

DAWPOOL CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Rooted. Inspired. Committed

DAWPOOL NEWS
ISSUE 32 20th November 2026

School Vision: *'The Dawpool community is united in its ambition to create a school that embodies the person, love, and work of Jesus Christ. Rooted in this aim, we celebrate the unique dignity of every child. Each pupil is deeply known, valued, and nurtured, with bespoke opportunities to develop their gifts. Inspired by the parable of the talents, we empower children to grow academically, spiritually, and emotionally. Committed to justice and equity, we provide an education that enables every student to use their God-given potential confidently and responsibly in the service of others, experiencing fullness of life.'*

It has been another busy and rewarding week at Dawpool, with lots of opportunities for our children to learn, reflect and put our school values into action. This week, in particular, has reminded us of the importance of kindness, friendship and looking out for one another, as we have joined schools across the country in celebrating Anti-Bullying Week.

We began the week with a wonderful display of odd socks on Monday morning! It was lovely to see so many children and staff embracing the opportunity to celebrate what makes each of us unique.



Throughout the week, our children have been exploring this year's theme, 'Break the Silence', thinking carefully about what bullying is, how it can make others feel and, importantly, what we can all do to prevent it. We have encouraged children to recognise that their voices matter and that speaking up, whether for themselves or for somebody else, can make a real difference.

Prayer Club were busy painting rocks with positive messages for our Kindness Rock Garden supporting Anti-bullying Week. We will place them in our outdoor prayer space.



I have been particularly pleased to hear that children have been sharing their understanding of bullying with their parents at home. These conversations are so important in helping children recognise the difference between bullying and friendship difficulties, understand the importance of telling a trusted adult and develop the confidence to speak up



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when something isn't right.

Thank you for supporting our activities this week and for continuing these valuable conversations at home.

"Bulllying is when someone tries to hurt you on purpose and they keep doing it. I'd say 'STOP'!" Finneas Y2

"Me and my friends made up a dance to tell people to not bully." Chloe Y3

"Stand up for what's right and speak up for people." Rose Y5

Some of our Year 4 children had the opportunity to represent Dawpool at a football event alongside pupils from other local schools this week.

It was a fantastic opportunity for the children to develop their football skills, work together as a team and demonstrate the importance of perseverance, encouragement and good sportsmanship. We are always proud to see our children representing Dawpool and putting our school values into practice beyond the classroom.

Well done to everyone who took part.

"It was very competitive and it made me feel strong." Nina Y4

Our Year 1 and Year 2 children enjoyed their second session of the Five Ways to Wellbeing programme this week, supported by Beckie and Liz from the Mental Health Support Team.

This week's theme was 'Mood Through Movement', with children exploring how moving our bodies can have a positive impact on our feelings and emotional wellbeing. Through a range of engaging activities, the children discovered how being active can help us feel happier, calmer and more energised.

It is so important that children begin to recognise the connection between their physical and emotional wellbeing from an early age. These sessions are helping to equip our children with simple, practical strategies they can use to look after themselves and their feelings.

This week, our Year 6 children had the exciting opportunity to connect with pupils from Circle of Seasons Charter School in Pennsylvania, USA, through a live call as part of Earthrise:Live, an initiative that brings primary school classes together through virtual global meet-ups.

What a wonderful opportunity for our children to make connections beyond Dawpool and discover more about the lives and experiences of children growing up in another part of the world! Experiences such as these help our pupils to develop a greater understanding of the wider world, celebrate similarities and differences, and recognise that,



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although we may live thousands of miles apart, we are all part of one global community.

This is a lovely example of our school vision in action, inspiring our children to look beyond their own experiences, develop curiosity about the world and grow as thoughtful, respectful global citizens.

"The call was really good. We answered their questions and they answered ours. Then we talked about our vision and they talked about their school and what it is like there." Seren W Y6

"I enjoyed the opportunity to meet with the school in Pennsylvania and it was nice to find out the similarities and differences. I would love to speak to them again!" Josh Y6

I also have some news to share with our school community this week, although it is news that comes with very mixed emotions.

After many years of dedicated service to Dawpool, our much-loved and highly valued colleague, Mandy Parr, has made the very difficult decision to retire.

Mandy has been such an important part of the Dawpool family, and I know that her retirement will be felt by children, colleagues and families alike. Her kindness, care and commitment to our school have made a lasting difference, and she will be very sadly missed by the whole Dawpool community.

Whilst we are incredibly sad at the thought of saying goodbye, we also recognise that the time has come for Mandy to enjoy a very well-deserved retirement. We hope that the next chapter brings her lots of happiness, relaxation and, of course, plenty of leisurely lunches, hot chocolates and cake!

I know you will join me in wishing her every happiness as she prepares for this exciting new chapter.

As we reach the end of another week, I would like to thank our children for the kindness, thoughtfulness and enthusiasm they continue to show. Anti-Bullying Week has reminded us that even the smallest actions can have a significant impact on somebody else's day.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. I hope you all have a lovely and restful weekend.

Warmest wishes,

Mrs Helen Griffiths



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NEXT WEEK

Monday 23rd November

Lunchtime Chess Club

3.30 - 4.15pm Choir

Tuesday 24th November

Forest school for Y4

3.30-4.30pm Lego Club Y4 & Y5

3.30-4.30pm Dance Club Y2 & Y3

Wednesday 25th November

3.30-4.30pm Chess Club

WW2 Workshop Y6

Thursday 26th November

3.30-4.15pm Netball Club

Friday 27th November

ECO Team Claypits Visit

4.30 Choir - Irby Lights Switch On



Monday- Lunchtime Chess Club
Choir Y3 Y4 Y5 Y6
Tuesday- Lego Club Y5 Y6
Dance Club Y2 Y3
Wednesday- KS2 Chess club.
KS2 Girls Football
Thursday- Netball Club



It is the turn of Y4 for Forest School next week.

Poppy Sale

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Poppy Appeal. We are thrilled to have raised £267.53 through our poppy sale. What a fantastic achievement and a wonderful way to show our support and remembrance.

Do you own any pre-loved Christmas clothing?



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On Thursday 26th November, there will be a Pre-Loved Christmas clothing sale at school from 3pm.

We're asking for donations of pre-loved Christmas jumpers and any other festive clothing - for children and adults, all sizes welcome.

All money raised from the sale will go towards funding the Irby Village Christmas Lights.

If you have nothing to donate but would like to contribute to Irby Christmas Lights please send that into the School Office and we will add it to anything we make on the sale of the clothing.

Thank you to those who have already donated. Can we have any further donations by Tuesday?

Many thanks.



Our new Junior FoDS representatives were voted for by their classmates and teachers last week, with the successful representatives announced on Friday.

We held our first Junior FoDS meeting today, and it was wonderful to see how excited and enthusiastic the children were about being involved!

They came along full of fantastic fundraising ideas, and we were so impressed by their creativity and enthusiasm.

We're really looking forward to working alongside them to bring their ideas to life and make this another fantastic year of fundraising for our school.

Our Christmas Card Shop is now closed. Thank you to everyone who placed an order and supported this fundraiser.

It was lovely to see all the children's wonderful and creative designs! All profits from the orders will go towards our fundraising efforts for this school year.

Before half term, we held our Crazy Hair Day, which raised £138.84.

A big thank you to everyone who took part, showed off their crazy hairstyles and kindly donated. We loved seeing all the brilliant creations!



Rainbow Raffle Non-Uniform – Friday 20th November - TODAY



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A huge thank you to everyone who brought in their Rainbow Raffle donations. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

If you couldn't bring your donation in today, please drop it off at the school office on Monday so it can be added to the correct class hamper.

A special thank you to our wonderful parent volunteers who are helping to put together this year's fantastic hampers!

Raffle tickets will be available to purchase at the Christmas Bazaar and during the children's Christmas performances.

Thank you for your continued support in making this year's Rainbow Raffle a success!

Class Donations – Friday 27th November

To help support our Christmas events we would be very grateful for your help with donating a few items:

F1 & F2 – Sweets

Y1 & Y2 – Chocolates

Y3 & Y4 – Lucky Dip Toys

Y5 & Y6 – Wrapping Paper

We also need pre-loved teddies for our extremely popular Teddy Tombola. Please bring these in from Friday 27th November and drop them into the school office.

If you are crafty, we would be very grateful for handmade items to add to our Christmas Shop which is always very popular with the children.

We also need pre-loved teddies for our extremely popular Teddy Tombola, as well as Christmas Craft for our Christmas Shop.

Please bring donations in on Friday 27th November and drop them in the office.



Wednesday 2nd December

The last few places for the Christmas Wreath Making Workshop are available to book online:

https://friends-of-dawpool-school.sumupstore.com/product/christmas-wreath-workshop



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Friday 4th December

Save the date for our Christmas Bazaar on Friday 4th December.

Tokens are now available online for you to buy for your children to spend at the bazaar, please use the link below and include your child's name and year group in the name field or notes section when ordering:

https://friends-of-dawpool-school.sumupstore.com/product/christmas-bazaar-tokens-10-or-20
Cash can also be used on the day.



Tuesday 15th December

This year, FoDS will be hosting Elfridges at school on Tuesday 15th December.

All children will have the opportunity to choose and buy a Christmas gift for their Mum, Dad or other significant people in their lives, as well as siblings and pets.

There are multiple options to choose from - this is just to make sure we have enough gifts for all children to buy for their loved ones.

1 token will be allocated for every gift purchased online and this will be given to the children on the day - a list of everyone who has purchased will also be available to ensure no one is missed.

PREORDER ONLINE ONLY using the link below:

https://friends-of-dawpool-school.sumupstore.com/product/elfridges

Follow FoDs on Instagram here-





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CHURCH NEWS

Forthcoming Services

Morning Prayer St Chad's Prayer Room 9.00am MOST Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays

(check with Revd Jane for cancellations due to other meetings or commitments)

EVERY Wednesday 10.30am HC at St Chads

Sunday 22nd Nov	9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's 10.30am Holy Communion with Junior Church St Chads
Sunday 29th Nov	9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's 10.30am Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's
Sunday 6th Dec	9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's 10.30am Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's

For more information about Services and events at St Bartholomew's Thurstaston and St Chad's Irby, please visit:
https://www.thurstaston.org.uk/
Email:
office@thurstaston.org.uk
Facebook:
https://www.facebook.com/stchadsstbarts/
Twitter:
https://twitter.com/StBartsStChads