



# St Denys Primary School

## News Flash

Wednesday 23rd  
October 2024



Dear Parent/Carer,

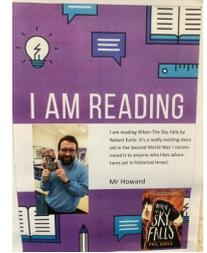
Welcome to the October Newsletter. Autumn is now well on the way and the children have been enjoying spotting the signs of Autumn while playing outside—especially when they've had the chance to jump in piles of leaves!

We are having another big focus on encouraging children to read for pleasure this year. Mr Howard, our English Leader, has come up with lots of new ideas to support this and has been working with staff. One of the best ways to help children, is to act as a reading role model, talking about the books you read and of course reading stories aloud to them. Teachers are doing this in every class and you will start to see posters going up around the school with photos of different staff reading their favourite book and information about why they like it. We hope to develop this with the children too. We also need volunteers to come into school to read with the children. If you are interested, please contact Mrs Andrews.

There are lots of events coming up this term so don't forget to check out the calendar at the end of this letter and on the school website.

Best wishes

Mr D and Mrs Andrews



### HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE HALF TERM!

This half term, all the classes in our school have been working really hard. This is what they say are the best things they've done so far. By Callum in Y6

#### Rainbow

The children have learnt all the routines of the classroom. They've loved exploring the resources and doing lots of dancing!

#### Year 1

The whole class has been learning part-whole models in Maths and they really like Phonics. In Science they've enjoyed finding out about body parts.

#### Year 2

Year 2 are loving their purple polishing pens which they use for editing their writing. They are working hard on handwriting.

#### Year 4

The BFG has been a popular book in Y4. Children have enjoyed writing diary entries and making plans for dream potions.

#### Year 3

The children have been learning to exchange when adding in Maths and loved writing shape poems in English.

#### Year 5

Everyone has enjoyed learning about Surrealism in Art, doing experiments in Science and continuing to develop their times tables knowledge in Maths.

#### Year 6

Year 6 say they love everything! Some of their highlights are learning about Pop Art, Wolf Brother, using browsers in Computing and finding out about forest biomes in Geography including with their trip.

## SDSS NEWS

Thank you to those who attended our AGM on Wednesday 16th October. Following the meeting, we now have a new Chair (Tanya—parent of Delaney in Y4) and Secretary (Claire—parent of Logan in Y4 and Lily in Y1). Many thanks to Ana who led the SDSS as the previous Chair for several years and to Chloe and Lou who supported her during this time. We have 3 Trustees for this year being Lou, Chloe and Daniel Cooper and our Treasurer Steve is staying with us for the interim but if anyone would be interesting in taking over this role please let Tanya know.

We have got lots of plans for the year and are aiming to raise at least £2000 to support the school. This money will go towards: Easter theatre production, KS2 VR experience and playground equipment to support the work the Y6 Learning Power Champions and Ambassadors are leading for the whole school at lunchtimes.

Thanks to your kind donations at the Harvest Festival, we have already raised £231.95 towards this target. Our next fundraising events are a non-uniform day on Friday where children can wear their own clothes in exchange for a cash donation (suggested amount £1), the school disco on Thursday 14th November and our Smarties tube fundraiser which we will provide more information about at the end of November.

If you have some free time to support any of our fundraising efforts, we are very grateful for your help—please speak to Tanya, Claire or Mrs. Andrews. Please keep an eye on the noticeboard in the playground for upcoming events and how our fundraising is coming on.

### Personal, Social and Health Education at St Denys

Welcome to a new year of Personal, Social & Health Education (PSHE) at St Denys! As Subject Leader I wanted to give you a brief outline of what your child will be learning this term.

At St Denys our PSHE curriculum follows an annual cycle of 3 main themes. These 3 themes are re-visited each year in a 'spiral' fashion enabling us to teach an area in greater and wider depth as your child matures and progresses through the school.

During the autumn term our theme is 'Relationships' and our learning will focus on the 3 areas of **Families & Friendships, Safe Relationships** and **Respecting ourselves and others**.

We have begun the new school year by all focusing on the same area of **Families & Friendships**.

Through **Safe Relationships** the children will learn about their own personal boundaries, what it is to feel safe and, as they mature, the concept of consent. As our children are increasingly spending more time online it is important that online safety is a constantly taught and re-visited topic, not just in PSHE and Computing, but through school assemblies as well.

The PSHE curriculum places a strong emphasis across all the year groups on respectful behaviour and the importance of being polite and also respecting ourselves. This important school value is constantly referred to by staff and children alike through our individual conduct and Learning Powers and in particular the character 'Respect'. Through the teaching of the **Respecting ourselves and others** unit we will also be encouraging the children to consider how their behaviour and the choices they make affects others.

You can find our PSHE curriculum on the school website under the KEY INFORMATION tab or by clicking on this link. <https://www.stdenysprimary.co.uk/pshe-relationships-and-sex-education/>

If you have any questions you would like to discuss please do drop by Class 3 or make an appointment to see me via the school office.

Thank you,

Miss Jones (Subject Lead for PSHE and Class 3 Teacher)

# HARVEST FESTIVAL

Thank you for joining us at our Harvest Festival yesterday. It was lovely to see so many of you there and I'm sure you'll agree the children gave wonderful performances. Thank you also for your generous donations to Basics Bank, which will help many families in need over the coming weeks.

## IMPORTANT NEW POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR CLASS 6



We have a fantastic Year 6 class this year and they have been working extremely hard in setting the example for the school. It was a tradition that we select a small number of pupils to take extra responsibilities and lead the Houses in our school as well as Sport. This year we have increased the number of positions of responsibility available and so introduced Learning Power Champions for Respect, Resilience, Reciprocity, Resourcefulness and Reflectiveness, Music Champions and Learning Ambassadors. The chosen children have made an excellent start to their roles and have supported assemblies as well as running activities at lunch times.

## GOVERNOR NEWS

The role of Governors is one of the most important in schools to ensure that children receive the best education possible. We have had our first meeting of the year and I am pleased to announce that Jo Gaul remains our Chair of Governors and Sergio Mota our Vice Chair. Details of all the responsibilities and the way our Governing Body is structured can be found on the website. We are very fortunate to have a committed group who work hard to support and challenge the school.

We say goodbye to Kristian Strutt who resigned as Parent Governor at the beginning of the term. We thank him for all his hard work.

## SAVE THE DATE - **Celebrations of Learning**

You are invited to visit school to see your child's books and hear about their learning, in advance of our Autumn Parents' Evenings which are on Tuesday 26th and Wednesday 27th November.

Celebrations of Learning will be held on the following dates:

Monday 18th November Y6 (9-9:30am), Y3 (2:30-3pm)

Wednesday 20th November Rainbow (2:30-3pm)

Thursday 21st November Y5 (9-9:30am), Y2 (2:30-3pm)

Monday 25th November Y4 (9-9:30am), Y1 (2:30-3pm)

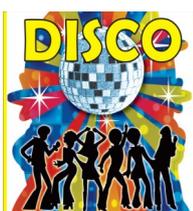
## ST DENYS ROAD CLOSURE UPDATES

Thank you very much for your patience with the road closures that have taken place in recent weeks. We very much hope that the time scales for the works remain as advertised and things will return to normal after half term.



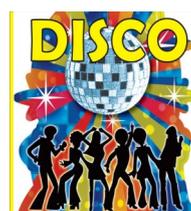
## IMPORTANT DATE REMINDERS

<b>LAST DAY OF AUTUMN 1 TERM</b>	Friday 25th October
<b>SDSS NON-UNIFORM FUND RAISING DAY</b>	Friday 25th October
<b>FIRST DAY OF AUTUMN 2 TERM</b>	Tuesday 5th November
<b>INDIVIDUAL AND SIBLING PHOTOGRAPHS</b>	Thursday 14th November
<b>SCHOOL DISCO</b>	Thursday 14th November
<b>CHILDREN IN NEED (Non-uniform)</b>	Friday 15th November
<b>CELEBRATIONS OF LEARNING</b>	18th—25th November (see page 3 for Class dates / times)
<b>PARENT / TEACHER MEETINGS</b>	Tuesday 26th and Wednesday 27th November
<b>YEAR R, 1 &amp; 2 CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE</b>	Wednesday 11th December
<b>CHRISTMAS CONCERT</b>	Tuesday 17th December
<b>SCHOOL CHRISTMAS LUNCH &amp; PARTIES</b>	Thursday 19th December
<b>LAST DAY OF AUTUMN 2 TERM</b>	Friday 20th December
<b>FIRST DAY OF SPRING TERM</b>	Monday 6th January
<b>SPRING HALF TERM</b>	Monday 17th—Friday 21st February
<b>FIRST DAY OF SPRING 2 TERM</b>	Tuesday 25th February
<b>WORLD BOOK DAY (Wear PJs / comfy clothes)</b>	Thursday 6th March
<b>SCHOOL DISCO</b>	Wednesday 12th March
<b>PARENTS' EVENINGS</b>	Tuesday 25th & Wednesday 26th March
<b>LAST DAY OF SPRING TERM</b>	Friday 4th April
<b>SUMMER INSTRUMENTAL CONCERT</b>	Tuesday 20th May
<b>FIRST DAY OF SUMMER TERM</b>	Tuesday 22nd April
<b>SUMMER HALF TERM</b>	Monday 26th—Friday 30th May
<b>SCHOOL DISCO</b>	Thursday 19th June
<b>CLASS PHOTOGRAPHS</b>	Monday 23rd June
<b>SUMMER FAIR</b>	Friday 4th July
<b>LAST DAY OF SUMMER TERM</b>	Friday 18th July
<b>SCHOOL CLOSED FOR STAFF TRAINING</b>	Monday 4th November, Monday 24th February, Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd July.



**DON'T FORGET OUR SCHOOL DISCO  
THURSDAY 14th NOVEMBER**

**All classes from 5.00 pm until 6.15 pm  
Tickets for sale in the playground after half-term.**



**ST DENYS SCHOOL SUPPORTERS ARE HOLDING A NON-UNIFORM DAY  
FRIDAY 25th OCTOBER**

**CHILDREN CAN COME TO SCHOOL IN NON-UNIFORM FOR A DONATION (suggestion £1)**

# 2024/2025 FUNDRAISING



ST DENYS' SCHOOL SUPPORTERS



HOPING TO RAISE AT LEAST £2,000 THIS  
ACADEMIC YEAR FOR THESE ITEMS:

EASTER THEATRE  
PRODUCTION

KS2 VR  
EXPERIENCE

PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT FOR BREAKTIMES

