new expectation that all phones will be off during your time in school. We have been so proud of how you have responded to this, and it has been great to have such a positive response from many on how much you like this. We want to keep you all as safe as possible in school and this includes free time. Sharing things online can have a huge impact on your wellbeing and feelings of safety for you and those around you. To ensure that you all always feel safe in school this will include lunch times as well.

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Reminder for parents and Carers Keeping your children safe whilst out alone

As your children get older and are going out more independently, it is always worth having a conversation about keeping themselves safe. Summer holidays are almost here, and this is the time when they will be meeting up with friends. There are a few points worth sharing if your child is about to start this next step in their independence or just as reminders:

- Make sure headphones are off or on low volume so you can hear what is going on around you.
- Let people know where you are going and what time you will arrive or be back.
- If your child is concerned about something, ask them to walk somewhere where there would be people and that they shouldn't be afraid to make a lot of noise or shout for help if they need to.

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DMS Sports Day – Wednesday 18th June 2025 Save the date!!

Save the date for our upcoming DMS Sports Day to be held on Wednesday 18th June from 9:00am to 3:30pm.

Parents are welcome to attend after signing in on the day. We will have refreshments available, thanks to our amazing PTFA. More information coming soon!

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Reading News

At Dorchester Middle School, our library is truly the heart of the school, a great space for reading, learning and discovery. We're always looking for ways to enhance this area and provide pupils with the best possible resources.

This year, thanks to the generous support of our PTFA and the success of the Scholastic Book Fair, we've been able to invest in a wide range of new books. We're especially excited about our non-fiction collection, which was in real need of refreshing. These new titles are already sparking curiosity and encouraging learners to explore new subjects and ideas.

To help update our library further, please nominate Dorchester Middle School to #rebuildthelibrary and help us win £1000 of National Book Tokens. It's free and easy to enter – just visit www.nationalbooktokens.com/schools-prize



HELP US WIN £1,000 FOR OUR LIBRARY

Nominate us and you could win a £100 gift card!
nationalbooktokens.com/schools-prize

SCAN ME

NATIONAL BOOK tokens
In association with
Read for Good

#rebuildthelibrary

The poster features a young boy with glasses reading a book and a young girl looking at books. There are colorful book spines and a QR code.

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DMS Drama Production – Aladdin Jr

Come watch the talented students from Dorchester Middle School perform "Aladdin Jr" live on stage - it's going to be a magical show! Join us on Tuesday 8th July and Wednesday 9th July 7pm (doors open at 6.30pm) at the Corn Exchange for a spectacular show filled with music, dance, singing and laughter.

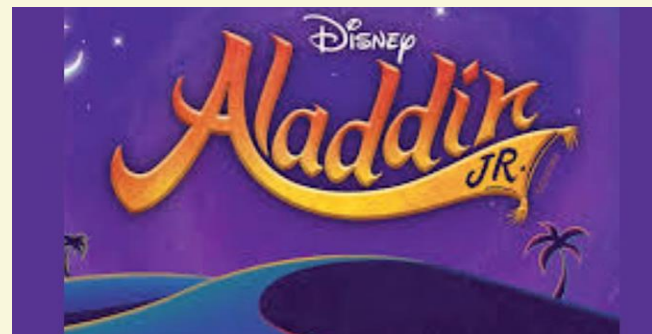
Watch as our students bring the classic tale of Aladdin to life on stage, showcasing their hard work and dedication to the arts. Don't miss out on this enchanting experience! Grab your tickets now and support our young performers as they shine bright under the spotlight.

There will be a short interval where food and drink will be served and a bar available for the audience (card and cash options). We will also be holding a cash only collection at the end of each night to raise money towards the expansion of performing arts at DMS. Thank you in advance for your support.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/aladdin-jr-performed-by-pupils-from-dorchester-middle-school-tickets-1367549299769?aff=oddtcreator>

For the parents/carers of the children performing, just a short reminder to look out for a letter sent by Mrs King about the costumes needed for the show.

Should you wish to discuss your child's costume or may have a problem with sourcing one, then please get in touch Mrs King, Mr Hellier or Miss Cumber as soon as possible.



The FREE breakfast club for Years 5 and 6 runs every day 8:30 - 9am in the school hall.

Breakfast foods including toast, cereals and fruit are available. 'Special days' have included crumpets and bagels and there will be other exciting specials to look out for next week.

Parents will no longer need to sign their child up; pupils just need to come along!



What is happening in our Community

Our pupils this week have been involved in so many amazing activities in school and out.

Y7 Residential trip to PGL Osmington

Our Year 7s were high up conquering the Jacob's ladder during their PGL residential trip (their teachers did too!!). It was a wet start of their Osmington stay but they had lots of fun. Mr Greetham did look a bit scared being that high up! Amongst many other challenges and activities, they did archery, trapeze and a silent disco, plus the world's largest game of musical chairs. It was very competitive! Here is just an extract of the many photos.

Please do check our Facebook page for lots more photos and videos of these great moments had this week.



Important notice from Mrs Woodruff – Y6 Head of Year

Current Year 6 - Buddens Rockley Park Residential 2025, information meeting on Thursday 19th June 4:00pm - 4:45pm.

Current Year 5 for Buddens Rockley Park Residential in 2026, information meeting on Thursday 19th June 5:00pm - 5:30.

Summer Fair – Show Competition Categories

Please remember that again this year, we are having a Show competition at the Summer Fair. There are three categories: Key Stage 2, Key Stage 3 and Friends & Family, the theme this year is the Seaside!! £1.00 per entry.



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This week I have started to visit next years' new students in their current schools. We all know how expensive school uniform is, so if you have any uniform that your children have grown out of or will no longer need that is still in good condition, please bring it to us in school, as we know other families will be able to use it. Have a lovely weekend!!

Miss Layfield