

DAWPOOL CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

... The Abundant Life that Jesus Offers

DAWPOOL NEWS ISSUE 18 12th June 2026

School Vision: *The Dawpool community are united in their ambition to create a school which embodies the person, love and work of Jesus Christ: a school which enables Christian values to flourish and where all children may experience the abundant life that Jesus offers.*

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another busy and rewarding week at Dawpool, with children continuing to embrace new opportunities and represent our school so positively both in and out of the classroom.

We are delighted that the launch of OPAL has been such a success. What a fantastic start to our OPAL journey! Although it rained non-stop, the children did not seem to notice as they threw themselves into their play with enthusiasm and excitement. In fact, many only realised quite how wet they were when they came back inside and discovered their socks were rather soggy! Experiences such as these are an important part of developing resilience and understanding consequences. These are valuable life lessons which help children develop independence and confidence.

It would have been wrong to postpone the launch, as one of the key principles of OPAL is to reduce the need for wet playtimes and encourage children to enjoy the outdoors in all but the most extreme weather conditions. It was simply unfortunate that our launch day happened to coincide with what must have been one of the wettest days in June! Nevertheless, it was wonderful to see so many smiling faces embracing the opportunity to play, explore and have fun in the rain.

A huge thank you goes to our Play Team (formerly known as the Midday Assistants), who were

absolutely fantastic in supporting and encouraging the children throughout the day. I would also like to thank all of our staff for their enthusiasm, positivity, energy and encouragement as we launched this exciting new chapter for our school. It has been a pleasure to see everyone embracing the opportunities that OPAL brings and I am excited to see how it continues to develop over the coming months.

"It's been the best day ever" Grace Y1

"It was so nice to see everyone so happy" Charlie Y5

"I wanted to thank Mrs Ham because it was the best playtime ever" Arlo Y1

"I liked that there's so many things to play with" Rosanna Y2

"I liked the pipes" Sophie Y3

One final observation from the day came from our kitchen staff, who commented on just how hungry the children were at lunchtime! It seems all that outdoor play, puddle jumping and adventuring certainly worked up some impressive appetites.

This exciting start to OPAL would not have been possible without the generous donations and support we have received from our families and wider school community. Your kindness and willingness to contribute resources has already helped us create new opportunities for our children, and we are

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incredibly grateful. Thank you for your continued support as we develop our outdoor play provision and bring our OPAL vision to life.



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on wildlife and the environment. The children were fantastic ambassadors for our school and demonstrated a real passion for protecting our local environment.

'We learned a lot. I liked all the different activities - there are so many areas to eco.' Freddie

'I loved doing dolphin rescue. I didn't know what to do but now I can help wildlife more.' Maisie

'I liked how we learnt so much about recycling and upcycling.' Leah



Yesterday, members of our Eco Group visited Thurstaston Beach alongside pupils from other local schools to take part in a beach litter pick. Throughout the day, they participated in a range of activities which helped deepen their understanding of recycling, pollution and the impact that litter can have

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The Eco Group have been working incredibly hard with Mrs Croft throughout the year and are preparing to submit an application for Dawpool to receive the Eco-Schools Green Flag Award. This is a wonderful achievement and reflects the commitment our children have shown towards making a positive difference within our school and wider community. We are very proud of all their efforts and look forward to hearing the outcome of the application.

Our Year 5 and Year 6 pupils have spent their afternoons this week attending swimming lessons at Calday. They have approached every session with enthusiasm, determination and positivity. Learning new skills and building confidence in the water can sometimes be challenging, but the children have shown tremendous resilience, courage and kindness towards one another throughout the week. They have been excellent Dawpool Ambassadors and I am

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incredibly proud of each and every one of them.

Preparations are now well underway for our Summer Fair, which is rapidly approaching. This event is one of the highlights of our school calendar and, importantly, our biggest fundraising event of the year. The money raised helps us provide additional opportunities, experiences and resources for our children that would not otherwise be possible. Most recently, fundraising support has helped us begin our exciting OPAL journey, which will transform playtimes for all children.

Events such as the Summer Fair simply would not be possible without the dedication and hard work of FoDs and the wonderful support of our families. If you are able to spare some time to help before, during or after the event, we would be extremely grateful. Every contribution, no matter how small, helps to ensure the fair is both a memorable occasion for our children and a fundraising success for our school community so please sign up.

I would also like to draw parents' attention to recent statutory guidance from the Department for Education regarding school attendance. While penalty notices are ordinarily issued once the national threshold for unauthorised absence has been met (10 sessions, equivalent to 5 school days), Local Authorities retain the discretion to issue a penalty notice before this threshold is reached in specific circumstances.

This discretionary power may be used where there is

evidence that a parent is deliberately seeking to avoid the national threshold, for example through multiple periods of term-time leave that fall just below the threshold, repeated unauthorised absences for birthdays, family events or other non-essential activities, or patterns of absence that indicate intentional avoidance of attendance requirements.

Where such circumstances apply, the Local Authority, following discussion with the school, may determine that issuing a penalty notice is appropriate and proportionate. Schools may also question the reasons provided for an absence and request further evidence where the information supplied does not adequately explain the absence. This helps ensure that decisions are fair, consistent and in line with statutory guidance and the Local Authority's Code of Conduct.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support, encouragement and partnership. By working together, we can continue to provide the very best opportunities and experiences for all of our children. If you have any questions, concerns or worries, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

We are incredibly fortunate to have such a supportive school community.

Warm regards,

Mrs Helen Griffiths

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NEXT WEEK

Monday 15th June

3.30-4.15pm Drama Club

3.30-4.30pm Summer Olympics F2-Y2

Tuesday 16th June

Lunchtime Cricket Club for Y5 and Y6

3.30-4.30pm Y3/4 Art Club

Wednesday 17th June

3.30-4.30pm Chess Club

Thursday 18th June

3.30-4.15pm Choir

3.30-4.15pm Drama Club

Y4/5/6 Netball Match

Friday 19th June



It will be Year 4 for Forest School next Wednesday.



Monday-Lunchtime Chess Club
Monday-Drama Club & Summer Olympics
Tuesday-Lunchtime Cricket Club Y5&Y6-
Art Club Y3&Y4
Wednesday - KS2 Chess Club
Thursday-KS2 Choir Club & Y5/6 Netball Club &
Drama Club

Uniform Order

We will be placing our final uniform order of this term very shortly so if you need anything for September, please get your order in by **Wednesday 24th June**. Thank you.

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ALL THESE LISTINGS
AVAILABLE ONLINE
TO BUY NOW!

 Boo's Zoo - Summer Fair £4.00 MORE VARIANTS AVAILABLE	 Father's Day Sale £3.00	 PRE-ORDER Dawpool Primary School 2026 Tea Towel £6.00	 Tokens for Summer Fair £5.00 MORE VARIANTS AVAILABLE	 UNLIMITED INFLATABLES WRIST BAND £4.00
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Buy Now

We have a full online shop at the moment where you can buy Father's Day Gifts, pre-order your Dawpool 2026 Tea Towel and get all the essentials for this year's Summer Fair. Take a look on the below link:

<https://friends-of-dawpool-school.sumupstore.com/products>

FATHER'S DAY SALE
THURSDAY 18TH JUNE

TO CELEBRATE ALL THE FATHERS AND MARVELLOUS MEN IN OUR LIVES.

£3.00 PER GIFT

BUY ONLINE USING WHATSAPP LINK

Father's Day Sale

All the children will have the opportunity to choose a gift for their father or other marvellous men in their lives in school on Thursday 18th June. Gifts are £3.00 each.

Please use the link below to pre-order online.

<https://friends-of-dawpool-school.sumupstore.com/product/fathers-day-sale>

Deadline for ordering is Monday 15th June by 9pm

Summer Fair Non-Uniform Day

We are holding a non-uniform day on Friday 19th June in exchange for donations for the Summer Fair. A leaflet with more information is below and has been sent on WhatsApp groups.

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NON-UNIFORM DAY

FRIDAY 19TH JUNE

We are holding a non-uniform day on **Friday 19th June** in exchange for donations for the Summer Fair. Please see below for the specific requests from each year group as well as other donation requests. Many thanks in advance for your support.

F1, F2, Y1 & Y2: LUCKY DIP TOYS – NON-UNIFORM DAY – 19TH JUNE

Please bring in girl's/boy's/unisex toys suitable for the lucky dip on 19th June. Suggestions for suitable items include small cars, crayons, notepads, bouncy balls, non-perishable sweets, hair accessories etc. Please do not send in anything unsuitable for children.

Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6: BOTTLE TOMBOLA – NON-UNIFORM DAY – 19TH JUNE

Please bring in a bottle of something for the bottle tombola on 19th June. Suggestions for suitable items would include alcohol, soft drinks, food, toiletries, etc. (Please take alcohol directly to the school office).

BRIC-A-BRAC

We are once again collecting for the Bric-A-Brac stall. Anything from small stationery items, books, games, household items to old bikes or scooters. (No DVDs please). However, please do not bring in until **the week commencing 29th June**, due to limited storage.

TEDDY TOMBOLA

We are collecting teddies for our very popular Teddy Tombola. However, please do not bring in until **the week commencing 29th June**, due to limited storage.
PLEASE WASH AND DRY BEFORE BRINGING TO SCHOOL

CAKES

Please bring in cake donations for the Summer Fair Cake Stall on either **Friday 3rd July** from 3.30pm or preferably on the morning of **Saturday 4th July**. Storage is limited & we are unable to refrigerate.

SWEETS/CHOCOLATE

Please bring in any Party/Fun Size Sweets and Chocolate donations on **Friday 19th June**.

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT!

Summer Fair Volunteers Needed

To help us fill all the volunteer slots at the Summer Fair, we need one person from every school family to spare just 1 hour of their time.

Can't make it yourself? No problem: grandparents, aunts, uncles, and older siblings are all very welcome to volunteer instead.

Please sign up using the link below:

<https://signup.com/go/ypQyTqj>

We can't do it without you – thank you for your support.

Water Safety

As the weather warms up, many families will be spending more time near water – whether at the coast, rivers, lakes, or canals. While this can be a great way to enjoy the outdoors, it's important to remember that water can be unpredictable and dangerous.

It's important that everyone is aware of a few simple steps to stay safe:

Know the risks – conditions can change quickly, and it's easier than you might think to get into difficulty in open water.

Always supervise children and young people closely around water – even if they can swim.

Avoid jumping into unknown water – there may be hidden hazards, and sudden entry can lead to cold water shock.

Teach children what to do if they get into trouble:

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Float to Live – tilt your head back, keep your ears submerged, relax and gently move your hands and feet to stay afloat while you control your breathing.

Know how to call for help – in an emergency, dial 999 or 112 and ask for the Coastguard.

Talking to children about water safety before visiting any location near water can make a vital difference.

Further information and resources

Parents and carers, can find more guidance and free resources from the RNLI and Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service:

Water safety advice and guidance:
<https://rnli.org/safety>

Float to Live advice: <https://rnli.org/safety/float>

Education and teaching resources for children and young people: <https://rnli.org/youth-education>

<https://www.merseyfire.gov.uk/safety-advice/community-safety/water-safety/>

Summer Reading Challenge

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www.dawpool-ce.eschools.co.uk

0151 648 3412

[@DawpoolCofE](https://www.instagram.com/DawpoolCofE)

www.thurstaston.org.uk



Turn up the volume on reading this summer!

This summer, The Reading Agency and Wirral Libraries invite children to discover the joy of reading through

Read to the Beat!

the music themed Summer Reading Challenge 2026.

With a fantastic collection of books inspired by music from around the world, children can explore stories, poetry, graphic novels, and non fiction for all reading levels.

Best of all, books are FREE to borrow from the library.

As part of the National Year of Reading, libraries are encouraging families to make reading part of their summer adventures.

Children can sign up at the library, set their reading goals, and enjoy rewards along the way.

Sign up at your local library or visit www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk to begin your adventure.



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This year any child who completes the main, 4-11 years old, Read to the Beat! Challenge will also have their name entered into a prize draw for a chance to win a prize. Seven names will be randomly chosen to win: -

- 1 of 5 Chromebook Laptops
- 1 Family Ticket to the 2026 Panto courtesy of The Floral Pavilion
- 1 THREE Month Family Membership to Invigor8 courtesy of Active Wirral Leisure

There are two school trophies to be won also! One to the school which has the most children signing up to the Challenge, and the other to the school which has the most children completing the Challenge.

Come on Dawpool!



Learn the piano in school

- Outstanding specialist music tuition
- Independently rated an "outstandingly effective service" offering "outstanding value"
- Access to ensembles and performances
- Tutors are DBS checked and first class musicians
- Award-winning not-for-profit organisation with a friendly and efficient team

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CHURCH NEWS

Sunday 14 th June	9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's 10.30am All Age Service at St Chad's
Sunday 21 st June	9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's 10.30am Morning Worship at St Bartholomew's
Sunday 28 th June	9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's 10.30am Holy Communion with Junior Church at St Chad's

For more information about Services and events at St Bartholomew's Thurstaston and St Chad's Irby,

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please visit:

<https://www.thurstaston.org.uk/>

Email:

office@thurstaston.org.uk

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/stchadsstbarts/>

Twitter:

<https://twitter.com/StBartsStChads>

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