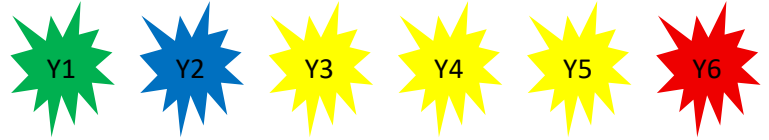


★ Stars of the Week ★

Year 1	Zion
Year 2	Vincent
Year 3	Arthur
Year 4	Camille
Year 5	Dabira
Year 6	Jake

House Point Winners



Sunderland 3K

Last Sunday was a very special day in the Dame Dorothy Calendar as we took part in the Sunderland 3k Day!

After training throughout the year, 49 children proudly took part in the event alongside 9 members of staff and some incredibly supportive active parents. We are extremely proud of every single person who participated.

The smiles on the day were truly infectious, and the energy from everyone involved was absolutely brilliant from start to finish. It was wonderful to see the children's determination, teamwork, and enthusiasm shine through.

A huge thank you also goes to the parents and families who turned up on the morning to cheer on and support our children. Your encouragement meant so much and helped make the day even more special.

Well done everyone – a fantastic achievement and a day to remember!



Head of School Update

As we reach the end of another busy and successful half term, and my first as Head of School, I want to thank you, as parents and carers, for your continued support. We have packed so much into these past weeks, and it has been wonderful to see the children shine in so many ways!

A fantastic way to round off the half term was the Sunderland 3K. I felt incredibly proud seeing our children take part and represent our school with such energy and positivity. One photograph from the day perfectly captures what it means to be part of the Dame Dorothy family - it shows healthy bodies and healthy minds, resilience, teamwork and a real sense of belonging.



Events like this would not be possible without the support of our wonderful staff and, most importantly, you. Thank you to those who join us each week for running club and to those who gave up their time at the weekend to run alongside the children or support the children - encouraging and supporting them every step of the way. It really does make a difference.

I hope you all have a wonderful and peaceful break. We look forward to welcoming the children back, ready for an exciting final term where I know Dame Dorothy will continue to shine.

School reopens on Monday 1st June. We will be here as usual, serving breakfast from 8am - everyone is, as always, welcome.

Laura Tullock
Head of School

Thank Crunchie it's Friday

Each week we ask our community to celebrate our staff who have made a difference.

This week we have had a group nomination for the staff who supported our Sunderland 3k- Mr Byers, Mrs Lee, Mr Robinson, Miss Muldowney, Miss Thompson and Mrs Campion: *I'd like to nominate every single member of staff who gave their own time to support DDPS and the children who took part in Sunderland 3k - smashing times and demonstrating great team work - sticking with each other!*

If you have a member of staff who has made a difference, please use the Arbor app to nominate them so we can celebrate with our community.

**THANK
crunchie
IT'S FRIDAY!** ♥

Big or small, every act of kindness,
help and hard work makes a
HUGE difference at our school!

Have you seen
an **act of kindness**
from a member
of our staff?

Nominate them
and let's say
THANK YOU!

BECAUSE APPRECIATION MAKES OUR SCHOOL STRONGER!

Let us know
via the
Arbor app.

Let's
celebrate
our amazing
TEAM!

Have a fantastic Friday
and a brilliant weekend! ♥

crunchie

Safeguarding

As the warmer weather begins to arrive, we know families may make the most of our local area and visit the beach. This week we are sharing tips for keeping ourselves safe around water.

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators STAYING SAFE AROUND WATER

Enjoying time in, on, and around water plays a vital role in a young person's overall development, offering a healthy and exhilarating way to have fun. This guide outlines essential safety advice, based on the Royal Life Saving Society UK's Water Safety Code, to help ensure children can enjoy swimming and similar activities safely and responsibly.

1 STICK TO LIFEGUARDED AREAS

It's never advisable to enter unsupervised bodies of water, especially alone. Instead, it's considered best practice to accompany children to places with lifeguards, as they will be trained to respond swiftly in emergencies and provide first aid when needed.

2 LEARN SIGNS AND FLAGS

When going to a new environment, it's important to research the local area and make children aware of safety signage before entering the water. If visiting the seaside, make sure children are always supervised by an adult and that they know what different beach flags mean, so they're knowledgeable of where and when they can enter the sea.

3 STOP AND THINK

Young people should be cautious before entering water, as it's difficult to know what hazards could be underneath. Use the Water Safety Code and encourage children to ask themselves questions such as, "Is the water too deep or too shallow? Are there currents, tides, or underwater objects?" Make sure children know never to enter water from a height, as what lurks below could cause serious injuries.

4 CONSIDER WATER TEMPERATURE

Even on hot days, water can be deceptively cold. Tragedies strike when young people experience cold water shock. Never let children enter water quickly; instead, ensure that they enter slowly and carefully to allow their bodies to adjust to the temperature or exit easily if needed.

5 INFLATABLE SAFETY

Although inflatables may seem like a fun idea when visiting locations like the beach, they can float further out from shore and into more dangerous water. It's advisable only to use inflatables in spaces like appropriately managed swimming pools, where they're used in more controlled and supervised environments.

6 SUPERVISION IS KEY

For young children, and particularly those under the age of five, it's important for them to be supervised at home, outside and at the pool at all times. It's essential for parents and educators to understand that young children can drown quickly and silently; therefore, anyone supervising them must maintain constant watch in case they get into difficulty.

7 DON'T GO TOO FAR

When swimming, especially in open water, it's best to teach children to stay within a safe depth. Share advice with them such as only entering water up to a standing depth, and in the case of visiting the beach, swim parallel to shorelines. This will allow a child to stay in control and get out of the water easily.

8 KEEP POOLS AND TUBS DRAINED

For parents of young children, a simple way to protect them at home is to keep outdoor spaces and bathrooms tidy after playtime. This includes removing water from paddling pools after use and turning them over, returning lids to hot tubs and taking toys out of baths, so all water can be fully drained from the tub.

9 FLOAT AND CALL 999

If a child gets into difficulty in the water, they should try to float on their back, stay calm, and call for help. If a young person sees someone else in trouble, they should dial 999 or 112 immediately, then shout to reassure their friend, encouraging them to float on their back, and letting them know that help is on the way. Children should never enter the water to attempt a rescue or retrieve belongings.

10 TEACH WATER SAFETY

Beyond swimming lessons, children should be educated in school on water safety. Use RLSS UK's accredited programme, 'Water Smart Schools', which offers free lesson plans and resources on how to be safe on, near and around water by following the Water Safety Code.

Meet Our Expert

The Royal Life Saving Society UK (RLSS UK) is a national water safety charity that gives children the chance to enjoy a lifetime of fun in the water, safely. Water safety education provided in schools is vital and, in some instances, could be a child's only opportunity to learn about the water.



The National College

Swimming

On our return after the break, it is the turn of Year 3 to go swimming at the Aquatic Centre.

They will need to bring a bag with a towel and swimming costume/shorts. A contribution of £10 is payable via the Arbor app and school subsidises the remaining cost.

Football

Last night, our Year 5 and 6 team finished their league season with an action-packed night at Ford Hub. The team played five games back-to-back. They finished the night with two wins, two draws and their first loss of the season. Due to the shorter games, all these matches were tight affairs and were all decided by one or two goals. Due to their efforts over the season, they have finished as **WINNERS** of the entire league, finishing four points clear of second place. They have performed brilliantly all season and should be very proud of themselves. Well done!



Attendance

So far this year, school attendance is 95%. Well done Dame Dorothy, we love it when you are in school, you belong with us! When you are with us, we get to learn with you, laugh with you, chat with you and play games with you!

Last week each member of our Y6 class was in school every day and so earned a treat of some extra playtime. Well done Year 6!

Attendance is so important for children to get the most from their education and the aim should always be 100%.

This week's attendance winners with **98%** are **Year 4**.

Children with 5 late arrivals will miss out on prizes and awards even if they are at 98%.

Our school day starts at 8:00am with our free Breakfast Club, which is open to all children from Reception to Year 6. Children must arrive before 8:30am to attend Breakfast Club. If your child arrives after 8:30am, they will not be able to enter school until the main gate opens at 8:45am.

Classroom doors are open from 8:45am to 8:55am for the start of the school day. Any children arriving after 8:55am must enter through the school office and will receive a late mark.

Thank you for your support in helping your child arrive on time each day.

DIARY DATES

- 1st June - Year 3 Swimming
- 18th June - Y3 @Broomhouse Farm
- 24th June - Summer Concert
- 14th July - Sports Day
- 17th July - Y6 Leavers Assembly @2pm

Year 2 Newsletter Special

Literacy

This term in Literacy, Year 2 children have been developing their narrative and recount writing skills. The children have enjoyed reading and exploring the story *Traction Man*. They have written their own exciting narratives inspired by the characters and adventures in the book. During our lessons, we focused on using interesting adjectives to describe characters and settings, sequencing events clearly, writing in full sentences and using conjunctions such as *and*, *but* and *because*. The children also practiced using commas in a list. We have also been learning how to write a recount. The children wrote about events in the correct order. We are very proud of the children's enthusiasm and hard work in Literacy this term.

Number sense

In Maths, the children have begun taking part in our Number Sense Programme. This programme helps children build confidence and fluency with number facts and mental maths skills. The children have been practicing, recognising numbers quickly, counting forwards and backwards, number bonds to 10 and 20, addition and subtraction strategies and explaining their mathematical thinking. Through games, practical activities and quick recall practice, the children are developing a strong understanding of number and improving their confidence when solving problems. Please continue to practice number facts at home to support your child's learning.

Topic

In Science this term, Year 2 have been learning about habitats and life cycles. The children explored a variety of habitats and discovered how animals and plants are suited to the environments in which they live. We discussed microhabitats and identified the different things living creatures need to survive, such as food, water and shelter. As part of our learning on life cycles, the children investigated how animals grow and change. We looked at the life cycles of butterflies, frogs and chickens and discussed the stages of growth from young to adult.

The children have enjoyed observing, sorting and asking scientific questions during practical activities, investigations and school trips.

