



Newsletter 04

Headlines **21/10/22**

Dates for your diary!

AUTUMN TERM 2022

HALF TERM 24th - 28th Oct

Training Day Mon 31st Oct

Willow Class Assembly - Thurs 10th November - 9am

Odd sock day to mark anti bullying week - Mon 14th Nov

Anti- Bullying Week 14th - 18th Nov

Parent Consultations - Mon 14th and Thurs 17th

Flu immunisations - Tues 15th Nov

Arts Week - 21st -25th November

Cedar Class Assembly -Thurs 1st Dec - 9am

EYFS Xmas Performance - Weds 7th Dec -9am

Blandford Yuletide Festival- Fri 2nd Dec - more info to follow

LFL Hot Xmas Lunch - Weds 14th Dec

End of Term - Fri 16th Dec

Spring Term 2023

Training Day Tues 3rd Jan 2023

First day of term Weds 4th Jan

HALF TERM 13TH - 17TH Feb

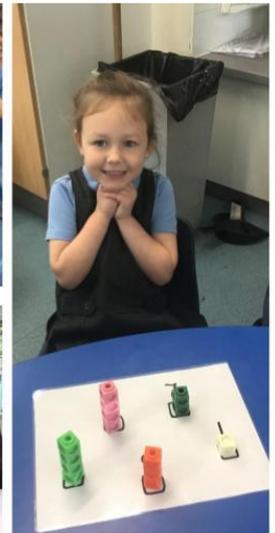
End of Term - Friday 31st March

SUMMER TERM 2023

First day of term Mon 17th April

Dear Parents,

I hope you and your family are well. Having been away from the school all week due to jury service, I am grateful to my hardworking colleagues in ensuring that school was unaffected by my absence – particularly Mrs Goodall the assistant headteacher. As you can see from some photos selected below, children have continued to learn in our caring and safe school community,



Bovington Trip

KS1 visited Bovington Tank museum last week as part of their history topic about World War One. The children learnt what it was like for a soldier in a WW1 tank and in the trenches. The children looked at the war horse exhibit as part of their learning about how animals helped in the war and had the opportunity to look around the rest of the museum too. Thank you very much to our volunteer helpers on the day who made it a fabulous trip that the children really enjoyed.



Poster Competitions

Congratulations to those who have won the Halloween and Firework Posters, you will be able to spot them around the camp. Many thanks to the Garrison for their judging and for providing the prizes.

PC Ian's assembly

I was very grateful that PC Ian came in to speak to the whole school on Monday. There are lots of exciting events happening over the next couple of weeks such as Halloween and Bonfire Night. However, with the reduced daylight hours along with such events, it is wise to reiterate certain messages about staying safe. PC Ian reminded the children of the following:

- To not go trick or treating without an adult and only go to the houses that have decorations outside
- To be aware of the roads and apply normal road safety, making sure that you can be seen by other road users.
- To know the Firework safety code, not to play with fireworks or return to them, even if they appear to be dead and to know that sparklers need to be handled with care whilst wearing gloves.

Uniform checks after half term

My colleagues and I have become aware of children not conforming to our uniform policy ([which can be found here](#)). We are particularly concerned about excessive jewellery and how this impacts on PE lessons. Here is an extract from our current uniform policy on jewellery:

*On health and safety grounds, we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school. The exceptions to this rule are a single, **plain**, ear-ring stud in each pierced ear. We ask the children either to remove these before PE and games, or to cover them with a plaster (supplied from home).*

Concerns have also been raised about hairstyles which could be described as extreme and somewhat distracting. Please see relevant extract from our current policy:

The school does not permit children to have haircuts that could serve as a distraction to other children. (For example - mohicans and coloured hair.) Long hair should be tied up, this is particularly important during PE.

I will ask all class teachers to check adherence to our uniform policy after half term, providing feedback to parents where appropriate. I do hope that you can support us in this endeavour.

Christmas performances and class assemblies

For those wishing to 'save the date' we have now fixed class assemblies in the Autumn and Spring Term (See Dates for the Diary). We have also decided on our EYFS Christmas performance dates. Parents of children performing at these events are welcome to attend and more details will be provided in due course We will keep you informed as more events are added to the diary.

Baseline reports and parent consultations

For children in Y1 to Y6, baseline reports will be issued on Monday 7th November. The following week, parents will be able make appointments to see their children's class teacher on Monday 14th and Thursday 17th between 1530 and 1830hrs. You will receive a link to book appointments after half term.

Current Vacancies

We are recruiting a Senior Childcare worker, please see the link below

<https://jobs.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-support-staff-schools-senior-childcare-worker-blandford-downlands-community-school/43289.job>

There is also a vacancy for a midday supervisor, please see the advert below. *We are happy for people to job share this role if they are unable to work every day during the lunch hour.*

Flu Immunisation

The Dorset School Immunisation Service will be in Downlands on **Tuesday 15th November** to administer the Flu vaccine for pupils in Reception (FS2) to Year 6. The vaccination is a quick and simple spray up the nose

To enable your child to have the vaccination you will need to go online to submit the form. You should have received the link by email on Oct 14th . A form must be submitted no later than **Thursday 10th November**. If the form is submitted too late your child will not be able to be immunised at school, and you will need to make a clinic appointment in a community venue instead.

Please remember that **Monday 31st October** is our 4th training day, so children will return to school on Tuesday 1st November. In the meantime, I wish you and your family a happy and healthy half term.



James Rielly
Headteacher

MIDDAY SUPERVISOR
Midday Supervisor XS2.4
Dorset Grade 1 – £9.50 per hr

7 hours 30 mins per week, term-time only. Monday-Friday 12.00-1.30pm. 39 weeks per year

We are seeking to appoint a Midday Supervisor for our busy, friendly Rights Respecting school

Duties will include providing supervision and assistance to our children across lunchtime to ensure their health and safety at all times. Lunchtime is considered to be a key point in the school day in successfully setting the children up for the afternoon's learning.

Previous experience in school is essential along with a commitment towards the wellbeing of children and implementation of safeguarding and behaviour policies

Downlands Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people; this is a commitment which we all expect staff and volunteers to share. The successful candidate will be required to have a Disclosure and Barring Service check and on line checks in line with the Governments Safer Recruitment Guidelines.

Downlands Primary School values the diversity of our workforce and welcomes applications from all sectors of the community.

Application forms and Job description available from office@downlandsschool.org

Closing date : **Monday 7th November**