



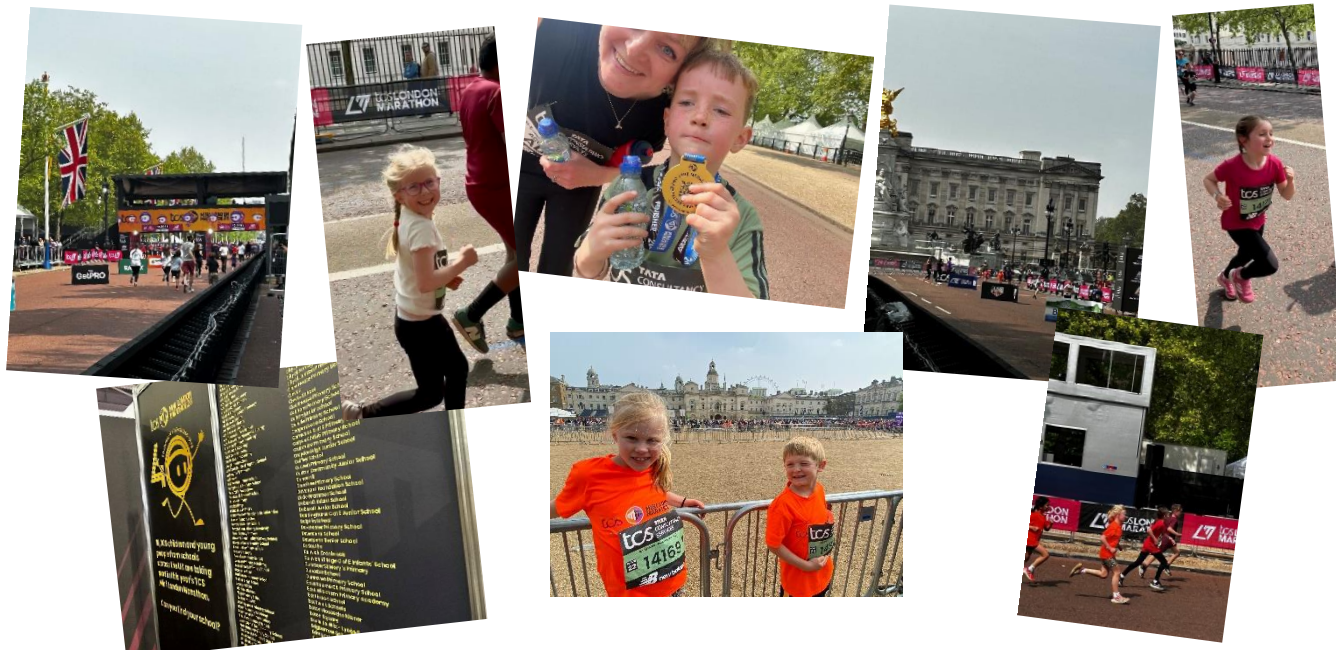
CELEBRATION NEWSLETTER – Summer 2025

Dobcroft Nursery Infant School



London Mini Marathon

On 27th April, a number of children from Dobcroft ran the TCS Mini London Marathon, a one-mile route finishing on the finish line of the London Marathon. They had a fabulous time and we are very proud of them. Their efforts have also raised money for the school. Well done to everyone involved!



Green Day 2025



We had another wonderful Green Day in May. We considered how to

live sustainably through recycling, reusing, and reducing our waste. We planted seeds and learnt about endangered animals to improve our knowledge of biodiversity, made transient art to

develop our connectedness to nature, learnt about road safety so we can walk to school and began to build an understanding of our carbon footprint and the things we can do to have an impact on it. We rounded off the day with a fabulous eco fashion parade!

Gardening sessions

We had a number of gardening sessions this year. Lots of families have supported these events. This year we have been making our Eco-greenhouse. Please join us in the future if you are able to.



Girls Football

This half term 20 of our year 1 and year 2 girls participated in the points Girls 7 a side football tournament. They challenged themselves to practise lots of football skills and played some matches against other schools. We were really proud to see all the girls work so well together as a team and enjoy the morning.

Dance Award

Alice in Hedgehogs was selected as the star of the week for her progress, drive and fantastic concentration skills at her dance school. She also went to Blackpool to perform at The Blackpool Winter Gardens.



Sheffield Young Artist Winner

Laurel Holmes in Kingfisher class won! Her piece of artwork was selected from a tough field of competition from students all over Sheffield. She was invited to meet the Lord Mayor at the Town Hall on Thursday 17th April. Well done Laurel, we are very proud of you.



School Fayre Celebration

The sun shined for us and families had a great day at our school fayre. Thank you to everyone who supported the event – **we made more than £8k** (shared between the junior and nursery infant schools), which is amazing and this will largely be spent on creating shade within our bottom playground.

Ruby and Daisy's story – raising awareness of epilepsy in our school community

Ruby (Woodpeckers) and Daisy's (Ladybirds) parents wanted to share their experience to raise awareness as 1 in 200 children have epilepsy, which means there's likely to be 1–2 children at DNIS with epilepsy at any one time.

Daisy had a seizure out of the blue a week after her 3rd birthday in July 2024. By October half term she'd had four seizures and was officially diagnosed with epilepsy in November.

In these five months Daisy had multiple hospital visits (ambulance to A&E each seizure), tests, and appointments, and she never once complained (well maybe a little when she couldn't eat for hours before an MRI due to needing a general anaesthetic!).

During these many hospital visits, Ruby has had to spend a lot of time with other family members but never complained that mummy and daddy had to be with Daisy. Daisy's MRI was on Halloween so she couldn't go trick or treating with their cousins as planned so Ruby took Daisy's bag and made sure she collected treats for her sister.

Daisy is now on medication twice a day which she sometimes finds hard, but Ruby is a brilliant cheer leader for her and encourages her when she's not keen. They have both taken all of this in their stride, and couldn't be prouder.



Eco conference

In May, DNIS collaborated with Early Education and hosted a half-day, eco-conference designed to support early years practitioners in weaving outdoor learning, climate education, and sustainability into everyday practice. We were joined by a number of eco-specialists from the region and country to share their knowledge and skills. Dobcroft shared all they have been doing to foster an ethos of sustainability across our school and children.

100 YEARS
1923 - 2023
Early Education
The British Association for Early Childhood Education



Biodiversity Research Project – Tomorrow's Climate Scientists

Sheffield
Hallam
University

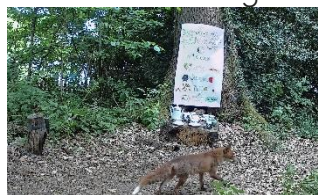


THE ROYAL SOCIETY

We were lucky enough to be accepted to become part of a research project funded by the Royal Society in collaboration with Sheffield Hallam University. It's brief was "How to translate climate research for younger demographics?" We were teamed up with a Climate Ambassador, Kaisu Koski. She worked with Zoe Singh, Deputy Head Teacher and eight Y2 children – offering a Wonderland Biodiversity Class.

Throughout five sessions, the project integrated art, science, activism, and contemplation. We've been learning about the endangered Hazel Dormouse as an epitome of biodiversity (loss). To welcome the dormouse back, we set up a magical multispecies tea party, created climate activist posters, produced Green Corridor guerrilla street art, and turned inward in hibernation meditation. It's been heart-warming and mind-blowing to witness the children's creativity, intuition, and care towards the natural world.

Kaisu recently shared the project at the "Rethinking Fables in the Age of the Environmental Crisis" conference at the University of Kent, and will continue to write about it in her monograph-in-progress with Peter Lang Academic Publishing.



Star Baker & Share a Story

Thank you to everyone who helped out at our Bake Sale. Whether you helped manage the stall, baked a cake, bought a cake or sampled a cake, we are extremely grateful to you for helping and supporting us. We made an amazing £694.

★ Congratulations to all the Star Bakers! ★

Adult – Daniel Carreras

6 children (we really couldn't decide) – Louis Bennett, Filipe Pinto-Fontes Sebby Joesbury, Anetta Sophocleaus-Hindle, Charlie Dolling, Mia Crawshaw, and Caitlin Fenlon.



Trips, Visits and events this term

We have had many trips this term including:

- The Yorkshire Sculpture Park as an enrichment opportunity for Y1s Art
- FS2 went to the woods to look at seasonal change – the bluebells were beautiful! And the Tropical Butterfly House to study invertebrates.
- Y2 children took part in wider opportunities such as a tennis and squash taster session and skateboarding workshops.
- All children took part in 2 transition days – Y2s loved going to see their new classroom and teacher in DJS.
- Yr 1 children went to Chatsworth to consolidate their science learning.
- FS2 and KS1 went to Millhouses Park as a celebratory end of year trip.
- Y2 produced the most amazing Buzz-tastic Bee-sical performance. The energy was hive-voltage and the audience was completely buzzing with excitement!



Goodbye to the Y2s

Y2 have had many ways to celebrate their time at Dobcroft Infant School but one of their favourites has been their leavers disco. They had lots of fun and it was very loud!

They also enjoyed performing in their end of year play, which was watched by Y3 pupils and parents/carers alike.

Another highlight was getting an ice cream from the ice cream van that visited us on Monday.

We will miss all our Y2 pupils and we wish them success at Dobcroft Junior School.



Celebrating School Representatives



A massive thank you to the children that have taken the time to represent our school this year. They were thanked with a visit from the ice-cream van, which was very excitedly received!

Children are given the opportunity to apply for or be selected for the following roles of responsibility within school:

- Rights Respecting Student council – selected based on an application process
- Eco Reps – selected by class teachers
- E-cadets – selected by class teachers
- Science Ambassadors – selected based on an application process
- Art Ambassadors – selected by class teachers
- Playground Leaders including Sports Leaders – selected based on an application process
- Healthy Eating Reps – selected by class teachers
- Healthy Mind Champions – selected based on an application process



Science ambassadors

These roles give children a voice in our school community, they support pupils to develop an understanding that they can have a direct impact on our school because of their action. Pupils are selected based on enthusiasm, experience and as an opportunity for character development. Playground Leaders are recruited from Y2 to help support younger pupils at break and lunchtime. Pupils develop a range of skills including time management, teamwork, cooperation, collaboration, planning and empathy. Each of these groups meet with their adult leader each half term.

All the Pregnancies

There's been something in the water this year. 4 teachers have just had their babies or are due to have their babies in the next few months (Miss Sutherland, Mrs Pemberton, Miss Smith, and Miss Brady). We wish them love and happiness with their new addition to their families and look forward to welcoming them back after their maternity leave.

FS2 End of Year Celebration

In June, Foundation Stage pupils celebrated their first year at school. They had the opportunity to do a year group assembly, show their parents and carers their learning from this year by looking through their books and had a really lovely time explaining what they know. It has been a real privilege to see them grow in all areas of learning over the last year.



Good bye to staff

We wanted to wish good luck to the DNIS staff that are moving on to pastures new. Mrs Reedman (Otters class), Mrs Kay (Woodpeckers class), Miss Minors (Foxes class) and, Mrs Majid (Eagles class) will be leaving us at the summer holiday. I'm sure you'll join us in thanking them for all they have done for our school and wish them every success in the future.

Ladybirds Graduation

In June, Ladybirds celebrated the end of their time in Ladybirds and thought about getting ready to start Foundation Stage 2. We are so proud of them and know they will go from strength to strength as they grow and learn at DNIS.



SEND Coffee Mornings

We've had two really informative and well-attended SEND coffee mornings this term. For the first we were joined by Alicea Shepherd from the Autism and Social Communications Team. She spoke about using a total communication approach to support children with autism. The PowerPoint for her presentation can be found [here](#). We also had a transition morning with Hayley Little, SENCo from the junior school, in which Hayley shared lots of really helpful information and answered parent questions. If you have any ideas for SEND coffee morning topics or outside visitors you would like to see next academic year, please email senco@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk as I would love to get your input!

Pretty Muddy Race



Ella Tuckett, Esme Sawney—Leonard, Jacob Bottery and Teddy Hitchman took part in a 5k "Pretty Muddy" run round graves park on Saturday 7th June to raise money for cancer research. We are really proud of them for taking action to make a change.



Sports Aid Challenge



On 20th June, DNIS hosted a Soccer Aid for Unicef School Challenge. It was a great opportunity for our pupils to learn about, and raise money for, children in other parts of the world. Our Rights Respecting School Councilors helped to design and run the event. They raised an amazing £367!



A Sing and Dance

Chloe and Marianne from Eagles class joined Sheffield Performing Arts students performing at the Crucible in Sheffield. It was their first time performing on such a big stage. They took it all in their stride and loved singing and dancing in front of hundreds of people. Well done!



England Mascots

Freddie and Zizi walked out as mascots on to the pitch with England Football Lioness, Lucy Bronze, (their auntie) when England played Jamaica. This was the send off match before the England Team flew out to Switzerland ahead of their Euros tournament that is starting this week.



Ofsted Feedback

As you are aware, we had a trial inspection for the new, proposed Ofsted framework that is due to be published in the autumn term. Although we are unable to give any specific feedback, we wanted to say thank you to all the parents that contributed to the discussions with inspectors and let you know that we were really pleased with the feedback.

Eco Funding

We have been successful in securing a number of grants to support our eco work. These include:

Local Schools Nature Grant – we were successful in gaining funding for wet weather clothing. *Learning Through Landscapes* will support us to conduct a climate audit and provide CPD for staff in the Autumn term.

Food Works – we won £100 of hardy Sheffield veggie seedlings. Our Eco team have planted these out with the aim of eating the fully grown plants at the end of the year in our salad bar at lunchtime.

RHS Wentworth Woodhouse – are donating established plants that have been used in their show gardens. We were recommended as a school that would make good use of these by the National Education Nature Parks (we have worked closely with them this year). They will be planted in the sensory garden area in front of Woodpeckers classroom.

