



### **World Book Day**

All of the children had a great time on World Book Day meeting author Tracey Couderoy and finding out all about what inspires her to write. Thank you very much to our friends at Southrop school for the invitation and for picking us up in your minibus. At school all of the children enjoyed sharing their favourite books with friends.

### **No Yoga on Monday**

There is no Yoga session on Monday due to Miss Homan-Green being on a course, Miss Phipps being at a PE event and Mrs Gray running SATs club but children that usually attend yoga club are more than welcome to stay at school and join those in afterschool club with no charge.

### **Joining an Academy**

As I have mentioned in previous weekly updates the governors alongside the school staff have been meeting with representatives from local MATS to see what they could offer to the school if we were to join. The school is in a very strong position currently with a rising number of children in school and a stable staff providing a great education and wider opportunities. This is why, now is a good time for the governors to be exploring academisation. These meetings are nearly complete and the governors will soon be making a decision on whether now is the right time to join an academy and if it is which one would be a good fit. The areas that the governors have looked at include ensuring that Down Ampney keeps its own identity, vision and values and that any academy can add value to the school in supporting its future for the pupils, staff and wider community. If you have any thoughts regarding this then do not hesitate to contact myself or Geoff Booth Chair of Governors chair@downampney.gloucs.sch.uk

### **Help needed**

Do you fancy painting the porch? The De Vere Volunteers did the first coat but it really needs a second before we can put the things back in there! Thank you to everyone who offered to take things to the tip, everything is bagged and ready at the side of school. Please let me know when you have a slot booked and what you can take. I really appreciate this as this will save the expense of a skip.

### **Easter Egg Allergen Information**

If your child is not able to have a Freddo easter egg please let me know ASAP as we are ending the term with our annual Easter Egg Hunt!

### **School lunches**

The lunch choices for after Easter have been sent to us and are now available to view on our website <https://www.downampneyprimaryschool.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/GCC-Menu-Spring-Summer-2024.pdf>

### **Dance festival**

The children enjoyed the first rehearsal for the dance festival which takes place at Cheltenham Town Hall on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April. If your child would like to join this group please let me know as soon as possible. Tickets for the event are on sale here. <https://cheltenhamtownhall.org.uk/event/spirit-of-the-games-dance-festival/>

### **Payments**

Thank you to everyone who has paid for Malvern Theatre Trip, swimming and residential. Please do speak to me if you are unable to make these payments.

### **Safeguarding**

If you have any concerns regarding your child or others at school then do not hesitate to contact myself who is the Designated safeguarding lead via [head@downampney.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:head@downampney.gloucs.sch.uk) or Mrs Russell who is deputy designated safeguarding lead via [hrussell@downampney.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:hrussell@downampney.gloucs.sch.uk)

Key Dates	
11 <sup>th</sup> March	KNEX challenge day KS2 – paid for by PTA
11 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 3 and 4 Multisports
12 <sup>th</sup> March	Y1 parents information session regarding phonincs screening check 3pm and 4:45pm
19 <sup>th</sup> March	Bee Netball
20 <sup>th</sup> March	KS2 Theatre trip
21 <sup>st</sup> March	Mock Trail
21 <sup>st</sup> March	Easter Service at Church 2pm
22 <sup>nd</sup> March	End of Term 4
8 <sup>th</sup> April	Term 5 starts
9 <sup>th</sup> April	Reception parents information session regarding EYFS profile 3pm and 4:45pm
10 <sup>th</sup> April	Swimming Gala Year 5/6
12 <sup>th</sup> April	Swimming starts
16 <sup>th</sup> April	Dance Festival
7 <sup>th</sup> May	Quad Kids
13 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup> May	Y6 SATs
24 <sup>th</sup> May	End of Term 5
3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Term 6 starts
3 <sup>rd</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Multiplication Tables Check Y4
10 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Phonics Screening Assessments Y1
11 <sup>th</sup> June	In the Net – internet safety play Year 4
12 <sup>th</sup> June	Leavers service at Gloucester Cathedral
17 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup> June	Careers week
18 <sup>th</sup> June	Rounders Year 5/6
22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Small school fundraising event
24 <sup>th</sup> - 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Residential for Class 3 (more details to follow)
26 <sup>th</sup> -26 <sup>th</sup> June	Commonweal open days
Week of 1 <sup>st</sup> July	Crypt Open day
2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Farmors Open Day
6 <sup>th</sup> July	School Fete
10 <sup>th</sup> July	Schoolbeat visit for class 3
19 <sup>th</sup> July	Last day of term for pupils
22 <sup>nd</sup> July	INSET day

