



# Dobcroft Newsletter

## 13<sup>th</sup> March 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 28

I have the right to learn and to go to school.



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

### Mar 2026

17<sup>th</sup>

9am

Y1 phonics screening check – meeting for parents

17<sup>th</sup>

9am

PINS parent meeting

19<sup>th</sup>

Comic Relief

20<sup>th</sup>

Great Fire of London workshop  
National Emergency Services museum

22<sup>nd</sup>

(Sunday)

9.30–11.30

Maintenance Morning

24<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>

Ladybirds Visits to Forest School

25<sup>th</sup>

9.15am & 2.45pm

Ladybirds and FS2 Easter Bonnet Parade

27<sup>th</sup>

Dress down day and last day of term

### Castle Martial Arts

A massive thank you to Castle Martial Arts who came to do a martial arts workshop with all of our children. Castle Martial Arts have over 30 Years of helping children thrive.

They are a Sheffield-based martial arts academy with three locations across the city, and over 30 years of experience supporting children's physical, emotional, and personal development.

Our sessions focus on life skills that support children both in and out of school, including:

- Confidence and self-belief
- Focus and listening skills
- Self-discipline and respect
- Conflict avoidance and positive behaviour

For more information about booking a free taster session at one of their academies, [click here](#).

### Comic Relief – 19<sup>th</sup> March

Red Nose Day is on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March. To raise money for Comic Relief we are inviting all children to wear red. In school we will be having other activities comic relief related which the school council are currently discussing such as telling our funniest jokes! Not a cake day on this occasion.

### Parent WOW – Living Streets Survey

As you may know, we all take part in [WOW – the walk to school challenge from Living Streets](#).

Regular exercise encourages pupils to build strong, healthy lifelong habits and they often arrive at school feeling calmer, refreshed and ready to learn.

To help improve these journeys, Living Streets is asking parents and carers to complete a [short survey](#) about your school commute. Your feedback will directly shape how schools, councils and decision makers make routes safer and easier.

Please take a moment to complete the survey here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/parentWOW>

Everyone who completes the survey will be entered into a prize draw to win a £200 shopping voucher. You can read the full terms and conditions [here](#).

Learn more about WOW: [livingstreets.org.uk/wow](http://livingstreets.org.uk/wow)

Terms and conditions: <https://www.livingstreets.org.uk/media/i4jhovol/parent-survey-tcs-oct-2025-final.pdf>

## Ladybirds application open

We are currently accepting applications for our 3–4 year old provision (Ladybirds). If you are interested in applying for a place please visit our website [here](#).

Apr 2026

23<sup>rd</sup>  
Trip to The Deep

## Active Start at Home

Movement is the foundation of all learning. As part of our partnership with Active Start we will be sharing an **Active Start at Home Activity** for you to complete at home each week. Each activity is designed to be quick to set up and easy to play.

This weeks activity focuses on **core strength and balance**.

**Lovely Letters** > Where Can I Play: Indoors or Outdoors

**active start**

**Let's Play**

**Activity 1**

- Make big letters in the air and ask the child to copy you. Describe the shapes of the letters as you do them (for example, start at the top and draw a curve around for the letter "C"). Talk to them about where each letter starts and ends.

**Activity 2**

- Ask the child to make the letters while sitting on their bottom. Can they make them with their feet, their hands etc?

**Activity 3**

- Standing up, ask the child to make the shapes as big as they can. For example bending their knees and stretching up high on their toes.

**Let's Change Things**

- Show the child how to make the letters in their name.
- Give the child the inside of a kitchen roll to make the letters with.
- Ask the child to make the letter shapes whilst trying to stand on one leg.

**Why?**

Helps to develop:

- understanding of direction
- letter formation
- balance

What you need:  
• Inside of a kitchen roll

Activity Theme: **STABILITY**

Logos: active Lumbria, Local Offer, Yorkshire Sport Foundation, Sheffield Parent Carer Forum

## PINs Parent Meeting

Please see the below for details of the next PINS parent meeting. Kat Holmes, our SENCO, will be joining for the first part of the meeting to say hello and answer any of your questions. For more information, please follow [this link](#).

**DOBCROFT SEND PARENT CARER MEETING**

Does your child at Dobcroft have any additional needs?  
Do you have concerns that your child may have additional needs?  
(Any special educational need and/or disability (SEND), with or without a diagnosis)

If so, we would like to invite you to attend the next parents and carers meeting with a project worker from the Sheffield Parent Carer Forum.

Find out about the work 'Let's Verbalise' are doing in school as part of the PINS project  
Ask questions and discuss concerns  
Give feedback on your child's experience  
Meet the SENCo  
Meet other parents  
Drinks and snacks available

Where: Dobcroft  
When: Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 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](mailto:susan.oshea@sheffieldparentcarerforum.org.uk)

Logos: Sheffield Parent Carer Forum, Let's Verbalise

## Year 2 – The Deep Trip

We will be visiting The Deep on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2026.

Woodpeckers still need a few more parent helpers for this trip, although we do have limited availability due to seating on the coaches. Please email Mrs Granger or Mrs Blackburn if you can help.

Click the link to the letter [here](#).

## Year 2 – DT project

On the last week of term children will be using their knowledge of levers and sliders to make an underwater scene. Please can you send your child in with a box to use by Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March. Boxes should be of cereal box/shoe box size.

If your child would also like to bring any crafting materials from home to decorate their underwater box (e.g – tissue paper, shells etc), they are welcome to do so.

## Year 1 – The Emergency Services Museum Trip

We will be visiting The Emergency Services Museum on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2026. Please see letter for more information. [Click here](#)

**Each class still needs parent helpers for this trip. If you are able to help please contact the class teacher.**

## Year 1 – Phonics Screening Parent Meeting 17<sup>th</sup> March 9am

The Y1 teachers will be hosting a presentation at 9am on 17<sup>th</sup> March about the upcoming statutory Government phonics screenings that will commence in June. All parents and carers are welcome to attend. We will be discussing what the check looks like and how it will be administered in school.

### FS2 – Easter Bonnet Parade

Foundation Stage will be participating in an Easter Bonnet Parade on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March. Children will make an easter bonnet in school, and then parade around the bottom playground for parents/carers to see their creations at 9.15am and again at 2.45pm. Please click [here](#) for more information.

### FS2 – Understanding of the World

For the remainder of this term we will be looking at 'real life heroes' and what jobs people do. If any parents/grandparents have or have had any exciting jobs that they would be interested in talking to the children about, please contact your class teacher. In previous years we have had fire fighters, police, dentists and vets. We have even had an entomologist!

### FS1 – Easter Bonnet Parade

Foundation Stage One will be participating in an Easter Bonnet Parade on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March. Children will make an easter bonnet in school, and then parade around the bottom playground for parents/carers to see their creations at 9.15am and then again at 2.45pm. Please click [here](#) for more information.

### 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 **97.0%**. 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 **0.63%** 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 Ladybirds have had a great time in the sunshine this week. We have talked about all of the things that are growing in Forest School and what we might like to grow together in Ladybirds. If any keen gardeners have any spare small plant pots we would be very grateful for them.

We had a fantastic visit this week from some Police Officers who brought their car to show the children. Our Ladybirds were very respectful as they explored the car and asked interesting questions. They learned about the job of a Police Officer and how they work hard to keep us safe.

We also had the opportunity to take part in a martial arts session with Castle Martial Arts. The children did such fantastic listening and had their go at a few strong stances. We had a wonderful time trying something new and moving our bodies in different ways.

We have now run out of spare clothes in Ladybirds. If you have any of our spares at home please can you return them. Also, if you have any clothes that your child has grown out of please consider donating to Ladybirds.

Laura Hardwick – [hardwickl@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:hardwickl@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk)

## Foundation Stage Two (Otters, Mice and Badgers)

- We are focusing on letter and numeral formation. You should have been given a curly-caterpillar letter-formation zapper at parents' evening. It is important you work hard with your child on these and return them to school once they have completed them.
- In Drawing Club, we have done 'Aliens Love Underpants'. Children loved designing their own alien, underpants and underpants-making machine.
- In Maths, we have been finding and recording our number bonds to 5 using part-whole models and number sentences.
- In RHE, we read 'Giraffes Can't Dance' by Giles Andreae and recognised different emotions within the story, as well as what prompted those different emotions.
- We had a really exciting visitor from some police officers and their car. We sat inside listening to their loud sirens and the flashing lights.

We also had a taster session from Castle Martial Arts, where we practiced being really loud and certain martial arts moves.

Beth Cooke – [cookeb@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:cookeb@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk)

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Helen Morris – [morrish@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:morrish@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk)

## Y1 (Hedgehogs, Squirrels and Foxes)

**Maths** – We have been building on our knowledge of addition and subtraction. We have learnt about fact families and missing number problems.

**English** – We have recapped suffixes and written sentences about our book 'Billy and the Dragon'

**Science** – We have learnt about omnivores, herbivores, and carnivores as part of our 'Animals' topic.

Miss Tinker – [tinkerc@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:tinkerc@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk)

Mr Jones – [jonesd@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:jonesd@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk)

Miss Coldron – [coldronp@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:coldronp@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk)

## Y2 (Woodpeckers, Kingfishers and Eagles)

**Maths** – we continued measuring – this week weighing mass in grams and kilograms

**English** – we recapped the different coordinating and subordinating conjunctions and applied them in sentences

**DT** – we have made sliders and learnt how they work

**Science** – we went to Forest School to find different types of wildlife

**History** – we ordered the key events of the Sheffield Flood of 1864

Mrs Fairfull – [fairfullc@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:fairfullc@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk)

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