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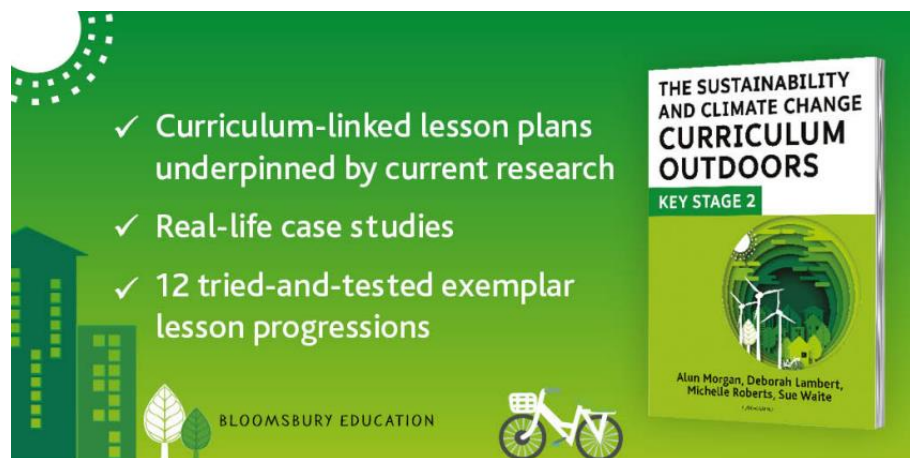
April Newsletter 2024

Dear Parents

Another incredible month to celebrate all things Droxford Junior School. We do so much that I worry that things get missed and we don't always keep you up to speed. I think we need a PR lead sometimes! Anyway, I'll do my best.

Planting an orchard and Droxford Junior School in an important new publication.

In the recently published book, *The Sustainability and Climate Change: Curriculum Outdoors* (Bloomsbury), which our school gets a 6 page mention, in terms of school grounds developments, states.. 'children should be integral in the planting of trees. They end up having a deeper connection to nature through this.'



With this in mind, following on from recently being successful with acquiring 10 tree saplings from the Tree Council, members of the Year 6 School Council and our Green Team, helped to plant trees on our school grounds this week.



<https://treecouncil.org.uk/>





Year 4 at the Grange Festival, Alresford.

Our Year 4 cohort performed their original compositional response to the River Meon on stage this week. The performance was part of the Wild Isles creative project inspired by WWF and Sir David Attenborough's work. <https://www.wwf.org.uk/wild-isles>

Parents have already had the opportunity to see the children perform, this was the children's opportunity to perform on a famous stage with ten other schools linked to the Winchester University / Grange Festival project. They were amazing and had the most incredible experience!




Spring Dig Day: Saturday 20th April

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 20th April (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


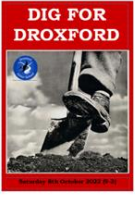



Autumn / Spring Community paint / dig days



- 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;
- 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!



Red Nose day

The children (with your support) raised over £200 for the charity this year. Thank you so much for your kind donations.

Instagram.

Don't forget you can follow our stories on Instagram. Please like / share / tag to help raise our profile in genuine way.



<https://www.instagram.com/droxfordjuniorschool/>



Year 5 STEM club: The Drox battery powered car.

'The Drox' battery powered, eco-friendly car had it's first competitive race of the year recently. At a blustery South Down's College, with parents and staff including myself and Mrs Smith (our Deputy Headteacher), the Year 5 STEM team represented the school admirably and had a wonderful, unique experience plus lots of fun!



More information, pictures and quotes from the day, can be accessed via the links below.

<https://meonvalleytimes.co.uk/local-schoolchildren-in-electric-car-racing-challenge/>

https://www.instagram.com/p/C4_QrJ9rR-P/?img_index=1

FODS Bingo & Easter Fair

Our new FODS committee have been working hard on organising events for the year. The first of which was the bingo night which raised an incredible £3250! It was such a fun night and a great way to support the school.

On the last day of term we held the Easter Fair – so much effort from the children, parents and staff – especially Miss Barnett to ensure the whole school community had a brilliant, sugar-fuelled send off for the well deserved Easter break.



World Book Day and Roving Bookshop

Our world book day event, coinciding with the Roving Bookshop visit was a literary, inspiring and warming day. Miss Jones organised for the children to relax and read in comfy clothing with hot chocolate and cookies and Mrs Daniells our incredible librarian (who Ofsted commented on as a 'very special lady') explained to the children how they can better access books in the library using her new coloured coded, genre system. She has put stickers on the spines of many of the books indicating to the children which book is a thriller; sci-fi; humour; scary or fantasy for instance. This is proving really helpful for the children – an inspirational initiative!



<https://www.simonjohnphotographer.com/>

Once again – thank you for your support – have a wonderful Easter holiday.

Matthew Dampier

Matthew Dampier
Headteacher

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

