

DOTHILL NEWS



12th June 2026

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

[Dazzling Dotties](#) [Weekly Update](#) [Attendance Reminders](#) [Mental Health](#) [SEND](#) [EYFS](#) [Internet Safety](#) [Important Dates](#)

This Week's Dazzling Dotties!



We are incredibly proud of this week's Dazzling Dotties, who have all demonstrated our school values in such positive and inspiring ways. These children have been recognised for a wide range of strengths and successes, including showing **great determination and maturity in their writing**, and consistently being **hard-working, resilient, and independent learners**.

We are especially proud of those who have shown **kindness and support towards others**, particularly in maths, and those who continue to **push themselves to be their very best** by listening carefully and taking on feedback to improve their work.

It has been wonderful to see children **growing in confidence**, producing **amazing work in maths**, and showing a **responsible attitude in both their behaviour and their learning**.

We have also celebrated pupils who have been **incredibly helpful**, using their initiative to support others, as well as those who are **fantastic role models**, consistently demonstrating the Dothill values in everything they do.

Finally, a big well done to those children who are always **working hard and showing STAR behaviour across all areas of learning** – you set such a brilliant example for others.

💎 We are so proud of you all – keep up the fantastic work! 💎

News and Highlights this Week

A Beautiful Addition to Our School: Swan Mosaic Unveiled

Today we gathered together for a very special outdoor assembly to unveil our stunning swan mosaic – and what a wonderful moment it was!

This remarkable piece of artwork has been created over the past year by Mel Wilder, our wonderful volunteer, with every single child and member of staff in school having a hand in its creation. It truly reflects the creativity, collaboration, and community spirit that make our school so special.



We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Mel who has worked so closely with us throughout this project. Mel's dedication, patience, and creativity have been inspirational, enabling all of our school community to play a part in bringing the mosaic to life. The experience has created lasting memories for our pupils and a shared sense of pride across the whole school.

The swan mosaic now sits proudly on the wall of the demountable, where it can be admired by all. It is a beautiful representation of our school identity and will remain a lasting legacy for years to come.

We hope you enjoy looking at these photographs from the unveiling – but that you enjoy seeing it in person even more. We are incredibly proud to share this special achievement with you.



Rounders at Charlton and Cricket in Wellington

These wonderful children represented school fabulously at Charlton this week. Mrs Swindells organised this event and commented that they 'were amazing and played brilliantly! They showed excellent sportsmanship and came 3rd in their group, scoring over 100 runs in their last match!'



In addition, our cricketers played exceptionally well as a team and had lots of fun playing at the Cricket Club in Wellington.



Other News

A small silver charm has been found on the playground, please ask at the office if this might be yours.

Bagpipes!

During Year 3's science lesson this week, they had a delightful and unexpected interruption—a bagpipe player on the school field! The children thoroughly enjoyed listening to the music, and the kind gentleman even took a moment to chat with them before they showed their appreciation with a big round of applause for the talented piper.

Diabetes Awareness

We have been asked to share the following information on behalf of the Clinical Lead for the Children and Young People's Diabetes Service in Shropshire.

Currently, there are over 300 children and young people living with Type 1 diabetes across Shropshire. Recently, we have observed an increase in delayed diagnoses of Type 1 diabetes. As a result, some children are presenting to hospital with more severe symptoms, requiring urgent treatment. This may be linked to reduced awareness of the signs and symptoms of Type 1 diabetes within our communities.

To address this, a national awareness campaign, supported by Diabetes UK, is promoting the "4 Ts" of Type 1 diabetes: Toilet, Thirsty, Tired, and Thinner—particularly in areas where awareness may be lower. An example campaign graphic is attached, and additional resources are available via the links below:

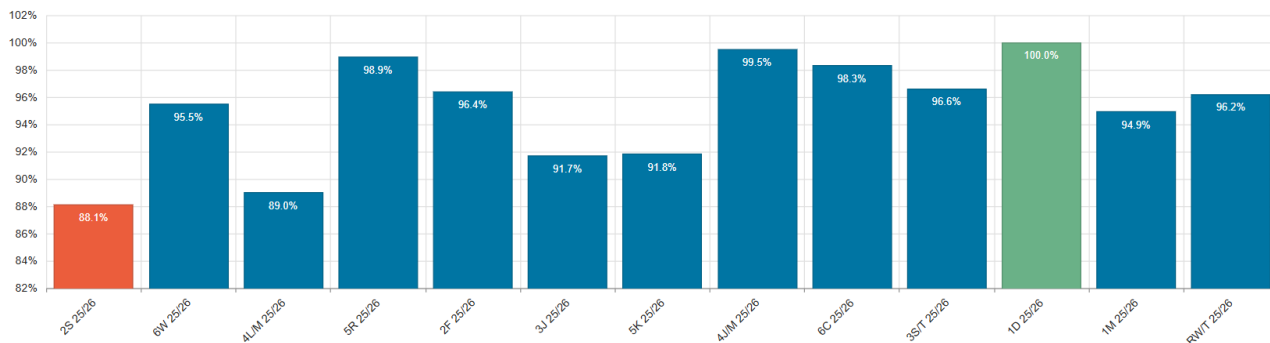
- **Diabetes UK – 4 Ts and general information:**
Type 1 diabetes symptoms | Diabetes UK [What is diabetes? | Getting to know the basics | Diabetes UK](#)
- **DigiBete awareness resources (posters and videos):**
Type 1 Diabetes Awareness [Home - DigiBete Type 1 Website](#)[DigiBete Type 1 Website](#)

By increasing awareness of the symptoms of Type 1 diabetes, schools can play a vital role in ensuring children receive timely medical attention and avoid becoming seriously unwell.

As always, I wish you and your loved ones a happy and restful weekend. We look forward to seeing you all again next week and of course welcoming the children's Grandparents who have signed up to visit on Monday! All my very best, Mrs Thomas 😊

Attendance

Well done to all our pupils and families for their continued commitment to good attendance this week, with our whole school attendance reaching a strong 95%. A special congratulations goes to 1D, who achieved an outstanding 100% attendance, setting a fantastic example for the rest of the school—what a brilliant achievement! Every day in school really does make a difference, and it is wonderful to see so many classes working hard to be here, ready to learn and thrive. Let's keep it up!



The Impact of Lateness Adds Up

Even small amounts of lateness can quickly add up. Being just 10 minutes late each day equates to almost a full day of lost learning over a half term. This can make it harder for children to keep up, particularly in subjects like reading and maths where learning builds day by day. Good habits formed now will support your child throughout their education.

Top tip: Set alarms 10 minutes earlier than needed to allow a little “buffer time” in the morning—this can make a big difference on busy days.



Mental Health and Wellbeing

Creativity for Calm



Activity 1: Sidewalk Chalk Art

Let children draw patterns, pictures, or positive messages on the pavement.

Why it helps: Creative activities allow children to express emotions they may not have the words for. Art also builds confidence and reduces stress.

Activity 2: Make Your Own Calm Jar

Fill a jar with water and glitter, shake it, and watch it settle.

Why it helps: Watching the glitter fall gives children a visual way to calm down and regulate emotions.

Reception

This week in Reception, the children have enjoyed a busy and engaging week of learning, centred around our science topic of *forces and machines* and the traditional tale *The Three Billy Goats Gruff*.

In **Literacy**, the children have been developing their writing through Drawing Club, using the story of *The Three Billy Goats Gruff*. They have explored new vocabulary, drawn detailed pictures, and practised writing sentences, working towards becoming more independent writers. They have also been encouraged to write simple captions and sentences in different activities and to spot sounds carefully in words. It's great to see the children writing so confidently using the sounds they have learned in phonics sessions. Reading at home embeds this learning in so many ways: thank you for your continued support with this.



In **Maths**, we have been focusing on the number 6. The children have explored different ways to make 6, created patterns, and practised recognising groups without counting (subitising). They have used practical resources such as counters and Numicon to deepen their understanding of number. We have also been working on understanding odd and even numbers.

Our **Science** learning has been hands-on and exciting. The children explored pushes and pulls, investigated which objects sink or float, and began learning about simple machines and how they help us in everyday life. They particularly enjoyed testing objects in water and exploring their ideas through practical investigations.

Throughout the week, the children have had lots of opportunities for independent learning during '**Adventure Time**', where they have retold stories, built bridges, explored water play, and acted out different roles from the story with masks they have made themselves. These activities support creativity, problem-solving and communication skills.

In **PE**, the children practised their throwing skills, aiming at different targets, and in Jigsaw they learned about keeping their bodies healthy by making good choices.

We are very proud of how engaged the children have been this week and how confidently they are beginning to apply their skills across different areas of learning.



As part of our **PSHE** lesson on 19th June, we will be learning about how we grow and change. To support this, we would love to show the children photos of themselves as babies. If you can, please email in a baby photo of your child by Wednesday 17th June so we can include it in our lesson activities. You can send it to DothillPhaseLeaderEYFS@taw.org.uk

Thank you for your support – the children always enjoy seeing how much they have grown!

SEND

PODS 18th Birthday Open Day

See a flyer they have sent at the end of the newsletter

PODS Summer Happy Healthy & Active Holiday Scheme

PODS are delighted to be running another SEND holiday scheme over the summer holidays period. They are offering sessions of varying lengths and differing themes, so hopefully there is something for everyone.

Please carefully read the details and costs for each session before making your selection as they differ for each one.

As always, all children/young people aged 0-25 with an additional need and/or a disability are welcome, including their siblings. All children/young adults booked will be provided with lunch and refreshments to either eat during the sessions or takeaway. There will be plenty of staff on hand to support and assist families, but please note parents/carers must remain onsite at all times.

Members will be able to only book for their immediate family and onto one Coach Trip to enable more families to access the scheme. For all other sessions, members are allowed to book onto as many sessions as they want.

Bookings open at 10am Saturday 23rd May, please click to book:

[Parents Opening Doors \(PODS\) event tickets from TicketSource](#)

Internet Safety

This week's free online safety guide focuses on voice gaming disorder. In 2018, the World Health Organisation included gaming disorder as part of its International Classification of Diseases. The guide takes a look at how to tackle a range of potential risks such as mental health, gambling problems and stress.

At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and educators with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. Please visit nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

Part of our Gaming & Gambling Forum

NOS
Gaming & Gambling

Brought to you by
NOS National Online Safety
www.nationalonlinesafety.com

What you need to know about... GAMING DISORDER



What is it?

'Gaming Disorder'

In 2018, the World Health Organisation included gaming disorder as part of its International Classification of Diseases. Those with the disorder are categorised as having impaired control over gaming, increased priority given to gaming over other activities, and continuing to game despite the occurrences of negative consequences. Naturally, a gaming disorder can affect a person of any age, with children as much at risk as anybody of developing symptoms if left unchecked. While some or all of the symptoms may appear, they must be consistently prevalent for a period of at least 12 months to be considered an Internet Gaming Disease or IGD, but that time may be decreased if symptoms are severe.

Know the Risks

Impact mental health

Becoming addicted to video games at a young age can have a serious impact on social and mental wellbeing. Video games use a lot of techniques to make them more appealing to the subconscious. Bright lights, pleasing sounds and rewarding, repetitive gameplay trigger feel good chemicals that can be hard to walk away from.

Lead to injuries

Excessive gaming (especially using a mouse and keyboard or a desk) can cause problematic physical injuries. Back pain, eye strain and carpal tunnel syndrome can all manifest during lengthy gaming sessions.

Increase isolation

Playing video games can be quite an isolating experience. The need to play them can often outweigh the need to do other daily tasks like exercising, socialising with friends or even eating, to the point where little or no enjoyment is gained from doing anything but gaming.

Induce stress

Stress can be extremely damaging to adults and children. It is a known contributing factor to heart disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, and mental health conditions. Too much time playing high-action video games can leave untold stresses on the body as well as still developing young minds.

Spot the Signs

Excessive play

Children might be dedicating an excessive amount of free time to playing games or disrupting sleep patterns or social interactions in order to get an extra game here and there. A few extra hours a week is normal, but if it becomes a regular, daily pursuit, it could be a problem.

Social disinterest

Spending time with family and friends or engaging in other activities and hobbies will fall by the wayside with gaming disorder. Life and fulfillment begins to orbit around playing video games, where the same enjoyment just can't be found in other pursuits or social activities.

Mood changes

Getting angry or defensive when asked to stop gaming or becoming irritable when not playing are both warning signs of a gaming disorder. There's a difference between being upset when losing (which is quite normal) and being angry to the point of physical aggression.

Gambling problems

Online gambling may become a problem with young ones or teenagers who might have access to their own money. Many games contain features called loot boxes or microtransaction that have been likened to gambling. Because they can be so addictive, children could be pouring huge amounts of money into games without even realising, or they may be too ashamed to admit it.

Action and Support

Talk to other parents

It can be difficult to gauge just how much gaming time is too much. To understand what is normal, talk to other parents about their children's gaming habits. This should give a more robust idea of what is healthy and what might be a cause for concern.

Encourage other activities

It is important for you to encourage other activities. Engaging in real life sports or social activities and clubs, are excellent ways for kids to spend time with their friends and peers away from video games. Learning instruments or new languages are also a great long-term project.

Establish routines

An established routine can encourage regularity and moderation if you think a child might be gaming too much. Allow an hour or two in the evening when their friends are online and once everything else like meals, homework and housework have already been done. Try to set consoles up in family rooms and keep mobile phones and tablets out of bedrooms at night.

Seek support

If you need to get help for your child, there may be specialist organisations or clinics who can help to treat gaming disorder and provide the necessary advice and support. However, this should only be considered as a last resort in cases of long term and persistent problems.

Our Expert

Mark Foster

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for 5 years as a writer, editor and presenter. He is the current gaming editor of two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world, UNILAD Gaming and GAMINGbible. Starting gaming from a young age with his siblings, he has a passion for understanding how games and tech work, but more importantly, how to make them safe and fun.



www.nationalonlinesafety.com Twitter - @natonlinesafety Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety Instagram - @nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 11.09.2020

[Gaming Disorder | Free Online Safety Guide](#)

Dates for your diary

Summer Term 2026

Grandparents Tea Party 2pm	15.6.26
Sports Day: 9am Yr 5/6; 10am EYFS/1/2; 11am 3/4	22.6.26
Year 5 visit British Ironworks Centre	24.6.26
Non-uniform for Summer Fair (Friends Event)	26.6.26
Summer Fair (Friends Event)	3.7.26
Year 6 Performance: Peter Pan 4pm	6.7.26
Transition Days (most of Y6)	7 & 8.7.26
New Reception Transition visits	7.7.26
New Reception Transition visits	8.7.26
Year 6 Crucial Crew	9.7.26
End of Year Reports	10.7.26
Family Picnic (12-1pm) More information to follow	13.7.26
Year 6 leavers assembly 9:15 am	17.7.26
End of Term (Summer Holidays)	17.7.26



Ready
Respectful
Safe
BE YOUR BEST

Other Notices

**PROM DRESS
AND
SCHOOL UNIFORM
Project**

Free to all families

DONATE • SHOP • SUPPORT
STARTING
12TH JUNE 2026

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE
YOU CAN DROP IN!

**WELLINGTON LIBRARY
COMMUNITY OFFICE**

Fridays
5:00 - 7:00 P.M.

Saturdays
10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

BEAUTIFUL OCCASIONS. BRIGHTER FUTURES.
All are welcome.



18



FREE ENTRY

PODS OPEN DAY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Garden Games

Bouncy Castle

Glitter Tattoos

Slime Making
12- 1pm
50p

**SATURDAY 11th July 2026
11am - 2pm At PODS Hub**

Face painting

Join us to celebrate our 18th birthday with plenty of fun for all the family. Meet the team and outside service providers, enjoy entertainment, food, and drink (at a cost), and try your luck in the £1 raffle.

Hot Dogs
£1.50

PARTY BOLE TELFORD
Balloon twisting

Drinks
£1

PODS Hub, 1 Hawksworth Rd,
Central Park, Telford TF2 9TU
events@podstelford.org

