

Drake Primary School Newsletter



12th January 2024



Bikeability

Dear Families,

On Monday we received the lovely news of Drake babies. Mrs Keavey welcomed baby Reggie and Mr Daniel welcomed baby Summer. All are doing well and I'm sure you join us in sending our congratulations and best wishes to both families. Mrs Stuart has also officially finished with us as she starts her maternity leave. Miss Theobald and Mrs Jones are taking over the role of SENDCO. Any communication can continue to be sent to the SENDCO email address or tge office as usual.

Monday to Thursday, we welcomed a team in to support the year 5 and 6 with their bikeability. Despite the cold, the children were out practising their cycling and learning about safety. Certificates and badges were given out in assembly and we were very proud to hear how impressed the team were with the behaviour and conduct of the pupils at Drake.

We completed our final tour for prospective new parents this week as the deadline for Reception places is 15th January. It is always such a pleasure to walk around school and see the children engaged and happy in their learning.

In school, we are expanding our school councils by one member per class. These current groups will then run until the end of the Summer Term and then changed in September. Pupil voice is important to us at Drake as the children have the opportunities to find their passions and have their say about important topics. Our pupils develop skills of teamwork, collaboration and leadership and have a direct impact on life in school.

Every Day Matters

It is a statutory requirement for children to attend school every day.

The class with highest attendance this week is

Kahlo

99%

Congratulations!



Secret Student

Named secret students this week are:

Reception: Amelia M, Oliver L, Oliver S, Evie, Freddie, Teddy, Darcey, Poppy, Eli, Pennie

Year 1: Matilde, Eleanor, Mable, Jensen, Naomi, Laura, James

Year 2: Oskar, Olivia, Matas, Joana, Charlie, Tommy, Bella, David

Year 3: Victor, Freya, Della, Danny, Freddie, Anabelle, Jordan, Aedan, Isabella B, LC

Year 4: Calee, Miley, Reuben, Andrew, Phillip, Teddy S, Florence, Oliver R, Charley

Year 5: Valentina, Jack B, Matthew, Tony, Thomas,

Year 6: Martha, Toby, Scarlett, Alfie C, Aliyah, Lucas, Sophia, Oscar, Thomas, Skyla

These pupils have demonstrated our school values and learning behaviours, well done.

Parent Assemblies and Cafes

This week was our first Parent café of 2024 with Year 5 welcoming their families in for a café focused on online safety. Looking at key aspects of online safety and focusing on the reliability of sources, it was interesting to see what sites and sources are considered reliable and why. Thank you to all who joined us.



Next week: Tuesday: Hadid assembly in the main hall
Thursday: Reception parent café in the main hall

Prefect Update

This week was the first full week back at school of 2024! We have all been introduced to our new topics. We have been strongly encouraging more students to read every day and record 7 reads in their reading diary. Year three has been looking at experimenting with light. Year 2, Tabei class have been on a brilliant school trip to King's House and met the Mayor of Thetford, Earhart will go next week. They have also been looking at some abstract artwork. Year six is also a step closer to their upcoming France residential trip in July after their SATs. The parents whose children are taking part on this trip have paid the first deposit for the activities. Reception have been brave enough to join the rest of the school in the morning assemblies. Also, children in year 5 and 6 have been lucky enough to enjoy 2 hours of daily biking lessons outside of the school grounds. These included advice on how to behave on the road. These children have received a badge and certificate for completing the course in our weekly Friday assembly.

Reading

It is important that children read every day. On a Monday, reading diaries are checked and teachers award gold stars for children who have read more than 7 times.

This week only 109 children read more than 7 times and achieved their gold star.

This week's award is to:

Turing

Daily run

To support Mental and physical health and well-being, children run every day. KS2 have a weekly distance competition.

This week's award is to:

KS1: Earhart
KS2: Curie

Curriculum Update: Theme

Each new term, the children explore a new theme. We have thematic learning exploring 'big questions' which allows for breadth and deep learning rather than the narrow focus of some topics. Each theme incorporates the areas of the National curriculum but often with a specific subject focus. These are our themes for this term

Reception	Stories, rhymes and morals
Year 1	Place
Year 2	People
Year 3	Movement
Year 4	Compare
Year 5	Beyond
Year 6	Adversity

Feature Podcast

Our children contribute to school life and the children's learning through our Drake Radio. You can listen live [here](#).

Have a listen to a feature podcast:

Medical Council

<https://drake-infant-school-and-nursery.primarysite.media/media/medical-council-interviews>

Podcasts are available on the [video centre section of the school website](#).

MALLARDS

Our MALLARDS are busy planning events to take place for the rest of this academic year. We are growing and taking on new members to help us to fundraise and support the school.

Next Event: Valentine Disco - 14th February

More details to follow soon

mallards9lrv@nsix.org.uk

Dates for your Diary

All scheduled events for classes/year groups are included in year group newsletters and added to the [year group pages](#).

We aim to provide as much notice as possible for school events, but there are sometimes opportunities that arrive at short notice. As new whole school events are created, we will list them here and then add them to the [school website calendar](#) for future reference.

Spring Term dates

15th January: Zones of Regulation Café for parents 2-3 or 5-6

16th Feb: Last day of Half term

1st March: National offer day for Secondary School places

4th—8th March: Wold Book Week

11th—15th March: British Science Week

26th March: INSET day - school closed

28th March: Last day of Term - 1pm finish

16th April: National offer day for Primary School places