



Newsletter 2

04/10/2024

Dates for your diary!

AUTUMN TERM 2024
 8th Oct - Flu Vaccinations
 9th Oct - Yr5&6 Residential parent meeting
 10th Oct - Fraser Portraits (Individual photos)
 28th Oct - 1st Nov - HALF TERM
 4th Nov - TEACHER TRAINING DAY
 11th Nov - 15th Nov - Anti-Bullying Week
 20th Dec - Last day of term





SPRING TERM 2025
 6th Jan - Term starts

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope you and your family are well. It has been a busy 2 weeks at Downlands Community School and it's my pleasure to share some memorable moments and information.




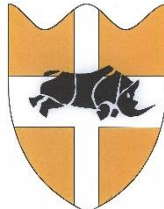
Attendance

Last year, Jaguar House were the overall winners of the attendance competition. However, at this point, it is Kiwi that are in the lead. Early days of course, but we have had about 12% of the school year already!

			
97.9%	96.4%	98.0%	97.0%

House points for Values Awards

It's still early days, but Falcon have made a strong start. Remember that house points are awarded for all school based achievements given at Gold Book Assembly this year, so those numbers will rise quickly.

			
42	41	36	25

Junior STEM event: Scrapheap Challenge

Eight children from UKS2 (Daisy, Lily-Grace, Jaxon, Amelia, Mason, L-J, Kenzie, Delilah) took part in a one-off special activity at the Royal Signals Museum, hosted by TV personality Dick Strawbridge.



Children worked together on two challenges:

- Constructing a luggage carrier and go-cart out of a giant construction kit
- Programming a Sphero Robot

The children showed great problem solving and team work skills.

Harvest Festival

Thanks to the kind donations made by parents, Downlands Community School was able to pass on a fantastic contribution to Blandford Food Bank. We were also lucky to have Padre Carl to lead our collective worship: talking about the fruits of the spirit: Love; Kindness; Peace; Joy; Patience; Faithfulness; Self-control; Gentleness; Goodness.



Fijian Community Assembly

The school was treated to a cultural experience thanks to time volunteered by our Fijian families. Parents led a whole school assembly to help children learn more about Fiji and the children asked some great questions at the end too!

Science learning at KS1 – Guest speaker

Year 1 and 2 children benefited from Mr Le May's expert input to their lessons and enjoyed using some military grade communication equipment. What an experience!



**Guest Speaker:
Exploring
Comms
Equipment**

EYFS Forest School

YRs took a walk in the Downlands Wood, they saw a crumble and the crumble looked good.



Running Club: Mileathon



Running club – mileathon

Running Club collectively ran about 40 miles in 30 minutes as they completed relay loops around Pond Bottom. Thanks to the organisation of Mr Potter and Mr Denison and those parents who supported this event which was part of the BFBS mileathon fundraising project. They raised £23.23.

Have a lovely weekend and see you all next week.

Mr J Rielly
Headteacher