



Dates for Terms 5 & 6

TERM 5

16 th April	Children return to school
30 th April	After-school clubs start
2 nd May	Parent Forum - 9am
3 rd May	SATS Workshop - Year 2 Parents - 2.30pm
7 th May	Bank Holiday (school closed)
8 th May	Class Photos
9 th May	Year R Stay & Play session - 2.00-3.00pm
11 th May	Non-uniform day
18 th May	PTFA Shopping evening 6-9pm
18-24 May	SATS - Year 2
24 th May	Last day of term
25 th May	Staff Development Day
28 th May -1 st June	Half Term

TERM 6

4 th June	Children return to school
7 th June	New Entrants Meeting - 2pm
w/b 11 June	Yr1 & 2 Phonic Screening
11-15 June	Father's Story Week
19 th June	Yr2 Trip - Dover Castle
20 th June	Yr 2 Parents - Information Evening at Junior School - 6.00pm
22 nd June	Sports Day - 10am-2.30pm
25 th June	Reserve Sports Day
3 rd July	Yr1 Trip - Rare Breeds
4 th July	Parent Forum - 9am
5 th July	Yr2 visit to Junior School
6 th July	Reports to parents
w/e 6 th July	After-school clubs end
10 th July	Parent consultations (optional)
11 th July	Yr R Trip - Godstone Farm
14 th July	PTFA joint Summer Fayre with Junior School
18 th July	Yr2 Leavers' Production - 6pm at Community Centre
24 th July	End of school year

Ditton Infant School



Newsletter 5

Summer Term 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our new families who have joined our community this term as well as Mrs Lawry, who has extended her hours to be our full-time caretaker following Mr Buffini's retirement, and Mrs Hampshire who will provide weekly cover in Silver, Blue and Yellow Class following Mrs Stafford's retirement after 40 years at Ditton. We were sad to see Mrs Hewlett leave her post at the end of Term 4 due to family commitments and are currently advertising for a new Inclusion Manager as Mrs Gillard has been offered a new job and will be leaving us in July. I am sure you will join me in thanking them for their contribution to Ditton Infant School.

Thank you to all those parents who helped their child decorate an egg and come up with so many original ideas. It was very hard for Miss McGinley and Miss Major to choose winners with so many innovative designs, but it rounded up Term 4 with a fantastic display and some photos can be seen on the website. Well done to Iona, Lawson and Liam who won 1st prize for their year groups.

We are also pleased to announce that we raised £157.55 for Sports Relief on our non-uniform day. Thank you for your generosity.

We hope now that the weather is warmer more children will be taking the opportunity to put their new-found scooter safety skills to the test. Please remind children to park their scooters in the pods and not take them onto the playground or ride them along the path to Ditton Junior School.

We will be organising more transition events over Terms 5 and 6 for our Year 2 children as they prepare for life in Year 3 at Ditton Junior School, as well as welcoming our new Year R intake into school for some visits.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. C Lewer
Headteacher

Uniform

Although the weather is warmer now, sudden showers of rain and cold winds continue to be a feature of the British Spring and Summer. Please make sure your child continues to have a suitable, waterproof coat in school to wear at these times. All children in school will need either plimsolls or trainers for PE as we hope to hold more lessons on the playground. If you wish your child to wear trainers please ensure that these have a Velcro fastening or that your child can tie their own laces. If you are about to purchase summer footwear, please can you make sure these are safe enough to play in. Backless sandals, flip-flops and shoes with a large wedge can cause children to fall over and should not be worn to school.

Just a reminder as well that all clothing needs to be clearly marked with your child's name. This is particularly important in the case of cardigans, jumpers and sweatshirts as these are frequently taken off during the school day.

Father's Story Week

This will run between 11th- 15th June and fall in with Father's Day Celebrations. It is a national event associated with the Fatherhood Institute with the aim of promoting 'dads' reading at home with their child. Research shows that fathers who are involved in their children's early education have a significant impact on attainment and on future aspiration.

We feel the term 'Father' can mean any male your child would see as looking after them; dad, step-dad, uncle, grandad, big brother. I appreciate that many of our 'dads' work and am therefore considering ways in which we can encourage involvement at a time which fits in with work commitments. I am hoping to run story sessions and activity workshops before school and end of the school day across the week for father figures to attend with their child.

Attendance

This week you will receive your child's attendance printout showing their attendance since September.

The winners of our Easter Egg Attendance Challenge were Arlo, Lucy, Leo, Ollie, Paige and James. Thank you to all those who took part.

34 children were congratulated for 100% attendance since the beginning of the school year. This is a fantastic achievement and significantly more than this time last year.

Good news!

Thank you to everyone who has supported the PTFA events. We have had a significant donation from them to part fund our Wildlife Garden which will start to be developed this term. They have also purchased a class set of cooking equipment for the children to use in school.

We will be having a non-school uniform day on Friday 11th May to raise money to buy some plants for the Wildlife Garden (suggested donation of £1). A parent did approach me in the past about being able to donate a large tyre, so if that person could come and see me we can discuss this further!

Pupil Premium Funding

The school continues to receive funding called Pupil Premium for children:

**who have been adopted from care
have parents who are in the armed services or
are registered (or have previously been registered) for free school meals.**

This information is collected in our October census data. Although we are generally aware of children who are in the first two categories we are not privy to information about parental income, changes in family circumstances and free school meal eligibility. **It is therefore very important to still register for free school meals if you think you may be eligible even though all children at Ditton Infant School will get a free dinner under a different scheme.**

Please see Mrs Gordon in the school office if you want more information or help to apply.

Parking outside the School

In the interest of everyone's safety, it is essential all parents take extreme care when parking outside the school. No parent should be parking on the zig-zag lines or obstructing resident's drives. Community Wardens do monitor the situation carefully and advise residents to report vehicles to the Borough Council or the Police.



Online Safety

The Click CEOP button (pictured) is an asset of the National Crime Agency's CEOP Command. The CEOP Command works to protect children from the harm of sexual abuse and exploitation both online and offline. The button has been developed to offer children, young people, parents/carers and professionals working with these groups with a simple and convenient mechanism for gaining access to trusted online safety advice, help and support. It also provides access to an online mechanism for reporting known or suspected child sexual exploitation or child sexual abuse directly to CEOP. This is offered as a convenient and potentially less intimidating method of reporting these sensitive types of crime. We have this function on our website and I would encourage you to look out for it on other websites you may use with your children.

This term I will be sending home the final 'Guide to... Instagram'. I hope you have found these guides useful for yourself and any older children you may have.

The following link will take you to Vodaphone's online safety magazine which has lots of hints and tips to keep the whole family safe online.

<https://parentzone.org.uk/projects/digital-parenting-magazine>

Safeguarding Update

The NSPCC website contains some useful child friendly information. Talking PANTS teaches children important messages, like their body belongs to them and they should tell an adult if they're upset or worried.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/underwear-rule>

We will also be sharing this with the children in school and asking the children their views about what makes them feel safe.