

**Week beginning 7th January Assembly Theme: New Year / Fresh start / World Braille Day**

**Reminder: Have a very Merry Christmas and we will see you back in school on Tuesday 8th January 2019!**

What's on Week beginning 7th January				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Inset Day school closed to pupils	Spring Term starts			Celebration Assembly 2.40pm

**Merry Christmas Everyone**

We have finally arrived at the end of this term and what a term it has been! With OFSTED visits, trips, visitors, Parents Evening and Christmas plays our pupils and staff have certainly been on a rollercoaster ride.

I have always said Christmas is one of the best times of year for seeing the benefits of my job. Don't misunderstand, I love my job every day but Christmas is particularly special. I have been teaching for almost 20 years and Christmas just wouldn't be Christmas without nativity plays - shepherds falling asleep, sick angels and the permanently waving wise man. Seeing children on stage telling a version of the Christmas story is what primary school is all about. I have had the pleasure of seeing the 5 performances across both schools and I could not be more proud. Well done to everyone and thank you parents for your support.

As I said this term has been busy but it has also been immensely successful with good outcomes from our visits from OFSTED and HMI at both schools. The children are making excellent progress and are demonstrating their excellent understanding of the new approaches to maths and English. As you will have seen at Parents Evening and Show and Share, the children in school are receiving a broad and balanced education - developing their knowledge of the wider world and nurturing their talents.

So as we wave goodbye to 2018, we look into the new year and all the challenges ahead. It is no secret that school budgets are shrinking but be rest assured that the children of our schools will remain at the heart of the decisions we make. We will aim to provide the very best we can in the circumstances beyond our control.

Take time to enjoy your festive period with family and friends. From all of us here, we wish you a very merry Christmas and a safe and healthy 2019. We look forward to welcoming you back into school on **Tuesday 8th January.**

Mrs M Cross  
 Executive Headteacher



**Year 6 performing 'It's Chri-stmas!'**

All photographs can be purchased via ParentPay for £3 per A4 colour copy.

**Spot Light on Excellence...**

Celebrating Christmas in the Community

What a week! Three Christmas performances in a day is certainly exhausting for everyone, but seeing our children and families beam with pride makes it all worthwhile. I think this has been my favourite Christmas performance so far since joining the Dordon team. The songs were catchy, the acting was even better than usual and the stage made a big difference too. Every year we strive to make Dordon better and never settle for 'ok'.

Visiting St Leonards is also an annual event and is an opportunity to show the residents of Dordon just how special our school is. Yesterday, our older children accompanied the younger children to the church where we were greeted by many members of the congregation. We took part in a Christmas service and the whole school enjoyed singing carols, reading parts of the Christmas story and listening to Mrs Cross' very own speech. As ever, our children were brilliant and I was so proud to hear them sing beautifully and treat the church with such respect. Our visit to St Leonards only confirmed how much I love working at Dordon and I am certainly feeling the Christmas spirit after such a lovely morning at church.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our families at Dordon a wonderful Christmas and look forward to seeing you all again in the New Year.

Miss McGroarty

Uniform Expectations: School Shoes

Can we please remind you that trainers **are not acceptable** as school shoes at Dordon Primary. If you are having a problem and your child does not have school shoes for the day please inform your class teacher and ensure that your child has their black PE pumps with them to wear whilst in school.



**IPad App of the week**  
 Creatorverse by Linden Research, Inc  
 (FREE) Become an inventor as you design unique creations and then set them in motion. You'll never know what to expect as you watch your creations bounce, roll, tilt or even accelerate on the screen. Let your creations come to life as you play with different joints, forces, motors, teleporters, and inputs then watch what happens next.



**Charity Update**  
 Money raised so far

£64.40



**NSPCC**  
 Cruelty to children must stop. FULL STOP.

**This Term's 100% Attendance Stars**

- ★ Peacock - Clara, William, Jade, Lois and Jamie
- ★ Kingfisher - Lily, Poppy, Amelia, Ellie-Mai, Antonina, Lexi-Mai, Jackson-John, Olivia S and Judd.
- ★ Swan - Theo, Tatyana, Isabella, Michael, Rosie, Elliot L, Declan and Noah S.
- ★ Owl - Thomas, Joseph, Maisy, Lottie, Lucy-Mae, Jamie, Ryan, Jack and Nevaeh.
- ★ Swift - Dylan, Jayden, Elzie-Mae, Freya, May, Sophie F, Connor, Sophie H, Minnie, Harvey, Luke, Olivia, Kenzie and Ryan.
- ★ Hawk - Oliver, Harvey, Lydia, Victoria, Honey, Finley, Maisie and Ethan.
- ★ Falcon - Harvey, James, Clark, Ella, Zoe, Holly, Alfie, Jacob, Emily, Kyle, Harry, Tommy and Daniel.

# Peacock



Peacock class have been enjoying their learning this half term and all the Christmas activities:

- "I like learning about Baby Jesus." Darcey
- "I liked making a Christingle ." Millie-Jean
- "I liked being a pig in the Christmas show." Lois
- "I loved the Christingle and it's got a candle!" Charlie
- "It was nice singing in church and getting a new friend from Year 6" Alfie

**Study Centre and Breakfast Brainiacs**

There will be no Study Centre after school on Thursday or Breakfast Brainiacs before school on Wednesday and Friday on the first week of term. Both will restart on the week beginning the 14th January.

**ParentPay**

Could we ask all parents to make sure that there are no outstanding debts on their children's ParentPay accounts. All meals taken, swimming lessons, activities and trips need to be paid for as soon as possible. If you need a Paypoint card to pay for school dinners or a barcoded letter for other activities please contact the school office who will be pleased to help.

**Contact Information:** Could you please ensure that you keep the school office informed of your contact details, especially mobile phone numbers as we often send out information and reminders via the text message service. Any changes of address also need to be reported to the school office as letters to parents and postcards home are sent via royal mail.



**Cut Out and Keep Safe** - Please ensure you KEEP a copy of the procedures for school closure, in case of particularly poor weather.

In the event of particularly poor weather (or other emergency situations) the Executive Headteacher makes the decision whether to close the school or not. This decision is based on a number of important factors and it is always an extremely difficult decision. You can never please everyone!

- The priority MUST be to ensure the safety of young children
- The school needs to be in full working order and in a safe condition to accept children (i.e. heating, electricity, water, the building, cooking facilities must all be operational. Health and Safety law MUST be adhered to)
- The school MUST have the correct ratio of staff on site to look after the children properly
- We need to be aware that some staff travel a very long way to get to work and may put themselves in danger doing so in poor weather conditions. The majority of children live within a short walking distance of school.

As a result of the above, each school makes its own decision as to open or close when conditions are challenging. Just because a neighbouring school is open or closed does not mean our school could do the same. We all operate under different circumstances, with different staff and with different day to day arrangements.

If the school is closed before the day starts we will post this on the school Twitter account. If you do not have a Twitter account go to the school webpage [www.dordonprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.dordonprimaryschool.co.uk) and you will see the Twitter feed on the homepage. It is essential that parents/ carers DO NOT send ANY children to school unaccompanied when weather conditions are particularly poor, without FIRST checking on the website that the school is open. Parents will be informed when the school is open again via the website and Twitter.

**Attendance**

	Last Week	Year
Peacock	97.4%	95.1%
Kingfisher	93.3%	95.4%
Swan	92.1%	95.9%
Owl	97.3%	97.9%
Swift	95.2%	97.1%
Hawk	95.2%	95.2%
Falcon	92%	96.8%

- Last weeks Postcards Home*
- Peacock = Reeve
  - Kingfisher = Judd
  - Swan = William
  - Owl = Jessica
  - Swift = Finlay
  - Hawk = Iris
  - Falcon = Luke

**Dates for your Diary**

- 07/01/19 - Inset Day school closed to pupils
- 08/01/19 - Spring Term starts
- 18/02/19 - 22/02/18 Half Term Week
- 25/02/19 - Inset Day school closed to pupils
- 26/02/19 - Term resumes for pupils
- 12/04/19 - Deadline for payment for Manor Adventure Trip
- 12/04/19 - End of Term school closes at 3.00pm
- 29/04/19 - Summer Term begins
- 06/05/19 - Bank Holiday
- 13/05/19 - Y6 SATs Week
- 27/05/19 - 31/05/19 Half Term Week
- 03/06/19 - Term resumes for pupils
- 07/06/19 - 10/06/19 - Manor Adventure Residential Trip
- 21/06/19 - Inset Day school closed to pupils
- 19/07/19 - End of Term school finishes at 1.05pm

**Jack & Jill Preschool Before and After School Club**

Breakfast Club 7.30-8.35am.  
 After School Club 3.00-5.30pm.  
 Monday - Friday, term time only.  
 For more information please contact Jack & Jill Preschool on 01827 899551  
 (Please note that once a session has been booked you will be charged even if your child does not arrive.)