



Dobcroft Newsletter

9th January 2026



[Click here for school dinners](#)

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[Whole school news](#) [Y2 news](#) [Y1 news](#) [Foundation Stage 2 News](#) [Ladybirds News](#)

Happy New Year

Happy New Year! We hope you had a peaceful Christmas break and we look forward to sharing a happy and healthy 2026 with you.

Mrs Rowland will retire in Sept 2026

Please [click here](#) to see a letter from Mrs Rowland's about her forthcoming retirement. I'm sure you will join us in thanking her for her years of service and wishing her well in the next phase of her life.

Bad weather school closure alerts

In the event of snowy/icy weather we will endeavour to message all parents/carers by 7.30am. We will post this on the Peak Edge Reach More app. Thank you for your cooperation and support with this.

New Communication App - ACTION REQUIRED – Download and activate the app

You will have received an email before Christmas to show you how to download the app.

FROM JANUARY, ALL COMMUNICATION WILL BE THROUGH THE PEAK EDGE TRUST APP. Please download and activate the app immediately so you don't miss any communications.

The app makes it easy to stay up to date with everything that matters from important announcements and urgent messages to events, forms, and news. It's secure, easy to use, and puts all school communication in one trusted place.



Traffic Safety Around Our School

You may have noticed an unplanned visit from traffic wardens earlier this week. This was part of Sheffield City Council's ongoing efforts to make roads around schools safer for everyone.

We understand that parking and traffic restrictions can sometimes cause confusion or concern. To help clarify the rules and avoid any uncertainty in the future, please [click here](#) to read a letter outlining the restrictions currently in place.

Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our school community safe.

Applications for new starters in September 2026

Parents/carers of children that will be starting school in September 2026 need to apply for their place by the 15th January. [Click here](#) for the page on our website that has more information.

Please also see Sheffield City Council's advice booklet [Parent Guide for Entry to Primary](#) for further information.

Right of the half term

Article 29

I have the right to become the best
I can be.



We are proud to be a Gold accredited Rights Respecting School. At DNIS we are ambassadors for the rights of others and are passionate about developing rights respecting citizens. With this in mind we would like to share a 'Right of the half term' with you as part of our valuable school community.



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

Jan 2026

20th
Tennis Taster Sessions

20th
PINS parent meeting

21st
Share a Story
3.10pm-3.30pm
FS1 – 9am and 3.10pm

28th
FS2 Fairy Tale dress up day

28th
FS1 Fairy Tale dress up day

Feb 2026

2nd
Chinese Dance Workshop

4th
Whole School Concerteenies performance of Blown Away

5th
Number Day

10th
Safer Internet Day

Recycle your Christmas Sweet Tubs

This year Dobcroft Schools' are supporting Greene King's national Tub2Pub recycling scheme, which offers a simple way to recycle these tubs responsibly whilst raising money for Macmillan Cancer Support. We will be accepting:

- Confectionary tubs
- Biscuit tubs
- Cracker tubs

The most sustainable option for your empty Christmas tubs is to reuse them - for storage, organisation or crafting - rather than recycling straight away but if you've already got more tubs than you can use, recycling them through the Tub2Pub scheme is the next best step.

You can drop your clean, empty tubs at either Dobcroft Infant or Dobcroft Junior School reception from 11th December to 30th January.

After the collection period ends, FODS will organise to collect all the tubs and drop them off at a local Greene King pub. The tubs are taken to a plastic reprocessing centre by Greene King, where they're shredded, before being sold onto plastic manufacturers to use in place of virgin plastics.

Last year, the Tub2Pub scheme collected over 240,000 tubs across the UK - approximately 28 tonnes of plastic - and raised more than £10,000 for Macmillan Cancer Support.

If you'd like to learn more about this scheme then you can visit Tub2Pub.co.uk



10th
Martial Arts Taster Sessions

11th
Y1 Art Exhibition
9.15-9.45: Foxes
1.45-2.15: Hedgehogs
2.45-3.15: Squirrels

13th
Dress Down Day
(last day of term)

FODS News

SAVE THE DATE - FODS Quiz Night

FODS are excited to announce our first quiz night of the year in support of Dobcroft Infant and Junior School.



Friday 30th January 2026

Dobcroft Infant School

Quiz starts at 8.00pm (doors open 7.30pm)

The quiz will be in the style of the Big Fat Quiz of the Year and promises to be a fun, relaxed night out and a great way to kick off fundraising for 2026.

Full details and the booking link is can be found [here](#), using the QR code, and will be shared via class WhatsApp groups over the weekend, so please keep an eye out.

We hope you can join us!

PINS parent meeting

Please see the below for details of the next PINS parent meeting and follow this [link](#) for further information.

Dobcroft nursey infant SEND parent carer meeting

Come along to the meeting with a project worker from the Sheffield Parent Carer Forum- if your child has any special educational need and/or disability (SEND) - no diagnosis needed

Let's talk about:
Neurodiverse behaviours:

- Sensory differences
- Stimming
- Processing
- Demand avoidant behaviour
- Special interests

Also:

- Give feedback about your child's experiences
- Meet other parents
- Join us for hot drinks and mince pies

DATE: Tuesday 20th January
Time: 9am

This is part of the PINS autism in schools project, but if you have a child who has any additional need, you are invited to attend. If you are planning on coming along or want to know more, please let Sue know at: susan.oshea@sheffieldparentcarerforum.org.uk

EYFS Fairytale Dress up Day

As part of our learning about Heroes and Villains. Children in Ladybirds, Otters, Mice, and Badgers are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite fairytale heroes or villains on Wednesday 28th January. We will be talking about what makes them a hero or a villain and also having a heroes and villains parade in the hall together to show off our costumes. Please note – we would prefer you not to send toy weapons with the children on this day as part of their costumes. Thanks in advance!

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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 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 **96.8%**. 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 **0.58%** 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

It has been wonderful to see all of our Lovely Ladybirds back in the new year. This week we have been investigating the changes in the weather. We had a great time investigating ice and the children couldn't wait to see what had happened to the water that we left out in our trays. We have been working hard to be independent and identify what we need to stay warm outside.

We have started our new topic Traditional Tales with an old favourite Goldilocks and the Three Bears. We have acted out the story in our small world and on our stage as well as ordering the story through our story maps. We tasted porridge and talked about what we liked and disliked.

We have started our new P.E lessons in the hall this week. We had a great time being witches and wizards, learning about moving around the space safely. We need to take off our shoes and socks for these lessons so it would be really helpful for the children to practice this at home.

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

Foundation Stage Two (Otters, Mice and Badgers)

We have had a brilliant start back after the holidays. The children have been excited to notice changes in weather, exploring how the playground has changed with the frost and ice that we have been having. Children have been practising being independent by putting on their hats, gloves, and scarves themselves. We are also encouraging them to zip up their own coats.

Our new topic 'Heroes and Villains' has begun, with a focus on the story 'Snow White'. We have been retelling the main events of the story, acting it out, and naming and describing some of the characters.

In maths, we have been exploring conceptual subitising and spotting groups of objects within a larger group. For example, knowing that this arrangement of dots could be made up of two and three or four and one.



We have talked about special people in our families, and painted a watercolour picture of them for our new 'Families' display in the classroom. The children had lots of lovely things to say about their chosen special person.

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

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

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

Matthew Donaldson - donaldsonm@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

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

Y1 (Hedgehogs, Squirrels and Foxes)

Welcome back and happy new year everyone. We hope you had a lovely relaxing break.

Maths – Place value of numbers to 20.

English – We started reading our new book **The Great Explorer** and learning key vocabulary in relation to the book.

History – We have started learning interesting facts about the Titanic.

Science – We had a visit from ZooLab, we had the chance to touch some wonderful animals such as a snail, snake and a gecko.

Geography – We have been learning to label aerial maps of Dobcroft Infant School.

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)

Welcome back everyone! We hope you all had a relaxing winter break and are glad to be back at school.

Maths – we have started our topic on money, recognising coins and notes and making different amounts with coins

English – we are comparing characters in traditional tales such as Little Red Riding Hood, Three Billy Goats Gruff

Science – we looked at properties of metal and went on a classroom hunt of objects made of metal

Art – we learnt about abstract, expressionism artists and experimented with crayons, pens, felt tips and pastels

Geography – we learnt about different landmarks in the world such as Machu Piccu, Grand Canyon and Giant's Causeway

Mrs Fairfull - fairfullc@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