



This week we welcomed a new family to the school with children joining class 1. We continue to have spaces in a number of year groups if you know of any families that are moving to the area. We also held our first open morning and showed a number of families around who are looking for a school for Reception 2024. We have a second open morning on Wednesday 11th October and are just setting the dates for the November and December dates.

Parent governor

We have met with those interested in becoming a governor and have one candidate who is keen to proceed. If anyone else is interested in the position of parent governor please email myself and Geoff Booth (Chair of governors chair@downampney.gloucs.sch.uk) by midday Friday 13th October or this candidate will be appointed unopposed.

Parents evenings

Parents evenings appointments are now open for booking. Class 1 bookings can be made for Tuesday 24th and Thursday 26th October 3:30-5:30pm, Class 2 on Monday 23rd October from 3:30pm – 5:30pm, Class 3 on Tuesday 24th and Wednesday 25th from 3:30pm to 5:30pm. To book your appointments please email admin@downampney.gloucs.sch.uk and state which date and time would suit you best and we will try to book as close as possible. If you have siblings on separate dates or cannot make these dates please let us know when you can do and we will try and accommodate.

Residential Information evening

We will be holding an information evening about the class 3 residential evening at 4pm on October 18th. Please email Mrs Woodruffe if you can attend this meeting.

Young voices update

Miss Homan-Green travelled to Bristol this week to join with all of the other teachers who are taking choirs to Young Voices this year. We are all very excited to start to rehearse ready for the big event! You can access the music room at home too! <https://yvmusicroom.com/parentRegisterReferal?code=MzUxNy8xNjk1OTg3Nzgw> We still have adult spaces on the coach at the cost of £20 – please let Mrs Woodruffe know if you would like to book a seat.

Preloved Uniform

We have had more donations to our pre-loved uniform including some summer dresses, if you have any clothes to donate then please add them to the boxes in the porch. If you are in need of uniform then do look here first – any donations to the PTA would be appreciated.

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.

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.

Gloucestershire Youth Choir

The Gloucestershire Youth Choir is looking for nominations of Year 5 and Year 6 pupils who are passionate singers who love to sing and have shown a commitment in some way to this to be part of the choir. A young person may have shown that commitment through being part of the school choir; contributing to school concerts with their voice; grown their vocal skills through dedication to singing lessons or who may have shown commitment to singing through being part of a community music group. Children nominated will benefit from a fun packed, two-day course, which will develop their ensemble singing skills and expose them to repertoire that hopefully inspires them and builds on their vocal techniques. The ability to read notation is not necessary and this is a relaxed and friendly ensemble that explores everything from rock, jazz, pop, gospel and classical so there is something for everyone!

If you feel that this is something your child would be passionate about and they fulfil the criteria, please let us know and we will nominate them. The course costs £42.44 but there are full bursaries available for those who come from families facing financial barriers to participation. Please see the attached poster and information on dates.

Key Dates	
9 th October	Year 3 trip to Literature festival – drop off at 8:15am at Deer Park School
11 th October	Open Morning for new families
11 th October	PTA Meeting
17 th October	Netball tournament after school
23 rd October	Quick sticks tournament after school
Week of 23 rd October	Parents Evening
27 th October	End of term 1
6 th – 10 th November	Class 3 bikeability
19 th December	Panto
21 st December	Nativity at 1:30pm
24 th - 26 th June	Residential for class 3 (more details to follow)