

Dove Bank Times



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Message from Mr Cheesman

We find ourselves once again at the end of another busy half term and what a fantastic six weeks we have had! We kicked off 2020 with a visit from the poet, Andy Tooze. Each class enjoyed an amazing poetry workshop and the children had great fun with their creative writing. Who knew we had so many budding poets at Dove Bank!

Staff Changes

This term, we have also welcomed new members of staff to our growing team at Dove Bank. Mrs Price joined us and teaches Sycamore Class (plus Maple Class in the afternoons). She has settled in very well and is thoroughly enjoying her new role. Mrs Leeson has started in her position as SENCo and has brought with her a wealth of experience and ideas to make our SEN provision even more effective. Mrs Putson has recently joined our team of midday supervisors and is getting to know the children during lunchtimes.



As many of you will already know, a recent rise in the number of additional children attending Dove Bank has led to larger class sizes. To ensure class sizes remain manageable, and to allow us to provide the best learning opportunities to the children, we have employed an additional teacher to teach Year 1 from the beginning of the second half of the Spring Term until the end of this academic year. The children will be taught together in Elm Class as a single year group class. The teacher who will be taking over in Elm Class is called Mrs Morris. We are very much looking forward to welcoming Mrs Morris to the team.

Outdoor Provision

You may have noticed that work has been taking place on the school field. As well as having our climbing frame and small stage reinstated, we are also having a brand new wooden gazebo to replace the one that had to be removed for the extension to be built. After half term, work will also begin on a brand new all-weather daily mile track that is being installed around the edge of the field. This will be great to promote daily exercise and improve fitness for all children.

And Finally...

I would like to wish you an enjoyable and restful half term break. Thank you all for your continued support.

Warm regards

Mr J Cheesman

News from the Classes



Birch Class have been investigating towers as part of their topic. They made their own towers out of natural materials found in the woodland. Then they used maps to locate famous towers from around the world. Finally, they became engineers and tried to build tall strong structures using a variety of materials. They pretended these were for Rapunzel and tested them to support her weight!



Pine Class have been investigating hydroelectric power as part of their topic, 'Flow'. In one lesson, the children researched how hydroelectric power works and in pairs, made their own waterwheels.



Oak Class have been learning about fruits! The children designed their own fruit salad. They chopped the fruit into pieces and really enjoyed tasting the fruit salads that they made! The children also wrote instructions for how to make a fruit salad and wrote about their favourite fruits using descriptive language.



Reminders

School Uniform and PE Kit: Please ensure children are dressed in correct school uniform at all times, including coming to school in appropriate shoes. Children also need their PE kit in school at all times – PE is an essential part of the curriculum. Text message reminders will be sent when children do not have the correct school uniform or PE kit.

Attendance: Full attendance and punctuality at school is essential in ensuring your child gets the very best education they can. Please phone in on the first day of your child's absence and let the school office know the reason. You may be asked to bring in proof of medical / dental appointments.

Lateness: Please ensure that your child arrives on time for the start of school. Learning in the classroom starts straight away with an early morning task so it is important your child is on time. Classroom doors are open at 8.45am and school begins at 8.55am.

Parking: It is very busy outside the school at the beginning and end of the school day. Please take care when parking around the school and respect our neighbours. Please do not park in the bus lane as this is for dropping off only. The disabled parking bay is reserved for badge holders only.

Contact Details: Please can you ensure that all your up to date contact details are held by the school especially if you have changed address or phone number within the last few months.

Before and After School Club Provision: Dove Bank Primary School is now able to offer childcare services before and after school, Monday to Friday. Club registration details and information can be found on our school website.

Dates for Your Diary

Monday 17th – Friday 21st February: Half term

Monday 24th February: Start of second half of Spring Term

Tuesday 25th February: FS/KS1 Phonics Information Workshop (9.00am-10.30am)

Wednesday 26th February: Friends of Dove Bank planning meeting (7.00pm)

Friday 28th February: Junk Percussion Workshop Day

Thursday 5th March: World Book Day

Thursday 5th March: Y2 & Y6 SATs Information Evenings (5.00pm)

Monday 9th – Friday 13th March: British Science Week

Thursday 12th March: Friends of Dove Bank PJs and Popcorn Night

Thursday 2nd April: Friends of Dove Bank Chocolate Bingo Night

Friday 3rd April: Last day of Spring Term (school closes for Easter Holidays)

Monday 20th April: School opens for Summer Term

Tuesday 21st April: Class photographs

Monday 11th – Thursday 13th May: Y6 SATs Week

