



Click here for dates for your diary

Dobcroft Newsletter

25th September 2026



Click here for school dinners

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Whole school news Y2 news Y1 news Foundation Stage 2 News Ladybirds News



Thank you for your patience!

Thank you to all parents for your patience while we worked through the recent issues with the Peak Edge app. We appreciate those who took the time to let us know about any problems, as this feedback helped us identify and investigate the cause.

After a detailed call with the App's technical team, we believe the issues have now been resolved and the app should be working as expected. We will continue to monitor things over the coming days, but we're hopeful that families should now be able to access the app without any further difficulties.

If you do experience any ongoing issues, please contact the school office so we can follow them up.

Thank you for your support while we got this sorted.

Additional Owls Wraparound Session: 1–4pm

Following feedback from parents, we are pleased to announce a trial of a shorter wraparound care session in our Owls provision. From Tuesday 29th September, we will be offering a 3.30pm – 4.30pm session on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at a cost of £7.50 per session, which includes a snack.

We hope this additional option will help families who have siblings attending after-school clubs, allowing children to be collected at the same time and providing greater flexibility at the end of the school day.

Bookings can be made through the usual ParentPay system. Simply select the new 3.30pm – 4.30pm time slot when making your booking. The trial will run until half term, when we will review uptake and feedback to help us decide whether to offer this provision on a longer-term basis.

Thank you for sharing your feedback and helping us shape our wraparound care offer to better meet the needs of our families. The sessions will go live on Parent Pay on Friday 25th Sept.

Voluntary contribution for enrichment opportunities

Thank you for all the contributions already received.

Like many schools, we continue to face significant financial pressures. While government funding covers our statutory responsibilities, it does not always meet the full cost of the wider opportunities and enrichment experiences that we believe greatly enhance children's education. We work hard to manage our budget responsibly and carefully prioritise spending, but our financial position remains very challenging.

We know from our parent/carer feedback that some families would like the opportunity to support the school in offering these enrichment experiences. For this reason, we are inviting parents and carers to make a **voluntary** contribution to help us continue providing a broad and enriching range of activities for all children.

Any contribution is entirely optional.

If you would like to contribute, you can do so on ParentPay under the heading **"Voluntary Contribution for Enrichment Opportunities"**. There is an option to pay between £1–£250 (if you would like to contribute, please choose an amount that you think is appropriate)

Voluntary contributions help us provide opportunities and resources such as:

- Visiting artists and specialist practitioners working with children in school
- Whole-school projects, such as collaborative eco-opportunities

Click here
for term dates
26–27

Sept 2026

21st Sep–2nd
Oct

Harvest festival
food collection

29th

Individual School
Photos

29th

Y1 Walk around
the local area
(parent helpers
requested)

Oct 2026

1st

CENSUS day

6th

Artist visit
James Brunt

SUNDAY 11th
10am–noon

Maintenance/
Gardening
Morning

21st

SEND Coffee
Morning

- Specialist sports and enrichment activities, such as skateboarding lessons and violin tuition
- Practical curriculum experiences in art, design technology and food technology
- Materials and resources used in creative and hands-on learning
- Special events such as having hatching ducklings in Ladybirds

We are incredibly grateful for any support families choose to provide. Every contribution, no matter the amount, helps us continue to offer the enrichment opportunities, experiences and resources that make Dobcroft such a vibrant place for children to learn and grow.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support of our school community.

DNIS Lottery

If you are interested in buying a school lottery ticket you can do here:

[JOIN THE LOTTERY](#)

Census Day – 1st October

On 1st October, it will be Census Day. Please encourage your child to try the school dinner if they don't usually have it as the school will receive some funding.

Individual school photographs

Individual school photos will be taken on the 29th Sept during school hours. Any siblings in school on this day will have their photos taken together. **Ladybirds who attend at the end of the week can come at 8.50am.**

SANDS fundraising walk

Please support Miss Brady and those in our school community affected by baby loss.

Sands exists to reduce the number of babies dying and to support anyone affected by the death of a baby, before, during or shortly after birth, whenever this happened and for as long as they need support.

We wanted to take action to fundraise so that other people will have the support from this excellent charity.

A group of Dobcroft staff are taking part in a fundraising walk on 11th October. If you would like to contribute, please [click here](#) to access our Just Giving page.



Lunchtime Supervisor Role

We are looking for enthusiastic people to join our friendly and supportive lunchtime staff team to work one and a half hours per day during the school lunch period (11.55am–1.25pm).

This post is for term time only (excluding training days) and fits in perfectly to allow you to be there for both school pick up, drop off and holidays.



We are happy to look at applications from people interested in working Monday–Friday or part of the week. If this opportunity is something you may be interested in, then please apply using this link:

<https://teaching-vacancies.service.gov.uk/jobs/welfare-supervisor-3e1f2872-00e6-4f11-bbd3-d999ac1760a3>

Rights Respecting – Harvest festival

This week, we welcome a visitor from The Archer Project, who told us about all the important work their charity does to support families in Sheffield, experiencing homelessness. We learned how donations can help provide safe and secure housing for families in need. This links closely to Article 27.

Article 27

I have the right to have a proper house, clothing and food.



Our Rights Respecting Council decided that we would like to take action and support The Archer Project as part of our Harvest Festival collection. If you would like to make a donation, you can do so [here](#).

We will also be collecting dried food/ tinned food to donate to our local food banks. If you would like to contribute please bring donations to the labelled boxes outside the school office (reception area).

9–10am

**THURSDAY
22nd**

Dress down day
(Friday is an INSET day)

22nd

Last day of half term

Nov 2026

Mosque Trip

Kingfishers – Tues 3rd
Eagles – Wed 4th
Woodpeckers – Th 5th
(parent helpers are requested)

5th

Diwali dance workshop

If you could spare a few moments to complete our Rights Respecting Parent [Questionnaire](#), we would really value your feedback. Thank you for taking the time to share your views!

Rights Respecting – Taking Action!

We have received a letter from Olivia Blake, who has written to us about people parking on the zigzag lines outside school.

The zigzag markings are there to help keep children safe when crossing the road. Vehicles should not park or stop near these markings because doing so can block children's view of the road and make it harder for drivers to see children crossing.

Our Rights Respecting Reps have decided that they would like to take action in response to Olivia's letter. They will be working with our Head Teacher Mrs Singh to remind our school community about safe and considerate parking.

If you are a parent of a Rights Respecting Representative, please see further information [here](#).

We are very proud of our Rights Respecting Council for identifying issues that affect our community and thinking about how they can use their voices to make a positive difference.

James Brunt Artist Visit

On Tuesday 6th October we will be having an artist visit school to work with all of the children. They will be working in our forest school creating spirals with the natural objects they find within the forest school grounds. This fits in with the whole school Autumn learning of using natural objects within art, using our observation skills and how art makes us feel. The children this term have also been learning that we can go into our own environments, even when they are very familiar to us, learn to see with fresh eyes and curiosity and bring objects back to use within their art.

Look at our Autumn celebration news letter to see the amazing creations the children will have made.

SEND Coffee Morning

Our first SEND coffee morning of the year will be on Wednesday 21st October from 9–10am in the hub. This will be a chance to find out more about SEND at Dobcroft and to meet other parents of SEND children. All parents are welcome, whether or not your child is on the SEND register at school. There will be tea, coffee and biscuits but contributions of cake are very well received! Younger siblings are welcome to join us. If you have any questions, email Kat Holmes on holmesk@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk.

Forest School

Just a reminder that Ladybirds visit forest school on Monday and Friday. Please make sure your child is dressed for the weather as we like to go even in the rain!

Family Photo

Thank you for all the lovely photographs that you've sent in for our display. If you've not sent one in there's still time to email your child's class teacher and we'll add it to our 'Being me in my World' display.

Show and Tell

Show and tell will happen in all 3 reception classes (Badgers, Mice and Otters) on a Friday. An example of what they can show is:

- Any awards or certificates they have achieved e.g. swimming, dancing, football, sponsorship etc
- Anything they have done at home they are proud of e.g. any writing, pictures, creative masterpieces
- If they have visited anywhere and would like to tell us about it or show us the park map or photos etc
- Anything exciting that has happened at home e.g. new baby photos, badgers in the garden, spotting otters at the zoo etc.

Please do not bring in toys or games from home as we do not want these to be lost or broken.

Y1 Walk around the local area

On Tuesday 29th September, Y1 are going on a walk around the local area. The visit will take place during the afternoon and is weather dependent. We will need some parent volunteers to join us. If you are available and would like to come, please email your child's class teacher.

Letter formation

In your child's book bag, you will find a handwriting sheet with the first 5 letters we have been learning this week. Can you please practice writing these at home using the prompt sheet with the rhyme to encourage correct formation? These do not need bringing back to school, you can keep these at home. Every Friday up to half term you will find the 5 letter sounds that we have been learning that week.

Attendance

Attendance target 2024–25: 97.5%. Currently school is at **98.0%**. 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 **0.21%** 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

This week we have introduced our first traditional tale – Goldilocks and the Three Bears. We've been making our own bear faces and dishing up our own porridge oats in our sensory tray.

In our maths moments we're looking at numbers 1 to 5 we say it, show it, make it and find the number. We then encourage children to close their eyes and subitize and show them different amounts using dots or pictures.

The Ladybirds have had a look at how to use the hall in PE and use the space safely.

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

Vicky Blackburn – blackburnv@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Lucy Brady – bradyl@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Ellie Sutherland – sutherlande@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Reception (Otters, Mice and Badgers)

This week we have enjoyed starting our whole class phonics lessons and meeting 'Fred the Frog' who likes to help us with our phonics learning. We have learnt our first 5 sounds – m, a, s, d, t – and read our first words! We have also been practising how to write these letters correctly. We have continued with our daily maths moments and have been enjoying looking at repeating patterns. We have gone into the provision and made our own repeating patterns with the pegs and peg boards, on the painting easel and in the creative area. We have done our first PE lesson this week where we have done 'supermovers'. This is a programme that encourages strengthening of our core muscles and coordination. We have continued to enjoy our outdoor area where we have now learnt to use all of the areas of learning. This week we have been focussing on the creative area, water play and our sensory circuit.

We loved showing our grown ups our new classrooms this week and sharing our favourite stories with them and with our friends. Thank you to everyone who was able to attend this event.

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

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

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

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

Claire Pryce – prycec@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Y1 (Hedgehogs, Squirrels and Foxes)

Maths – We have been counting backwards and counting one less (within 10).

Writing – We have learnt what a noun is and identified them within our core text, the Gruffalo.

Science – We have been exploring our senses and defined the function of our ears

Art – We have personalised our own sketch books

RE – We have considered what Christians might feel thankful for

Music – we have performed part of a song (Hey You!)

PE – Sending and receiving games & Gymnastics

RHE – We have been learning about the concept of 'belonging' within our class and thought about ways we can work together well.

Foxes – Mrs Granger & Miss Smith – grangerk@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk & smithk@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Hedgehogs – Mr Jones – jonesd@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Squirrels – Miss Coldron – coldronp@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Y2 (Woodpeckers, Kingfishers and Eagles)

We are really in need of parent helpers for the Mosque trip. If you can help please let your child's class teacher know. The dates are as followed:

Kingfishers: Tuesday 3rd November

Eagles: Wednesday 4th November

Woodpeckers: Thursday 5th November

English – We have been writing simple sentences about our book Leaf. A simple sentence has a noun and a verb. We also added adjectives to make our sentences more descriptive.

Maths – We are comparing numbers to 100. We have been putting numbers into descending and ascending order. We have also been comparing two numbers using <, > and =.

D&T – We have designed our own vehicle with wheels and axels ready to make them later in the term.

Geography – We have been learning the names and locations of the seas and oceans around the United Kingdom.

RHE – In RHE we have been learning about logical consequences, which are an important part of our behaviour curriculum. We also talked about how our actions can have positive and negative consequences.

On Monday, we are starting a new topic in English based on the book 'Traction Man is Here' by Mini Grey. We are limited to one copy of the book to share between 3 classes. If anyone has a copy that we could borrow next week, we would really appreciate it. Thank you

We are learning **First Aid** in PE as one of our PE session this term. Your child does not require their PE clothes for this session. This may mean that your child does PE on a different day for one of their sessions for this term.

Woodpeckers – Mrs Holmes & Mrs Shepherd holmesk@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk & shepherdjenni@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Eagles – Mrs Fairfull – fairfullc@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Kingfishers – Miss Clifffen – cliffena@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk