



Dobcroft Newsletter

19th September 2025



[Click here for school dinners](#)

Dobcroft Infant School, Sheffield, S7 2LN • Tel: 0114 236 8099 • Email: enquiries@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk
Website: <https://www.dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk>

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.

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.



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.

"Brew It Fair! Tea morning – Fri 26th Sep, 8.50-9.30am in The Hub



We invite you to come and join us for a Fairtrade cuppa on Friday 26th September after you have dropped your child/ren off.



This years "Fairtrade Fortnight" is all about tea. The "Brew it Fair" campaign is calling for a fairer deal for the people behind our cuppa.

In Britain alone, we drink over 100 million cups of tea every day, and behind every cup we drink, there are millions of people who work hard to nurture and grow the tea leaves. But many of the people behind our daily brew face poverty, unsafe working conditions, and the mounting threat of climate change – leaving them unable to plan for their future. [Click here](#) for more information.

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

[Click here](#) for term dates 25-26

Sept 2025

23th
PINS meeting

24th
Whole school
Share a story
3pm

26th
"Brew it Fair"
Tea morning
The Hub, 8.50-9.30am

Oct 2025

1st
Year 1 Artist visit
James Brunt

2nd
CENSUS day

7th
Gardening
Session
3.30-5pm

20th
Individual School
Photos

22nd
Dress down day

and a full induction will be conducted before this can take place. Please contact your class teacher if you would like to volunteer.

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](#).

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

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.

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



Article 2

All children have rights no matter what.



Allergy and anaphylactics

We have updated our allergy and anaphylactics policy as well as creating a leaflet to explain all we do as a school to reduce risk in this area. Please remember we are a nut free school and this includes things such as nutella!

[Allergy Policy](#)

[Allergy Leaflet](#)

Entrance gate – please don't push it open

The automated entrance gate at the bottom of school is very temperamental! Please do not push it open, wait for it to open automatically before you walk through. When it is pushed, it jars and will neither open or close. It costs the school at least £200 every time it breaks.

Car park safety

22nd
Last day of half
term

For health and safety reasons please can you ensure that all children dismount from their bikes, scooters, skateboards etc. at the Cinder Path gate or at the gates to the carpark. Thank you for your support.

Gardening session – Tuesday 7th October 2025, 3.45pm-5.00pm

Join our community gardening club to improve the school grounds including the wildlife garden and forest school. **All children must be accompanied by an adult.** Everyone is welcome, so if a green-fingered relative would like to join, their help would be greatly appreciated.



Please join us if you can, after school on Tuesday 7th. Meet us outside the entrance to Kingfishers class.

We will be weeding, cutting back summer growth and getting raised beds ready for vegetable planting by the children. **Please bring your own equipment if possible.**

Lost Property

Please make sure you name all your children's clothing and water bottle. Uniform really does all look the same! We are left with piles of lost property each week much of which we cannot return as there is no way of knowing who it belongs to. Please note the lost property is now in the area outside the butterfly room on shelves. Please come and look if your child has lost an item of clothing.

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

Year 2 plastic bottle donations

Year 2 are going to be making bird feeders in Science to help birds around school survive in winter months from plastic bottles. These need to be 500ml bottle size. Please bring them in to your class teacher by Friday 3rd October.

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 £4.00.

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 are settling in to their new environment well. They are beginning to remember our routines and can talk about what is happening throughout the day. They are enjoying snack time where they can be independent in serving themselves snack and talking to their friends and teachers while we share some healthy fruit and milk or water.

We have been encouraging all of our Ladybirds to join in at tidy up time and have talked about why it is important to look after our belongings. You have probably heard 'choose it, use it, put it away'. We are encouraging children to help each other to look after our classroom and to respect our lovely space.

We have started our 'My Family' display and have enjoyed talking about our families. If you have not already, and you are happy to do so, please can you 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.

Laura Hardwick – hardwickl@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Foundation Stage Two (Otters, Mice and Badgers)

This week F2 have been busy learning all of the daily routines and getting to know their new school friends. They have enjoyed sharing their scrap books with each other and showing their family photos. We have been focussed on learning new creative techniques and learning how to join and fasten paper and different materials together, ready to experiment in our creative area making our own creations! We have also been using our IT and drawing skills to draw our own faces to celebrate and understand our school values. We have now created our display around our school values in our classroom. We have started our phonics learning and have read our first CVC words with the help of 'Fred' our phonics frog. We have also been practising writing our name and writing numbers 1-10.

Beth Cooke - cookeb@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Shama Chaudhry – chaudhrys@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Mathilde Pemberton – pembertonm@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Vikki Burgan – burganv@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Helen Morris – morrish@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Y1 (Hedgehogs, Squirrels and Foxes)

English – We have been practising forming our letters correctly

Maths – adding one more to a given number.

Science – Recognising that we use our eye to see.

History – Develop an understanding of past and present.

PHE – describe what a happy school looks like

Music – hear the pitch and pulse of songs.

Miss Tinker – tinkerc@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Mr Jones – jonesd@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Miss Coldron – coldronp@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk



Y2 (Woodpeckers, Kingfishers and Eagles)

English – we have created expanded noun phrases about our book “Leaf” such as “the dark cave” and “some kind crows”

Maths – we have been counting in steps of 1 and 10 and filling in missing number lines

Science – we learnt about what a fish needs for survival

RE – we retold the story of Matthew the tax collector

Art – we created our own art using natural materials in forest school

Mrs Fairfull – fairfulc@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Mrs Blackburn – blackburnv@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Mrs Granger – grangerk@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Miss Clifffen – cliffena@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk