

Damers News



Leaving on a High (Note)

All Year 4 children have been learning brass instruments this term. Last week, they took part in a brass concert for parents where they showcased all of their brilliant musical learning!



Dear Parents and Carers

Well, give or take the odd windy day, we have at last managed a 'complete' year in school once again. What a relief to be able to truly thrive again as a school community, particularly during this final term, and to hear and experience a new found gratitude for so many aspects of school life, which may have once been taken for granted.

At recent school events and on the gates during these last few weeks, I have listened to the conversations between parents, children and staff and have witnessed first hand the relationships that sit at the heart of our school and provide us with a genuine opportunity to reflect and celebrate as the school year draws to a close. I know that many of you will be feeling excitement about the changes ahead but there may also be anxieties and a genuine sadness as you say farewell today. I am always grateful for the time that so many of you take to share messages and comments with the amazing team that I work with at the end of the school year. Once again our team have given their all this year and it's sometimes easy to forget the mammoth challenge that they all faced in the autumn and spring terms due to staffing gaps. I feel genuine pride in our resilient, selfless and ever smiling team who have made yet another challenging year so enjoyable for children, families and myself. Well done Team Damers!

Today we sadly say a few farewells but I have made sure that I've left myself enough space to celebrate the lovely Miss Mansell and Mrs Guyett on their own page, later in the newsletter. Both will be greatly missed by the Damers community and it is with a mixture of sadness for us but excitement for them that we wave them on to their new ventures today.

We also say farewell to our wonderful current Year 4s and even though the majority of us want to hang on to this beautiful bunch, to make up for lost time, we know deep down that they are now ready to spread those fully formed, colourful Damers wings. Their performance of Shrek last week summed them up so well, they have been 'brave, unique, caring and kind' personified as a year group. A year group that has never failed to surprise us, to make us laugh, to cause us to stand back in awe and wonder, to take a sharp intake of breath at times (!) and occasionally to make us cry (in a good way). My goodness we will miss you Year 4 but we all wish you well as your new adventure begins - your new schools are certainly in for a treat. Thank you to everyone that has supported our celebrations in these final few days.

And finally, a personal note from me to express my heartfelt thanks to you all for the support that you have given to your children and the Damers team this year. Whether it has been in the form of dressing a potato, sourcing a 'green' outfit, supporting a school trip, painting scenery, tolerating brass practice, providing costumes for plays, sponsoring turtles, rehearsing lines, arranging flowers for a Village Show ... the list could go on for the rest of the newsletter! You never cease to amaze me with your creativity and your proactive support for school life. Thank you!

I wish you all a well deserved summer of long and happy days of sunshine with your families.

Catherine Smith

Headteacher

Year 3 have been learning about the incredible Jurassic coast which is only a few miles away. We went to Lulworth Cove to find out more about the Jurassic coast. Wow! What an amazing day and how lucky are we that this is on our doorstep.



MATHS MANIA!

There have been so many numbers on the television over the last few days and these are all to do with temperature and obviously MATHS! Why not:

- Place a thermometer inside and outside your house and compare the difference in temperature.
- Find out the hottest and coldest temperature for the UK.
- How does the temperature change over the year?
- What is the highest and lowest temperature ever recorded?
- How do we measure temperature?



Views from Foundation

Foundation have decided to all do a little quote about the year for the newsletter. Here is Grayling Foundation's ...

'The best things about being in Grayling Foundation has been playing with our friends, baking bread, learning new things and going on our school trips like the farm and woods!'



Reading ROCKS!

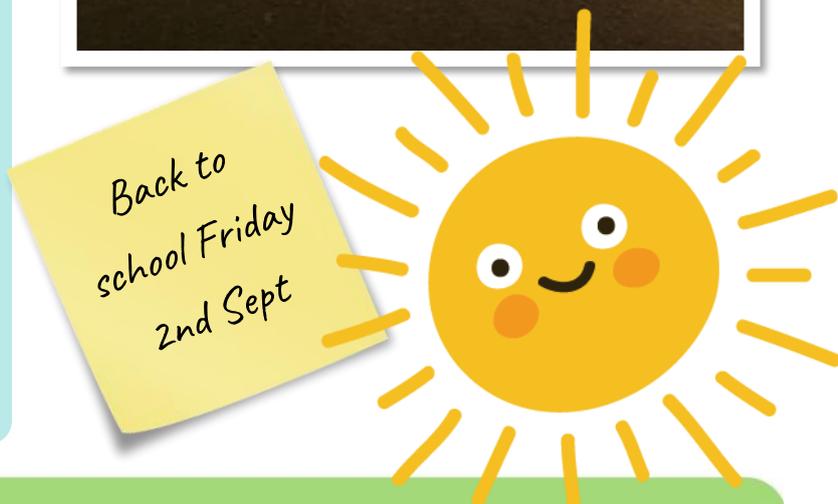
We were thrilled to have Mary and Sarah in school last week to promote the Summer Reading Challenge - Gadgeteers! Join the Gadgeteers for the Summer Reading Challenge to discover the amazing science and innovation behind the world around us!

Sign up at the library or to find out more [click here](#).

Happy reading!



Congratulations to the newly married Mr and Mrs Misun!



eco news

Damers Eco Crew have been researching ways to reduce the school's food waste. The children weighed the food waste secretly over a week. They found that a day's food waste could power a TV for 4 hours! 40Kg was going into our food waste composter everyday which is far too much. The children put together a questionnaire to find out which hot lunch foods the children liked and which foods the children did not like. They presented their findings to Caroline Morgan from Local Food Links. Caroline listened and agreed to change some of the food meals for September. The children also requested a plant based menu day to help reduce our carbon footprint. She also agreed to slowly introduce a plant based food day every week.

Damers Eco Crew will be providing feedback to Caroline each month about hot school meals and how the food waste is going. Damers Eco Crew hope that this will help reduce the food waste we are producing.



Whizz Bang!

Year 1 had a fantastic time at the Thomas Hardy School going on a space mission! They found out which planets samples had come from, looked at how rockets were powered, made slime, made their own popping rockets and found out how much energy is in a jelly baby! What an exciting morning we all had. The staff from the Thomas Hardy School were out of this world!



Farewells ...

Goodbye Miss Mansell! Miss Mansell joined us on a temporary contract this year to cover a maternity leave and we are all incredibly sad that her time with us is now coming to an end. Anyone who has had the pleasure of getting to know Miss Mansell this year will know the place that she has secured in the hearts of children, families and staff during her time with us. The Damers team know her as an incredibly hardworking, committed and valuable team member - an absolute ray of sunshine who will volunteer for anything and give her all to everything she does. She is one of the most reflective professionals that we have had the pleasure to work with and will be greatly missed.



We know that Miss Mansell is looking forward to her new role and we all wish her every success. Thank you Charlotte from all of us.

We will also be saying a sad farewell to the lovely Mrs Guyett today. We feel incredibly privileged to have had Mrs Guyett supporting our children and our art provision during her time with us and are delighted that Becky's success as a local artist now means that she will be concentrating fully on her artwork. Becky leaves a legacy of experiences which have enriched children's creativity and have also enabled colleagues to become more confident in discovering their own artistic talents as well. We have enjoyed many wonderful backdrops to our KS2 performances thanks to Becky too.



We all thank you for your wonderful contribution to the Damers community Becky, both as a parent and as a member of staff and we wish you every success as you embrace a chance to concentrate at last!

Goodbye Year 2!

Somehow it is the final week! Where has all the time gone?

Year 2 have enjoyed their trips to Hardy's Cottage where we used the natural environment to help inspire ideas for writing, learn how some plants were used like medicine and how Hardy lived in the Victorian times.

Thank you for all your support with the Year 2 Village Show too! The children did an amazing job and it was lovely to hear them congratulate each other when someone was awarded a rosette or certificate!

The children are certainly getting ready for Year 3! We wish you all a pleasant and restful break.



Super Spotters

We have been spotting butterflies around the school grounds, particularly on the wild flowers down by the pond. We have seen Large White, Painted Lady, Peacock, Red Admiral and Mrs Smith even spotted a Common Blue on the playing field. We also see lots of day-flying moths down by the pond. Did you know that the UK is home to a number of moths that are active during the day rather than at night.

If you are interested in butterflies and moths you can take part in the Big Butterfly Count, you can find the details of how to take part in this newsletter.



Butterfly Fact

Butterflies need heat to be able to move. When you see them resting in the sunshine, they are warming up their wings so they can fly. Hopefully the butterflies are managing in this hot weather better than us humans!

If you spot anything you think is super or interesting over the summer break email superspotters@damers.dorset.sch.uk

Have a wonderful break and good luck to all of our Year 4 Damers butterflies who are flying off to new pastures in September.



The Big Butterfly Count is a UK-wide survey aimed at helping us assess the health of our environment simply by counting the amount and type of butterflies (and some day-flying moths) we see. The count is taking place between 15 July - 7 Aug - further details and a handy identification chart can be found below ...

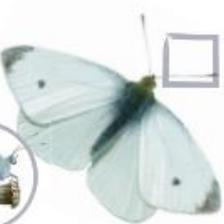
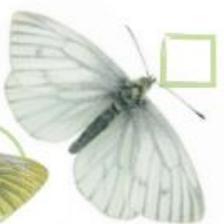
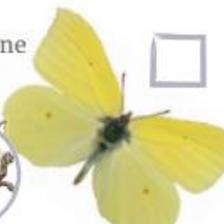
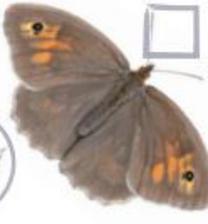
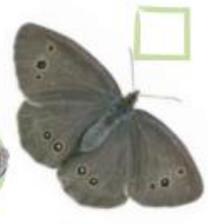
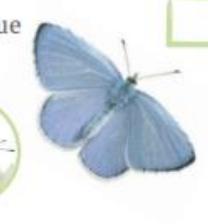


BIG BUTTERFLY COUNT
15 JULY - 7 AUGUST 2022

Spend 15 minutes in a sunny spot. Use this chart to note how many of each species you see. Then submit your sightings at www.bigbutterflycount.org or download our free app

Don't forget to join us online with **#ButterflyCount**



<p>Large White</p>  <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Small White</p>  <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Green Veined White</p>  <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Brimstone</p>  <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Small Copper</p>  <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Speckled Wood</p>  <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Meadow Brown</p>  <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Ringlet</p>  <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Comma</p>  <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Painted Lady</p>  <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Peacock</p>  <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Red Admiral</p>  <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Common Blue</p>  <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Holly Blue</p>  <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Silver Y</p>  <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Six-spot Burnet</p>  <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Marbled White</p>  <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Gatekeeper</p>  <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Small Tortoiseshell</p>  <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Jersey Tiger</p>  <input type="checkbox"/>

size not to scale



School Times for September



Please note that Foundation will continue to use their own Foundation gate, Years 1, 2 and 4 will continue to enter and leave via the Lychgate beside the Great Field and Year 3 will continue to enter and leave via the coach house gate on Liscombe Street in September.

For parents, carers and professionals, supporting our children who have Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

Dorset Education Advice Line

Book a slot by phone or online to get advice

FREEPHONE 0800 1404041

Lines open Monday to Friday

10am to 4pm Term time only

Or book online at dorset.gov.uk/SEND-education-advice-line.gov.uk



Happy Summer Holidays!

