Drayton CofE VC Junior School

"In whatever you do, don't let selfishness or pride be your guide.
Don't be interested only in your own life, but care about the lives of others too"
- Philippians 2:3-4

NEWSLETTER 12th September 2025

Please go to: www.draytonjunior.norfolk.sch.uk

Headteacher's Note:

Dear Parents, Carers and Families,

Welcome back to a brand new school year at Drayton CE VC Junior School. We hope you all had a restful and enjoyable summer break and are feeling refreshed and ready for the year ahead.

As we begin this new chapter together, we're reminded of our school's vision, inspired by Philippians 2:3–4:

"In whatever you do, don't let selfishness or pride be your guide. Don't be interested only in your own life, but care about the lives of others too."

This message sits at the heart of everything we do. At Drayton, we are committed to:

Cherishing each individual
Aiming for everyone to flourish
Relationships rooted in care and respect
Embracing collaboration and compassion

We believe that every child matters, and we strive to create a nurturing environment where all learners feel valued, supported and inspired to grow — not just academically, but spiritually, morally and culturally too.

As always, we are incredibly proud of the sense of community here at Drayton. Our staff are dedicated to helping children settle in, reconnect with friends, and feel confident and excited about the year ahead. Whether your child is returning or joining us for the first time, we're here to support them every step of the way.

Thank you for your continued support. We're looking forward to a joyful, purposeful and inspiring year ahead.

John Neenan
Headteacher

DJS Information Update

In Loving Memory of Mr John Tyson

It is with great sadness that we share the news of the passing of Mr John Tyson, a much-loved and respected former teacher at Drayton Junior School.

Mr Tyson was a passionate educator who made a lasting impact on many children and families during his time here. His warmth, humour and dedication to teaching will be remembered fondly by all who knew him. We send our heartfelt condolences to his family and loved ones.

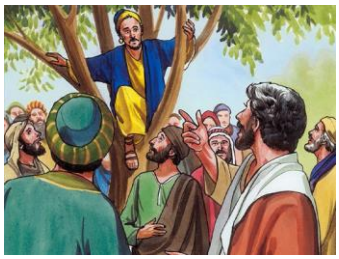
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COLLECTIVE WORSHIP – This week our theme is:

Collective Worship Themes

The Story of Zacchaeus-



Once upon a time in the town of Jericho, there lived a man named Zacchaeus. He was a tax collector, and many people did not like him because he often took more money than he was supposed to. Zacchaeus was very rich, but he was also very lonely. He wanted to see Jesus, who was coming to town, but he was too short to see over the crowd.

So, Zacchaeus climbed up into a sycamore tree to get a better view. When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." Zacchaeus was overjoyed and quickly climbed down. He welcomed Jesus into his home with great joy.

As they shared a meal, the people around began to grumble, saying, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner." But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount." Jesus responded, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

And so, Zacchaeus changed his ways and became a better person, showing us that everyone can be forgiven and can choose to do good.

Reflective Thought

As you go through your day, think about how you can be a friend to someone who might feel left out, just like Jesus was a friend to Zacchaeus. What small act of kindness can you do today to help others flourish?

BEHAVIOUR – As a school we have high expectations for school behaviour, we want to work with our families to support children's behaviour but this has to be a collaborative effort. Please see our policy for how we manage behaviour at DJS- Behaviour-Policy-2025-to-26.pdf

CURRICULUM – Don't forget to keep up-to-date with what your children are learning, see our website for the latest Curriculum Maps.

SCHOOL DINNERS - please continue to book school lunches via the School Money System. Please note: the new menu is online for you to see.

PASTORAL STAFF - Drayton is very proud of the pastoral support we provide. If you would like to speak to Mrs Lane, our Pastoral staff member, then please contact the office – admin@draytonjunior.norfolk.sch.uk, Mrs Lane can also be found on the playground in the morning from 8.35 am.

ATTENDANCE – *Please note:* *The school day finishes at **3.15 pm**, unless there are valid, authorised reasons then children should not be being picked up early. If you do need to pick your child/children up early, please provide the office with the reason so we can ensure our records are up to date. Thank you*

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Our current attendance rate last school year was **94.48%.** If your child's individual attendance drops below 90%, we will send out letters to offer support and see how we can help improve this.

Gates are open from **8.30 am** and a member of staff will be on the playgrounds at **8.35 am.** Please ensure your child is at school for **8.45 am** to start their learning, this is when the gates will close.

We understand that illness happens and can't be helped, but it is vitally important that children attend as soon as they can. We are happy to support with medication; please speak to Mrs. Terrington or Mrs. Hastings in the office.

For the school's Attendance Policy, please follow this link:
School_Attendance_Policy_2025-26.pdf

September	**Activity**	**Collective Worship Theme**
1st – 5th	1st and 2nd Staff Inset Days 3rd – Children return to school	The Parable of the Sower – Growing our lives on good foundations.
8th – 12th		The story of Zacchaeus - Welcome
15th – 19th	17th Year 6 Height and Weight team in school	Outdo one another in showing honour – Romans 12:10
22nd – 26th	22nd – Flu vaccinations 26th – Macmillan Coffee Morning 10am - 11am	The story of Nehemiah – Problem solving
29th – 3rd	30th – School and Community Team parental engagement visit – for a 1 to 1 meeting please email the school office 2nd SEN Meet a Greet with Mrs Lamb 8.45am	Harvest - A time for everything under the sun – Ecclesiastes 3:1-8
October	**Activity**	**Collective Worship Theme**
6th – 10th	6th - NSPCC – Speak out Stay Safe Assembly	The story of Jonah – Taking time out
13th – 17th	15th – Joe Dix Foundation Assembly – Year 6	The habit of silence and peace
20th – 24th	21st – In person parents evening – 4.30 pm to 7.30 pm (letters to follow soon) 23rd – In person parents evening – 3.30 pm to 6.30 pm (letters to follow soon) 23rd – Friends of Drayton – Sponsored Swim – Info to follow soon	All hard work brings a profit – Proverbs 14:23 & 24:30-34
27th – 31st	Half-Term	
November	**Activity**	**Collective Worship Theme**

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3rd – 7th	3rd – Year 3 Castle Trip (Egyptians) (Letters to follow soon) 5th – SEND Parents Meeting with Mrs Lamb 5th – Individual School Photos	Similarities between Christianity and Hinduism – Celebration of light
10th – 14th		Remembrance – Thinking of others
24th – 28th	Year 2 – Open/Intake Evening 3.30 pm to 4.30 pm	Tradition of Advent
December	**Activity**	**Collective Worship Theme**
1st – 5th		St Andrew – 30th November Prepare to wait – The parable of the wise and foolish builders
8th – 12th		Qualities of a friend - St Peter walking on water – Matthew 14:22-33
14th – 19th	19th – Last day of term	Christmas Story & History of St Nicholas
January	**Activity**	**Collective Worship Theme**
5th – 9th	6th – Return to School	
February	**Activity**	**Collective Worship Theme**
2nd – 6th	5th - Online person parents evening 4.30 pm to 7.30 pm	
9th - 13th	10th - Online person parents evening 3.30 pm to 3.30 pm	
16th – 20th	Half-term	
23rd – 27th	23rd – Return to school	
March	**Activity**	**Collective Worship Theme**
16th – 20th	16th – 18th Year 4 Residential group 1 18th – 20th Year 4 Residential group 2	
23rd – 27th	25th - SEND Parents Meeting with Mrs Lamb 26th – Parent/Carer drop in – come and see your children's work 27th – Last day of term	
April	**Activity**	**Collective Worship Theme**
13th – 17th	14th – Return to School	
May	**Activity**	**Collective Worship Theme**
25th – 29th	Half-term	
June	**Activity**	**Collective Worship Theme**

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July	**Activity**	**Collective Worship Theme**
13th – 17th	17th – Last day of the Year!	

Please see the Norfolk County Council 2025/26 School Calendar for further details.

