

# DOTHILL NEWS



19<sup>th</sup> June 2026

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

[www.dothillprimaryschool.co.uk](http://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](mailto:dothill@taw.org.uk)

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## This Week's Dazzling Dotties!



### Celebration Assembly Highlights

This week, we are incredibly proud to celebrate the many achievements and positive attitudes shown across our pupils. We have seen wonderful growth in **confidence**, with children becoming more willing to ask for help and take ownership of their learning. Respectful behaviour continues to shine through, alongside an **outstanding attitude to work** both in class and at home. Many pupils have shown increasing effort with homework and a real determination to improve.

### 🏆 Celebrations Beyond School

We are equally proud of the amazing achievements taking place outside the classroom. Our pupils continue to shine in a wide range of activities, including Football, Gymnastics, Kickboxing, Swimming and Dance.

Your dedication, commitment, and enthusiasm in these areas are wonderful to see -well done to all!

Keep up the fantastic work everyone—we look forward to celebrating even more successes next week! 🙌

## News and Highlights this Week

### Autumn Term After School Clubs – Sign Up Now!

We are delighted to share that our autumn term after-school clubs are now live on ParentPay. Parents can sign their children up until 25th June, so please ensure you secure a place in good time.

When booking, please remember to select clubs based on the year group your child will be moving into in September.

We are pleased to offer a range of clubs across the week for both KS1 and KS2 pupils:

## Monday

KS1 Construction – Mrs Love

KS2 Football – Crossbar

## Tuesday

KS1 Football – Crossbar

KS2 Art & Crafts – Mrs Murphy

## Wednesday

KS1 Art & Crafts – Miss Street

KS2 Gymnastics – Crossbar

## Thursday

KS1 Gymnastics – Crossbar

KS2 Tag Rugby – Mr Abbott

## Friday

KS1 & KS2 Multi sports -Crossbar

These clubs are a fantastic opportunity for children to develop new skills, stay active, and enjoy time with friends in a fun and supportive environment. Places are limited, so we encourage you to sign up as soon as possible!



## Grandparents' Tea Party

A huge thank you to everyone who came to join in on Monday!

We had such a wonderful afternoon and it so lovely to see so many grandparents in the classrooms, chatting with the children and sharing stories. The children loved proudly showing their work and their school.

We were also delighted to welcome the Mayor, Reg Snell, who joined us for this special event and shared in the wonderful atmosphere.

Afterwards, we enjoyed a lovely cup of tea or coffee, along with biscuits and the most delicious old-fashioned school cake. A massive thank you to the wonderful Donna and her team for creating such delicious treats.

We received so much positive feedback, and it's clear this event will become a firm favourite.

A huge thank you as well to all the staff and pupils who helped set up, serve, and tidy away. Your hard work made the afternoon run beautifully.

Keep an eye out for photos on our Facebook page — there are plenty of lovely moments to share.

## Safeguarding update

We have today reminded all children about safety when walking home from school. Teachers have shared information to ensure they keep themselves safe.

- Children have been reminded to learn their home address and a parent/carer's telephone number by heart, so they can use this if they ever get lost or need help getting home safely.
- If they have a mobile phone, they have been encouraged to make sure it is fully charged before leaving the house and that important contact numbers are saved.
- Children have been spoken to about road safety, including always stopping, looking both ways before crossing, and not using a mobile phone when near or crossing a road.

- They have been reminded never to accept lifts from people they do not know, not to let strangers into their home, and never to share personal information—either in person or online.
- Children have been reassured that if they ever feel unsafe or uncomfortable, they should contact a trusted adult straight away.
- They have also been reminded that in an emergency, they should call the police on 999 immediately.

There is no set legal age for children to travel home from school independently; this is a decision for families based on what you feel is right for your child, alongside the school's policies and expectations. Please remember as a school we only allow years 5 and 6 to do so and with permission from parents. Every child is different, and it is important not to leave a child unsupervised if they are not ready or able to keep themselves safe. If you do feel your child is ready to walk home independently, it is important to have clear conversations with them about how to stay safe and what to do if they feel unsure or worried.

### Reminders for Next Week

**Sports Day:** We hope to see you all at our sports day on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June. Below is a reminder of the timings for the event as they vary depending on each year group.

-Year 5/6: 9.00am - 10.00am

-KS1 and EYFS: 10.00am – 11.00am

-Year 3/4: 11.00am – 12.00pm

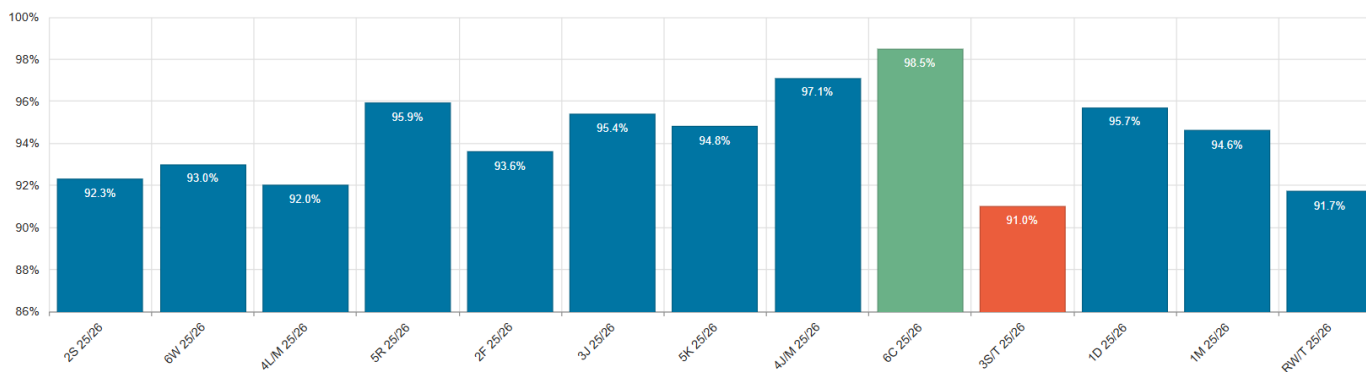
We aim to get started on each session promptly. We can't wait to see you there and make this a memorable day for everyone 😊

**Non-Uniform Day:** Next Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June will be a non-uniform day for the Summer Fair – please see the poster below! Bring £2 or a bottle for the tombola!

We wish you all a lovely weekend and look forward to seeing many of you on Monday for our sports day event! 😊

### Attendance

It has been another positive week for attendance across the school, with many classes working hard to be in every day and on time. Overall attendance remains strong, with several classes achieving over 95%. A particularly outstanding well done goes to **6C**, who achieved the highest attendance this week with an impressive **98.5%**—a fantastic achievement and a real credit to the class. Thank you to all families for your continued support in ensuring children attend school regularly and are ready to learn—every day in school really does make a difference!



### Week 3 – Attendance and End-of-Year Progress

The final half term is an important time for consolidating learning, completing assessments and celebrating achievements. Every lesson counts as teachers prepare children for the next stage in their education. Missing school at this time can affect both academic progress and children’s confidence as they move forward.

**Top tip:** Check the school calendar in advance and plan appointments outside of school hours wherever possible to minimise absence.

## Mental Health and Wellbeing

### Moving for Mental Health

Moving regularly is important for mental health because it helps release “feel-good” chemicals in the brain, which can boost mood and reduce stress and anxiety. Even small amounts of movement can improve wellbeing, helping people feel more positive, sleep better, and build resilience to everyday challenges

#### Activity 1: Family Obstacle Course

Use household items or garden objects to create a course the whole family can complete.

Why it helps: Exercise releases “feel-good” hormones, reduces tension, and helps with focus. Taking part as a family strengthens connection.

#### Activity 2: Dance-Off Afternoon

Choose favourite songs and have a fun family dance session.

Why it helps: Movement boosts energy and mood, while dancing helps children express themselves joyfully.



## Reception

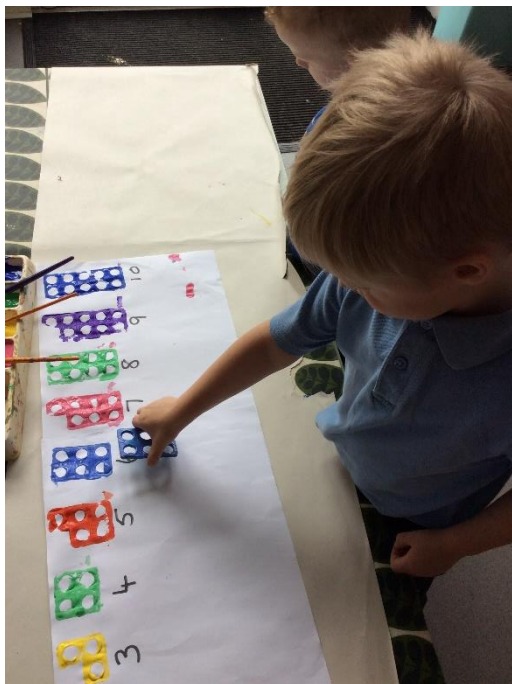
### A Day in the Life of EYFS

We often get asked what a typical day in EYFS looks like, so here’s a little glimpse into our busy, happy classroom!

Each morning begins with a warm welcome as the children come in and settle into their welcome tasks. These are simple, familiar activities that help them ease into the day, develop independence, and practise key skills such as fine motor control, number recognition, or early writing.

We then spend some time on calming activities, helping children feel ready to learn. This might include quiet play, mindfulness moments, or gentle adult-led interactions to support emotional wellbeing.

Our mornings include focused learning in maths and phonics, where children build essential early skills through practical, engaging activities. In phonics, we develop letter sounds, blending, and early reading, while maths sessions encourage counting, problem-solving, and a secure understanding of number.



A big part of our day is Adventure Time, where children learn through play. This is carefully planned to allow them to explore, investigate, and follow their interests while developing skills across all areas of learning. You might see children building, role-playing, creating, or working together to solve problems.

We also support children's physical development through regular movement and active play. While we have dedicated PE sessions each Friday, physical activity is also woven throughout our provision during Adventure Time and outdoor learning.

At lunchtime, we promote healthy choices and independence. Children are able to choose their own food and are encouraged to add a variety of fresh items from the salad bar to their plates, helping them develop confidence and awareness around balanced eating.

We also enjoy Drawing Club, which supports creativity, storytelling, and early writing skills. The children love using their imaginations to bring ideas to life and share their thinking.

Throughout the week, we explore a range of topic-based sessions, covering foundation subjects such as understanding the world, expressive arts and design, and personal, social and emotional development.

Children also attend assemblies, helping them feel part of the wider school community.

We end each day with a relaxing Storytime, where we share and enjoy books together before getting ready for home time. We also reflect on the day we have had, thinking about what we have enjoyed and what we would like to learn the following day.

Every day in EYFS is full of exploration, creativity, and discovery. No two days are ever quite the same!

## SEND






### Sleep Tight Workshops with PODS

Is your child struggling to get a good night's sleep? The volunteers at PODS have asked us to pass on details of their latest Sleep Workshops for late June and early July. Called the *Sleep Tight* course, there would be three weekly sessions held at the PODS Hub. Elaine at PODS writes:

“Are you having trouble getting your child/young person to sleep at night?

From Thursday 25th June we will be running our 3-week Sleep Tight Course.

The course will cover:

-  The importance of sleep,
-  The causes of sleep issues,
-  Sleep physiology,
-  Good sleep practice and
-  Strategies to support getting a good night's sleep.



Sessions will last 1.5 hours and run weekly at 12.30 on 25th June, 2nd July and 9th July at the PODS Hub.

Parent/carers must attend all 3 sessions in order to successfully complete the course. Places are limited and will be offered on a first come first served basis.

To register your interest please email [elaine@podstelford.org](mailto:elaine@podstelford.org)”

### Dates for your diary

#### Summer Term 2026

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



**Respectful  
Safe**

**BE YOUR BEST**

# Internet Safety

This free online safety guide focuses on devices that many people regularly use at home. It looks at how to tackle a range of potential risks such as fraud, online grooming and cyberbullying.

At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

Smart devices promise to make our lives easier. In many cases - they do, however these new technologies present risks too. Whether you're using a digital assistant to record your shopping list or you're controlling your lights through a smart system, many smart functions can be 'hacked' and controlled by someone outside your home. This guide will help you identify some of the ways you can stay alert and protect yourself.

**1 KNOW THE RISKS**  
The success of any smart device relies on it communicating with other devices using the Internet. It's an unavoidable part of using smart devices, but it does expose you to numerous risks. Attackers could use the Internet connection to steal your data for identity fraud or to make unauthorised purchases through your devices. There is even potential for more sinister exploitation, such as child grooming or cyber-bullying.

**2 WHAT IS THE INTERNET OF THINGS?**  
This is the term given to all the devices connected to the Internet in your home. It includes a new digital doorbell connected to your smartphone, your kettle that boils when you tell it to on your tablet or your heating that comes on when you swipe on your smart watch. The Internet of Things (IoT) is designed to make life easier, but it also opens up your home network to potential cyber-attacks. It doesn't mean you can't enjoy the benefits, but it does mean being aware of the potential negatives.

**3 CHECK ENCRYPTION SETTINGS**  
Whenever data is sent over the Internet, it is 'encrypted'. This makes it harder to read if it's intercepted. You should look to use a strong encryption setting, such as WPA2, rather than WPA or WEP. You can check your router manual on how to do this.

**4 KEEP YOUR SOFTWARE UP TO DATE**  
Manufacturers constantly update and improve software used in smart devices. Some will automatically alert you to an update, but not all do. To be on the safe side, it's a good idea to set reminders in your calendar. Check the manufacturer's website for any updates and run them if necessary.

**5 RENAME THE 'GATEWAY' TO YOUR HOME**  
Your Internet router is the virtual gateway to your home network. It needs protecting. To do this, you should change the default name (the SSID) and password. You can usually find steps to do this in the instruction manual. Don't use your family name. Choose something more obscure. Make the password complicated too, using upper and lower-case letters, numbers and symbols. Do this for your router and any other smart devices connected to the Internet.

## 12 Top Tips To Get Smart About The DEVICES In Your Home



**6 USE A SEPARATE NETWORK FOR GUESTS**  
If your router has a feature that allows you to set up a separate network for guests, you should use it. That way, when guests use your Wi-Fi, they won't have access to your devices.

**7 SAY GOODBYE TO SIRI AND ALEXA**  
It's a good idea to change the activation words on your smart devices so they are unique to you and your family. This makes it that much harder for people to break into your smart devices.

**8 DEACTIVATE ANY UNNECESSARY FEATURES**  
Though it's a fun idea, you probably don't need to control your kettle from outside the house. In fact, there are often many unnecessary features included on smart devices. Where possible, you should look to disable these. Doing so reduces the ability for people to hack your devices. When someone sees you've actively taken steps to increase security, they're less inclined to try to compromise them.

**9 TRUST YOUR INSTINCTS**  
If you ever feel something is wrong or your network is being exploited, visit the manufacturer's website or ring their technical support department. It's better to be safe than sorry.

**10 BUILD A WALL**  
You could also purchase a dedicated 'firewall' device. This is something that plugs into your network and stops cyber threats reaching your router. Some routers do have a firewall element included, but they are no replacement for the real thing. A firewall device thoroughly analyses information coming in and out of your network and helps stop malicious attacks. A security device is strongly recommended to anyone who works from home or deals with sensitive information.

**11 SECURE YOUR SMARTPHONE**  
If you do use apps on your smartphone to control devices in your home, make sure your smartphone is secure. At the very least makes sure the pin function is enabled, as well as any biometric authentication you have. Where possible, it's also a good idea to download some anti-virus software for your smartphone too.

### Meet our expert

Emma was a secondary school Computer Science teacher for more than a decade. Since leaving education, she has been working in a cyber security firm delivering cyber awareness training to businesses and carrying out network testing. She is a mother of a five-year-old and has vast experience of controlling and managing how children access online services and use apps.



**12 REGULARLY AUDIT YOUR DEVICES AND CONSOLES**  
Every now and then you should check through all of your smart devices (including games consoles connected to the Internet). Turn them off at the mains and disconnect them from the Internet. In fact, it's good practice to disconnect any devices that aren't in use. It's a small thing but really does help. Even when you think a device might be in sleep mode, if it's connected to the Internet it could still be listening or streaming data.

[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) Twitter - @natonlinesafety Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 10.04.2019

SOURCES: <https://www.ncc.gov.uk>, <https://www.gethacking.org>

Other Notices

**FRIENDS OF DOTHILL**

**NON UNIFORM DAY!**

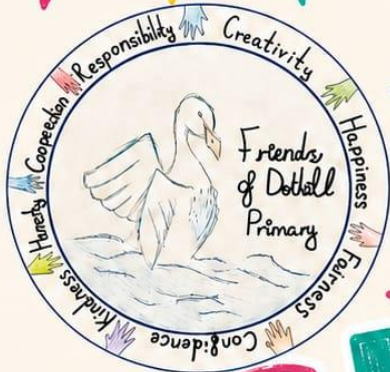
**★ FOR THE SCHOOL FAYRE ★**

COME TO SCHOOL IN  
**NON UNIFORM**  
AND HELP SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL FAYRE!

**FRIDAY**  
**26TH JUNE**

**DONATION OF A BOTTLE OF BOOZE**  
OR  
**£2**

Thank you for your support! ♥



FRIENDS OF DOTHILL



# SUMMER FAYRE!

FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY!



GAMES



CAKES



RAFFLE



TREATS

AND MORE!

FRIDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> JULY

14:30 - 16:00

Thank You!

for making our

# FUND Raisin!



A huge thank you to everyone who took part in our Fund Raisin event!



Thanks to your generosity, we are delighted to share that we raised an amazing

**£301.01**

for our school!



Your support helps us provide even more opportunities and resources for our pupils.



We truly appreciate your incredible support – **together**, we make a real difference!



# Design a World Cup Football



The World Cup kicks off this week! To celebrate and support the England team, Let's Dine is launching a Design a Football competition for primary schools ahead of England's first group game on Wednesday 17 June. We're inviting pupils, football fans and budding designers to create a unique match football design.

Designs should be bold, colourful and stand out on the pitch.



## How to enter

- ✚ Submit your artwork through your school by Friday 10 July.
- ✚ Only one entry per child.
- ✚ Include the child's name, age, school, and confirmation of photo permission.



## Who can enter

- ✚ The competition is open to all primary schools in Telford using Let's Dine catering services.



## Prizes

- ✚ School winners will receive a Foot Golf voucher.
- ✚ All school-winning entries will go forward to a final judging panel to win prizes:
  - ★ Overall winner – Age-appropriate tablet.
  - ★ Runner-up – £50 book voucher.
  - ★ Runner-up – Choice of leisure vouchers from Telford & Wrekin Leisure.
- ✚ Winners will be notified by Friday 17 July 2026.
- ✚ Winners will be invited to collect their prizes, date to be confirmed.

## Design guidelines

- ✚ Designs must represent a match football.
- ✚ Maximum size: A4.
- ✚ Must be original, bold and colourful.
- ✚ Can be created using pencils, crayons, felt tips or paint, or digitally (if A4 size).
- ✚ Hand entries to your school catering manager before the deadline.



## Judging process

- ✚ Each school winner is chosen by the Let's Dine catering team.
- ✚ Final winners are selected by a judging panel.



## Important information

- ✚ Entries received after 10 July will not be accepted.
- ✚ The competition runs from 9 June to 10 July 2026.
- ✚ Winners may take part in publicity, including photographs and social media.
- ✚ Schools must ensure photo permissions are in place by submitting an entry, schools agree to the competition terms.



# PODS

Involving & Supporting



Are you having trouble  
getting your child/young  
person to sleep at night?



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Sleep Tight Course.

The course will cover; The importance of sleep, Causes of sleep  
issues, sleep physiology, good sleep practice and strategies.

Sessions start at 12.30 and last 1.5 hours, they will run weekly  
on Thursday's at the PODS Hub.

Parent/carers must attend all 3 sessions in order to  
successfully complete the course.

Places are limited and will be offered on a first come first  
served basis.

To register your interest please email [elaine@podstelford.org](mailto:elaine@podstelford.org)

1 Hawksworth Road, Central Park, Telford, Shropshire, TF2 9TU

