

DOTHILL NEWS



Don't forget to check the school website for regular updates.

www.dothillprimaryschool.co.uk

Check out our Facebook page: Dothill Primary School, Telford

Contact school on 01952 386870 or
by email on dothill@taw.org.uk

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Headteacher's Message



Thank you for your patience and support during what has been a challenging week of bad weather, culminating in today's school closure. We truly appreciate your understanding as we have navigated these disruptions and ensured safety remained our top priority for the whole school community.

Although we were unable to hold our regular Celebration Assembly today, there is still so much to celebrate! Throughout a week of upheaval, from changes to the start of the day, lunchtimes, and playtimes, our children have consistently remembered to be **Ready, Respectful, and Safe**.

In addition, we have seen countless acts of **kindness** between pupils, supporting one another and showing resilience in the face of uncertainty. These moments remind us why we are so proud of our wonderful school community.

Thank you again for your continued support. We look forward to returning to normal routines next week (all being well!).

I wish you a restful weekend with your families.



News and Highlights this Week

Important Update: School Dinner Price Change

Starting February 2026, the cost of a school dinner will **increase to £3.05**. This adjustment ensures we can continue providing high-quality, nutritious meals for all students.

If you have any questions or require assistance with payment options, please contact the school office.

Fun in the Snow

On Tuesday we had a fun lunchtime in the snow. We particularly loved the snowball tree, what a creative idea! Thanks to the children who helped to clear the snow from steps and slopes, they made the site much safer for everyone.





Year 6 Art Gallery

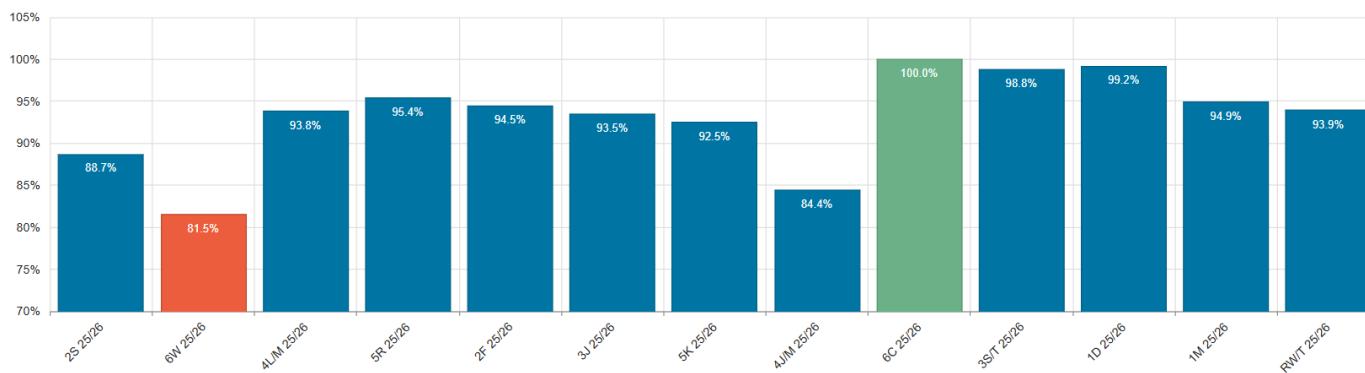
Thank you to all the parents and carers who joined us for the Year 6 Art Gallery. You hope you enjoyed seeing the incredible creativity on display. Year 5 were also invited to visit and were genuinely impressed by the quality of the work. A huge well done to Year 6 for your fabulous artwork.

Keep an eye out – every year group will be sharing their artwork throughout the year!



Attendance

Whole school attendance for this week is 93.1%. A huge well done to 6C for all being in school this week – what a great achievement. 😊



❄️ A Big Thank You to Our Families ❄️

We want to say a heartfelt thank you to all our parents and carers for helping children get into school Tuesday to Thursday this week despite the snowy and icy conditions. We know the cold weather can make mornings more challenging, and we truly appreciate the effort you've made to keep routines going and ensure children arrive safely.

Your support makes a real difference. Every day in school matters — not just for learning, but for friendships, confidence, and wellbeing. When children attend regularly, they build strong habits that help them thrive both now and in the future.

Thank you for working with us, staying positive, and helping your children make the most of every school day. We're grateful for your continued partnership.

We look forward to seeing you all back in school on Monday, following our Snow Day today.

Warnings and Sanctions

Our school will make use of the full range of potential sanctions – including, but not limited to, those listed below – to tackle poor attendance. Decisions will be made on an individual, case-by-case basis.

Lateness

Persistent lateness can have a huge impact on a child's education, mental health and wellbeing. Therefore, if school identifies a family with increased lates then the pastoral team will check in and offer support. If lateness does not improve, a letter will be sent home outlining concerns and remind parents of school expectations.



Mental Health and Wellbeing

Understanding Feelings

★ What parents can try at home

- **Daily Feelings Check-In:** Ask "What colour is your day?" or "What emoji are you feeling?"
- **Name the feeling:** Help children put words to emotions — "It sounds like you're feeling frustrated because..."
- **Storytime suggestion:** Books like *The Colour Monster* or *Ruby's Worry* open up gentle conversations.

- Local support for families
 - **BeeU (0–25 emotional wellbeing service)** — supports children and young people with emotional wellbeing.
 - **Healthy Lifestyle Advisors (Telford & Wrekin Council)** — help families build healthy routines and wellbeing habits.



SEND

PODS Sensory Sessions

Monday 5th January 2026 - Monday 26th January 2026 from 4.30pm-5.30pm at PODS Hub, 1 Hawksworth Road, Telford, TF2 9TU

Join PODS for a session in our dedicated sensory room complete with lights, bubble tube and ball pit. Parents can chat to staff while the children play.

No ticket required for adults, please only book a ticket for each child.

Parents must remain on site throughout the session. Tickets are non-refundable.

To book, please click here: [PODS Sensory Sessions](#)

SEND Conversation - Feedback for National/Regional/Local Discussions

There have been lots of news reports over Christmas regarding the upcoming review of the reforms. Nothing is yet set in stone, and there's still an opportunity to provide feedback. PODS Telford have gathered the experiences of families who have commented on Facebook posts in December and this is another chance for anyone to make comments based on the 5 headings (core principles) below.

Please comment below and these will be used (all anonymised) for meetings with Dept for Education, NHS, partners and wider discussions locally.

Parent carers — we want to hear from YOU

We're shaping future SEND reforms around five core principles, all aimed at creating a system that works better for children, young people, and their families:

- *Early – Support should be available as soon as it's needed. Early intervention can prevent needs from being missed or escalating.*
- *Local – Children and young people should be able to learn close to home, within their own community, with special schools supporting those with the most complex needs.*
- *Fair – Families shouldn't have to fight for help. Every school should have the resources to meet common and changing needs.*
- *Effective – Support must be grounded in evidence so that all settings can provide what truly works.*
- *Shared – Education, health, and care should work hand-in-hand with parents, teachers, and local services. Your insight is essential.*

*Please complete the form here: [**SEND CONVERSATION/REFORMS - LOCAL FEEDBACK FOR PODS PARENT CARER FORUM – Fill in form**](#) or email directly to Jayne@podstelford.org with your comments, experiences and thoughts.*

Your experience is powerful.

Your voice can help shape a better future.

Please share your views for each section and help us understand what matters most to you and your child.

Thank you and kind regards,

Jayne Stevens - Strategic Lead - Parent Carer Forum

EYFS

Physical Development

This half term, EYFS PE lessons will focus on dance and creative movement using a dinosaur theme to inspire imaginative learning.

Children will explore moving to music, create dinosaur-inspired actions, and learn to link movements into short sequences. As the unit progresses, they will work in pairs and small groups to develop longer dances and perform them to the class, followed by simple evaluation and reflection.

These lessons support key EYFS areas including Physical Development, Expressive Arts and Design, Personal, Social and Emotional Development, and Communication and Language. Through this unit, children will build confidence, creativity, coordination, and teamwork while enjoying active movement.

You can support learning at home by encouraging active play such as dancing to music, playing freeze games, creating simple movement routines, or exploring different ways to move around the house or garden. These fun, quick activities help develop balance, control, and confidence while spending quality time together.



Internet Safety

Improve your child's awareness of cyber security with this short, top-tips video on cyber security.

[Cyber security - parents and carers on Vimeo](#)

After watching it, consider the following conversation starters to get you and your child talking about cyber security:

- What is personal information and why is it a good idea to keep it private? How might you protect your personal information online?
- Why do you think passwords are important? How could you create a password that nobody would guess?
- Have you ever seen a pop-up on screen or been sent a message asking you to click a link? What do you think could happen if you clicked the link?

Dates for your diary

Spring Term 2026

Young Voices	13.1.26
Year 6 Arthog Meeting – enter through classroom. 3:15pm	15.1.26
Year 6 Bikeability	26.1.26- 29.1.26
Year 6 Residential to Arthog (Monday to Friday)	2.2.26
SEND Coffee Morning 9am – 11am	9.2.26
Year 5 Legally Blonde at Charlton	10.2.26
Wear what you love day (Friends Event)	13.2.26
Last day of Term (half term)	13.2.26
Return to School (Spring 2)	23.2.26
PODS Coffee Morning 9:30	24.2.26
Easter Raffle Draw (Friends Event)	27.3.26
Last Day of Spring Term (Easter Holidays)	27.3.26



Summer Term 2026

Return to school (Summer Term)	13.4.26
Fund 'Raisin' (Friends Event)	Month of May
Bank Holiday	4.5.26
Last day of term (half term)	22.5.26
PD Day (No children in school)	1.6.26
Return to school (Summer 2)	2.6.26
Class Group Photos	11.6.26
Non-uniform for Summer Fair (Friends Event)	26.6.26
Summer Fair (Friends Event)	3.7.26
End of Term (Summer Holidays)	17.7.26

Ready
Respectful
Safe
BE YOUR BEST