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 25th November 2025

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

Headteacher's Note:

Dear Parents, Carers and Families,

We've had an incredibly busy and exciting time since half-term, with lots of amazing activities and achievements to celebrate!

Our Year 4 children stepped back in time to explore life in the Stone Age. They enjoyed a fantastic themed day full of hands-on activities that brought history to life.

We were delighted to welcome the Bishop of Norwich, Bishop Graham Usher, to our school. He joined us for collective worship and spent time with our ECO Council, discussing their brilliant work on environmental projects.

Our school governors have been visiting classrooms to see the wonderful learning taking place. They were impressed by the enthusiasm and hard work of all our pupils.

Since our last newsletter, we've taken part in several sporting fixtures, including Football, Bowling, and Cross Country. Our teams have shown great determination and achieved some fantastic successes—well done to everyone who represented the school!

Sponsored Swim – A Huge Thank You!
The sponsored swim, organised by the Friends of Drayton, has raised an incredible £4,000! This is an amazing achievement, and we are so grateful to the Friends of Drayton and to everyone who sponsored or donated. Your support makes a real difference—thank you!

As we move into the Advent season, let us take time to think of others—those in our community and beyond who may need a helping hand or a kind word. Advent is a time of hope and giving, and together we can make a positive difference. Thank you for all you do to support our school and each other.

John Neenan
Headteacher

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DJS Information Update



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP – Collective Worship Themes

The Start of Advent - Luke 1:26-38

The children have been learning that not all Christians celebrate advent in the same way.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nLDAHT1LAGE

26 God sent the angel Gabriel to a virgin girl who lived in Nazareth, a town in Galilee. She was engaged to marry a
man named Joseph from the family of David. Her name was Mary. 28 The angel came to her and said, "Greetings!
The Lord is with you; you are very special to him."

29 But Mary was very confused about what the angel said. She wondered, "What does this mean?"

30 The angel said to her, "Don't be afraid, Mary, because God is very pleased with you. 31 Listen! You will become
pregnant and have a baby boy. You will name him Jesus. 32 He will be great. People will call him the Son of the
Most High God, and the Lord God will make him king like his ancestor David. 33 He will rule over the people of
Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end."

34 Mary said to the angel, "How will this happen? I am still a virgin."

35 The angel said to Mary, "The Holy Spirit will come to you, and the power of the Most High God will cover you. The
baby will be holy and will be called the Son of God. 36 And here's something else: Your relative Elizabeth is
pregnant. She is very old, but she is going to have a son. Everyone thought she could not have a baby, but she
has been pregnant now for six months. 37 God can do anything!"

38 Mary said, "I am the Lord's servant. Let this thing you have said happen to me!" Then the angel went away.

Reflective Thought
"For the hope that God's plans are greater than ours... We are waiting, Lord."

Notice one small thing today that brings you hope

MATHS CAFES – It has been wonderful to see so many parents, carers, family members, and friends at our Maths Cafés. We have our final session this Friday, when we look forward to welcoming our Year 3 parents into school.

BOOK FAYRE – Thank you for your support with the 'Book Fair' we were able to purchase with our £340 commission. Thank you also for your support with our recent Author visits.



Reading is one of the most powerful tools we can give our children. It opens doors to new worlds, ideas, and opportunities, sparking imagination and building knowledge. Through books, children can explore places they've never been, meet characters who inspire them, and develop the skills that will help them succeed in life. Every page turned is a step toward a brighter future.

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CROSS COUNTRY – Wednesday 22nd October, a gorgeous sunny day, perfect for the annual School sports partnership cross country event at Langley Prep. Drayton were confident going into the event with an excellent team of 24 runners. All tried their best and performed really well, with many finishing in the top 20. A special shout out to Niamh who easily took first place in the year three girls Race, and Lewis who secured second place after a sprint to the finish!
It was a great day!






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.

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*

Our current attendance rate last school year was **95.14%.** 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

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

November	Activity	Collective Worship Theme
24th – 28th	26th – Drayton Village Christmas Light Switch on 27th - Year 2 – Open/Intake Evening 3.30 pm to 4.30 pm 28th – Year 3 – Math's Café – 9 am 28th – 4B Non uniform day	Tradition of Advent
December	**Activity**	**Collective Worship Theme**
1st – 5th	2nd – Author visit 5th – Christmas Fayre 5th – Cross Country Eaton Park	St Andrew – 30th November Prepare to wait – The parable of the wise and foolish builders
8th – 12th	8th – I Rock concert in school 10th – School Christmas Dinner **(Orders must be placed by 25.11.25 3pm, sorry no late orders accepted)** 10th – Christmas Jumper Day 11th – Year 4 Christmas Play 6pm 12th Year 4 Christmas Play 9.30am 16th – Choir singing at Badger's	Qualities of a friend - St Peter walking on water – Matthew 14:22-33
14th – 19th	15th - Online Panto 'Cinderella' by Norfolk Music Hub - 1:30pm. 16th – Choir singing at Badgers Wood – 1.45 pm to 2.30 pm and at the Norfolk Show Ground with the Norwich Philharmonic Orchestra – 7.30 pm 17th – Yr 3,4,5 Christmas Church Service – **School Children Only** 18th – Yr 6 Christmas Church Service – **Parents of performers invited**. - 9.30 am 19th – Last day of term **SUNDAY** – 21st – Carrols by Candle Light - School Choir and Handbells – 6.30 pm	Christmas Story & History of St Nicholas
January	**Activity**	**Collective Worship Theme**
5th – 9th	6th – Return to School	
12th-16th	16th - Online Safety Workshop Parents 2-3.10pm	
19th – 23rd	23rd - Online Safety Workshop Parents 2-3.10pm	
26th-30th	30th - Online Safety Workshop Parents 2-3.10pm	

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February	**Activity**	**Collective Worship Theme**
2nd – 6th	5th – Online parents evening 4.30 pm to 7.30 pm 6th – Online Safety Workshop Parents 2-3.10pm 6th – School Disco – Years 3/4 5- 6pm, Years 5/6 6.15-7.30	
9th - 13th	10th - Online parents evening 3.30 pm to 6 pm	
22nd-26th	23rd- 26th Year 5 Bikeability (further details to follow nearer the time)	
16th – 20th	Half-term	
23rd – 27th	23rd – Return to school	
March	**Activity**	**Collective Worship Theme**
2nd – 6th	6th – Cross Country Old Catton	
8th-13th	13th – Mothers/Special person day shop	
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**
4th-8th	4th – May Bank Holiday School closed 8th – School Disco – Years 3/4 5-6pm, Years 5/6 6.15-7.30	
11th-15th	11-14th SATS week Year 6 15th Year 4 Roman soldier visit	
25th – 29th	Half-term	
June	**Activity**	**Collective Worship Theme**
1st-5th	1st – Return to school	
8th-12th	8th-10th Year 6 Eaton Vale trip	
15th-19th	19th - Father's/Special person day shop	
22nd-26th	22nd City Sports field events	

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	23rd – City Sports track events 25th – City Sports field events	
July	**Activity**	**Collective Worship Theme**
6th – 10th	8th- 9th Transition Days	
13th – 17th	17th – Last day of the Year!	