

# The Dasset News - 4th April 2025

**This Week:-** Leaves have been awarded to the following children. The certificates will be given out in assembly on Monday morning. Well done all of you.



Hedgehogs ( Reception )	Squirrels (Year 1/2)	Bears (Year 3/4)	Badgers (Year 5/6)
Oliver	Liv	Lexi	Finn
	Mikey	Hunter	Logan



**Reception**—With the warmer weather the children were tasked with watering our flowers, including the now flowering tulips! Over the course of the week they have made some



lovely play dough flower models. They were tasked with setting up a structure to run water from the tap to the pots. There was lots of team work and thinking! The first structure didn't work as it was flat and the water didn't move so the children worked on creating a gradient which mean the water ran from the tap down to the pots! We have also been exploring length, measuring a t-rex foot and comparing it our own and finding different objects to measure with. We have continued our work on doubling and have begun to look at numbers you can share and numbers you can't share leading us into odd and even numbers. The children have been fascinated by the book 'One Odd Day' and noticing all the things in the story that are odd numerically and those that are just plain strange! In phonics we have been enjoying Sam and Kits adventures into the past as they meet Felt and Wilf. They have been practising reading and writing CCVC words and learning the tricky words 'said' and 'so'. We learned about the Muslim celebration of Eid and we wish all our families that celebrate the end of Ramadan 'Eid Mubarak'. We have started to think about the Easter story and why it is important to Christians.

**Year 1/2**— This week, in Squirrels class, the children have been busy making board games to summarise their topic on Magnificent Monarchs. They designed the games adding question cards based on what they have learnt and are looking forward to playing them soon. In English, the children have continued working on the story of Traction Man. They wrote a set of instructions to help Traction Man save the spoons in the story, created lovely story mountains, wrote their own short adventure for Traction Man and created character descriptions for a new superhero which we wrote up in computing. We have been learning about tally charts, bar graphs and pictograms in Maths. In Science, the children were looking at baby animals and paired them with their adults. They then wrote about any similarities and differences in appearance between them, establishing that some young look vastly different to their adult version, for example caterpillars and butterflies. The children have also started their sewing of their bag tags which they have been very much looking forward to.

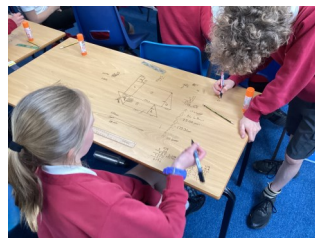


**Year 3/4**— Taking our current novel, Varjak Paw, this week each child has written their own chapter of Varjak's (a kitten) first time entering and exploring a city. In maths we have concluded our work on fractions, finding fractions of an amount (e.g., two-thirds of thirty-six). In PSHE we looked at assertiveness skills in friendships; whilst in RE we continued to delve deeper into The Good Samaritan parable and the importance of caring for one another/all (the Bible's meaning of 'neighbour'). In geography we have compiled our research (utilising computing time) on individually chosen seismically active areas... Timely, given the recent earthquake in Myanmar and volcanic activity in Iceland. Tag Rugby, and gymnastic with Dani have taken place. Likewise, Music and Whole Class Reading lessons. We have also started our preparations for the class leading next week's Easter Service.



## **Year 5/6**

- A lovely sunny week in year 5/6 and we've been enjoying some time out on the field. Back in the classroom we are working hard on all our subjects. In English we have been writing a narrative based on our class novel Skellig. It's based on a story the main character writes in his English lessons. In maths we have moved onto area and perimeter and have looked at calculating these for a range of shapes.



Science has been finishing off looking at the human life cycle and thinking

about ageing with some very mature discussions and I was pleased that the children were very positive about ageing and didn't have stereotypical views of it. In computing, we learnt about the difference between the world wide web and the internet and listened to Mrs Proudfoot's stories of 'in my day before the internet'! To celebrate Autism Appreciation Day on Wednesday, we read different texts by neurodiverse author's and looked at how we can support people in the community who are neurodiverse. We looked at an activity explaining how anyone can self-regulate by using a battery charging and draining activity. We enjoyed the nice weather on Friday by completing our arithmetic as a run around quiz outside the classroom. Children had to navigate an orienteering course to complete their own target questions.

## **OPAL—Playtime Project - introducing our OPAL School ambitions!**

Morning playtimes and lunchtimes account for twenty percent of the school week. Research shows, children's play when compared to previous generations is progressively reducing (as it becomes more indoors, more screen-based and less adventurous etc.) As play is essential to all aspects of children's development and a source of joy and happiness for every child, we have signed up for a project supported by OPAL Play.

Over the coming eighteen months, we will seek to transform our break and lunchtime play provision, with wider reaching benefits both in the classroom and for the wider community. At The Dassett, we are exceptionally lucky with the green spaces that make up the school grounds, albeit they come with certain challenges (access conveniences and the slope meaning the field is a quagmire two-thirds of the schoolyear).

We will officially launch our project to parents in the coming months and their views and that of the wider community (groups such as the Scouts, the Nursery, The Parish Council etc.,) will be consulted and welcomed throughout the process. Front and centre, will be the voices of the children who attend the school on making their play experience the best it can be.

At some point in the coming eighteen months, all parents will be asked to engage in the project, be that completing a questionnaire for their views or supporting the school in fundraising activities (via the PTA) or donations such as old toys etc. However, if you are interested in taking a more voluntary active role, please in the first instance speak to Mr Foyle. I am sure we can accommodate any level of support you can offer around your existing daily commitments and family life.

**Clubs** All school led clubs have now finished. Letters will be sent out on the first week after Easter regarding the next block of clubs.

**Cycling/Scooting to School** Please remind children to be careful when cycling or

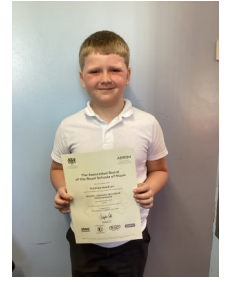
scooting to school especially if they use the road. Wearing a helmet whilst cycling/scooting is not a legal requirement in the UK but we would recommend that children do wear helmets as do bikeability. 'The Bikeability Trust recommends the use of helmets in line with The Highway Code rule number 59: 'You should wear a cycle helmet that conforms to current regulations, is the correct size and securely fastened. Evidence suggests that a correctly fitted helmet will reduce your risk of sustaining a head injury in certain circumstances.'





## Music

Well done to Thomas for achieving his grade 1 Descant Recorder Performance with a Merit.



## Diary Dates—Coming Up

**Wednesday 9th April**—Solar Panel assembly

**Thursday 10th April**—Easter Service at church at 2.15pm. All parents/carers are welcome to join us for an Easter service.

## Staffing



### Mrs Byrne

This week we have welcomed Mrs Beth Byrne to school as our Year 1/2 teacher. Mrs Byrne writes “I am very excited to be joining the team at The Dassett and can’t wait to get stuck in and get to know everyone! I have been teaching for over ten years now and feel incredibly lucky to be in a job that I absolutely love. I have primarily taught within EYFS and Key Stage one and have spent three years teaching abroad in Malaysia with my husband (who is also a teacher!). We have two little ones; Toby who is nearly four, and Etta who is one. They keep my very busy when I’m not teaching! As well as spending lots of time with my family, I also enjoy travelling and exploring new places, reading, yoga, fair weather running and gardening. We are also renovating a 400-year-old cottage, so spend a lot of time covered in dust and paint! “

**Miss Wood**—we would also like to thank Miss Wood for her dedication and commitment to the class for the last 6 weeks. She has had a hugely positive impact on the pupils and their learning and we will miss her. Hopefully she will visit us again, as a supply teacher, in the future.

## Governors

Please see attached 2 letters from the Governing Body. Many thanks

## Onside

Please see attached information on how to book the afterschool football club on Fridays

## Educaters

From 1st April 2025 school meals will be increasing in cost to £2.75 per meal per day. A new menu will be starting after Easter, please see attached copy for the choices.



## Act on Energy



Act on Energy are a local Energy Advice charity based in Salford Priors, Warwickshire.

One of their schemes currently is called the Stratford Heating & Energy Bill Support Scheme (SHEBS for short!) which is available to households who live in the Stratford District Council area. This is a scheme that is operating and has been funded by Stratford District Council to help the most vulnerable clients who are struggling with the rising cost of energy bills.

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The scheme helps eligible clients with a payment of up to £500 towards their energy bills. They can also help with heating system repair/replacement for eligible homeowners.

Here is a link to the details of the scheme and how to apply: <https://www.actonenergy.org.uk/support/shebs>

If you would rather not click the link, you can just type in “Stratford Heating & Energy Bill Support Scheme” into your search bar and it will bring up details of the scheme via our website and also via Stratford DCs website.

Also attached is a copy of their generic poster – they can help people with energy advice via their free advice line on 0800 988 2881.

## Family Information Services

<https://mailchi.mp/warwickshire/family-information-service-newsletter-1219204-96fqcdqpps-8828582?e=d04d9d2ed5>

Please link above information on Primary Offer Day, preparing for school support sessions and much more.

*Have a lovely weekend—from Miss Corry and All at The Dasset*