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Headteacher: Matthew Dampier

November Newsletter 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

As you may be aware, from the school's paperwork, website and front of the school – we are a South Downs National Park Ambassador School. But what does that mean actually?

Firstly, we are the only school in Hampshire to have this honour and are one of only three in the National Park. This is the only scheme of its kind in the country so it is also very unique and forward thinking.

The Ambassador School Scheme pulls together schools of excellent practice who are willing to share their practice and are settings who have consistently supported the values of the National Park.

In terms of Droxford it is how our curriculum meaningfully engages with the surrounding area and further afield; our enrichment opportunities and also how we offer the opportunity for other schools to come to us and experience what our children benefit from.



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More information about Ambassadors can be found on the link below.

<https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/learning-and-youth-volunteering/schools-groups/south-downs-ambassador-school-scheme/>

Global Connections Week.

Just before half term children and staff in the school taught and learnt about 'decades' as part of the immersive learning week. You no doubt heard lots of interesting stories and facts that may have brought back some memories. We discussed the 50s, 60s, 70s, 80s, 90s and 00s – music, culture, news events, technology, people and major influences on life now. Pictures of staff dressed up as the decade's fashion appeared on Dojo and I toured my life through pictures, in an introductory assembly.



As you are aware I'm not one for self publicity and shy away from the spotlight of attention, but here is a 70s version of Mr Dampier which all chuckled about in the assembly.



Remembrance Day – Monday 11th November



We will be commemorating Armistice Day on the 11th November by ringing the school bell and observing a minutes silence to remember those who were killed or injured in the two World Wars and subsequent campaigns since.

Poppies will be on sale all this week and I will be leading assemblies based on World War 1. I will also be attending a church service at St Peter's Church, Soberton on the invitation of Anthony Mckeowen (leader of the local Royal British Legion) and Janet Melson – Chair of the Parish Council, with four members of the Year 6 School Council, to lay a wreath on behalf of the school on Sunday 10th November.

Wet breaktime / lunchtimes

As the weather is less dry, we still wish the children to use the field. Bring and store the wellies or old trainers / walking boots in school (not the ones for PE) and children can play on the field all year round – even when it snows! The playground can be less fun, cramped and far more busy!



National awareness - Anti-bullying week



Anti-Bullying Week 2024 is coordinated in England, Wales and Northern Ireland by the Anti-Bullying Alliance. This year it has the theme 'Choose RESPECT' and will take place from Monday 11th to Friday 15th November.

The week will be kicked off with Odd Socks Day on Tuesday 12th November, **where adults and children** wear odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique. Parents can join in too!

<https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week-2024-choose-respect/anti-bullying-week-2024-choose-respect>

Thank you again parents, for your incredible support

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Matthew Dampier'.

Matthew Dampier
Headteacher

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

