



Dobcroft Newsletter

6th February 2026



Click here for school dinners

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

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
Term dates 26–27

Feb 2026

10th

Safer Internet Day

10th

Chinese Dance
Workshop

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)

24th

9:15 – 12:30

Points Network
Games, EIS

25th

PINS parent
meeting in Hub

Mar 2026

5th

World Book Day

Parent
Consultations

9th – Year 2

10th – Year 1

11th – FS1

12th – FS2

5th

Mothers Day Stall

17th

9am

Safer Internet Day

On **Tuesday 10th February**, we will be joining schools across the country to celebrate **Safer Internet Day 2026**.

This year's theme is "Smart tech, safe choices: exploring the safe and responsible use of AI" – helps children begin to understand the smart technology they see around them every day. [saferinternet.org.uk]

The children will take part in fun, age-appropriate activities that explore:

- what AI is in simple, child-friendly terms (like the voice on a tablet or a helpful chatbot)
- how to make safe choices when using devices
- what to do if something pops up that doesn't feel right
- why talking to a trusted adult is always the safest next step

We'll be focusing on building children's confidence so they know they can ask questions, stay curious, and make good choices when using technology.

You can support at home by chatting with your child about the smart tech they already use and reminding them they can always come to you if they're unsure or need help.

Chinese Dance Workshop

We are excited to share that next week the children will be taking part in a special Chinese Dance Workshop as part of our Lunar New Year celebrations. The workshop will introduce the children to traditional Chinese dance through fun, simple movements, storytelling and music. The session will be fully interactive, giving the children the chance to try graceful hand gestures, learn short sequences, and explore the colourful props often used in Chinese performances. It's a wonderful opportunity for them to experience another culture, build confidence through creative movement, and enjoy a lively, engaging activity together.

Last day of term – 13th February

A reminder that Thursday 13th February is the last day of term before we break up for half-term.

It will also be a Dress Down Day, and children are welcome to come to school in their own clothes. We are asking for a voluntary contribution of £1. You can donate via ParentPay, or simply send £1 into school with your child on the day.

Thank you for your continued support — it really does make a difference.

Young Artists Summer Show

As a school we have signed up to take part in the 'Young Artists Summer Show' which is being run by The Royal Academy of Arts. If any child would like to take part in this they can and you can enter your artwork online through this [website](#).

Maintenance Morning – Sunday 22nd March 2026, 9.30–11.30am

Join our community maintenance morning to improve the school grounds. **All children must be accompanied by an adult.**



Everyone is welcome, so if you'd like to help with clean up, gardening or general tidying we would welcome your support. **Please bring your own equipment if possible.**

A Little Reminder About Litter

Please help us keep our school grounds clean and safe for everyone. We kindly ask all families to pick up any litter and use the bins provided when dropping off or collecting children. A tidy environment helps us look after our school community and sets a great example for the children. Thank you for your support in keeping our grounds looking lovely!

Parents' Evening Consultations

Our Parents' Evening consultations will go live on the school app on Tuesday. You will be able to book a 10 minute appointment between 1.30pm and 6.30pm on the following dates:

Monday 9th March – Year 2 (Eagles, Woodpeckers and Kingfishers)

Tuesday 10th March – Year 1 (Hedgehogs, Squirrels and Foxes)

Wednesday 11th March – FS1 (Ladybirds)

Thursday 12th March – FS2 (Otters, Mice and Badgers)

If your child has an SEND review meeting or a structured conversation (Pupil Premium), you do not need to book an appointment, as your meeting will already be arranged separately.

Entering School After Hours

If you need to come into school after the end of the school day, please make sure you enter via the school office. For safeguarding reasons, we cannot allow parents or carers to be in classrooms or other areas of the school unsupervised. Thank you for helping us keep all our children safe.

Year 1 Art Exhibitions

On Wednesday 11th February, Year 1 will be hosting an art exhibition to show off our amazing art work to you. Each class will have a time slot where parents will be invited in to look at our artwork and to find out more about what we have been learning. We look forward to seeing you there. The exhibition will be in the school hall, entry via the back of the school.

Foxes: 9:15 – 9:45am

Hedgehogs: 1.45–2.15pm

Squirrels 2:45 – 3:15pm

Y2 EIS Trip – Tuesday 24th February 2026

Year 2s will be attending EIS on Tuesday 24th February. Please arrive at school at 8.15am as we will need to be on the coach and ready to depart at 8.30am.

Please [click here](#) for more information about the trip and how to pay the voluntary contribution on ParentPay.

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 2025–26: **97.5%**. Currently school is at **96.6%**. 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

Y1 phonics
screening check –
meeting for
parents

16–18th
FS2 Height and
Weight check

20th
Comic Relief

20th
Great Fire of
London workshop

22nd
(Sunday)
9.30–11.30
Maintenance
Morning

25th
9.15am & 2.45am
Ladybirds and FS2
Easter Bonnet
Parade

27th
Dress down day
and last day of
term

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 **0.66%** 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

The children have had a very musical week this week. We have explored soft sounds and big sounds, using different musical instruments. We also had a visit from Concerteenies on Wednesday. It was wonderful to see real life musicians and join in with whole school singing.

We have been celebrating Chinese New Year in Ladybirds this week. We have learned how Bo and Isabel celebrate Chinese New Year with their families and have had a go at making our own decorations and red envelope gifts. The children loved learning about the Chinese Dragon Dance and have practiced our repeating patterns to make our own dragons in the classroom.

Please can I remind parents to ensure that their child does not bring in items from home. These things can get lost, broken and often cause fall outs even among the best of friends. Even if these items are in their bags, they can still cause a lot of distraction throughout the day.

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

Foundation Stage Two (Otters, Mice and Badgers)

This week in maths we have been consolidating our learning of doubles and we all enjoyed dressing up and celebrating numbers day! We made our own 'Numberland' using different resources from around the classroom to represent number 9 e.g., 9 stepping stones, 9 people, 9 windows on our houses etc and we continued to learn about the concept part part whole (3 and 2 makes 5).

In learning through play the children have been writing their own dictated sentences using phoneme frames and practising forming their letters the correct way. We have also had a big focus on using our construction areas to build enclosures and symmetrical buildings. The children have been very focussed and have loved this challenge, the buildings have been very extravagant!

We have started our learning about Chinese New Year ready for our Chinese dancing next week and the children were very keen to know if they were born in the year of the rat (2020) or the ox (2021). We enjoyed listening to the story about how the years are named after the animals and how they all had a race across the river to determine the order.

We have continued with our 'Helicopter stories' this week. This is where the children tell us their story and the adults write it down for them. We then form a stage and the children act out their story involving the characters they have invented. We have heard some great stories! We have also continued with our colour books this week and we have made our own shade of orange. Can the children remember which 2 colours we used to make orange?

We also enjoyed our 'Concerteenies' concert this week in school. It was great to sing the songs we have learnt to the book 'Blown away' alongside some live instrumental music.

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

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

Y1 (Hedgehogs, Squirrels and Foxes)

Maths – We have been grouping and sharing.

English – We have planned and written a setting description of the Arctic.

Science – We have looked at what makes an animal a fish.

Geography – We have compared a city (Sheffield) to a coastal town (Whitby).

History – We have considered why people on the Titanic were treated differently depending on their passenger status and whether we think this was fair.

Art – We added the Titanic to our watercolour backgrounds.

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)

Maths – this week we have been consolidating our new skills by multiplying and dividing by 10

English – we have written the starter for our very own fairy-tale, with 3 good characters and one evil villain!

Science – we planned a waterproof experiment using the enquiry question: "What is the best material for an umbrella?"

Geography – we learned about greenhouse gases, and the effects of these on the climate. We discussed what steps we can take to be more sustainable.

Computing – using Chrome Music Labs, we edited our music composition from last week to ensure it sounded like our animal. We experimented with changing the tempo and instrument

Music – We were visited by Concerteenies, who gave us a special performance of **Blown Away**. We were able to sing the songs we have practised in our singing assemblies.

HOMEWORK ON REACHMORE – Homework will be released next week – please make sure you have the Reachmore app downloaded in order to view it.

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