



Dobcroft Newsletter

12th September 2025



[Click here for school dinners](#)

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

Voluntary consumables charge for parents

Due to rising costs, and to ensure that we are able to provide a wealth of brilliant activities and experiences to enhance our curriculum throughout the year, we introduced an annual one-off **voluntary contribution** from September 2024 to cover the cost of our consumables. You will be able to pay this via ParentPay. Please [click here](#) for further information.

DNIS Parent Guide

In response to feedback, we have developed a brief Parent Guide that details the main things parents/carers need to be aware of. It is designed to answer the main questions that we are asked at the beginning of the school year. Please [click here](#).

PINS

A reminder that 23rd September at 9am we will be holding our first meeting as part of the PINS project. Sue O'Shea from the Parent Carer Forum will be running the meeting. Please follow [this link](#) to a letter from Sue with some more details about what the meeting will involve. We hope to see some of you there.



Friends Of Dobcroft Schools

We would like to welcome everyone back to the new school year and say a big hello to all the new families that have joined us. We have an exciting year of events planned and look forward to sharing these with you very soon!



We will be holding the first FODS meeting at 8pm on Thursday 18th September at The Hub (building at the top of the infant school drive), if you would like to get involved or just come along to listen to our first meeting then we would love to see you there. Our first meeting will be our AGM where we will be outlining roles and responsibilities as well as our plans for the year so if you're wondering whether to get involved or would just like to know more then please feel free to come along, no commitment required! If you can't attend the meeting but would like some further information then please drop us an email on fods.info.mail@gmail.com

Second Hand Uniform Sale – 19th Sept after school

Please note that there will be a second hand uniform sale after school, next Friday (19th Sept). All items are sold at £1 each. This is not only a fantastic way to save money but is also supports our eco-effort to reduce the amount of clothes we buy. It also raises money for the school. This will be in the bottom yard (if it's raining it will be in the hub)

Snack Policy

School policy is that children do not bring their own snacks in from home as they are offered a healthy snack every day at around 10.45am. This ensures that there is no cross contamination with allergies and minimises disputes between children about who has the "best" snack. On occasion, we will agree that a child can bring in an additional snack but this will have been agreed with the class teacher and parents/carers will have been fully briefed on any allergies present within the class. Thanks you for your understanding and support with this.

[Click here for term dates 25–26](#)

Sept 2024

19th
Second hand uniform sale, after school

23th
PINS meeting

24th
Whole school Share a story 3pm

Oct 2024

2nd
CENSUS day

1st
Year 1 Artist visit James Brunt

20th
Individual School Photos

22nd
Dress down day

22nd
Last day of half term

Share a story – Wednesday 24th Sept, 3pm

Parents and carers are invited to come into your child's classroom and read a story with your child or a group of children. You can bring your favourite book or read one from the selection in the classroom. This is a lovely event that encourages a love of reading and helps us to celebrate books as a community. We look forward to welcoming you. Please arrive at 3pm and go straight to your child's classroom.

Ladybirds have slightly different timings, please note these below:

Ladybirds, beginning of the week – 9.00 – 9.20am

Ladybirds, end of the week – 3.00 – 3.20pm

Full time Ladybirds can choose which sessions to attend.

Waterproofs and Wellies – Ladybirds

As the weather changes, the Ladybirds are on the hunt for some spare wellies and waterproofs. If you have any size child 6 (EU23) – child 10 (EU28) wellies or any size 3–4 and 4–5 waterproofs hanging around at home, could you please drop them off at the Ladybird classroom. Thank you!

Letter from the Prime Minister

To mark last week's childcare expansion milestone, Prime Minister Keir Starmer has written to parents reaffirming his Plan for Change promise to give children the best possible start with 75% of five-year-olds reaching a good level of development by 2028. You can [read the Prime Minister's letter to parents](#) on the DfE's **Education Hub**.

Library Volunteers

Each class is looking for a library volunteer. Ideally, you will come at the same time each week to take the children in small groups to the library to swap their book. Appropriate DBS checks and a full induction will be conducted before this can take place. Please contact your class teacher if you would like to volunteer.

Baby basics harvest festival 22nd September – 3rd October

The Rights Respecting council met and talked about the [UN Convention on the Rights of the Child](#) and how we could help children in Sheffield who don't have everything they need to live happy and healthy lives. We have decided we would like to hold a **Harvest Festival collection for the charity Baby Basics** this year. Baby Basics provides much needed essentials and equipment to mothers and families who are unable to provide these items for themselves. There will be a collection box outside the school office, from **22nd September – 3rd October**. We will be collecting the following items:

Clothing

We ask that all items are washed and sorted into sizes in clearly labelled bags before being brought to us to speed up our processing.

- 0-5yr coats and snowsuits
- 3-5yr underwear and socks
- Baby socks & scratch mitts
- 0-3mth All clothing
- 3-6mth All clothing
- 2-3yr All clothing
- 3-4yr All clothing
- 4-5yr All clothing
- 5-6yr All clothing

Toys & Books

All toys/books must be complete and in new or like-new condition

- We do not need any toys this week.
- Board Books
- Toddler story books for 0-5yrs
- Colouring/activity books (unused)
- Crayons, colouring pencils & felt tips

Other

- Brand new bottles - any brand
- 2nd hand Tommee Tippee Bottles (no teats)
- Sterilisers (not electric)
- Weaning equipment (new or like new)
- Muslins
- Bibs
- Hooded baby towels
- Newborn slings

Bedding

- Moses basket sheets
- Moses basket blankets
- 0-6mth Sleeping bags
- 6-18mth Sleeping bags
- Cot & cot-bed sheets
- Cot & cot-bed mattress protectors
- Cot blankets (100x100cm min without holes for little fingers to get caught in)
- Cot-bed blankets (120x120cm min)
- Toddler duvets & covers

Please only bring items listed below as these are what is needed. Items not on this list take time to process and will be passed on elsewhere if our stocks are full.



Article 2

All children have rights no matter what.



unicef

[Click here](#) for other ways to help.

Magnetic safety

Please read the following guidance about use of magnets and dangers to children
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1BiQZ95Wq3an9mVVrOMtrs0JSCVvGSo6ImExno863fqY/edit?tab=t.0>

Foundation Stage 2 Family Pictures

If your child did not have a home visit, and you would like to send in a family photo for our class book, please email these to your class teachers. Email addresses for each teacher can be found below. If your child did have a home visit and you would like to send another photo, you are more than welcome. Please also remember to return your scrap books and 'This is Me' work to your class teacher over the next two weeks.

Thanks!

Otters – cookeb@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk or morrish@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Badgers – pembertonm@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk or burganv@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Mice – chaudhrys@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk or pembertonm@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Y1 Bring a Toy to School Day

As part of our History curriculum, we are comparing toys from the past and present. We will be looking at the toys that we have now, thinking about why they are important to us, what they are made from and if we had different toys when we were a baby.

To do this we would like every child to bring in **one** toy that they would like to share and talk about (**We would love to hear about your most precious toys however as things can sometimes go missing please leave these ones at home**)

Please bring your toy in on **Friday 19th September** for the lesson, they will be going home the same day.

Second hand 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

Attendance target 2024–25: 97.5%. Currently school is at **98.5%**. 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 **0.08%** 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

The Ladybirds have made a fantastic start to the year. We have loved to see their eager, smiling faces and finding out more about their gorgeous personalities. They are settling well and are beginning to learn new routines and expectations. We cannot wait to see them grow in confidence over this half term.

This week we have been making Ladybird handprints and talking about how we all make Ladybird Class special. We have been talking about people who are special to us and who lives at home. Please remember to send in a family photograph for our display to hardwickl@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk.

As the weather changes, we are happy for your children to bring waterproofs and wellies so that they can enjoy our outdoor areas fully. We do have space in our cloakroom for them to leave them here if that is helpful. Please make sure everything is clearly labelled with your child's name.

Foundation Stage Two (Otters, Mice and Badgers)

All of the children have had a brilliant first week in their new classes. We are so proud of how well they have settled into being at school. We have been particularly impressed with how independent the children have been at coming into the classroom each morning and putting their belongings on their pegs and in their trays.

We have been busy getting to know our new classrooms, friends and teachers, and making salt dough food to use in our home corners. We have begun to share our 'All About Me' activities and display them in the classroom.

We have started to share the scrap books that children created over the summer holidays. We can't wait to find out more about each other and our families. The scrap books will be kept in the classroom for the children to enjoy looking at with their friends this year.

We will begin to look at our new story 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' by Michael Rosen next week. You can find a link to watch Michael Rosen tell story [here](#). On the Google Drive, you can also access a word mat which shows key vocabulary that we will be learning over the course of the half term.

Y1 (Hedgehogs, Squirrels and Foxes)

Maths – We have been learning how to represent numbers to 10.

Writing – Our new text is The Gruffalo, we have been ordering the story and learning how to spell the key vocabulary.

Computing – We have been identifying types of technology (anything made by a human)

Science – We have identified and labelled parts of the human body.

RE – We have looked at the story of Creation and how Christians believe that God created the Earth in 7 days.

Art – We have been using our bodies to create spirals.

PE – Gymnastics and games.

Y2 (Woodpeckers, Kingfishers and Eagles)

Maths – we have recapped how many tens and ones are in different 2-digit numbers

English – we have identified different nouns and adjectives in our story "Leaf"

Computing – we logged into our new Seesaw accounts and sorted different types of technology into how they help us

RE – we listened to the story of Matthew the tax collector and thought about how he felt when Jesus chose him to be a disciple

Geography – we have recapped the 4 countries and capital cities of the UK