



# Newsletter 26<sup>th</sup> June



| Stars of the Week |        |        |         |
|-------------------|--------|--------|---------|
| Year 1            | Alice  | Year 4 | Aadvi   |
| Year 2            | Freya  | Year 5 | Grayson |
| Year 3            | Sienna | Year 6 | Ranvi   |

## Head of School Update

It's been another brilliant week in school, with so much to celebrate, and so much sunshine!

From the Beamish sleepover - what an incredible experience for the children - to the determination and teamwork shown in girls' football and boys football alongside all the fantastic learning happening across classrooms every day, it's been a real joy to see. Weeks like this don't just happen - they are made possible by our incredibly dedicated staff, who constantly go the extra mile. I feel very lucky, and very proud, to work alongside them. Next week, as explained in my message earlier in the week, is transition week. I know that teachers are so excited to welcome their new classes and start building those important relationships. We know that change can bring a mix of emotions - excitement, a few nerves, maybe a bit of uncertainty - and that's completely natural and understandable. Please do reassure your children that it's okay to feel all of those things. And if I'm honest... the staff will be feeling a little bit of that too!

I'm really looking forward to being in classrooms next week and seeing everyone begin their next step. A special good luck to our Year 6 children as they visit their new schools - we are so proud of each and every one of them. They are more than ready for what comes next, and we know they'll take it all in their stride. We can't wait to hear all about their experiences when they return to us at the end of the week!

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

**Laura Tullock**  
Head of School

# Football

## **A great evening of Football for our Y4 & Y5 boys!**

Our Year 4/5 team took part in a cup competition tonight and represented the school brilliantly. The boys showed fantastic teamwork, determination and sportsmanship throughout, creating some excellent chances and scoring some brilliant goals along the way.

We're incredibly proud of their effort, attitude and the way they supported one another from start to finish.

Well done, boys!



## **What a fantastic week for our girls' football team!**

Our girls have once again done Dame Dorothy proud with some outstanding performances in the sweltering heat. This week, they competed in both the Jill Scott Cup Finals and their League Finals, showing incredible determination, teamwork and resilience throughout.



To top it all off, the team were presented with their trophies after securing an impressive 2nd place finish in the league – a fantastic achievement and a testament to all their hard work this season. We couldn't be prouder of every single player. Well done, girls!

## **Future football stars in the making!**

At lunchtime today, some of our Year 4 and Year 5 girls took part in a fantastic football coaching session led by Danielle from the Beacon of Light.

The girls showed great enthusiasm, energy and determination throughout, developing their skills while having lots of fun along the way. It's clear we've got some talented young footballers coming through the ranks!

A huge thank you to Danielle for delivering such an enjoyable session. We can't wait to see how these budding footballers continue to develop.



# Beamish

Ten of our Year 5 pupils, who have been working incredibly hard on the MOBIE environmental project, enjoyed an unforgettable prize this week - an overnight stay at Beamish Museum! It was an experience packed with history, adventure and memories that will stay with them for years.

We set off on Monday morning, joined by Gerry and Wayne from MOBIE, and spent the day exploring the museum's incredible open-air exhibits. A highlight was the tour of the 1900s mine, where the children learned how miners worked in the dark and even experienced the moment the lights were switched off to show just how little visibility a mining lamp provided. From there, we explored the miners' cottages and compared how homes have changed over time before heading up to Pockerley Manor to see life in the Georgian era.

After a busy day, it was time for tea - and what better treat than traditional fish and chips in the 1950s town? With the museum closed to the public, the children had the rare joy of wandering through the quiet streets, soaking up the atmosphere of a town frozen in time.

As dusk settled, we headed into the woods for a cosy campfire, complete with songs and stories. Then it was back to the 1900s town, where the children set up their beds in the Masonic Hall. Walking through the empty streets with only their torches lighting the way was a magical moment - it felt like stepping back in time.

After a good night's sleep, we were up for breakfast and ready for day two. The children took part in a Victorian school lesson, complete with strict routines and chalkboards, before heading to the 1940s farm to experience life as an evacuee. The farmers shared what it was like to be sent away from home during the war, bringing history to life in a powerful and meaningful way.

This was an amazing opportunity for our pupils - not only to spend two days immersed in Beamish's "walking timeline", but to experience the museum overnight, something very few people ever get to do. We are incredibly proud of the children for their hard work on the MOBIE project and delighted they were able to enjoy such a special reward. A big thankyou to the MOBIE Team for making this happen.



# Summer Concert

It was wonderful to welcome parents and families into school this week for our Summer Concert, giving them the opportunity to see our children performing and celebrating their talents.

The audience was treated to a fantastic showcase of music, singing and dance. Our incredibly talented choir performed beautifully, while several pupils impressed with confident solo performances. There were also some brilliant dance routines on display, along with outstanding musical performances from our Year 5 and Year 6 musicians.

Events like these are only possible thanks to the dedication, encouragement and expertise of staff who work tirelessly behind the scenes. A huge thank you goes to Mr Kyle, Mrs Baker and the ever-talented Mr Brown for the months – and indeed years – of commitment they have invested in developing our children's confidence, skills and love of performing.

Well done to all of our performers for putting on such an entertaining and memorable afternoon. We are incredibly proud of every one of them!



# Outstanding Balances

As we approach the end of the school year, we kindly remind you that all outstanding balances, including lunch account balances, must be paid in full via the Arbor App by **Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> July**.

Please take a moment to check your account and settle any remaining fees by the deadline.

If you have any questions or need assistance, feel free to contact the school office.

# Safeguarding

This week in assembly, we focused on road safety - something particularly important for us given our location. We explored the Green Cross Code and discussed what makes a safe or unsafe place to cross. Children learned that unsafe places include areas where drivers may not see them, such as between parked cars or on bends and hills. We also talked about the importance of crossing the road without distractions, such as using phones or chatting to friends, and taking time rather than rushing. When you are out and about, you might like to chat with your children about the Green Cross Code and point out safe places to cross together.



## The Green Cross Code

1. Find a safe place to cross
2. Stop just before you get to the kerb
3. Look all around for traffic and listen
4. If traffic is coming, let it pass
5. When it is safe, go straight across the road – do not run, keep looking and listening while you cross.

# Book Amnesty

As we approach the end of the school year, we are taking some time to review and refresh our library. Please could you check at home for any school library books and return them as soon as possible. Our library will be closing at the end of next week to allow for some exciting new developments to take place!

# Book Recommendations

'Today a reader, tomorrow a leader.'

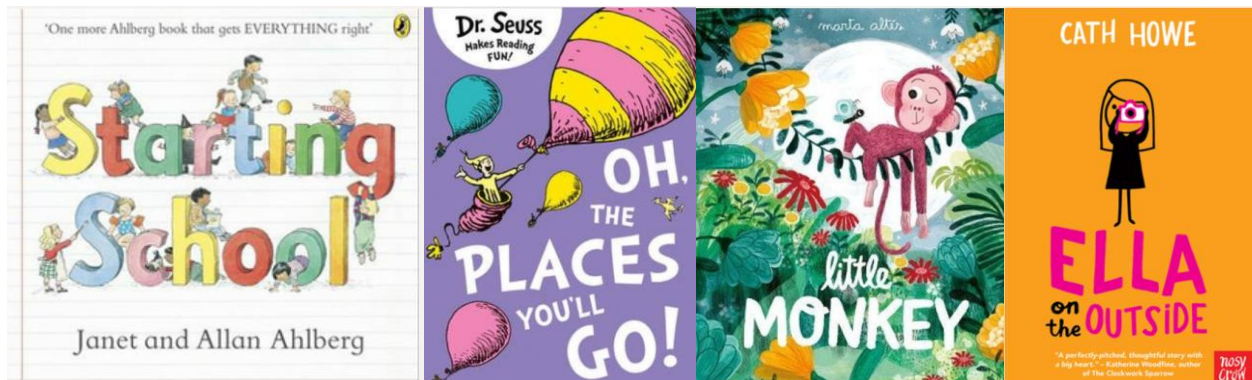
Margaret Fuller

Continuing with our book recommendations, this week we are focusing on stories that support children with transition and change. For younger children, *The Colour Monster Goes to School* by Anna Llenas is a lovely way to explore mixed feelings about new beginnings. For older children, *The Boy at the Back of the Class* by Onjali Q. Raúf offers a thoughtful perspective on change, friendship and resilience. These could be especially helpful in the coming weeks or over the summer holidays as children prepare for what's next. The links to booklists below provide further information and ideas of other books which you can enjoy with your children.

[Starting school or nursery: 5 top tips and 10 books to try | BookTrust](#)

[Big School and other changes: Books that can help | BookTrust](#)

[Books to help your child get ready for the big move to... | BookTrust](#)



# Thank Crunchie It's Friday!

## Celebrating Our Staff

Our staff truly do make Dame Dorothy a special place. From all of the rich learning experiences in the classroom to the opportunities pupils get outside of the classroom. Don't forget, if there is a member of staff who has made a difference, please nominate them for a Crunchie award via the Arbor app.

# Attendance

Another improvement in attendance this week – 95.95! Keep this up Dame Dot!

When you're not in school, we really feel it—and you miss out on all the moments that make each week special, like we've seen so clearly again this week.

You're a valued part of our school, and it's simply not the same without you. Being here means sharing learning, spending time with friends, joining in, and being part of everything that's going on. Every day matters, and every person matters.

Quite simply—you're part of us, and you belong here!

This week's attendance winners with **100%** are **Year 1**.

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

|                                                             |                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 29 <sup>th</sup> June – 3 <sup>rd</sup> July                | Last week for Clubs   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> July                                       | Y3 & Y4 Water Fight   | <p>To celebrate all the children's hard work this year, Year 3 and Year 4 will be taking part in a water fight at school on Friday 10th July.</p> <p>Please ensure your child brings the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A water gun (no larger than 40cm) or a water bottle</li> </ul> <p><b>Note: Water guns must be an appropriate size and not overly powerful, otherwise they will not be permitted.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A towel</li> <li>• A change of clothes</li> <li>• A bag for wet clothes</li> <li>• A change of shoes</li> </ul> <p>If your child does not wish to take part, please inform their class teacher as soon as possible.</p> |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> July                                       | 100% attendance treat | Parents of children who have had 100% attendance will be contacted by the school with details of this treat.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> July                                       | Sports Day            | <p>Parents are invited to join us for Sports Day. Timings are below.</p> <p>EYFS: 9:15am<br/>Y1 &amp; Y2: 10:30am<br/>Y3 &amp; Y4: 1pm<br/>Y5 &amp; Y6: 2pm</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> July                                       | Beach Day             | <p>Our annual beach day returns! As a school, we will have a community day out! Children should come to school at usual time, suitably dressed for the beach. Please make sure they have a hat and have suncream applied, suncream in their bag and water to drink.</p> <p>We will all leave school at 10.30, if parents wish to join us, please be at school for 10.15.</p> <p>Parents of our Early Years will be contacted separately about supporting walking children to the beach.</p> <p>Our 2 year olds and Nursery can be collected from the beach at 11.45 .</p> <p>The rest of the school will leave the beach at 2.30 to return to school.</p>                                                        |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> July                                       | Y6 Leavers Assembly   | The Y6 leavers assembly will take place at <b>2pm</b> . It will be a reflection on their time and experiences from here and a chance for us to say goodbye to a wonderful group of children. Hankies recommended!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> July                                       | Guard of Honor        | We will be staging our leavers' Guard of Honour at <b>3pm</b> where we say our final farewell in front of all the children, staff and parents. Not to be missed!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> July                                       | Last Day of Term      | <b>School Closes at 3:15pm</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> September – Children Return to School</b> |                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

# School Calendar



Dame Dorothy Primary School 2026-2027



| August 2026 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|-------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Wk          | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa | Su |
| 31          |    |    |    |    |    | 1  | 2  |
| 32          | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |
| 33          | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 34          | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 35          | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 36          | 31 |    |    |    |    |    |    |

| September 2026 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Wk             | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa | Su |
| 36             |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  |
| 37             | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 38             | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 39             | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 40             | 28 | 29 | 30 |    |    |    |    |

| October 2026 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Wk           | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa | Su |
| 40           |    |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |
| 41           | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 42           | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 43           | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 44           | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |

| November 2026 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Wk            | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa | Su |
| 44            |    |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |
| 45            | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 46            | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 47            | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 48            | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 49            | 30 |    |    |    |    |    |    |

| December 2026 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Wk            | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa | Su |
| 49            |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  |
| 50            | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 51            | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 52            | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 53            | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |    |

| January 2027 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Wk           | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa | Su |
| 53           |    |    |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  |
| 1            | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |
| 2            | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 3            | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 4            | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

| February 2027 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Wk            | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa | Su |
| 5             | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| 6             | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 7             | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 8             | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |

| March 2027 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Wk         | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa | Su |
| 9          | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| 10         | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 11         | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 12         | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 13         | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |    |    |

| April 2027 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Wk         | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa | Su |
| 13         |    |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |
| 14         | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 15         | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 16         | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 17         | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |    |    |

| May 2027 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Wk       | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa | Su |
| 17       |    |    |    |    |    | 1  | 2  |
| 18       | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |
| 19       | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 20       | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 21       | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 22       | 31 |    |    |    |    |    |    |

| June 2027 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Wk        | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa | Su |
| 22        |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  |
| 23        | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 24        | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 25        | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 26        | 28 | 29 | 30 |    |    |    |    |

| July 2027 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Wk        | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa | Su |
| 26        |    |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |
| 27        | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 28        | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 29        | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 30        | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |

## Bank holidays 2026/27 UK



## Inset days

|                 |                     |                 |               |                |            |                        |
|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|------------|------------------------|
| 31 August '26   | August Bank Holiday | 28 December '26 | 1 January '27 | New Year's Day | 3 May '27  | Early May Bank Holiday |
| 25 December '26 | Christmas Day       |                 | 26 March '27  | Good Friday    | 31 May '27 | Spring Bank Holiday    |
| 26 December '26 | Boxing Day          |                 | 29 March '27  | Easter Monday  |            |                        |