



December 2022

Read on to find out what we have all been up to at DJS this half term. We would like to take the opportunity to wish all of our families and school community a relaxing holiday and a wonderful Christmas for those celebrating 😊

Staffing Update

We sadly are saying goodbye to Ms Rogerson this week. She has covered Y4JF during Miss Farrah's absence. We are so grateful and lucky to have had Ms Rogerson with us and I know we are all really sorry to see her leave- thank you so much! Our equally amazing Mrs Collis will be teaching Y4JF in January full-time. Mrs Beasley will be returning from her maternity leave in January and taking over Mrs Collis' 3 days in Y5, job-sharing with Mrs Winters.

Peer Mediators

We have embarked on a training project with CRESST '*Conflict resolution for young people by young people*'. This project is part of our ongoing efforts to continually improve and drive emotional and social wellbeing in school. This project equips children and the adults around them with the awareness and skills to manage conflict between pupils. After an introductory day in school, we now have lots of eager Year 5 and Year 6 pupils who have applied to become peer mediators for Dobcroft Junior School. Those who are selected (we have around 25 places) will experience two days of training to develop their understanding and approaches to resolving disputes through a 5-step mediation process. We have such articulate children at DJS so this opportunity is perfect and will really develop and enhance their skillset. We are so looking forward to rolling this programme out in the Spring term.



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Coming up:

2nd Jan- Bank Holiday- school is closed
3rd Jan- school reopens
5th Jan- Y6 dental check
2nd Feb- Young Voices- Y5 & Y6
7th Feb- Y3 parent assembly- details to follow
7th/8th Feb Parents evening
9th Feb break up
10th Feb INSET day- school closed to pupils

Parent Shout Outs

Thank you to the parent or grandparent that donated 30 chocolate oranges with hand knitted Christmas pudding hats- they are amazing! Thank you too to the parents who have volunteered to talk to the children about their profession in our assemblies. A big thank you to Dr Kate Fryer (Taha's mum) who shared her profession of a researcher in assistive technology. The children learned lots about how technology can be used to support people with disabilities. Another big thank you to Faiza Samreen (Umar's mum), who shared her profession as a computer scientist and what the role involves.

Governor Visit

Michelle Kingan our safeguarding governor visited school last week. She took the time to speak to a selection of children across the school about their feelings around safety. Michelle will feed back her general points to the full governor board in the New Year.

Behaviour Policy

We have reviewed our behaviour policy this term and governors have ratified the final version. The full policy is available on our school website.

https://www.dobcroft-jun.sheffield.sch.uk/serve_file/9455700

There are some operational changes to the policy, which we will be sharing with pupils at the beginning of next term; however, the underlying principles of the policy remain the same.

Children In Need



On Friday 18th November, Dobcroft Junior School children, parents, carers and staff pulled together to raise money, once again, for Children in Need. This year we combined Sheffield Schools Skipathon week with our Children in Need event. On the day, every class came together as a team to complete as many collective, consecutive skips in a long rope as they could. The children were determined to get the highest score as they could to raise the money AND to win the prize of a non-school

uniform day and an extra playtime for their class. The energy was flabbergasting! Well done to the children and the staff, and a massive thank you to parents and carers for raising the grand total of

£593.50.

Plus thank you for helping get the children dressed for the occasion.... they all looked brilliant in assembly!



FODS Events

Jo Brown with the rest of the FODs team have organised several events over the coming year. This term they organised the gift stall, which was a lovely event, enabling children to donate and buy gifts for someone at home. Claire Sanderson also helped organise our Christmas games afternoon which raised over £900- we will be donating money to the Christmas Jumper Charity as well as school fund.

In the spring and summer term the following events are planned:

School Disco's - Thursday 23rd March - 5.30 - 7.30 pm

Quiz night - 24th March 2023 - to be held at the Infant school.

Easter Egg hunt and Dobcroft Dash - date to be confirmed

Summer Fayre - 1st July - save the date!

As always, please do try to get involved- even if it is just an hour helping at a school disco. It really does make a huge difference and supports school in so many ways. Our brand new trim trail for example has only been possible because of funds raised by FODs – thank you to all the volunteers for all you do! 😊

FODS Christmas games afternoon thank you

Message from Mrs Sanderson: Please may I start by thanking the school for giving me and Mr Harrison the opportunity to do the Christmas games afternoon last Friday. It was a fun few hours for all involved, the atmosphere was wonderful and some of the parent helpers messaged to say how nice it was to see so many happy and polite children. Although I come up with these crazy ideas at one of the busiest times of the year for me! They only truly work when you all come forward and support it, and oh my, you really did support it! We had enough amazing cakes, books, tombola prizes and help on the day for every year group, that is always the bit that leaves me a little nervous. THANK YOU ALL so much for stepping up and making the afternoon a real success, especially the parents that came into school and worked so hard, in a very short time frame, to pull it all together.

School asked would I mind splitting the profits on the day 50/50 with the Christmas jumper charity and I am very pleased to tell you that we raised £660 in profit, so £330 will now be on its way to the charity. I did arrange some sponsorship for school and to help cover the costs of the event. This was from three amazing small businesses. Families who are part of the school and who have all supported events in the past. A huge thank you to you all.

B&B Vehicle Contracts - Steve Barker and family
Custom Business Finance - Chris Mangle and family
Bamford Dental Practice - Shalini Watkinson and family

With the sponsorship and the profits on the day, the school now has an extra £725.00 to spend on the next thing on the list! I'm sure Mrs Sexton will put the funds to great use.

My last thank you goes to the amazing reception staff, who are always a huge support and juggle so much behind the scenes. Me rocking up with 100's of books and cakes probably doesn't help for an easy day. I hope they agree it is all worth it when you hear children saying "best day ever!"

This is my last year causing chaos at Dobcroft and I know there are people who will continue raising money for school, all I ask is PLEASE get behind them and continue to support it, it's all done for our amazing children.

Merry Christmas everyone,

Claire Sanderson (Parent helper)

Dobcroft Does Christmas



What a fantastic Christmas time we have had at Dobcroft! Classrooms and the office have been sparkling with decorations and the school has been looking very festive as a range of different activities have taken place to mark the season.

Y3 have visited the Christmas Tree Festival to see the range of beautifully decorated trees and were given a wonderfully warm welcome to the church.



Within school, children were given a new challenge with one of our Dobcroft traditions – party hats! This year the brief was given that all the hats must be made of recycled materials – the children rose to the challenge fantastically as you can see from the pictures! Resplendent in hats, the children made their way to the hall for the annual Christmas Lunch.

Many thanks to our catering staff who co-ordinate a delicious lunch for the school – it's always something we look forward to!

The celebrations culminate on the final day of school as the children arrived in their party clothes, bringing decorations and food for their year group parties! Such excitement in the arrangements and setting up of group celebrations – and lovely to see the children being able to socialise and celebrate together. We also came together as a school to share a final assembly of the year with festive songs and readings to remind us of the Christian meaning of Christmas.



Year 3 Stone Age Day

On 25th November, Year 3 travelled back to the Stone Age and had the chance to do some hands on history! Children dressed up and got into the part of playing a Stone Age Tribe... Their activities included cave painting by candle light. Very atmospheric. Children also made flints out of soap bars. They also experienced being archaeologists and went digging for artefacts from the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age. Finally, the whole year group went out in tribes of eight to go foraging for pictures of foodstuffs eaten by Stone Age people. What a fantastic day!



Poppy Appeal

We raised £258.00 for the poppy appeal this year.

Thank you to everyone who donated.

Staff Shout Out

A HUGE well done to Miss Higgins who has won our second Pride of Dobcroft Staff Shout Out Award for this half term ☺



Y5 Kingswood residential



At the beginning of this half term the year 5s went to Kingswood Dearne Valley for their annual residential. It was a jam packed trip with so many exciting activities: climbing Jacob's ladder; canoeing in the river Don; going on a night walk; abseiling and rock climbing.

On the Tuesday, they left school at 12:30 and arrived promptly to check in at Kingswood. They were given a short tour, shown their dorms including making their own beds! They then indulged in their first activities, before going on a night walk to finish off our day.

Wednesday morning they had to be sat down for breakfast by 7am! Over the course of the day all the groups got their fair share of activities, such as canoeing, nightline and problem solving. Wednesday evening was disco time and the children were amazing, showing off their dance moves! Thursday was similar (but with a later breakfast!) and in the evening they all enjoyed singing around the campfire.

Although Friday was the last day children still managed to squeeze in two more activities before arriving back at school around 2:45pm. Well done year 5- you were all totally amazing and such fun!

Thank you ever so much to all the staff who were there during the trip too.

Year 4 Concert

Last week it was so lovely to welcome so many parents and carers, grannies, grandads..... into school to watch the Year 4 performance. The year 4 team were amazing. Children perform dances which they had created and perfectly practiced. They sang solos as well as singing as a whole year group. We had brilliant musicians keeping time and working incredibly hard on focussing and waiting for their turn.

