



Dobcroft Newsletter

25th April 2025



[Click here for school dinners](#)

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Whole school news [Y2 news](#) [Y1 news](#) [Foundation Stage 2 News](#) [Ladybirds News](#)

Wraparound care – Larks and Owls

Larks and Owls is now up and running in the newly refurbished caretakers house, which we have christened "The Den". We have ad-hoc availability, so if you are struggling for childcare on any given day, please contact wraparound@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk to make an enquiry. You can also use this email to book a permanent place. Our wraparound care details are as follows:

	Times	Cost	Notes
Breakfast club Larks	7.45–9.00am	£7.50 (ad-hoc: £8.50)	Breakfast included
After School club Owls	3.30–6.00pm	£14 (ad-hoc: £15.00)	Snack included

Please note, if you are interested in having a look at the provision, you are invited to a drop-in session on 13th May, at 3.30pm.

Green Day 23rd May

On Friday 23rd May, we are celebrating our Green Flag status. We have organised a morning of celebration and eco learning for the school to take part in. We are also having an assembly where we will be enjoying an 'Eco' Fashion Show. There are two things to note:

1. Children can choose to wear 'green' clothes on the day, and are asked to please make a donation in school on the day or via ParentPay. This year money raised will go towards buying plants to improve the biodiversity of the school site.
2. We are encouraging children and staff to walk, scooter or cycle to school on this day.

One of the activities requires odd socks, if you have any spare socks please could you bring them in to school and hand them into reception.



SEND Coffee Morning

On **Tuesday 20th May** between 9 – 10am we will be holding our next coffee morning for parents of children with SEND. Alice Shepherd from the Autism and Social Communication Team will be joining us. The focus of the meeting will be around supporting your child in their communication. **All members of the school community are welcome.** Although this event is aimed at parents of children with SEND, you might feel that discussions on the topic of autism or communication would be useful for you in relation to your child, and you would be very welcome. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available (and if anyone would like to bring cake this will be gratefully received!) This will be an informal event and younger siblings etc. are welcome.

On **Tuesday 8th July** at 9am we will also be holding an additional coffee morning with Hayley Little, the SENCO from Dobcroft Junior School. She will be there to meet parents and answer any questions you may have if your child will be starting at the Junior School in September, or if your child is not in year 2, any questions you may have for the future.

[Click here for term dates 24–25 and 25–26](#)

April 2025

28th
Ladybird parent consultations

29th
Y1 Phonics screening check meeting for parents, 3pm

May 2025

1st
Ladybird parent consultations

8th
FS2 trip to the woods to look at seasonal changes

13th
FS2 Tropical Butterfly House trip

12th & 13th
Road Safety workshop

12th
Year 2 Skateboarding workshop

Celebration Newsletter

At the end of each term we send out a celebration newsletter. If your child does something that is amazing and that you feel very proud of, please send a photo and some blurb to deputy@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk.

SEND information

The Autism Social Communication Education Training Service (ASCETS) have released their Parent/Carer Toolkit which can be found by following [this link](#). It includes lots of Local sources of advice and support for parents and carers of neuro-divergent children/young people. The Sheffield Parent/Carer forum have also released their [Spring/Summer newsletter](#). Hard copies are available from the school office.

Visit The Den – 13th May

Immediately after school on the 13th May, parents and carers are invited to have a look around The Den. This is the old caretakers house, which we have recently renovated, and is now used for Larks and Owls – our wraparound provision.

Ladybird Parent Consultations – 28th April or 1st May

You have the opportunity to meet with your child's class teacher on Monday 28th April and Thursday 1st May.

Morning will be in person/afternoon will be virtual. Please ensure you have booked your appointment using School Spider.

Junk modelling for Art unit – Sculpture

This term we are learning about sculpture and the children will be making a small animal sculpture.

For this, please send in any spare junk modelling, such as scraps of cardboard, clean yogurt pots, fabric, cardboard tubes, beads, straw, string etc – please bring this in from Tuesday 22nd April.

Year 1 Phonics Screen Meeting – 29th April

Year 1 parents are invited to attend a meeting about the Year 1 phonics screening check. This is a statutory national check that will take place in Summer 2. We will be sharing how you can help your child practice reading the phonics sounds that they have learned during Read Write Inc lessons. Please see this [letter](#) for more information.

Hedgehogs Assembly – change of date – 22nd May

Please note that the class assembly for Hedgehogs will now take place 22nd May to allow class photos to take place.

Board Games / Dress Up Clothes – please donate

The class toys, for our Friday Time to Talk sessions, are looking a little well-used! If you have anything at home that you no longer use (e.g. dolls, board games, fancy dress clothes) and are able to donate to the Year 2 classes, we would be very grateful!

FS2 Trip to Ecclesall Woods – Thursday 8th May

On Thursday 8th May, FS2 will be going on a trip to Ecclesall Woods to look at seasonal change. This forms one of our three trips to the woods (Autumn, Winter and Spring) and we are hoping to see many beautiful changes in our local environment including bluebells, leaf buds on trees, blossom and increased bird chatter amongst many other signs of Spring.

We will require at least 4 parent/carers helpers per class in order to run this trip. If you are able to help, please sign up with your class teacher via email. Thanks for your support with this. We will leave school at 9.15am and return by 10.30am at the latest.

May 2025

15th

Class Photos

Y1 Assemblies,

9.15am

14th – Faxes

16th – Squirrels

22nd – Hedgehogs

20th

SEND Coffee
Morning, 9–10am
(Autism Team attending)

20th

KS1 Girls Football
Festival

23rd

Green Day
(wear green)

FS2 Trip to The Tropical Butterfly House – Tuesday 13th May

FS2 will be going on a trip to the Tropical Butterfly House on Tuesday 13th May. We will be leaving school at 8.30am, and hope to be back at school for 3.25pm for a usual pick up time. We are only able to take 3 parent/carer helpers per class in order to run this trip due to places booked for our minibeast workshops. If you are able to help, please sign up with your class teacher via email by Thursday 1st May. If more than 3 parents express an interest in helping on this trip, we will randomly select names on Friday 2nd May.

FS2 Soccer Eds sessions

Foundation Stage will be taking part in Soccer Eds sessions on Friday mornings for this half term. These sessions will replace our usual Wednesday morning PE sessions. The Soccer Eds sessions focus on games, team work, and building resilience to help the children to prepare for our annual sports day next half term (more details to follow). On Fridays, please make sure that your child is wearing a pair of trainers so that they are able to access these sessions both inside and outside safely.

Show and Tell criteria

Please can we make parents aware that Show & Tell is for children to celebrate “wow” or special moments. They should come prepared to be able to speak about their item or memory. Please do not bring in toys or teddies. Examples of a good Show & Tell would be a swimming certificate, something they have created at home that they are proud of or a photograph of something special they did at the weekend.

Second hand school uniform

As part of our drive to be an environmentally aware school our Eco Team sell good quality, second hand uniform at school events. You can now also contact Gemma Bottery (a parent member of our Eco Team) on ecoteam@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk to request specific items. Gemma will monitor this email on a weekly basis, so if you have suddenly realised that you need more school jumpers, please get in touch with her. You can also buy school logo badges from the office which can be sewn onto garments of the appropriate school colours at a cost of £3.50.

Attendance & Punctuality

Attendance target 2024–25: **97.5%**. Currently school is at **96.6%** (96.6% last week).

Remember reduced % means ‘**Learning time lost**’!

A reminder that the chief medical officer encourages children to attend school if they have a cold, however if they have sickness, or diarrhoea, they need to remain absent for **48 hours** after the last time this occurs. If your child has a temperature, they need to remain off school. Attendance as often as possible is important for your child.

Punctuality: It is important that you aim to be in school for the start time. This is **8.55am** in Foundation Stage and **9am** in Y1 and Y2. This is the time your child needs to be on the carpet, things put away ready for register and to learn, not when you are arriving at the entrance. Arriving late is disruptive to both your own child and the rest of the class. It is also likely your child will have missed some key learning for the day. This week **0.74%** of children were marked as late.

Ask me about...

Each week your class teacher will update this area with information about what your child has been learning during the week so that you can ask them questions about it.

Ladybirds

This week the children have enjoyed learning about planting and growing seeds. Our "Grass Heads" have started to grow and the children enjoyed noticing features such as the roots using magnifying glasses, with some children mark making labels for them using post its.

Our home corner has transformed into a flower shop this week. The Ladybirds have loved pretending to buy and sell flowers, plant pots and gardening tools alongside mark making price tags and handing over play money to purchase them.

Outside we have been busy planting seeds and beans in the mud kitchen and working together as a team in the large construction area to build houses and dens.

For our Growing and Changing topic this half term, please could the children bring in a photograph of them as a baby or toddler to spark discussion and notice how they have changed.

Foundation Stage Two (Otters, Mice and Badgers)

We have continued our learning about 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' this week, and the children are getting really good at retelling the story and remembering all of the different foods the caterpillar ate. If you would like to, you can watch the story online by clicking [here](#).

We have been practising writing simple sentences independently. This means holding the sentence in our heads and remembering each word independently. We have practised applying digraphs in our writing (sh, ch, th, ng, nk, qu, ck) to spell longer words with increasing confidence.

In maths, we have been recognising, ordering, and making teen numbers using concrete resources and blank number lines. We have been using the language 'more', 'less', and 'between' to describe their position in the number system. We have also been making our own teen number books to take home.

We have enjoyed designing invertebrates as part of our TASC learning (Thinking Actively in a Social Context). We will be making our designs over the next two weeks. Some children have chosen to paint, others to use clay, and some to use paper mache. We can't wait to see how they turn out over the next few weeks.

We are also looking forward to our trip to the woods on the 8th May and to the Tropical Butterfly House on the 13th May. Please see above for information about these trips and how you can sign up to help out. Thanks for your continued support!

Y1 (Hedgehogs, Squirrels and Foxes)

English – We have written dictated sentences about One Day on our Blue Planet in the Savannah – making sure we had written all of the words. We have also reappreciated using the 'ed' and 'ing' suffixes.

Maths – We have used dienes to add pictorially and by using the drawing method.

Computing – We described different objects that could be used on a computer.

PE – Gymnastics and invasion games.

Science – We have labelled the structures of animals, including claws, beaks etc.

Science – We have learned about animals and the groups they belong to, such as mammals, fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds.

Art – We went on a trip to the Yorkshire Sculpture Park and made our own small sculpture from different materials.

RHE – We have learned about how we can keep our body healthy.

Year 2 (Woodpeckers, Kingfishers and Eagles)

English – We have generated expanded noun phrases and similes to describe the Ninjabread Man..

Maths – We have been learning about how to find a 1/3 of shapes and numbers.

Science – We did a quiz on Purple Mash about our plant knowledge and acted out the story of The Tiny Seed.

Computing – We practised taking photographs in portrait and landscape and talking about which looked better and why.

Art – we started our new topic of architecture and looked at the work of Hundertwasser.