



# NEWSLETTER

13TH FEBRUARY 2026



As we come to the end of another busy half term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support. It has been a positive and productive few weeks to start 2026 for our children, filled with lots of learning and exciting opportunities.

This week, we have been proud to celebrate Children's Mental Health Week. Through their PSHE lessons, the children have explored the importance of looking after their mental wellbeing and have learned practical ways to keep themselves mentally healthy. It has been wonderful to see the thoughtful discussions and positive attitudes across the school. In our singing assembly this week, we chose songs that make us 'feel good' and keep us smiling. We also learned a new one this week called 'Fighting for Love' which made us think about all we can do to support one another and stand up for what's right.

We have also raised awareness for Safer Internet Day, with this year's focus on Artificial Intelligence. As technology continues to develop rapidly, it is such an important message for children to understand how to stay safe online and to use digital tools responsibly. The children had assemblies to discuss these issues this week led by Mr Brazier and he has created a fact sheet which is included in this newsletter to let you know more about AI.

Today, we have also enjoyed celebrating Mother Language Day, recognising the many different cultures, languages and traditions represented within our school. It was wonderful to see so many children proudly dressing in cultural clothing and sharing their heritage with others. A big thank you for your support in helping to make this celebration so special.

We have also had a special week of different menus this week with Chinese New Year, Pancake Day and Valentine's Day menus on offer! We saw an increase of children trying these new menus so thank you for your support with this and we hope the children enjoyed them! We wish you all a restful, enjoyable and happy half-term break. See you on Monday 23rd February.

Mrs Darby, Headteacher

## Class Dojo



Last week, the winners were 1/2PM and 5/6B

This week, the winners were 1/2NC and 5/6B

## Attendance



The winning class for last week was Rec B with 100%

The winning class this week was 1/2C with 99.6%

## Tidy classroom

Last week, the winning class was 1/2C

This week, the winning class was 5/6H



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# SCHOOL UPDATES

## National Storytelling Week

Last week, we enjoyed celebrating the magic of stories in school, with children across all year groups sharing and exploring a wonderful range of books. In Year 5/6, the children have been captivated by their spooky class text Room 13, and they are especially enjoying their atmospheric story writing! Meanwhile, Year 3/4 have been immersed in exciting tales of dragons and adventure reading How to Train your Dragon and in EYFS and Year 1/2, the children have loved welcoming our mystery readers who keep popping up around school to share stories.

Storytelling brings people together, sparks imagination, and helps children develop their language and creativity. We hope you also enjoyed sharing some stories at home during National Storytelling Week, and we would love to hear what you chose to read together.

## Children's Mental Health Week

This year, the theme for Mental Health Week was 'This is My Place' all about helping children feel a sense of belonging, acceptance, and connection at school, with friends, and at home. Feeling like we belong can really support our wellbeing and help us feel safe, valued, and ready to learn. Throughout the week, we have been exploring ways to help every child feel like they belong. We have been talking about wellbeing in school and reminding each other just how important it is to share our thoughts and feelings. Open conversations help us understand one another and know that everyone matters.

Here are a few ideas you might like to try at home too:

- Talk about belonging — ask your child what makes them feel like they 'fit in' or feel safe and valued.
- Notice kindness — doing something small and kind for someone else helps everyone feel included.
- Celebrate strengths — share one thing you each like about yourselves or something you're proud of.
- Connect outside — a walk, playtime in the fresh air, or chatting about your day can help everyone feel connected and calm.

We are proud of the thoughtful discussions the children have had this week and the positive ways they are supporting each other. Together, we are creating a school community where everyone belongs.

## Mother Language Day

This week, we also enjoyed celebrating Mother Language Day, recognising and valuing the many different cultures, languages, and traditions within our D'Eyncourt community. It was wonderful to see so many children proudly dressing in cultural clothing and sharing stories, songs, and greetings from their heritage. Celebrating our diverse backgrounds helps us appreciate one another, learn from each other, and feel proud of the unique community we have here at D'Eyncourt. A big thank you to all families for supporting this special celebration!



## Dates for your diary

### February 2026

23rd - Return to school

24th - Year 4 MTC Parents' Meeting 3:30pm

### March 2026

3rd- 6th - Travelling Book Fair in school

5th - World Book Day - More information to follow

9th - British Science Week - Theme: Curiosity what is your question?

10th - Tag Rugby event - More details to follow

12th - Parents Evening 3.30pm-6.30pm

13th - Mother's Day - Stay and Play event - More details to follow

16th - Reception egg delivery - More details to follow

17th and 19th - Reflexions leading Feelings and Emotions Assemblies

18th - Freshwater Theatre in school - KS1 workshops

## Celebrating Success

Evelia - Street Dance Theatre

Mila-Rose - Swimming and Dance

Sophia PD - Gymnastics

Elsie, Kian, Charlie S, Aron S - Swimming

Mollie-Mae - Musical Theatre

Amelia S - Dance

Lola - Taekwondo

Jude A - Football



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# HEALTH & WELLBEING

This year's Children's Mental Health Week has focused on the theme of belonging - helping children feel safe, valued and connected at school, with friends and at home. These happy moments help us feel connected, valued, and accepted. When we feel like we belong, we feel happy, safe, and ready to learn and play. It helps us grow strong in our minds and bodies, and it makes it easier to make friends, do well in school, and feel good about ourselves.

During Children's Mental Health Week, we've been talking about how we can help everyone feel like they belong, we can learn from each other what makes us feel happy. We've considered how to be kind, include others, and make sure no one feels left out. Everyone deserves to feel like they have a place where they are accepted, cared for, and loved.

Our mental health flourishes when we feel connected and valued. When children and young people have a strong sense of belonging, they:

- Feel more confident to be themselves and try new things
- Develop resilience to cope with challenges and setbacks.
- Build stronger relationships and communication skills.
- Experience less anxiety and loneliness.
- Have better self-esteem and understand their own worth.
- Feel motivated to contribute positively to their communities.

Here are some simple ways you can support your child:

- Talk about belonging – ask your child what makes them feel included, safe, or valued, and listen to their ideas.
- Celebrate strengths – notice and praise the things your child does well, and encourage them to celebrate their own achievements.
- Encourage kindness – small acts of kindness at home or with friends help children feel connected and appreciated.
- Spend time together – shared activities, play, or conversations can strengthen connections and help children feel supported.
- Model openness – talk about your own feelings and encourage your child to share theirs, showing that everyone's voice matters.

These small steps can make a big difference in helping children feel like they belong and supporting their overall mental wellbeing.



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# AI AWARENESS:

## STAYING SAFE IN A DIGITAL WORLD

### HELPING FAMILIES UNDERSTAND AI, ITS RISKS, AND SAFE USE

Artificial Intelligence is part of everyday life, from voice assistants and chatbots to online recommendations. Tools like ChatGPT can generate text, answer questions, and interact with users. As children use these technologies more often, families need to understand how AI works and how it can be used safely. Awareness helps adults guide children to make confident, responsible choices.

### WHERE AI APPEARS IN DAILY LIFE

Children encounter AI in many parts of daily life, often without realising it. Voice assistants and chatbots, including tools like ChatGPT, respond to questions and requests, while online platforms suggest videos, music, or games. Google's Gemini powers smarter search, and Microsoft's Copilot offers AI assistance in Office and Windows. Social media and gaming apps use AI to recommend content, and AI tools can generate text, images, or videos. Recognising these encounters helps families guide children in using AI safely and responsibly.

### WHY AWARENESS MATTERS

AI can seem helpful, but it comes with hidden risks. Systems can make mistakes or provide biased information, and many AI tools store everything typed, including personal details. This data could be accessed, shared, or used in ways that are not immediately visible. Without guidance, children may unknowingly share sensitive information. Awareness helps families protect privacy and guide children to use AI safely.

### GUIDING SAFE AND RESPONSIBLE USE

Families can help children use AI safely by talking openly about the tools they encounter and exploring them together. Show how to check if content is real by looking for trusted sources, official websites, or reputable news outlets. Set clear rules about what information can be shared online, and monitor the AI tools and apps children use. Discuss both the benefits and risks of AI, helping children develop responsible habits when interacting with digital technology.

### UNDERSTANDING AI-GENERATED CONTENT

AI can create realistic images, videos, and news articles that look real but are entirely fabricated. Deepfakes and AI-generated content can be so convincing that it is hard to tell fact from fiction. Children may encounter this content online without realising it, which can spread misinformation or manipulate perception. Understanding these risks helps families guide children to check sources and use digital media safely.

