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Headteacher: Matthew Dampier

## February Newsletter 2024

Dear Parents



### Spring Dig Day: Saturday 23rd March

In October we held a very successful dig day in school. So much was achieved in the grounds and also inside the school on a very community spirited, tea / coffee, biscuits / pizza laden day!

On **Saturday 23rd March** (anytime between 9-3) we are planning the same but with more attention to plants, shrubs and flowers this time. We will also have some painting inside and outside of school – potentially a classroom and also the sheds outside.

This project forms part of the bigger picture for the children to learn and play outdoors and forms a big part of the school's philosophy in engaging with wildlife and enhancing the learning environment which the children feel very strongly about.

The School Council have decided that they wish to support these school community days by promoting them in school.


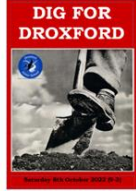


# Task 63

Autumn / Spring  
Community paint / dig days

- Support the actions in Landscape Strategy plan #2
- Plant more pollinator friendly plants
- Plant an orchard
- Build more compost bins
- Make a bug bank
- Develop the wildlife / nature reserve
- Plant more trees
- Revamp staffroom
- Revamp staff toilets
- Support the allotment
- Plant more spring bulbs
- Paint classrooms and corridors in school





*Vision: 'Equipping our children with the knowledge and skills to navigate life successfully.'*

- We've decided that we wish to have chickens in school so we can learn to care and understand about animals (other than Luna) and sell their eggs;
- Plant an apple orchard so we can eventually sell apples and make our own DJS apple juice;
- Enhance our nature corridors in the school grounds by plant more pollinating plants;
- Enhance the wildlife corridor by building bug banks;
- Support the school allotment and help Mr Goble's allotment club;
- Build compost bins in the school grounds;
- Obtain more wood chip and logs for the grounds;
- Develop the wildlife area further;
- Make outdoor libraries which store books safely so children can read outside;
- Get more Den Building equipment for the children to use;
- Plant a pollinator 'screen' to hide fencing on the school site;

We would also like to get some spring cleaning done around the school site in the form of painting and clearing and reorganising of sheds, therefore if you aren't green fingered and wish to help there may be other things you could help with.

**Lunch, tea, biscuits, cake and child care provided free of charge!!!**

Please contact the school office if you

are able to help on the day. Thank you!



### **Safer Internet Day: Tuesday 6th February**

Safer Internet Day is a global campaign to promote the safe and responsible use of technology, which calls on young people, parents, carers, teachers, social workers, law enforcement, companies, policymakers and more, to join together in helping to create a better internet.



To help you with this, you may be interested in downloading the free Safer Internet Day Resources for Parents and Carers which is available at: <https://www.saferinternetday.org/>

There are top tips, quizzes, and films which you can use at home with your child. Some other resources which you may find helpful in supporting your child online are:

- Advice for parents and carers from Childnet <https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/>
- Reviews and information about games, apps, TV shows and websites from Common Sense Media <https://www.commonsense.org/>
- Help on using parental controls and privacy settings from Internet Matters <https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/>
- Information and reporting of online abuse from CEOP <https://www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/>

### **Enrichment at DJS**

Thank you so much to all the parents who presented their career stories linked to Mathematics recently. The children and staff were all extremely engaged in the diverse range of careers where number / calculation were extremely important, including; running businesses; mountaineering; research; the medical profession; construction and engineering.

### **Year 4 – Musical performance for the Grange Festival.**

Through our links with Winchester University and a Creative Collaboration Project we are part of, our Year 4 children have spent two days working on an original piece of music and dance. The children, in collaboration with composers, choreographers and artists from The Grange, have written a short creative composition based on the River meon and kingfishers. They performed this to parents yesterday and the Year3 children. It was fabulous!



The Year 4s will be performing this piece, alongside 10 other schools, creatively celebrating Rivers in Hampshire, at Winchester University, in March!

### **Music**

Children across the school were invited to attend the Childrens Concert at the Central hall, Southampton. Our children, and several other schools were treated to an afternoon of classical and contemporary music performed by a real live, high quality orchestra including conductor.



### Winchester University – Writing project for Year 3 & 4

The author Judy Waite, who lectures at Winchester University in Creative Writing, has been working at our school for the past four Thursday mornings with all the children in Year 3 & 4. She took their imaginations back to Victorian times; gave them all characters to inherit; clothes to wear and candles to focus their creative minds on.



They imagined they were children in Droxford's Workhouse: unhappy they escaped and made their way to the school and adjacent land. Here they developed their stories and own lives. Great fun and lovely outcomes!



### Year 5 STEM club: The Drox battery powered car.

Our first parent meeting took place this week, for those children interested in joining the club that takes place on a Monday evening after school 3:30 – 4:30. The annual club is open to Year 5 children only. The children will get to practise driving the car; writing to prospective sponsors; designing and constructing and hopefully going on a STEM trip.

If you wish your child to join the club the last date for entry is Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February. Please contact the school office to sign up.

### School reception toilets

At last! Our grotty toilets in the reception office of the school are getting a make-over. I feel I need to say this because we are so embarrassed by them. Many a reason why this has taken so long to complete. I am not saying all come in and use them but at least when you do they are befitting of our lovely school!

### Dates for the diary

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February – Half Term**

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> & Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February – Year 3 / 4 trip to Gilbert White study centre**

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February – Runways End parents meeting Year 4 – 6pm**

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March – Year 5 / 6 Greek day**

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March: Parents Evening #1**

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March: Parents Evening #2 + Roving Bookshop**

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March: **SPRING DIG / PLANTING DAY / PAINTING DAY** (school site)**

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March: School Easter Fair (Last day of term) Finish at 3:30 as normal.**

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April: Easter holidays**

### Jarbola is back at the Easter Fair...again!: Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March



The children will have the opportunity to buy a jar from the Jarbola stall at the Easter Fair. This is a good opportunity to reuse any of those plastic toys hanging around in bedrooms and / or put in an interesting surprise or two for the lucky winner. Sweets must be pre-wrapped and remember no nut products including jars used (which must be thoroughly cleaned please – no pickled onions!)

Children can bring them in now and I will store them in a safe place. The Learning Base with the most filled jars brought in by Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March will win a class prize!



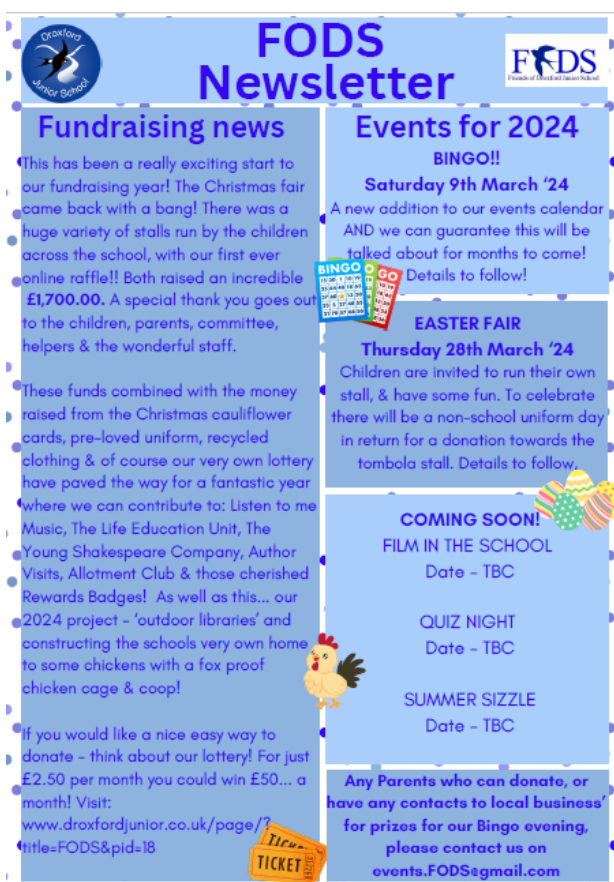
## World Book Day (for us): Thursday 21st March – to coincide with Roving Bookshop Day

We know that dressing up on that day can send some families into a mild panic, including financial considerations, so we would like to emphasise that we are very happy for 'costumes' to be made up from things you may naturally find or make in the home. The idea is to promote a love of books and reading, wrapped up with a bit of fun for the children – not spend lots of money. We haven't decided on a theme yet so if your children wish to dress as any book character (within reason 😊) they can do. More information will follow after half term.

Children will be given a £1 book token they can use on the special £1 World Book Day books at the Roving bookshop.

## FODS

Our new FODS committee have been working hard on organising some events you may be interested in. Please see below and also sign up for their monthly lottery to help the school.



**FODS Newsletter**

**Fundraising news**

This has been a really exciting start to our fundraising year! The Christmas fair came back with a bang! There was a huge variety of stalls run by the children across the school, with our first ever online raffle!! Both raised an incredible **£1,700.00**. A special thank you goes out to the children, parents, committee, helpers & the wonderful staff.

These funds combined with the money raised from the Christmas cauliflower cards, pre-loved uniform, recycled clothing & of course our very own lottery have paved the way for a fantastic year where we can contribute to: Listen to me Music, The Life Education Unit, The Young Shakespeare Company, Author Visits, Allotment Club & those cherished Rewards Badges! As well as this... our 2024 project - 'outdoor libraries' and constructing the schools very own home to some chickens with a fox proof chicken cage & coop!

If you would like a nice easy way to donate - think about our lottery! For just **£2.50** per month you could win **£50...** a month! Visit: [www.droxfordjunior.co.uk/page/?title=FODS&pid=18](http://www.droxfordjunior.co.uk/page/?title=FODS&pid=18)

**Events for 2024**

**BINGO!!**  
**Saturday 9th March '24**  
A new addition to our events calendar AND we can guarantee this will be talked about for months to come! Details to follow!

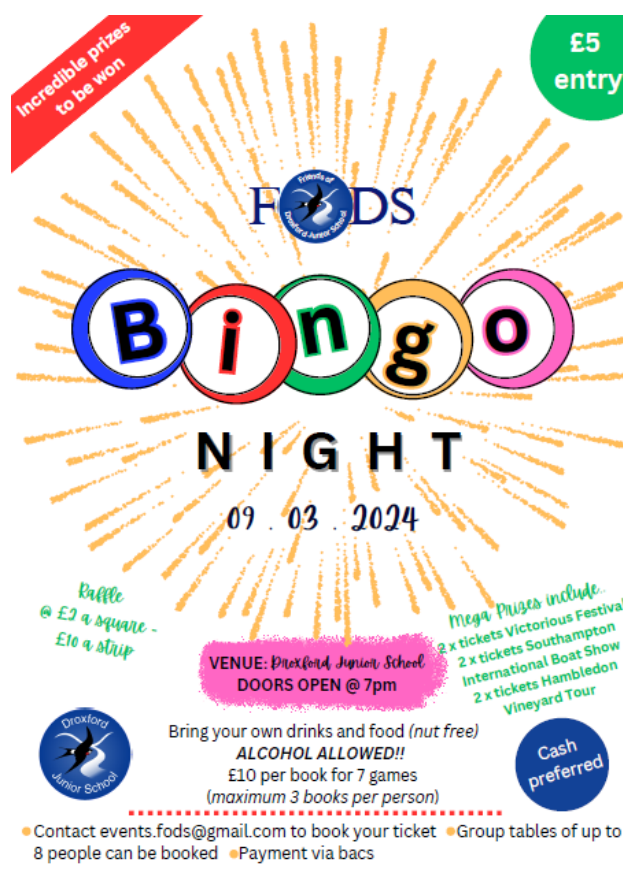
**EASTER FAIR**  
**Thursday 28th March '24**  
Children are invited to run their own stall, & have some fun. To celebrate there will be a non-school uniform day in return for a donation towards the tombola stall. Details to follow.

**COMING SOON!**  
**FILM IN THE SCHOOL**  
Date - TBC

**QUIZ NIGHT**  
Date - TBC

**SUMMER SIZZLE**  
Date - TBC

Any Parents who can donate, or have any contacts to local business for prizes for our Bingo evening, please contact us on [events.FODS@gmail.com](mailto:events.FODS@gmail.com)



**FODS**

**Bingo NIGHT**

**09.03.2024**

**£5 entry**

**Incredible prizes to be won**

**Raffle**  
@ £2 a square -  
£10 a strip

**Mega Prizes include:**  
2 x tickets Victorious Festival  
2 x tickets Southampton International Boat Show  
2 x tickets Hambledon Vineyard Tour

**VENUE: Droxford Junior School**  
**DOORS OPEN @ 7pm**

Bring your own drinks and food (nut free)  
**ALCOHOL ALLOWED!!**  
£10 per book for 7 games  
(maximum 3 books per person)

**Cash preferred**

• Contact [events.fods@gmail.com](mailto:events.fods@gmail.com) to book your ticket • Group tables of up to 8 people can be booked • Payment via bacs

Once again – thank you for your support – have a great half term!

*Matthew Dampier*

Matthew Dampier  
Headteacher

**Vision: 'Equipping our children with the knowledge and skills to navigate life successfully'**

