

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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This Week's Dazzling Dotties!



Today we celebrated these children and what they have achieved over the week. They were chosen for many reasons, including extra effort in maths, being a great role model inside and outside the classroom, lots of resilience, kindness towards another child in their class and much more.

The Dazzling Dotties trophy was given to Miss Jennings' class for being kind, caring, hard workers and pretty much perfect!

Children shared successes in Martial Arts and gymnastics and we loved hearing about them.

Well done, we are all very proud of you.

News and Highlights this Week

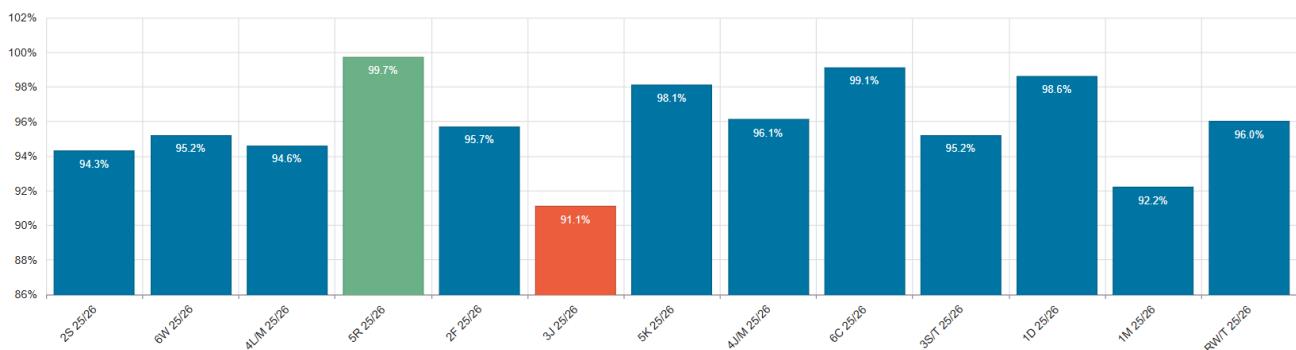
Another week draws to a close and it has been the kind of week that doesn't have a big announcement but has been full of lovely everyday moments that make Dothill the wonderful school it is. Classrooms have been calm and focused with children impressing us with their brilliant efforts. It has been a week that reminds us how consistency and teamwork contribute to a positive learning environment. Our super speedy fire-drill on Tuesday emphasised how much practice and overlearning has a real impact – in this case ensuring the safety of everyone here. My thanks to staff, pupils and families for continuing to support everything we do – even in the quieter times.

Clubs: our club offer is now live on ParentPay for next half term. Please remember to sign up by the end of Thursday 5th February to secure a place. We have something for all ages!

Online Safety Reminder

We have been made aware that some children are using social media apps such as TikTok and WhatsApp, so we'd like to gently remind families that these platforms have age restrictions (usually 13+) for safety reasons. In addition, we are aware that some children still access YouTube. Please take a moment to check the apps your child is using and have a conversation with them about staying safe online. It is important that adults monitor social media use very carefully and report concerns where necessary. As always, if you would like any advice or support around online safety, please do let us know. See below in the Online Safety section for more detail.

A huge well done to 5R who have the highest attendance this week – a fabulous 99.7% Also, well done to RWT, 1D, 5K 4JM and 5K who all have attendance over the school target of 96%.



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.

Penalty Notices

The headteacher, local authority or the police can fine parents for the unauthorised absence of their child from school, where the child is of compulsory school age, by issuing a penalty notice.

If the school issues a penalty notice, it will check with the local authority before doing so and send it a copy of any penalty notice issued.

Before issuing a penalty notice, the school will consider the individual case, including:

- Whether the national threshold for considering a penalty notice has been met (10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a rolling period of 10 school weeks)
- Whether a penalty notice is the best available tool to improve attendance for that pupil
- Whether further support, a notice to improve or another legal intervention would be a more appropriate solution
- Whether any obligations that the school has under the Equality Act 2010 make issuing a penalty notice inappropriate
- Whether a parent has purposefully tried to avoid a Penalty Notice by taking their child out of school when there is only four pupil days in school and the fifth day is for example a PD day or bank holiday attached to that week.

A penalty notice may also be issued where parents allow their child to be present in a public place during school hours without reasonable justification, during the first 5 days of a suspension or exclusion (where the school has notified the parents that the pupil must not be present in a public place on that day).

Each parent who is liable for the pupil's offence(s) can be issued with a penalty notice, but this will usually only be the parent/parents who allowed the absence.

The payment must be made directly to the local authority, regardless of who issues the notice. If the payment has not been made after 28 days, the local authority can decide whether to prosecute or withdraw the notice.

If issued with a **first** penalty notice, the parent must pay £80 within 21 days, or £160 within 28 days.

If a **second** penalty notice is issued to the same parent in respect of the same pupil, the parent must pay £160 if paid within 28 days.

A **third** penalty notice cannot be issued to the same parent in respect of the same child within 3 years of the date of the issue of the first penalty notice. In a case where the national threshold is met for a third time within those 3 years, alternative action will be taken instead.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds

★ What parents can try at home

- **Family movement time:** A short walk, dance-off, or scooter ride boosts mood.
- **Nature moments:** Visit Telford Town Park, Apley Woods, or a local green space.
- **Sleep routines:** Calm evenings, reduced screens, and predictable bedtimes help children feel settled.

● Local support

- **Healthy Lifestyle Advisors** — support families with physical activity and healthy routines.

SEND

PODS February Activities, ADHD Workshop & Lots More...

Join PODS this February for a variety of activity sessions! Parents and carers must attend with their children, and tickets are required for all children and young people.

The activities are open to children and young people, including siblings.

To book, please click on the links:	Biscuit Decorating	PODS Pancake Decorating Session	PODS Valentine's Craft Session
PODS Spring Craft Session	Sensory Sessions	Blists Hill Session	Complex Needs Session

ADHD Workshop

Thursday 12th Feb 2026 from 12.15pm-1.45pm at PODS Hub, 1 Hawksworth Road, Central Park, Telford, TF2 9TU

Join PODS for an informative workshop on ADHD, collaborating with a local Mental Health and Wellbeing service where their team will share valuable insights about ADHD. The session focuses on raising awareness, understanding neurodiversity, and strategies to support children at home and in school.

The Mental Health and Wellbeing service is one of the NHS's recognised services, however, please note they cannot discuss the pathway, waiting list or individuals wishing to seek a diagnosis.

To book, please click here: [ADHD Workshop](#)

Family Hub Cherry Blossom Drop In

This is a drop-in service at the Cherry Blossom Family Hub (PODS Hub), Central Park, Telford.

⌚ **Location:** PODS Hub, 1 Hawksworth Road, Central Park, TF2 9TU

📅 **When:** Last Monday of every month (term time only) - The next one will be on 26th January 2026.

⌚ **Time:** 11:30am – 1:00pm

This relaxed, friendly session is open to all parents and carers, offering:

- Advice and signposting to local support
- Information on parenting and available courses
- Guidance on accessing community activities
- Family Hubs information and support

No need to book – just pop in for a chat, a warm welcome, and access to a range of support designed for families.

Family Hubs Coffee Afternoon

At our last SEND coffee morning, some of you asked if we could hold a Family Hubs / Early Help meeting. We have been able to arrange this for after half term. Vanessa and Jenny from Family Hubs will be coming to help us host a coffee afternoon on Wednesday 4th March at 2:00pm.

Sensory Snips

Coming soon to the PODS Hub: 'Sensory Snips' a hairdresser specialising in haircuts for children and adults with SEND. Please contact Cody on 07735 073870 for more information, prices or to book.

EYFS

Creativity Counts in EYFS – Our 5 by 5 Focus

As part of the Telford & Wrekin 5 by 5 campaign, we are continuing to support children to develop important life skills. Creativity is a big part of this.

In EYFS, creativity isn't just about painting pictures. It's about children:

- Exploring their own ideas
- Using their imagination
- Solving problems in different ways
- Expressing how they feel through play, movement, art and talk

You might see your child:

- Building a “rocket” from boxes
- Making up songs, stories or dances
- Mixing colours, textures or materials
- Acting out real-life experiences in role play

All these creative experiences help children to develop confidence, resilience and communication skills.

To boost creativity, why not try these simple ideas at home:

Open-ended play

- Offer junk modelling (boxes, tubes, bottle tops)
- Provide scarves, hats or bags for dressing up
- Let children decide what their creation will become

Create together

- Draw, paint or build alongside your child
- Let them lead while you follow their ideas

Value the process, not the product



- Focus on effort and imagination rather than how something looks
- Creative confidence comes once expectation is removed. “look at all of your interesting ideas!” “I wonder what this will become?”

Make mistakes welcome

- Celebrate trying again, doing things differently and learning as you go.
- Creativity grows when children feel safe to experiment

By supporting creativity at home and school, we are helping children build skills that will support them well beyond EYFS – thinking flexibly, sharing ideas and believing in themselves 

Internet Safety

Online safety links you may find helpful:

What I wish my parents or carers knew - Children's Commissioner for England

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/resource/what-i-wish-my-parents-or-carers-knew-a-guide-for-parents-and-carers-on-managing-childrens-digital-lives/>

NSPCC – Keeping children safe online

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

Barnardo's – Online safety guidance

<https://www.barnardos.org.uk/get-support/support-for-parents-and-carers/child-abuse-and-harm/keeping-children-safe-online>

GOV.UK – Support for parents and carers on online safety

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-keeping-children-safe-online/coronavirus-covid-19-support-for-parents-and-carers-to-keep-children-safe-online>

Young people are growing up in a world where technology has always been present for them, which can have a positive and negative impact on their lives. In the following link, you can get advice on yours and your child's digital wellbeing:

[Digital wellbeing | Childnet](#)

Dates for your diary

Spring Term 2026

Year 6 Bikeability	26.1.26- 29.1.26
Year 6 Residential to Arthog (Monday to Friday)	2.2.26
Year 2 visit to Twycross Zoo	5.2.26
Year 3 visit to Telford Town Centre	5.2.26
SEND Coffee Morning 9am – 11am	9.2.26
Year 5 to watch Legally Blonde at Charlton	10.2.26
Year 5 visit to Think Tank	11.2.26
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 9:30am	24.2.26
Family Hubs Coffee Afternoon 2:00 – 3:15	4.3.26
Year 1 visit to Ironbridge	11.3.26
Year 3 visit to Cosford	19.3.26
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
EYFS visit to Home Farm	22.4.26
Fund 'Raisin' (Friends Event)	Month of May
Bank Holiday	4.5.26
Year 6 visit Telford Town Park	19.5.26
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