

Dobcroft Newsletter

22nd October 2026

Click here for dates for your diary

Click here for school dinners

Dobcroft Infant School, Sheffield, S7 2LN • Tel: 0114 236 8099 • Email: enquiries@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk
Website: https://www.dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk

Whole school news | Y2 news | Y1 news | Reception News | Ladybirds News

Inset Day

School will be closed to pupils on Friday 23rd October as this is a staff training day. We will look forward to welcoming children back into school on Monday 2nd November after the half term break.

Owls – 3.30–4.30pm session will continue until Christmas (at least)

The additional Owls session (from 3.30–4.30pm) that we have been trialling during this half term will continue until Christmas. We have just broken even which means we can continue offering this as an additional wraparound service. We would love to continue this beyond Christmas but it will depend on demand. We will update you towards the end of next term with regards to whether we will then be continuing this session as a permanent feature.

World Children's Day – Wear Blue

On 20th November, we will be inviting children to wear blue to school. We are asking for £1 donations to UNICEF. A fundraising link will be shared next half term.

Amazon Wishlists!

Please see the FODS newsletter for a link to our class Amazon wishlists. This can also be viewed here on our school website: https://www.dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk/page/fods/23267
Each class has an Amazon wishlist, including a wishlist for items we would like to purchase to add to our provision for SEND.

Children In Need Day

On Friday 13th November, children are invited to come to school dressed in yellow or spotty clothes, just like Pudsey Bear! They will also take part in our Pudsey Run, where they will run, walk, jog or skip around a course together, celebrating the importance of being active while raising money for a worthwhile cause. Please donate to our Just Giving page to take part. Thank you for your support in helping us make a difference for children.

Sleep Survey

The Sleep Clinic at Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust would like to carry out a survey of children's sleep in all primary schools in Sheffield. You can complete the survey by clicking here.

Poppy Appeal



We will be supporting the poppy appeal this year by selling: slap bands, festival bracelets, reflectors, pencils and paper poppies. Please click here to see prices and the items we will be selling.

During the afternoon, children will be able to purchase items.
Monday 2nd November – Reception children will be able to choose their poppy appeal item.
Tuesday 3rd November – Y1 children will be able to choose their poppy appeal item.
Thursday 5th November – Y2 children will be able to choose their poppy appeal item.

Click here for term dates 26–27

Nov 2026

2nd
School reopens to pupils

Poppy Appeal
2nd November – Reception
3rd November – Y1
5th November – Y2

Mosque Trip
Kingfishers – Tues 3rd
Eagles – Wed 4th
Woodpeckers–Th 5th

5th
Diwali dance workshop

13th
Children In Need

Monday 16th
Anti–bullying week

W/C 16th Nov
Road Safety Week

20th Nov
World Children Day (Wear blue)

Dark Nights

Please click here to read a letter from our Neighbourhood Policing Sergeant for advice on how to keep your families and community safe as the dark nights begin to approach.

KS1 Read Write Inc Phonic sounds

Each fortnight, we will post which sounds each RWI group have been learning and reviewing.
Please see your child's group below:
Ditty/Red group –qu, nk, igh, ow, oo
Green group – ay, ee, igh, ow, oo
Purple group – air, ir, ow, or, ay, *oo*
Pink group – air, oy, ir, oo, *oo*, a–e,
Orange group –ur, are, ir
Yellow group – ure, tion, tious, ew
Blue group – ai, ay, ae, e, ea, e_a
Grey group/Free Readers –ai, oa,, ire, ear, ure, tious

Ladybirds – additional option of start date

Ladybird children can start with us immediately after their third birthday. Sessions will need to be paid for directly. Please not that 15 and 30 30 hours FEL funding does not come into effect until the term after they turn three. For example: If your child turns 3 in September, they will be eligible for the 30 hours free funding in Spring term.

Ladybird Open Evening

We would like to invite Ladybird parents into our classrooms to come and have a look at what we have been up to in Autumn 1. This is also an opportunity to have an informal chat with your childs teacher.

Tueday 3rd November and Thursday 5th November
3:30pm– 4:00pm **or** 4:00pm – 4:30pm
Full Time parents please choose a session to attend. If these times are unsuitable for you, it is possible to contact your childs teacher to discuss an alternative.

Ladybird Forest School

As we move further into Autumn and Winter we will start to see a change in our weather with an increase in cold and wet days. We will endevour to go into our forest school no matter what the weather is **BUT** we need your support to make sure that the children have suitable clothing for this.

On forest school days (Monday and Friday) **PLEASE** ensure that your child has the following:

Long trousers or jogging bottoms
A jumper or cardigan
A full puddle suit **AND/OR** waterproof trousers and a coat
Wellies
A woolly hat
Gloves

It would also be good to ensure your children has spare socks in case theirs get wet. Children **MUST** have their legs and their bodies covered with waterproof items to ensure they stay as dry and warm as possible.

Diwali – Food Tasting

In the week after half term the Ladybirds will learn about how people celebrate Diwali including taking part in a Diwali dance and making diya lamps. During the week children will be able to taste vegetarian dahl and chapati. Please let us know if your child has any new intolerances or allergies.

Reading Diaries

Reception children will be taking home their reading diaries next week after we have completed their up to date phonics assessment. Please remember to bring your child's reading diary and reading book (if they have one) to school every day as they may be reading on different days each week with their teacher or teaching assistant.

Y1 junk modelling materials

Y1 would love to increase their supplies of junk modelling within our making areas in the classroom. If you have any items of recycling (e.g. cereal boxes, egg boxes, kitchen roll tubes, plastic bottle lids) that you are able to spare for our classroom then please bring them in to your class teacher.

Y1 Transition Feedback Form

Please share your thoughts on the transition from FS2 to Y1.
Y1 transition – Fill in form

Y2 Computing Competition

In November, Y2 are entering a global computing competion. This will support them to develop their computational thinking. They will be entering in teams and have already done a bit of practise at school. If you would like to support them with this then they could practise using last year's questions. These can be found using this link: **https://www.bebras.uk/quiz/05f1f907bae32f3b**

Attendance

Attendance target 2024–25: 97.5%. Currently school is at **98.06%.** 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 **0.30%** of children were marked as late.

Ask me about...

Each week your class teacher will update this area with information about what your chid has been learning during the week so that you can ask them questions about it.

Ladybirds

This week the Ladybirds have been beginning to notice the changes in our seasons. We have been collecting falling leaves and natural materials to make face pictures. We have also noticed a change in the temperatures outside with many children choosing to wear coats outside. This is the perfect time of year to practice putting our coats on and taking them off independently. We have been encoraging children to have a go with this by themselves with the 'coat flip'.

The children have been busy in the making area this week, using resources to create things to enhance their play. Cutting and decorating crowns has been a wonderful opportunity to practice our scissor skills and creating maps have helped us to explore pencil grip and control.

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)

Maths – sorting objects into groups according to quantities, and explaining our reasoning.

Literacy – retelling our Bear Hunt story, recognising and writing Set 1 single letter sounds and beginning to write these in words.

Creative – exploring wax crayon rubbings using natural resources and talking about what we notice.

PSED – taking turns with others, and talking about being responsible when looking after each other and our environments.

Have a lovely half term!

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

Y1 (Hedgehogs, Squirrels and Foxes)

English – we have generated and written our own sentences about the Gruffalo.
Maths, Science, Computing, Geography & RE – we have completed end of unit assessments to consolidate our learning this half term
Art – we have reflected and critiqued our art work

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)

English – We have planned and written a short sequel to the Traction Man story, trying to include "and" or "but" and adjectives
Maths – We have added 2 digit numbers such as 31 + 24 and 27 + 18, exploring when we need to exchange ten ones for one ten.
DT – We have evaluated our vehicles, thinking what went well and what we would change if we made it again
RE – We looked at forgiveness and why Christians think we should forgive others

We hope everyone has a lovely half–term break, and we will see you all back on Monday 2nd November.

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 Cliffen – cliffena@dobcroft–inf.sheffield.sch.uk