



NEWSLETTER

2ND MARCH 2026



World Book Week...

Reading is central to our school curriculum. We take great pride in immersing children at DPA with high quality texts by carefully selecting stories and non-fiction texts that cover a wide range of interests. Every class has a dedicated time to listen to the class novel or story of the day and our writing lessons are based around different texts. Our assemblies are often planned around picture books where we explore a range of themes. We aim for all children to become enthusiastic readers and support them to learn the technical aspects of reading as well as to develop their comprehension skills. Reading really does open up a whole world of learning and it is celebrated daily at our school.

We have a close partnership with Wallingford Book Shop - an independent bookshop and our fantastic PTA, through your donations, enable us to enjoy surprise packages of books for each class every month. These books arrive wrapped up in brown paper and quickly become firm favourites to borrow in the classroom. This means that we continue to have up to date books within our library stock. We have also taken great care to ensure that all our children are represented in the books that they are able to choose.

Reading Breakfasts

- Pre-school and reception Monday 8:40am - 9am
- Year 1 and 2 Wednesday 8:40am - 9am
- Years 3,4,5,6 Thursday 8:40- 9am



Come and join your child in class this week if you can, for a reading breakfast - where the only items available for breakfast are books! Come and share a book with your child before they start their learning for the day. There will be plenty of books available to choose from - or you could bring a favourite from home.

Roving Bookshop - Tuesday 3rd March

The Roving Bookshop will be in school again on Tuesday. They bring over 3000 titles for you to peruse and purchase. Every class will have the opportunity to go to the bookshop - information about this and envelopes for money have already been sent out. The school does receive a commission from the bookshop - enabling us to purchase even more books!

The next two weeks...	
Monday 2 nd March	Nursery and Reception Reading Breakfasts -till 9am. Chestnut Class Outdoor Learning
Tuesday 3 rd March	Roving Book shop all day
Wednesday 4 th March	KS1 Reading breakfasts Supporting your child with managing feelings 9-11am parent workshop
Thursday 5 th March	KS2 Reading breakfasts
Friday 6 th March	World Book Day - option to dress up/ come as a reader
Monday 9 th March	Sycamore Class Outdoor Learning
Tuesday 10 th March	Year 6 Parent presentation
Wednesday 11 th March	Supporting your child with managing feelings 9-11am
Thursday 12 th March	
Friday 13 th March	



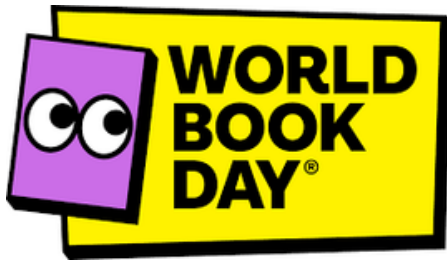
01235 606012



www.didcotprimaryacademy.org



office@didcotprimaryacademy.org



National World Book day is actually Thursday 5th March - however, due to swimming we will be holding our optional dressing up day on **FRIDAY 6th MARCH**.

We invite children to come as a Reader or a book character!

This means that there is a wide choice of what to wear on this day -

- Come as a book character
- Come as a Reader - how do you like to read books? In your pyjamas, in your own clothes, in your school uniform - it is up to you.

Free book for every child



As part of World Book Day, children will be given one of these free books. These are special books that have been chosen and commissioned for World Book Day. Over the last few years, instead of giving tokens to the children to exchange for a book, we have worked with Wallingford Book Shop so the children pre-order the book that they want and the school gives the tokens directly to the bookshop. We hope your child enjoys their selection.

Comic Relief and PTA fundraising Friday March 20th

In order to limit the amount of times we are asking for money/ dressing up etc, we have decided to combine fundraising for Comic Relief and the PTA on Friday March 20th where donations will be split 50/50 between the school PTA and Comic Relief. On Friday March 20th your child can come to school with:

- Crazy hair
- non- school uniform
- odd socks
- temporary tattoos



Punctuality - please arrive at school on time! Gates open at 8:40am and shut at 8:50am

Whilst many workplaces now have flexible working hours, school is not able to fit into this pattern and it is really important for your child to arrive at school on time. There is not sufficient time in the morning to have a long conversation with your child's teacher at the classroom door - they do have 30 children to settle and start with their learning. Please make sure that you give yourself enough time to come through the gates from 8:40am and are able to leave before they are locked - for your child's safety - at 8:50am.

Punctuality is an important life skill - and while life is becoming more flexible there are still many services that have to run to time - transport timetables, appointments etc.



2026 Spring 2

When	Who	What...
2 nd - 6 th March	whole school	Book week events
2 nd March	Pre-school and Reception	The Reading Breakfast 8.40am - 9am
3 rd March	Whole school	Roving bookshop in school
4 th March	parents	Supporting your child with managing feelings
4 th March	Years 1 and 2	The Reading Breakfast 8.40am - 9am
5 th March	Years 3 - 6	The Reading Breakfast 8.40am - 9am
6 th March	whole school	Children are invited to dress up as their favourite book characters, authors or interests or as a reader - pyjamas, own clothes or even school uniform - it is up to you!
10 th March	Year 6	Presentation to parents at 3pm. Please note this presentation will start promptly at 3pm.
11 th March	Parents	Supporting your child with managing feelings
16 th March	Year 4	Presentation to parents at 3pm
16 th March	Chestnut	Outdoor Learning
17 th March	Year 3	Presentation to parents at 3pm
18 th March	parents	Supporting your child with managing feelings

2026 Spring 2 continued

When	Who	What...
19 th March	Year 2	Elizabeth I workshop
19 th March	Year 5	Presentation to parents at 3pm
24 th March	selected team	Sportshall Athletics Finals
25 th March	parents	Supporting your child with managing feelings
25 th March	Parents of Rocksteady children	Rocksteady Concerts 10:30am and 2:30pm
27 th March	pre-school	No nursery session
27 th March	whole school	End of term at 12 noon. Gates open at 11:50am

2026 Summer 1

When	Who	What...
13 th April	Whole school	Summer 1 starts at 8:40am
16 th April	Year 3 Sycamore class	Sycamore class start swimming
16 th April	Acorn	Didcot Library visiting pre-school
22 nd - 24 th April	Year 4	Residential trip to PGL
30 th April	Reception	Visit to Beale Park
4 th May	whole school	Bank holiday
5 th May	Year 1	Victorian school workshop at Oxfordshire Museum
11 th May to 14 th May	Year 6	SAT's Week
15 th May	all school	Class photos
19 th May	pre-school and reception	Early Years sports afternoon at 2pm
20 th May	Reception children	Vision screening
21 st May	all school	Diversity Day
22 nd May	Year 1-6	Sports day and picnic Year 1-3 am Year 4-6pm
2 nd June	Years 5-6 and parents	DGS and SBS presentation at school
4 th June	Year 5	Earth Trust visit (food and farming workshop)

2026 Summer 2

When	Who	What...
8 th June	Year 3	Chedworth Roman Villa Visit
9 th June	Year 4	Ashmolean Museum visit
10 th June	EYFS	Get Active Olympic Event
10 th June	Year 6	London Theatre trip (Matilda)
12 th June	whole school	School closed to children. Inset Day
17 th June	KS1	Olympic Event
18 th June	Selected team	Swimming Gala
18 th June	Year 2	trip to Hengistbury Head
19 th June	selected choir members	Dorchester Festival of Voices
24 th June	KS2	Olympic Event
7 th July	current children reception to Year 5	Transition day 1
7 th July	new reception children	one to one parent meetings with new teacher for children new to school. (not existing pre school children)
8 th July	current children reception to Year 5	Transition day 2
8 th July	new reception children	first transition session in school 9:00-11 am or 1 - 3pm
10 th July	Whole school	End of year reports will be emailed out to all parents

2026 Summer 2

When	Who	What...
14 th July	Year 6	Year 6 party 3:30pm - 5:30pm
15 th July	Parents of children in Rocksteady	Rocksteady Concerts 10:30am and 2:30pm
16 th July	Year 6	Year 6 performance at 2pm and 6pm
16 th July	pre school	last day of term for pre school children
17 th July	Parents of children in Year 6	Year 6 assembly 10:15am
17 th July	Whole school	school closes at 12 noon. Gates will open at 11:50am.

Looking ahead.....Term dates 2026-27

First Day of term	Thursday 3 rd September 2026
Half term	26 th October - 30 th October 2026
Last day of term	Thursday 17 th December at 12 noon (nursery sessions finish on Wednesday 16 th December)
Winter Holidays	18 th December - 1 st January 2027
Further information	Thursday 3 rd September 2026 and Friday 4 th September 2026 half days for Reception children, allocated as either morning or afternoon. 7 th September in full time. 9 th September Pre-school children start on allocated days INSET DAYS Tuesday 1 st September and Wednesday 2 nd September Friday 9 th October 2026
Spring Term	
First day of term	4 th January 2027
Half term	15 th February - 19 th February 2027
Last day of term	Pre school 24 th March 2027 Rest of school 25 th March at 12 noon, gates will open at 11:50am
Easter/Spring holidays	26 th March - 9 th April 2027
Further information	
Summer term	
First day of term	12 th April 2027
Half term	31 st May - 4 th June 2027
Last day of term	Pre school: Monday 19 th July Rest of school: Tuesday 20 th July at 12 noon. Gates will open at 11:50am.
Further information	Inset day on Friday 11 th June and Wednesday 21 st July