

28TH
FEBRUARY
2025



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Dear families,

We hope you all had a wonderful and restful half term break. It's fantastic to welcome you back as we look forward to an exciting and busy term ahead!

This week, our Early Years and Key Stage 1 children have embarked on their new learning projects. In Early Years, the children are diving into *Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf*, bringing the story to life with puppets and imaginative play. Meanwhile, Key Stage 1 are exploring *Away on Safari*, where they've already been immersed in African drumming sessions and studying the stunning artwork of John Dyer.

It has been wonderful to see the enthusiasm and creativity our children are bringing to their learning. We can't wait to see how their projects develop over the coming weeks!

Here's to another great term ahead!

Miss Swiers

DATES FOR THE HALF TERM

- 4th March: KSI trip to Flamingo Land and Zoo
- 4th March: UKS2 History to Life Viking Workshop
- 4th March: Year 5 PGL Parent Meeting (3.30pm-4pm)
- 4th March: Class 6 & 7 trip to Tropical World
- 5th March: Class 8 trip to Tropical World
- 5th March: FODS meeting (7.15pm-8.15pm)
- 6th March: World Book Day
- 10th March: UKS2 Art Gallery Parents Invited (2.45pm)
- 11th March: Book Fair
- 12th – 14th March: Year 5 PGL trip
- 20th March: KS2 Spring Concert (1.30pm-3.30pm)
- 1st April: Parents evening (3.30pm-6.30pm)
- 2nd April: Easter service at st Edward's Church
- 3rd April: Parents evening (3.30pm-6.30pm)
- 4th April: Rocksteady Concert (10am)
- 4th April: End of Term

ATTENDANCE AT DRINGHOUSES

Please see below our attendance for each year group this week. Please remember that each missed session has an impact on your child's educational journey. Please see the attendance for this week below.

Reception: 84% Year 1: 97% Year 2: 99.5% Year 3: 91% Year 4: 95% Year 5: 95% Year 6: 97%

The classes with the highest attendance this week were Class 3. Well done for an excellent 100% attendance. 'Attendi Pengi', our giant (very cute!) penguin will be spending the week with them.



LOWER KS2 UPDATES

In Spring 2, we will continue our exciting Jungle Run learning journey! In Geography, we'll compare the UK to a region in South America, exploring differences in climate, culture, and landscapes. In DT, we'll develop our sewing skills, creating our own fabric-based projects. Computing lessons will focus on e-safety, helping us stay safe and make smart choices online. Finally, in English, we'll put our performance skills to the test as we rehearse and prepare for our school play. It's set to be a fun and creative half-term full of new skills and experiences!

PARENT SURVEY

Thank you to all the parents who took the time to complete our recent survey. We appreciate your responses, kind comments, and the valuable ideas you've shared for next steps. It's wonderful to see that 97% of families reported that their child feels happy at Dringhouses Primary, and 96% said that the curriculum engages their child in learning. These results are a testament to the hard work and dedication of our staff, and we're thrilled to know that so many of you feel positive about your child's experience at school. One area that stood out with a noticeable difference in responses was homework. We recognize that this is an important topic, and we plan to follow this up with further parent consultation to better understand your views and explore how we can improve this aspect of school life. Your input is essential as we continue to grow and improve together.

WHATSAPP

In recent weeks, we have been addressing a number of concerns related to children using WhatsApp inappropriately. Unfortunately, some of our pupils have been experiencing issues with unkind behaviour and communication through the app, which is starting to impact their well-being and their school life. As you may be aware, WhatsApp has a minimum age restriction of 13, and we strongly advise parents to be mindful of this when considering allowing their child to use the app. While technology can offer many benefits, unrestricted access to messaging platforms like WhatsApp can have a negative effect on children's mental health, leading to anxiety, misunderstandings, and social tension that often spills over into the school environment. We are encouraging parents to monitor their child's online activity closely and to ensure that they understand the importance of respectful communication, both online and offline. It's essential we all work together to safeguard our children and help them navigate the digital world responsibly.

ICE PACKS

If any heat or ice packs make it home please can you return them to the school office?

RECYCLING

Terracycle have stopped collecting dental products or crisp packets so we are no longer able to accept these items for recycling at School.

READ YOUR WAY
THIS WORLD BOOK DAY

WORLD
BOOK
DAY

6 MARCH 2025

Get Cosy With a Book

Come to school wearing your
pyjamas, onesie or dressing
gown



VACANCIES

Playworkers

We're looking for play workers to join our lunch time team. This is a term time only position. 11.55am-1.15pm. £12p/h. Please speak to Claire in the main office or email the admin email (admin@dringhouses.co.uk) to apply or for further information.

Teaching Assistant (Grade 4, term time only, 30 hours per week)

We're looking for someone to join our team as a teaching assistant.

Please see the school website for details: <https://dringhousesprimary.org/2025/02/06/teaching-assistant-level-2-3/>

Please note applications close at midnight on the 28th February

Out of School Club Manager

We are looking for a manager who can bring fun, awe, and wonder, and make magic at our brilliant children's breakfast, after school club and holiday club.

If you are looking to join a unique, forward thinking setting with plenty of scope for personal development this could be the setting for you.

Please see the attached job advert for details

FODS

Wednesday 5th March: Next FODS meeting

We'll be deciding how to help the school to fund school trips and planning next term's events. Join us at 7:15pm at the school for the meeting (it lasts an hour), before we head to the Fox and Roman. Everyone welcome!

Fundraising update

Together we raised a fantastic £379.92 at our Valentine's Bake Sale. Thank you for all your donations.

The EYFS/KSI party is not a fundraising event - we just do it to give the kids a lovely evening. However Vicki Adam and Tracy Sheedy did such a great job at keeping costs low that the party made £161 profit, which will be used to benefit the school

DOG FOULING

It has been brought to our attention that a number of people have noticed dog poo on their routes to and from school. If you identify an unclean area or someone not picking up after their dog please report it via the appropriate channel:

<https://www.york.gov.uk/DogFouling>

OPERA AT ACOMB LIBRARY

Written as a continuation of A Midsummer Night's Dream, The Vanishing Forest uses spells, puppetry and mystical flowers to educate and inspire children on the issue of deforestation, through a brand-new Shakespeare infused opera. Recommended for ages 7 -11 years old.

This event is hosted by Acomb Library with the English Touring Opera!

It is running on Sun 2 Mar 2025 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM and is bookable via Ticket Tailor.

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/exploreYorklibrariesandarchives/1516069>