



The whole school took part in a brass band workshop today, given by Brass Bands England, who work with Gloucestershire Music. We will be setting up a weekly brass band lunchtime club for children in Class 2 and Class 3 starting in the next few weeks. This lunchtime club will begin with trumpets and there will be the opportunity to progress to trying other brass band instruments. If your child is interested in joining this lunchtime club, please email Mrs Woodruffe. Details will be sent out to interested children before the start date of the club.

Harvest

On Sunday 1st October we have been invited to take part in the Harvest festival at the church at 10am. Please can you let me know ASAP if your child will be able to join us for this service. The key stage 2 children will be taking part in an experience harvest event in the church on Wednesday 27th September. The children in class 1 will hopefully be able to visit the church to see the harvest decorations that afternoon.

Foodbank donations

We will once again be collecting items for the food bank and there is a box in the porch for you to add any donations before this date.

Wellies and coats

The weather has certainly changed this week, we will continue to use the school field for break and lunchtime play throughout the Autumn and Winter so please do send your child into school with wellies and coats for them to put on. Children can leave wellies, coats and other waterproofs at school to save you bringing them in daily if this is easier.

School clubs

The list for each club is now closed for the term, we ask that if your child has joined a club that you let us know in advance if they have decided to no longer attend or are unable to make it one week.

Open Days

If you know of any families looking for a school please can you let them know that our first open day of the year is Tuesday 3rd October and Wednesday 11th October from 9:30-11:30am and they can register for this by emailing admin@downampney.gloucs.sch.uk

Young Geographer of the year competition

All children in Class 3 are invited to take part in the Young Geographer of the Year competition. The deadline for the competition is Monday 2nd October and their entry will be submitted from school. The entry for the competition will largely need to be worked on at home (Mrs Russell will offer her support any lunchtimes next week if needed), any resources needed can be supplied by the school on request. The information and criteria for the competition can be found here: <https://www.rgs.org/schools/competitions/young-geographer-of-the-year/2023-competition/>

Young voices coach update

We have enough spaces on the coach for each child to have an accompanying adult, this will mean that you will have time in London between drop off and being able to access the event. If all seats are taken then the cost of the coach will be £20 per person. It will be slightly more if not all seats are taken. We are looking to do some fundraising towards the cost of the childrens coach costs. Please can you email Mrs Woodruffe and let her know if you would like a seat on the coach by next Friday 27th September. We will then be able to set the cost and release any additional seats.

Preloved Uniform

We have started to collect some pre-loved uniform that we have put in a box in the porch – if you are able to make a donation for any items this will go to the PTA.

Music lessons

If your child is interested in any private instrumental music lessons (including brass), please let Mrs Woodruffe know and we will send details of how to book lessons and hire instruments through Gloucestershire Music. In some cases, grants may be available for this purpose.

Year 6 parents

Please ensure that you have registered your selections for secondary school by the end of October..

Careers Week

We are looking to run a careers week later in the school year. If you feel that you could take part in this by talking to the children about your job we would love to hear from you.

Parent governor

We are delighted to have been contacted by three interested parents already regarding the vacancy and will be organising meetings over the coming weeks to discuss what the role involves. After these meetings we will then inform you of the official nomination window and information about a parental vote. If you are interested in becoming a school governor please come and speak to me or contact chair@downampney.gloucs.sch.uk for more information.

Key Dates	
25 th September	After school clubs (apart from French club) continue this week as well as lunchtime football club.
26 th September	KS2 cross country at Kingshill
28 th / 29 th September	INSET school closed for pupils
1 st October	Harvest festival in the church
3 rd October	Open Morning for new families
6 th October	Eco- ambassadors lake litter pick at De Vere hotel
9 th October	Year 3 trip to Literature festival – drop off at 8:15am at Deer Park School
11 th October	Football tournament after school
11 th October	Open Morning for new families
17 th October	Netball tournament after school

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23rd October	Quick sticks tournament after school
Week of 23rd October	Parents Evening
27th October	End of term 1
24th- 26th June	Residential for class 3 (more details to follow)