



A message from the headteacher...

Hello all,



We have lots to update you on in this month's newsletter, as we come to the end of a full and exciting Spring Term. We had a great World Book Day a couple of weeks ago and today our oldest pupils have been in charge of running the school—Y6 Takeover day! See the photo to the left of our new members of the site team and more to come on Dojo and in our next newsletter.

Attendance at the recent Parents' Evenings was incredibly high and we thank you for taking the time to meet with teachers to share and celebrate your child/ren's learning.

Following on from this, pupil attendance has really improved this term and you will have seen my posts on Dojo highlighting this. We strive for 97% attendance across the school and we have hit this on multiple weeks since Christmas.



You may have also seen some online safety related reminders on Dojo, along with ideas on how to support children throughout school holidays and in particular, the local area. If you'd like any further support on these areas, please do let us know.

Finally, we say goodbye to our fabulous Deputy Headteacher today. Miss Williams has been at Dovelands Primary School for over 20 years and has been integral in its successes, taking on a number of different roles (including Acting Headteacher twice!) throughout that time. Her impact is embedded in the life of our school and we can't thank her enough for her commitment and hard work. We are looking forward to hearing of her next successes as she takes on her new Deputy Headship at Coleman Primary School.

I wish the children, families and staff at Dovelands a restful break over the next 2 weeks and will see you all on Monday 13th April for the new term.

Thank you for your ongoing support,
Miss Slinger

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A FOUNDATION STAGE 1 (NURSERY) PLACE?



COLLECT AN APPLICATION FORM FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE FOR THE 2026-2027 ACADEMIC YEAR.

We are kind
We are respectful
We are brave
We are aspirational
We belong



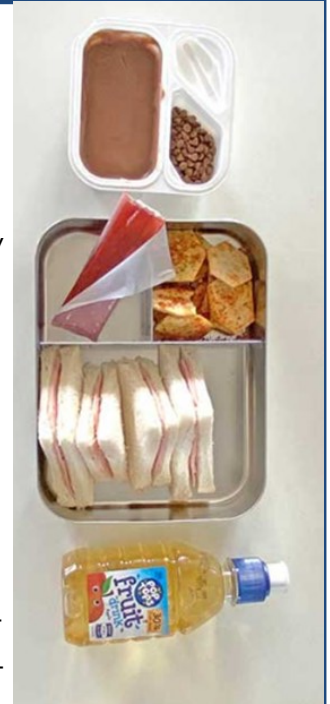


Healthy Packed Lunches

At Dovelands, we are committed to supporting the health and well-being of every child, and a balanced packed lunch plays an im-



portant role in helping pupils stay focussed, energised and ready to learn throughout the day. A nutritious lunch that includes a variety of foods such as whole grains, lean proteins, fresh fruits and vegetables, and dairy or dairy alternatives can make a real difference to children's concentration, mood and overall development. Establishing healthy eating habits early on also helps set the foundation for lifelong well-being.



ing.

Recently, our School Councillors carried out a series of lunchbox audits and noticed that many packed lunches contained high number of sugary snacks and drinks. They felt strongly about the impact this could have on their peers' health and were keen to promote positive changes. Simple swaps can make a big difference. For example, replacing sugary drinks with water or milk, choosing fresh fruit instead of sugary snacks, or opting for plain yoghurt instead of high- sugar desserts. We encourage parents and carers to work with their children to make these healthier choices, helping us create a school environment where everyone can thrive.

We'd also love to invite parents and carers to a free Healthy Lifestyles workshop led by our school nursing team at 9am on Friday 17th April. Sign up via Dojo will be available soon if you'd like to join us.



F2 went to the church

Foundation 2 had a lovely time visiting St Anne's Church on Monday to look at the features of the church as part of our RE learning. Thank you to Reverend Liz for being so accommodating and all of the parents who helped with the trip.



Dovelands

Primary School

Newsletter

Stay and Read

In Foundation 1 and Foundation 2, we have introduced 'stay and read' sessions for parents and carers. We are thrilled with the number of people who have been visiting us on a Friday morning and look forward to continuing this in the summer term.



'Spring has sprung' in the Dovelands Garden



New hawthorn leaves



Hyacinths and Daffodils



Primroses

Here are some flowers that are already blooming in the garden. See if you can see them when you are out and about.



Forget-me-nots (These ones are pink, but many are blue.)



Grape Hyacinth

The weather is beginning to warm up, but it's still quite cool. Look at these lines from Sara Coleridge's poem. What do you think they mean? 'March brings breezes, loud and shrill, To stir the dancing daffodil.'

From 'The Garden Year' by Sara Coleridge



Kingcups or Marsh Marigolds



Frog



Frogspawn

Pond News!
The frogs are busy laying frogspawn. If you are very quiet, you may hear them croaking.

See you next month!



Comic Relief 2026

A big thank you for all of the kind donations for Red Nose Day 2026. All of the money raised will go to support the life changing work that Comic Relief does to help people in England and all over the world.

The UNICEF ambassadors would like to say a big well done for all of the amazing entries for the 'Design-Your nose' competition. They had to carefully choose a winner, not an easy task by any means! Here they are below:



Foundation Stage
winner – Eva (Wrens)



Year 1 and 2 winner
– Orin (Peacocks)



Year 3 and 4 winner
– Reggie (Hawks)



Year 5 and 6 winner
– Evan (Doves)



Food bank donations

Monday 13th April 2026 – Friday 17th April 2026

The UNICEF ambassadors would like your help! We would like every family to have enough food and essential items. To support Woodgate Community Food Bank, we would like to request donations of food and essential items.

Please can we request items such as pasta, tinned foods, biscuits, cereal, tea and coffee, long life milk (not cartons), as well as nappies, wipes and toilet roll.

If you could send in all of your donations in the week beginning Monday 13th April up to Friday 17th April. The UNICEF ambassadors will then collect and organise the donations. These will then all be forwarded on to Woodgate Community Food Bank.

For further information about Woodgate Food Bank, here are the contact details:

Email: woodgatecommunityfood@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/woodgatecommunityfood>

Thank you for all your support in advance.

UNICEF ambassadors

