



DYMCHURCH PRIMARY NEWSLETTER



Executive Headteacher – Mrs Nicki Man

Acting Head of School – Miss Simmonds – Head of School – Mrs Jenny Ross

Dymchurch Primary School, New Hall Close, Kent, TN29 0LE

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18 SEPTEMBER 2026

TERM DATES

view at bottom
of newsletter



Dear Families

What a wonderful week we've had!

Firstly, we are sharing some amazing news: 🌟 WE ARE FINALISTS! 🌟

We are incredibly excited to share that Dymchurch Primary School has been shortlisted as a South East Regional Finalist in this year's National Read-Aloud Challenge! 🎉 This is a fantastic achievement and a lovely celebration of the children's enthusiasm for reading.

We will find out on 1st October whether we have been crowned South East Regional Winners. If successful, we could be invited to the fully funded National Read-Aloud Challenge Awards Ceremony at Amazon HQ in London!

A massive well done to every child who took part in the challenge. We are so proud of the enthusiasm and commitment you showed towards reading — and we have some very special individual achievements to celebrate too!

To make it even more exciting, Dymchurch Primary also finished 1st place out of all the Our Community Multi-Academy Trust - OCMAT schools!

We are so proud of the children for how amazing they are. Their resilience and 'can do' attitudes are a credit to you and the school.

Finally, a couple of reminders: could parents please review the uniform policy for clothing and shoes. Also, please can we remind families and children that no jewellery is to be worn in school except for studded earrings. This is part of the uniform policy and also health and safety.

Wishing you a lovely weekend

Miss Simmonds and The Dymchurch Team

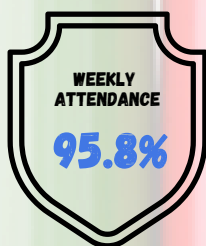
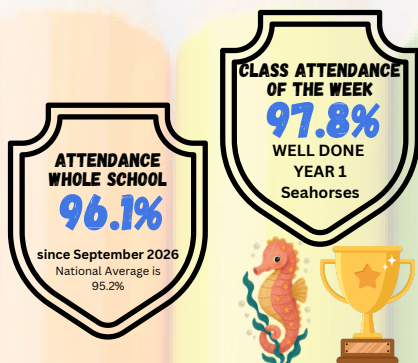
REMINDERS

- ✓ You can join our FoDS Team – please enquire at the school office
- ✓ You can collect a car park permit from the school office to park in the village car park
- ✓ School Dinner's should be paid for on Arbor on the day or in advance. These are priced at £3.10 per day from September 2026
- ✗ Please do not park or drop off your child on the zig zags outside of school. It is not a stopping zone.

EVENTS

Please see full diary dates at the bottom of the newsletter.

See posters below for full dates



Click us to find out about our school dinners and latest menu



OUR COMMUNITY MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
Find out more about
Our Community Multi Academy Trust

CLICK HERE

We are proud to be part of the Our Community Multi Academy Trust. Ten schools, one family, united in nurturing, inspiring, and supporting every child and member of staff.



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OUR COMMUNITY MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
Find out more about
Our Core Trust Documents

DATES FOR 2026-2027

TERM DATES 2026 - 2027	
TERM 1	
Start:	Tuesday 1 st September (INSET)
Children begin school on	Wednesday 2 nd September
Children finish school on	Tuesday 20 th October (Wed 21 st , Thurs 22 nd , Fri 23 rd INSET DAYS)
End of Term 1:	Friday 23 rd October
October Holiday:	Monday 26 th October – Friday 30 th October
TERM 2	
Start:	Monday 2 nd November
Finish:	Friday 18 th December
Christmas Holiday:	Monday 21 st December – Friday 1 st January 2027
TERM 3	
Start:	Monday 4 th January 2027
Finish:	Friday 12 th February
February Holiday:	Monday 15 th February – Friday 19 th February
TERM 4	
Start:	Monday 22 nd February
Finish:	Thursday 25 th March
Easter Holiday:	Tuesday 30 th March – Friday 9 th April
TERM 5	
Start:	Monday 12 th April
Bank Holiday:	Monday 3 rd May
Children finish school on	Thursday 27 th May
Finish:	Friday 28 th May (INSET)
May Holiday:	Tuesday 1 st June – Friday 4 th June
TERM 6	
Start:	Monday 7 th June
Finish:	Wednesday 21 st July
School Closed for Bank Holidays:	
Friday 26 th March	
Monday 29 th March	
Monday 3 rd May	
Monday 31 st May	
School Closed for Development Days:	
Monday 1 st September 2026	
Wednesday 21 st October 2026	
Thursday 22 nd October 2026	
Friday 23 rd October 2026	
Friday 28 th May 2027	



DYMCHURCH DIARY DATES – 2026-2027

Term 1 - 1 st September to 23 rd October 2026		
September	1 st	INSET DAY (no children in school)
	2 nd	Children return to school
	14 th	School photos – individual and siblings
October		Black History Month
	9 th	Young Minds Mental Health Day (10 th) - Wear Yellow
	14 th	Flu Vaccinations YR-Y6
	16 th	Harvest Festival
	20 th	End of Term 1
	21 st - 23 rd	INSET DAYS (no children in school)

Term 2 - 2 nd November to 18 th December 2026		
November	2 nd	Term 2 Begins
		Secondary School applications closes Y6 pupils (midnight)
	5 th	Own Clothes Day – Dress in firework colours (bottle donation)
	9 th	Book Look for Parents – 3.15pm – 3.45pm
	12 th	Parents Evening
		Anti Bullying Week (16 th – 20 th)
	20 th	Own Clothes Day (Sweet donations for Fayre)
December	4 th	Christmas Fayre – 3.15pm – 4.15pm
	16 th	Christmas Jumper Day (normal school uniform) and Christmas Dinner Day
	14 th	KS1 dress rehearsal to school (no families on this day)
	15 th	KS1 performance to families – 2pm
	16 th	KS2 Visit to St Peter and St Pauls Church – 2pm
	17 th	Dymchurch Disco (whole school) 3.10pm – 4.15pm
	18 th	End of Term 2

Term 3 - 4 th January 2027 to 12 th February 2027		
January	4 th	Term 3 begins
	5 th	NSPCC Number Day – dress up as anything numerical £1 donation to charity
	19 th	Young Voices Concert at O2 Arena (school choir)
February	9 th	Safer Internet Day
	12 th	Own Clothes Day – Be Yourself, Love yourself (donation of chocolate for Easter Raffle)
	12 th	End of Term 3

Term 4 - 22 nd February to 25 th March 2027		
February	22 nd	Term 4 begins
March		British Science Week (5 th – 14 th March)
	3 rd	Mother's Day Gift Sale (FoDS)
	4 th	World Book Day – dress up as your favourite book character. Reading with parents event in the hall at 2.30pm
	19 th	Comic Relief Red Nose Day - Wear red to school (£1)
	25 th	Easter Assembly and Bonnet Parade – Wear Easter Bonnets (normal uniform applies)
	25 th	End of Term Term 4

Term 5 - 12 th April to 27 th May 2027		
April	12 th	Term 5 begins
May		SATS for Year 2 throughout month of May
		Year 6 SATS week beginning 10 th – 13 th May
	6 th	Parents Evening
	TBC	Year 6 to Windmill Hill
	27 th	End of Term 5
	28 th	INSET DAY (no children in school)

Term 6 - 7 th June to 21 st July 2027		
June	1 st	Term 6 begins
		Multiplication Times Table Check for Year 4 from 3 rd June
		Phonics screening for Year 1 until 12 th June
	11 th	Sports Day
	14 th	Sports Day (Reserve)
	18 th	Fathers Day Gift Sale (FoDS)
	21 st	World Music Day – Dress as your favourite music icon (bottle donations for Fayre)
July	3 rd	Non-Uniform Day (sweet donations for Fayre)
	TBC	Summer Fayre 3.15pm – 4.15pm
	14 th	Bastille Day – Wear red white and blue
	15 th	Year 6 End of Year Production to families – 4.30pm
	20 th	Celebrations Afternoon 'Dymchurch Has Talent'
	21 st	Year 6 Leavers Assembly and School End of Year Awards – 9.15am school hall
	21 st	DymFest (Festival in the afternoon for whole school 1.30-3pm) Wear Festival Clothes
	21 st	End of Term 6



OUR COMMUNITY MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

OCMAT Family Magazine

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Parent Notice Board



CLICK HERE

Being part of the OCMAT Family

A parent/Carers guide.



Facebook Page

CLICK HERE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
FRIENDS OF DYMCHURCH SCHOOL
(FODS) PTA AGM

FODS

WHEN: WEDNESDAY, 30th SEPTEMBER

TIME: 6:00 PM

WHERE: DYMCHURCH PRIMARY SCHOOL
IN THE MAIN SCHOOL HALL

YOU ARE INVITED!
Join Us for Our Annual General Meeting

FIND OUT about what we did last year!
VOTE for the new FODS Committee!
LEARN how you can get involved and make a difference!
SHARE your ideas for future events & fundraising!
ALL PARENTS & CARERS WELCOME!

WE NEED YOU!
Refreshments (Tea, Coffee & Biscuits provided)
Community Opportunity

Come along and support your child's school community!

FODS PTA

FREE
PRIMARY SCHOOL
BREAKFAST
CLUB

STARTS FROM
8:15

A GREAT START TO THE SCHOOL DAY!

HEALTHY BREAKFAST
TIME TO CONNECT
READY TO LEARN
POSITIVE START, HAPPY DAY!

DYMCHURCH
PRIMARY SCHOOL

BEGINS SEP 2ND 2026

EVERY CHILD. EVERY MORNING.
EVERY OPPORTUNITY.

Folkestone Model Railway Club

MODEL RAILWAY EXHIBITION

Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone, CT20 2DZ
Sat 26th & Sun 27th September 2026,
10am- 4.30pm

New Dates

Supported by:

ADULT (16+): £9, CHILD(5-15): £4, FAMILY: £24

www.folkestone-mrc.com

Dymchurch Primary School

Open Days

Is your child starting Reception Class in September 2027 or do you have a child in a different year group and thinking of changing school?

Dymchurch Primary School – a seaside gem where children achieve, succeed and grow in every way.

Quality of Education:	Good
Behaviour and Attitudes:	Outstanding
Personal Development:	Outstanding
Leadership and Management:	Good
Early Years Provision:	Good

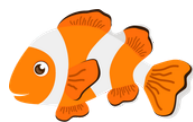
Open tours begin at the timings below and are available on the following dates. No need to book an appointment. All families welcome.

Tuesday 8 th September	9.30am-10am and 2.00pm-2.30pm
Thursday 15 th October	9.30am-10am and 2.00pm-2.30pm
Wednesday 4 th November	9.30am-10am and 2.00pm-2.30pm
Friday 4 th December	9.30am-10am and 2.00pm-2.30pm

If you are unable to make the above dates, please contact the office to arrange an alternative day: 01303 872377 or office@dymchurch.kent.sch.uk

OCMAT
part of Our Community Multi Academy Trust

Make sure you follow our social media page and read the OCMAT Family Magazine for all the latest news



Clownfish have been super busy this week and have enjoyed taking part in a wide range of exciting learning experiences. We have been exploring numbers, sounds, stories, feelings, art and relationships, both inside and outside the classroom.

In maths, we have been learning how to count to 5. The children have been developing their understanding that the stopping number tells us the total amount. They had lots of fun helping our mole to count and were super helpers throughout the activity.

In Phonics, the children have started learning their new sounds. They have had lots of fun identifying the new sounds and listening for initial sounds in words. This can be tricky, but the children have shown great concentration as they listened carefully and shared their ideas. We will continue to practise recognising sounds and hearing the first sound in familiar words.

In Drawing Club, the children have been exploring The Colour Monster. We have used vocabulary such as furious and excited to talk about feelings and emotions. Through daily discussions and drawings, the children have shared their ideas. Some have even attempted writing alongside their pictures, adding marks, letters and words to communicate their thoughts. They have been developing their understanding of different emotions and how these might be expressed.

Our key text in topic has been The Paper Dolls. Clownfish enjoyed baking and decorating paper doll-shaped biscuits, discussing shapes, patterns and creative choices while developing confidence in following instructions. They also created strings of paper dolls, now displayed in the classroom. The story encouraged discussions about memories, loved ones and kindness.

In R.E., we discussed how people are special to us. The children pointed out each other's special attributes and recognised the qualities that make every person unique.

In Art, the children explored wax crayons by creating rubbings. They experimented with different textures and enjoyed watching patterns appear in their artwork.

We wish you all a lovely weekend
Miss O'Neill and Miss Harding



Star of the Week: **Sam** for his positive can-do attitude, and giving new things a try.
Wonderful Work: Luella for her care and precision taken in her beautiful artwork.



We have had another wonderful week in Seahorse Class! The children have been working so hard and continuing to settle brilliantly into Year 1.

In Maths, we have been developing our understanding of numbers by counting larger groups of objects, finding one more than a given number and using number tracks to 10.

In English, we have started our exciting new learning based on The Tiger Who Came to Tea. We had lots of fun making tiger masks and becoming the tiger ourselves! We explored different adjectives we could use to describe the tiger and have also been focusing on the importance of using a capital letter at the beginning of every sentence.

In Science, we began exploring the different properties that materials can have. The children played 'I Spy', investigated mystery feely bags and explored the classroom to find and match different objects to their properties. They did a fantastic job using words such as rough, smooth, hard, soft, shiny and dull to describe what they discovered.

In Art, we used music to inspire our drawing! The children listened carefully to different pieces of music and experimented with creating different types of lines to match what they could hear. We have had such a lovely week and I am really proud of how hard the children have worked.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support!
Miss Maxwell and Mrs Stone



Star of the Week: **Rosie** for being an amazing role model and setting a wonderful example to others.
Wonderful Work: **Harper** for being a super scientist and carefully matching objects with their properties

Year 2

Ray Class



[Click here to view Year 2 Curriculum Map and Termly Topic Web](#)

What an exciting week we have had in Year 2! The children have been working incredibly hard in phonics as they learn the last few remaining graphemes.

In maths, we represented two-digit numbers on place value charts and partitioned numbers to 100. We also practised writing numbers to 100 in words and in expanded form.

In English, we thought of exciting adjectives to describe the characters of Prince Cinders and The Three Brothers, before turning our ideas into sentences for a character description. We loved building expanded noun phrases, remembering to use the determiner, adjective and then the noun. We also learnt that, when using two adjectives, we need a comma. The children then described the setting of the royal disco and produced some fantastic setting descriptions!

In RE, we had great fun acting out the story of the Good Samaritan. In science, we learnt about life cycles and created life-cycle spinners. In our topic work, we explored the features of castles and their purposes. Finally, in art, we enjoyed mixing the primary colours using different tools.

Have a lovely, relaxing weekend!
Miss Lavender and Mrs Miller



Star of the Week: **Gracie M** for always listening beautifully and consistently being a role model to everyone in Ray Class!

Wonderful Work: **Harlow** for a fantastic character description, using ambitious adjectives and beautiful handwriting!

What another busy week we have had in Shark Class!

In English, the children began writing their diary entries inspired by *The Secret Diary of Kitty Cask*. We have been so impressed by the effort they have put into their writing, particularly as they challenged themselves to use adventurous time adverbials, expanded noun phrases and prepositions to bring Kitty's experiences to life.

In Maths, we continued developing our understanding of place value. Using place value charts and counters, we explored making three-digit numbers before finding 1, 10 and 100 more or less. We particularly focused on what happens when we cross into a new ten or hundred, exchanging ones for a ten and tens for a hundred.

In History, we investigated why ordinary people became smugglers. We explored the roles of fishermen, farmers, shopkeepers and churchwardens, considering the skills they could offer smugglers and why they might have been willing to take such a risk.

Finally, in PE, we continued developing our basketball skills. Having already practised dribbling and chest passes, this week we learnt how to pivot while controlling the ball.

Another fantastic week, Sharks! 🦈

Wishing you all a lovely weekend
Miss Rawlin and Mrs Storti-Gates

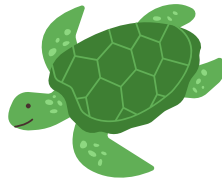


Star of the Week: **Connie** for her superb effort across the curriculum and for showing fantastic bravery and confidence when standing up to practise her French with the whole class.

Wonderful Work: **Lara** for her fantastic effort in writing this week, using expanded noun phrases and prepositions effectively to add detail and bring her writing to life.

Year 4

Turtle Class



[Click here to view Year 4 Curriculum Map and Termly Topic Web](#)

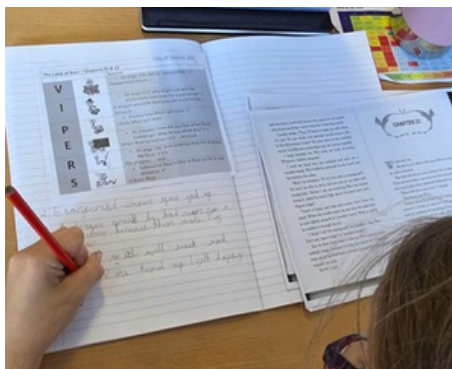
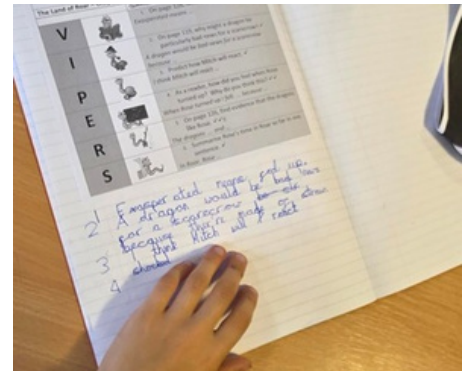
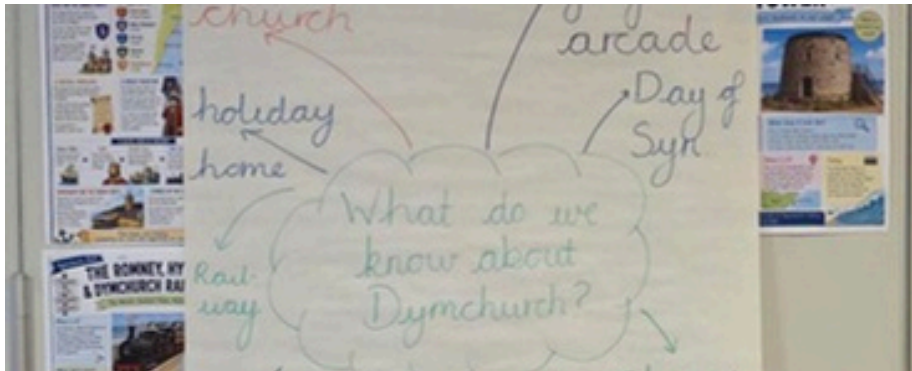
This week Turtle class have had another great week. They are making an excellent start to Year 4 and we couldn't be prouder!

In Maths this week we have continued with our place value learning. We have learnt to partition numbers to 10,000 in different ways and finding more or less using our place value knowledge.

In English we have been learning about direct in indirect speech. We created our own comic strips to create speech bubbles and turn them into sentences containing direct speech with the correct punctuation.

In topic this week we learnt about the Cinque Ports. We learnt about why they are where they are and how it has an impact on Dymchurch. We then used our map skills to draw a map to show the Cinque Ports and Dymchurch and created fact files about what we had learnt.

Have a lovely weekend
Miss Barrett and Miss McGlone



Star of the Week: **Lily-Grace** for always being a kind and helpful member of the class
Wonderful Work: **Axel** for excellent map skills in our topic lesson.

We've had a great week in Penguin class.

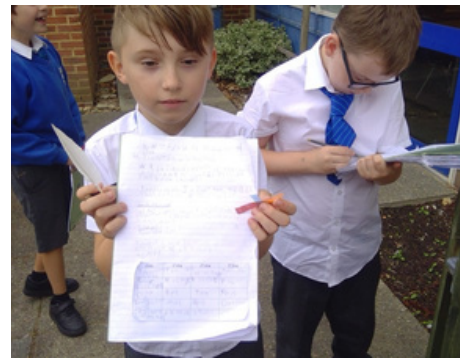
In English, the children have written some fantastic diary entries based on our class text – Floodland. We've been using expanded noun phrases, show don't tell and emotive language to add detail to our writing. We discussed chronology and used time conjunctions to help our writing flow.

In maths, we have been learning about ordering, comparing and rounding numbers. We discussed ascending and descending order and used place value columns to help us when rounding. Later in the week, we practised our arithmetic skills and the children are all making good progress in their tests.

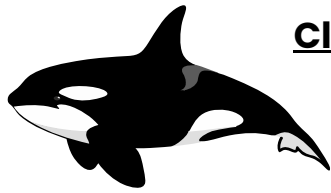
In topic, we have been learning about sustainability, renewable and non-renewable energy. We looked at ways we can make our school more sustainable and created information posters. Later in the week, we looked at different types of energy. We identified items that use electricity and discussed how different non-renewable energies can impact the planet.

In Science, we have been investigating gravity. We carried out an experiment to see if objects of different weights fall at different speeds. We found out that these objects actually fell at the same speed. We carried out each test three times to ensure fair testing and recorded our results using a table.

We hope you have a great weekend,
Mr Marsh and Miss Reynolds



Star of the Week: **Joe** for showing a great attitude towards his learning in each and every lesson.
Wonderful Work: **Phoebe** and **John** for creating a fantastic information poster about sustainability.



What a fantastic week we've had in Year 6!

In English, we used noun phrases to write a setting description about Brackenbridge village from the book Cogheart. The children thought carefully about how to choose precise vocabulary to help the reader picture the setting. We also learnt about relative clauses and how we can use them to add more detail to our writing.

In maths, we looked at negative numbers and solved problems involving them. We then recapped addition and subtraction formal methods and used these methods to solve a range of problems. The children focused on setting out their calculations clearly and checking that their answers were sensible.

In history, we looked at old photos of Dymchurch and compared them with modern-day street-view images. This helped us to identify changes and similarities over time, as well as considering how places can develop.

In PE, we continued with our netball unit by playing games of endball. The children practised moving into space, passing accurately and working effectively as a team.

In science, we looked at how variation explains the different features and characteristics of living things. We discussed how living things can have similarities and differences and considered examples of variation.

Thank you for your continued support. Have a wonderful weekend!
Mr Plummer and Mrs Williams



Star of the Week: **Jorgie** for always having a happy and positive attitude to all learning.
Wonderful Work: **Tatum** for an excellent setting description using expanded noun phrases to describe the village from our class text.