

Hello and welcome to the first newsletter of the year. It has been a wonderful start to the school term and all pupils are well settled with their new class teachers. We can't quite believe it is our first 'normal' September since the pandemic, but this has certainly made a difference as we are able to do all of the pre-pandemic routines such as whole school assemblies.

In particular we are so impressed with our fabulous year 3's- they are so polite, well-mannered and have just seamlessly settled into life at DJS- just fabulous. I would like to say a big hello to all of the new families that have joined us this year and hope you are coping with getting used to new school routines etc.

Please read on to find out what has been happening beyond the classroom this half term and I wish you all a lovely half term break.

**The Passing of Queen Elizabeth II**

*We commemorated the passing of Queen Elizabeth II in school in September. Teachers spoke about the Queen's life and the significance of the event and we discussed the Queen's life and achievements in assemblies.*



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**Coming up:**

- 31<sup>st</sup> October- INSET day- school closed at pupils
- 1<sup>st</sup> Nov- school reopens
- 1<sup>st</sup> Nov- Y5 Kingswood 11th
- Nov- Y3 Stone Age day
- 12 Nov X country Bradfield
- 17 Nov Y6 height & weight check
- 18 Nov Children in Need
- 26 Nov X country Norfolk Pk
- WC 5 Dec Y4 Performances (tbc)
- WC 12 Dec Xmas parties (tbc)
- 12 Dec Y4JF begin swimming
- 16 Dec- break up

**Roman Day**

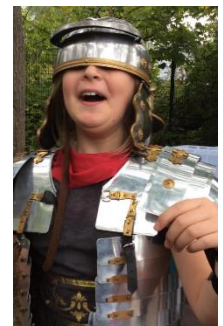
Year 4 welcomed the History Van into school a few weeks ago so that they could find out a little bit more about what life was like when the Romans ruled Britain. They discovered what it was like to be a soldier and learnt to march, wearing the armour and fight. They also discovered what Romans did in their leisure time and played games, wrote using a wooden stick and ink.

Violet in Y4CF

"The thing that was interesting was Roman Soldiers had to hold their sword in their left hand and their shield in the right hand so that they don't hit another soldier by accident."

James Y4CF

"The best part of the day was trying on the Roman armour, it was very heavy, we then learnt how the soldiers communicated to each other using flags."



Thank you to all of the parents who helped organise costumes for the day.

## Pupil Shout Outs

Well done to Umar and Eleanor in year 4 who have had recent success playing for Sheffield Hockey club Under 8's team. They played several tournaments recently, scoring many goals and even scored hat tricks! Keep it up.



Well done Samuel in year 5 who entered a photograph he had taken of a frog in his garden into the Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust Photography Competition. He was one of the 12 chosen winners from over 200 entries- brilliant and well done!



A huge congratulations to former DJS pupil Tom Thake who came an amazing 1<sup>st</sup> in the Mini London Marathon for the U13's- what an incredible achievement- well done Tom and keep on running!



Emmanuelle in year 4 has been putting her creative writing skills to fantastic use. In the summer, she wrote her own short story called "Luna and the Boy at Witch School". She then sold copies of the story to friends and family and donated the proceeds to Hospicecare in Devon. Emmanuelle received a lovely thank you letter from the charity thanking her for the donation of £98. We are so proud of your thoughtful and caring act of kindness Emmanuelle- just fabulous 😊



Well done Noah, Alana & Eleanor from Y4 took part in the Sheffield Diving IRONMAN Challenge to raise funds for their diving squad. The Sheffield Diving Squad had 1 hour to jointly complete the Ironman distance of a 112 mile (180.2KM) bike ride, a 26.2 mile (42.4KM) run and they swapped the 3.9KM swim for a very ambitious 3,900 dives in 1 hour! Not only that but they broke a World Record too!

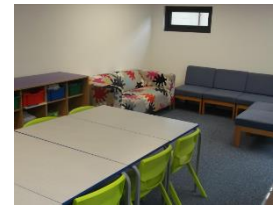


## Year 6 Sports Leaders

This term our sports leaders have been trained in initiating and leading a range of physical activities for children in KS2. Their training focused on encouraging team work, self-belief, respect and determination amongst their younger peers. As well as training, they have practised creating inclusive environments where everyone is supported and encouraged regardless of ability. We are excited to see the impact they will have on the children and overall school environment as they begin to support children at lunchtimes and at the infant school.

## Premises Update

Over the summer we have had two new outdoor classrooms built on the back playground. We are very excited about the extra space it has created. Here is a photo of our new Thrive room, which is used all day for pastoral intervention sessions.



Even more exciting is our new trimtrail. It will be open to children once the final safety checks have all taken place. This has been paid for by money raised by FODs and by money raised by children in school through our "Make It, Bake it, Play It" Days. Thank you to everyone who has contributed time and money to help make this happen!

## Welcome to Dobcroft



We would like to welcome new staff to our school. Miss Jones, Ms Ingleson, Ms Canavan, Ms Stone and Mr Robinson have all joined our amazing support staff team and have certainly settled brilliantly into their roles.

## Goodbye & Good Luck



Miss Farrah, our year 4 teacher is sadly leaving us. Miss Farrah has struggled with her health in recent years and has decided to retire. I am sure many families will have fond memories of Miss Farrah as she has worked at DJS for over 16 years and has taught so many children. Miss Farrah has been a governor, run Saturday morning cross country, led on the Paris trip and so much more. She will be truly missed by staff and children in school and I would like to thank her for all of her dedication and commitment to the Dobcroft community over the years.

## School Streets



Following on from the temporary street closure in June parent representatives, Sheffield City Council, Mrs Rowland and I have met to discuss next steps.

We analysed the survey results and we would like to thank everyone who contributed their thoughts.

We also discussed proactive ways of reducing dangerous parking and driving in the area and Sheffield City Council are investigating measures to improve parking on nearby streets. Some Year 5 and Year 6 pupils have also done their own surveys over the last week to highlight the issue at a whole school level and they will be contributing to an assembly next half term to speak to the whole school about the problems observed. Only last week an infant school pupil was knocked off their scooter- the result of extremely dangerous and illegal parking- this is just not acceptable and something no one would tolerate if it were to happen to their child. This highlights that the problem is still a huge issue.

**Again we would like to reiterate the following important message:**

**PLEASE PARK SAFELY** (this may require you to walk further and thus set off earlier)

**PLEASE PARK IN THE CORRECT AREAS** (this will require you to take notice of the school banners, road markings, not park on curbs in order to avoid a fine or being challenged)

**PLEASE DRIVE WITH CAUTION** (this means drive slowly, and wherever possible avoid driving on Whirlowdale crescent)

**All of the above is for your own child's safety**

Our school motto which we teach pupils in school and underpins our school values is:

**Together We Make a Difference**

*We believe that if **everyone** did their bit then the situation would drastically improve for the better.*

## Pupil's Parliament



We hope last year's Reps are really proud of their achievements, the new 'Trim Trail' is almost complete: all that fund raising was definitely worthwhile. At the beginning of the autumn term one child from each class had the opportunity to become a Pupils' Parliament Representative. Once everyone had presented their ideas to their class, each class voted for the child who they felt would be able to best represent them. The newly appointed Reps then spoke to their class to find out some of the ways in which children would like to improve our school. Watch this space for future developments.

Our new Pupil Parliament representatives for 2022-2023 are:

Y3F Sam T  
Y3B Isla N  
Y3SH Kris G  
Y4CF James F  
Y4JF Stephanie S  
Y4WL Zakir R  
Y5W Essie M  
Y5WB Jacob T  
Y5C Amaya D-S  
Y6PH Sam L  
Y6TH Nancy S  
Y6WT Dillon W

## Parent Shout Outs

A huge congratulations to Fiona Kesteven who completed an Iron man Challenge earlier this term. Fiona finished 17th female overall and 2nd in her age group and qualified for the Ironman World Championships in Kona, Hawaii. This is a huge inspiration for all of our pupils!



Thank you to Diarmid Scrimshaw for kindly sponsoring the 'Bring Your Own Plates & Cups Scheme' at the summer fayre. Anyone who brought their own items (thus reducing use of card and plastic) gained free entry. Diarmid's company (Inflammable Films) sponsored the initiative by reimbursing and matching the costs- an amazing £563.

Thank you to all of the parents who have already been in touch with Mrs Kirk to volunteer their skills and knowledge in an assembly. We have been really impressed with the range and number of responses- such a fabulous learning experience for our pupils. Please email Mrs Kirk if you would like to volunteer your time and expertise.

[akirk@dobcroft-jun.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:akirk@dobcroft-jun.sheffield.sch.uk)



The week beginning Monday 16th October has been our Active Travel week. Our Y5 and 6 pupil parliament reps conducted a traffic survey and were amazed

to find that over 200 cars use the roads immediately outside our school daily! We want to encourage as many families as possible to make active travel choices for their journey to school to reduce congestion and make our roads safer at drop off and collection times. Some of the possibilities we have shared with the children include:

- Walking
- Riding bikes
- Scooting
- Park and Stride - park at least 5 minutes walk away from school and walk the rest (if you live too far away to walk the whole way)

We hope these active choices will make the commute to school a safer and more enjoyable experience. Please read below if you are interested in joining a bike bus scheme!

### Staff Shout Out

A HUGE well done to Miss Taylor who has won our first Pride of Dobcroft Staff Shout Out Award for September ☺



## CHILDMINDER

For before and after school care.  
Drop off and pick up for  
Dobcroft Junior School

I am available for the above service  
For children aged 8 and over.

I live at 329 Millhouses Lane, which is  
a short walk from Dobcroft school.

**Rate - £5 per hour**

Average cost of before and  
after school care per child per day  
**£20**

Parent drop off, 7.30am - SCHOOL - 6.00pm, parent pickup

**Snacks provided** - fruit, squash, toast, veg sticks,  
cheese spread, crisps, biscuits

**Facilities** - Large garden with climbing frame, swings  
slide and playhouse. Indoor toys, Playmobil.  
Art and craft activities, board games, cars.

Experienced childminder, NHS experience in paediatrics.  
Beaver and Brownie Leader, and mother of two.

I have been DBS checked and have first aid training.

I am currently applying to be voluntarily registered by Ofsted.  
(This is only required when caring for children under the age of eight.)

Please contact

Nancy Horton - 07941 813048

Or email - [nancyhortonphoto@gmail.com](mailto:nancyhortonphoto@gmail.com)



## BIKE BUS

David Morley, a parent of a  
child at DJS is keen to set up  
a bike bus.

Please get in touch with  
David below if you are  
interested in encouraging  
your child to cycle to school.

07917 864951



ST JOHN'S CHURCH, RANMOOR

## Children's Choirs

Come and join our friendly choirs at St John's Church, Ranmoor. We are one of the finest church choirs in the country. We offer children and adults the opportunity to grow musically whilst supporting the choral worship of our thriving parish church.

All choir members receive training through the Royal School of Church Music's *Voice for Life* programme, including:

- Tuition from professional music tutors**
- Individual singing lessons**
- Training in reading music and music theory**
- Introduction to exploring the Christian faith**
- Opportunities for concerts and tours**
- Regular chorister pay**

[www.stjohnsranmoor.org.uk](http://www.stjohnsranmoor.org.uk)



## The Choristers

**Ages 8+**

Our choristers rehearse every Monday and Wednesday and sing one service per Sunday in term time.

A hard-working choir with opportunities for progression through the RSCM awards.

## The Juniors

**Ages 5-9**

The juniors rehearse every Monday and sing two Sunday services per month in term time.

This fun, entry-level choir offers a great introduction to choral singing in a welcoming and informal setting.



Not sure if you can commit? Want to give it a try?

## The Pop-up Choir

Meets on the first Sunday of every month; any child can come along and be a chorister for the morning.

Rehearsals from 9.15am.

For more information contact

[music@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk](mailto:music@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk)