

NEWSLETTER

July 2018



*Learning at the heart
igniting possibility!*

Dosthill Primary Academy Part of the Fierté Multi Academy Trust

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**Placing children's rights
at the heart of our Trust**

Headteacher: Mr T. Hand

Deputy Head: Mrs C Keay

Bursar: Mrs S Marriott

This will be the final Newsletter of a momentous academic year in the history of the school. Becoming part of the Fierté Multi-Academy Trust in January marked a significant change for the school which has happily brought nothing but positive outcomes for children, staff, governors and hopefully, for you as parents too. The recent **Fierté Festival**—a week of arts events – was a huge success. Children from Years 2 and 5 had the opportunity to showcase their learning along with pupils from the other schools within the Trust, at Drayton Manor. Colour-themed poems, songs also related to colours (our contribution was *Yellow* by Cold Play), Bhangra dancing, steel pans and the Bake Off were all shared. It was fabulous to see the children from across the schools coming together to celebrate their learning and to get to know one another. We are immensely grateful to the Trust for this fabulous opportunity and for meeting the cost of the venue, events held over the course of the week and the transport to and from Drayton Manor. We are already planning to do something similar next year, bigger and even better if that is possible!

Back in September, I encouraged everyone to 'Dream Big' and I know that there will be many children, staff and parents who have achieved things they may not have had thought possible at the beginning of the year. Simple things like achieving your pen licence or fountain pen can be enormous for children. It still brings me great joy to see what children can achieve as a result of being inspired, hard work, perseverance and pushing themselves beyond what they might have felt possible.

The end of an academic year always brings staffing changes. Mrs Burke has been appointed as Senior Assistant Head Teacher from September 2018. Mrs McCabe has been appointed Assistant Head Teacher and will continue to be responsible

for Early Years. Mrs Walker, currently on maternity leave will be returning whilst Mr Bates will be leaving due to the end of his contract. Miss Nicholls and Miss Manavar will be joining the school as teachers. Mrs Marriott, School Bursar, will be leaving to work in the Central Team for the Multi-Academy Trust, returning to Dosthill for one day a week from September. Mrs Byrne, Administrative Assistant will be leaving due to Mrs Groves returning from her maternity leave.

Mrs Gresty (Nursery Teacher) and Miss Lynch are leaving to take up posts elsewhere. Mrs Roadway, Inclusion Leader, is returning from Monday 9th July working Monday to Wednesday each week. Finally, two of our long-standing and loyal teaching support staff, Mrs Webster and Mrs Oakley are both retiring. We thank all those who are leaving for all they have contributed to the school and hope you will retain fond memories of working at the school.

Our wonderful crossing patrol lady, Mrs Stephanie Bowton, will also be leaving at the end of this term. She is very much an unsung hero and I know someone cherished by children and parents. She has been at her post for several decades and will be sadly missed. We wish her well for her retirement and hope she gets to enjoy her well earned rest fulfilling her remaining dreams too.

Like these others, I will be moving on but hope that all within the school community continue to 'Dream Big' and to see where their wonderful imaginations, persistence and commitment to doing things right can take them. **It has been a genuine honour and privilege to serve as the Head Teacher of Dosthill Primary School; it will always be the highlight of my professional career and I will never forget the children who it has been an absolute joy to know.** I wish the whole school community all the very best for the future.

Upcoming Events

6th July	School reports issued
9th July	Parents' Evening
10th July	Year 5 CSI Day at Kingsbury High School
11th July	Parents' Evening
11th July	New Nursery intake stay and play 2:00-2:30
13th July	In-school Transition Day
13th July	New Nursery intake stay and play 9:30-10:00
13th July	New Nursery intake stay and play 10:30-11:00
14th July	F2DS Summer Fair
18th July	Year 6 Prom 6:00-9:00
20th July	Last day of term

Term dates

*School Term ends—Friday 20th July
Inset day—Monday 3rd September
Autumn term starts—Tuesday 4th September*



Staying in touch

You can find our website at: www.dosthill.staffs.sch.uk
You can also follow us on Twitter at: [Learn@DosthillPS](https://twitter.com/Learn@DosthillPS)
We also have a **free App** that can be found on the App Store or Google Play. Simply search for Dosthill Primary School.

To register for free text and email alerts regarding school closures, please visit
<http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/CustomerAlerts>

Please register for ParentMail if you have not yet done so in order to receive important communications via e-mail from us.

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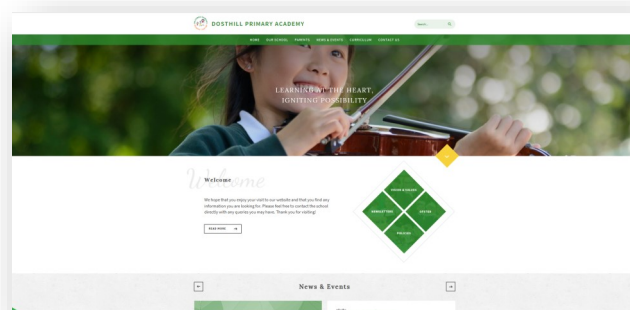
Deputy Head: Mrs C Keay

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Please take a look at our new website:

<http://www.dosthill.org/>

This includes the new photographs of children taken recently and our most up to date information.



Fierté Prayer

During assemblies, we say the following prayer together which is used across the schools within the Trust:

**Thank you God for the gift of our school
Where we know we are loved and cared for.
Help us to work together,
To help one another,
To show respect and kindness to others,
To make all who come to school feel welcome,
To pray for those who are less fortunate than
ourselves.**

Amen

When the prayer is said together, children are asked to say 'Amen' only if they wish to and want to commit to the words.

You are reminded that the Department for Education (DfE) states that each pupil must take part in a daily act of collective worship unless they have been withdrawn by their parents. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from the daily act of collective worship if they wish. Information on the right of withdrawal can be found in paragraphs 83-87 of the DfE's guidance on collective worship. Parents are not obliged to give a reason for requesting to withdraw their child. However, paragraph 87 suggests that to avoid misunderstandings, headteachers may find it helpful to establish with the parent:

- The elements of worship the parent would object to the child taking part in
- The practical implications of withdrawing the child from collective worship
- Whether the parent will require any advance notice of such worship and, if so, how much

Should you wish to exercise your right to withdraw your child from collective worship, please arrange to meet with the Head Teacher.

Annual reports – further information

We hope you have found your child's report sufficiently detailed but also readily accessible so you have a clear picture of your child's achievement this academic year.

The ticks showing the children's attainment for reading, writing, mathematics and science represent what children had reached by May 2018. *Below secure* would be the expectation at this point. These assessments are currently being updated by teachers with *At secure* being the expectation within each year group for the end of the academic year. Please see your child's class teacher to obtain this data. For a small number of children who are attaining above their year group, their data may currently show working below year group expectations; this is an issue with the software used, please speak to your child's class teacher if you believe he or she may be in this category.

Details of the topics and curriculum children have completed over the course of the year are available on our school website:

<http://www.dosthill.staffs.sch.uk/learning/>.

You can also find here further details of the skills and capabilities of Building Learning Power that are expected of each year group.

We request that the final page of the report is returned to school as evidence of you having received and read it. *Please also add comments if you wish to.* Staff enjoy reading these as it is an opportunity to receive feedback. I also read all acknowledgements that include a comment. These are not returned but retained on your child's school file. You may want to complete this after you have attended Parents' Evening. *I am sure you will appreciate the immense effort that has gone into producing and compiling the reports. We look forward to receiving your feedback on your child's particular report.*

Summer Competition



The Dosthill and Two Gates Residents' Association is proud to promote a painting competition for the pupils of Dosthill Primary Academy. Supported by Kew Gardens, through their generous donation of wild flower seeds for The Broom, you are invited to paint a picture of...



‘your favourite wild flower’

Your picture must be A4 in size and in paints, pencils, felt tip etc. Please write your name, age and class on the back, and hand it to the Academy Reception by no later than TUESDAY 10th JULY 2018

There are three entry categories:

3 – 5 years of age

6 – 8 years of age

9 – 11 years of age

There will be prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each category

Entries will be shortlisted by a Judging Panel and the winners chosen at the Summer Fete on Saturday 14th July 2018. Prizes will be presented on the day.

GOOD LUCK EVERYONE!