Newsletter

20th November 2026

Stars of the Week	
Reception	Emmanuella
Year 1	Isaac
Year 2	Tommy Mc & Ronia
Year 3	Temi
Year 4	Hawal
Year 5	Osayuwamen
Year 6	Autumn

Head of School Message

What a week it has been! The weather may have been cold, wet and gloomy, but you certainly wouldn't know it from the atmosphere around school. Classrooms have been full of enthusiasm, determination and some fantastic learning. From our Year 1 children writing brilliant setting descriptions that help bring places to life, to our Year 6 pupils getting to grips with tricky six-figure grid references, there has been lots to celebrate.

My favourite moment of the week, though, came in Breakfast Club. With the rain keeping us indoors, the hall was filled with children and staff singing along to Can't Help Falling in Love with You. It was one of those moments that makes you stop and smile. The weather outside didn't matter. The sound of everyone singing together lifted spirits, brought smiles to faces and reminded me just how special our school community is.

What a community we have! If you haven't already seen it, take a look at the video on our Facebook page and see the magic for yourself.

Keep singing, Dame Dorothy!

Have a wonderful weekend everyone!

Laura Tullock
Head of School

School Dinners

Please find next week's lunch menu listed below. We are sharing here so you can look together with your child and help them decide which option they'll be choosing each day.



MAIN: Vegetarian curry with rice or macaroni cheese with garlic bread. Both with vegetables/salad
A selection of sandwiches are available
DESSERT: Pancake with raspberry sauce & ice cream

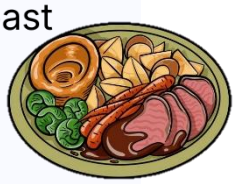


MAIN: Pepperoni or cheese pizza slice with fries and beans
Jacket Potatoes are also available
DESSERT: Chocolate cake and custard





MAIN: Roast dinner with yorkshire puddings, roast potatoes, vegetables and gravy
A selection of paninis are available
DESSERT: Muffins





MAIN: Spaghetti bolognese or vegetable bolognese with garlic bread and vegetables/salad
A selection of sandwiches are available
DESSERT: Fruit Jelly with cream





MAIN: Fish fingers or vegetarian nuggets with chips and peas.
Jacket potatoes are also available
DESSERT: Citrus ginger biscuit

A SELECTION OF FRESH BREAD AND SALAD IS AVAILABLE EVERY DAY

FRESH FRUIT, FRUIT SALAD AND YOGHURT ARE AVAILABLE AS ALTERNATIVE DESSERT OPTIONS EVERY DAY

Attendance

As the colder weather settles in and the mornings become darker, it can sometimes feel tempting to stay tucked up at home in the warm. At Dame Dorothy, though, we know that children thrive when they are here with their friends, their teachers and their school family, right where they belong.

Our attendance infographic reminds us that every child is an important part of our community. When a child is absent, we notice. Their friends miss them, their teachers miss them and they can miss out on valuable learning and memorable experiences. Every day really does count, because every child counts.

If there is anything affecting your child's attendance, please do get in touch. We are always here to listen and work with families to find the right support.

Belong together. Learn together. Flourish together. ♡

This week's attendance winners are... **Reception!**



Supporting Our Community

As we head into the festive season, it's a lovely time to think about how we can help and look out for one another. One small way we can do this is by sharing what we no longer need.

If you have any Christmas jumpers at home that your children have outgrown, or that you no longer wear, please consider donating them to school. We'll make them available to any family who might like one, so that everyone can join in the festive fun. Jumpers in all sizes, for children and adults, are very welcome and can be handed in at the school office.

Small acts of kindness like this make a big difference! Thank you, as always, for your kindness and generosity.



Safeguarding

This week, we have joined schools across the country in marking Anti-Bullying Week. We started the week by wearing odd socks, celebrating the fact that we are all unique and that our differences are something to be proud of. It was wonderful to see so many colourful socks on display and to hear children talking about what makes them special.

Throughout the week, children have been learning about what bullying is and, just as importantly, what it is not. We have discussed the difference between occasional unkind behaviour and bullying, using the child-friendly definition "Several Times On Purpose" (STOP). Understanding this difference helps children recognise when they need support and how to seek help for themselves or others.

A key message from Anti-Bullying Week has been the importance of speaking up. We have encouraged children to tell a trusted adult if they are worried about something, whether it is happening to them or to someone else. Bullying thrives in silence, but when children feel confident to talk, adults can step in quickly to help.

If you would like to find out more about Odd Socks Day or access advice for supporting children with friendships and bullying, visit the Anti-Bullying Alliance website: https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk

Thank you for helping us reinforce these important messages at home. Together, we can ensure that Dame Dorothy remains a place where everyone feels that they belong. 🩶

Football

Proud of Our Year 4 Team 💙⚽



Football isn't always about the final score, and our Year 4 team showed exactly that in the Julie Ann Thompson Cup.

Facing Bernard Gilpin and St Cuthbert's, the boys had two very challenging games but showed great determination and kept going until the very end. A huge **well done to Freddie, who grabbed our goal on the night!** ⚽

And a special thank you to our fantastic parents and families who braved the cold to support the team from the sidelines. 🥶👏

Well done, Year 4. Keep working hard, keep learning and keep enjoying your football!

Into Film Festival

What a fantastic cinema experience for Years 4, 5, 6 and the Hive! 🍿🎬





Thanks to the **Into Film Festival** and **Omniplex Cinema**, our children enjoyed watching *Smurfs* on the big screen. Beyond all the fun, the film had some lovely links to our PSHE learning, encouraging children to think about **friendship, kindness, inclusion, teamwork and celebrating what makes us all different**.

The MAX cinema and super-comfy reclining seats made the visit even more special.

A brilliant day, lots of smiles and plenty to talk about back at school!

FRIENDS OF DAME DOROTHY

ACTIVE MINDS • STRONG BODIES • BRIGHT FUTURES

2026 PTA CHRISTMAS PARTY

Let's Jingle and Boogie!

Join us for our School Christmas Disco as we celebrate the end of term with festive tunes, brilliant party games and plenty of dancing!

Our DJ will be ready to get the party started—just bring your best moves!

Thursday 10th December 2026

4–5pm

School Hall Ages 4-11

£2.50 per ticket

Every ticket includes a snack, party sweet bag and juice.

BOOK ONLINE

https://eequ.org/book/pta-christmas-party-with-stem-buddies-37706

Drop-off and collection:
All children must be dropped off and collected by an adult.
Children will not be permitted to walk home unaccompanied.

We can't wait to see you on the dance floor!

DAME DOROTHY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Christmas at Dame Dorothy Primary

A time to come together, celebrate and make special memories!

- Kindness
- Community
- Opportunity
- Brighter Futures

Wednesday 9 December



Christmas Community Library

3.15pm

School Hall

Thursday 10 December



Year 1 & 2 Nativity

2.30pm



PTA Christmas Disco

4–5pm

Friday 11 December



Christmas Jumper Day and **Christmas Dinner Day**



Reindeer Run

Wednesday 16 December



Reception Stay and Play

1.30pm

Wednesday 16 December



Nursery Stay and Play

9am

Thursday 17 December



EYFS Nativity

9.30am

Friday 18 December



Christmas Carols on the Yard

2.45pm



Let's make this Christmas magical together!

Diary Dates

INSET DAYS (SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN):

- 19th July
- 20th July
- 21st July

HALF TERM DATES:

- 21st December - 1st January
- 15th February - 19th February
- 26th March - 9th April
- 31st May - 4th June

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

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

Inset days