



Droxford Junior School
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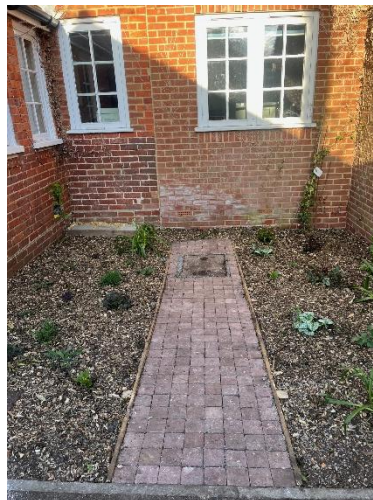
Summer 1 2026 Newsletter

Dear Parents

Spring Dig Day

Thank you so much to all came and supported at Dig Day. It was another successful sunny day. A huge thank you to Richard, Sophie and James Bailey: Graham Marks and family and all the other parents and children who helped on the day. We chopped down trees; created more sculptural and practical dead hedges; weeded, pruned and planted and created the fantastic new garden outside my office window.

As previously mentioned, this area, 'the hive' will be great for pollinators and other wildlife to survive and thrive in our school grounds. Further developments in this part of the school grounds will take place in the Autumn term.



All that helped enjoyed a wonderful lunch. Autumn Dig Day 2026 will be September or October.



Enrichment

Last week our Year 4 children and our Year 3/4 teachers went to Runway's End residential centre, in Farnborough. They had a wonderful time building camp fires; abseiling; climbing; caving; orienteering; shooting; low ropes and archery through the tutelage of the great instructors from the centre and our school staff. I am sure pictures have been shared already; here are some more.



For many of these children this was the first time they had been away from home for more than one night – although they did have the benefit of doing the Year 3 camp last year. They used all their school Values and Skills for Learning and were a real credit to themselves and the school.

Williams Collins Trust

The Williams Collins Trust is a long-standing local charity that exists to give a helping hand to children and young people in our community who may need a little extra support with their education. The Trust offers small grants to help with things like books, equipment, school trips, transport, laptops and extra-curricular activities, helping young people make the most of learning opportunities. If you feel this support could help your family and you are under 25 and live in Droxford, Meonstoke, Corhampton or Exton, you're warmly encouraged to find out more and apply via the William Collins Trust page on the Bridge Churches website:

<https://www.bridgechurches.org.uk/48650-2/>.

The Trust is there to support local young people, so please do take a look if it could make a difference. More information can also be found at:

<https://www.droxfordjunior.co.uk/page/?title=Community+Links&pid=66>

Year 5 / 6 Dockyard Trip

As part of their history topic the three Year 5 / 6 classes have just spent successful days learning about The Mary Rose; HMS Victory and HMS Warrior at Portsmouth's Historic Dockyard. They had the best of weather, experienced wonderful new learning and were impeccably behaved!



World Book Day – Roving Bookshop visit

Our world book day event, coinciding with the Roving Bookshop visit was a literary, inspiring and fun day. Children had the option to dress as favourite book characters and activities all throughout the day, were literary themed and inspirational. Thank you again to Mrs Daniells for all her support!



FODS Easter Fair



Just before the Easter break you all answered the Jarbola 'call' and over 600 jars appeared in school!!! This helped swell the proceeds to a total of around £1200! Well done to everyone for their tasty, creative and enjoyable easter themed stalls. Thank you FODS and Miss Barnett for all your efforts. This money helps pay for more visiting authors, artists, theatre companies and many other enrichment activities.

Governors at Droxford Junior School

We are needing governors at the school. They play an important, diligent role in school life and support accountability. If you know of anyone who would be interested in working with the school and the Trust please get them to contact me via the school office.



Equipping our children with the knowledge and skills to navigate life successfully.

Droxford Junior School is a beautiful rural school that is nestled into the hills of the South Downs National Park. The school has been in the village since the mid 1800's.

We are one of the only three Ambassador schools in the South Downs National Park and are proud to work closely with the Authority.

In February 2024, we proudly retained our outstanding judgement through the Ofsted process and in November 2025 we joined the University of Winchester Academy Trust family of schools opening the doors to further opportunities for all our pupils and staff.

This is an exciting time for our school and we value the strong community and business links we have developed. Our wonderful Friends Of Droxford team dedicate their time to excellent fundraising activities. Our Governors are knowledgeable and experienced in supporting and challenging the school to be better, as well as compliant to statutory obligations.

Come and join us!

If you are a parent of a child beginning their education journey, moving into the area or simply seeking an outstanding education for your child, come and visit us and experience the unique qualities Droxford Junior School has to offer.

Are you a local business person who has skills, resources or experience to offer us? We would love to hear from you too! Be involved in our future plans - you will not be disappointed.

Please call 01489 877537 or email: adminoffice@droxford.hants.sch.uk



Dates for the diary

Our website has all the key dates you will need on the News & calendar tab.

<https://www.droxfordjunior.co.uk/news-and-events>

Curriculum newsletters and overviews informing of the planned learning this term and key dates.

<https://www.droxfordjunior.co.uk/page/?title=Droxford+Curriculum&pid=20>

Year 5 – Sailing residential ...and next week our Year 5s will be sailing in Portsmouth for their three-day residential (it only seemed like yesterday I was writing about their Year 4 residential!) Pictures and information to follow but I am sure they will all have a great time and I am looking forward to taking them.

Year 6 end of Key Stage 2 tests – SATs

SATs start on Monday 11th May for Year 6. These tests show how hard the children have worked over the last four years as well as being a progress measure for the school. Secondary schools use the data in different ways and they also act as a progress measure for GCSEs.

Monday 11th May – Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling.

Tuesday 12th May – English – Reading

Wednesday 13th May – Maths – Arithmetic

Thursday 14th – Maths – Reasoning

The children are well prepared and organised and we know they will do extremely well. Thank you to everyone involved in supporting the children up to this point. They will be amazing!

Dates for the Diary

Monday 4th May: Day closure (Bank Holiday)

Wednesday 6th-8th May: Year 5 Sailing residential

Monday 11th – 14th May: Year 6 end of KS2 SATs

Tuesday 19th May: Author visit – Onjali Q Rauf

Friday 22nd May: Day closure (INSET Day)

Monday 25th – Friday 29th May: Half Term

Wednesday 18th June: Year 3 Camp

Wednesday 24th June: Sports Day

Many thanks for all your support these past few months. You make a huge, positive difference to children's lives at Droxford Junior School. Finally, a massive thank you to the staff in the school office who are the 'glue' of our school communities' logistics: helping parents, children, staff, governors and a headteacher and his dog stay on task and always laugh and smile whilst doing so!



Matthew Dampier
Headteacher

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

