NEWSLETTER 4 – 13th November 2026

'Let your light shine'

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DIARY DATES

DATE	ACTIVITY	ADDITIONAL INFO
Tuesday 17th November	Parents Evening	From 3.30pm (School Hall)
Wednesday 18th November	Parents Evening	From 3.30pm (School Hall)
Monday 23rd November	Odd Sock Day	Normal uniform to be worn with odd socks (No Fundraising)
Wednesday 25th November	FODHS School Disco	3.15pm till 5.30pm (School Hall) Tickets via Parentmail
Friday 27th November	**T D Day**	**School Closed to Children**
Friday 4th December	Christmas Bonanza	4.30pm till 6.30pm (More details to follow)
Tuesday 8th December	Rock Steady Concert	2.30pm (School Hall) For the parents of children who attend Rock Steady
Wednesday 9th December	Whole School Panto Trip	Wyvern Theatre (All day event)
Thursday 10th December	KS1 Nativity Dress Rehearsal	For children in school only
Friday 11th December	KS1 Nativity Performance	9.15am (School Hall)
Friday 11th December	Fox Class trip to Sheldon School to watch Matilda	Morning Event
Monday 14th December	KS1 Nativity Performance	1.45pm (School Hall)
Tuesday 15th December	Christmas Jumper Day & School Christmas Lunch	All day event
Wednesday 16th December	KS1 Christmas Party	1pm
Thursday 17th December	KS2 Christmas Party	1pm
Thursday 17th December	KS2 Carol Service Dress Rehearsal	9.15am (children in KS1 to watch - Not open to parents)
Friday 18th December	KS2 Carol Service	9.15am (Church) For parents in KS2 only
Friday 18th December	**End of Term 2**	**2.15pm**





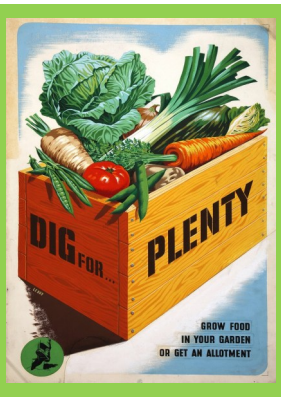
Owl Class Learning Afternoon

On the final Tuesday of Term 1, Owl Class were transported back to the 1940s during their WW2 Day.

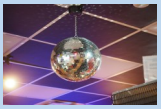
Dressed in costume, they invited their parents to a special VE Day party in the hall. Here, they were treated to a fun-filled afternoon of singing and dancing where everyone was invited to join in.

There was the opportunity to plant some seeds whilst thinking about Digging for Victory and everyone took part in a parents v children quiz which the children narrowly won!

A great afternoon was had by all and it was a great way to end the term.



School Disco



It's school disco time on Wednesday 25th November.

KS1 - 3.15pm till 4.15pm

KS2 - 4.30pm till 5.30pm

Put on your party clothes and get ready to dance!

Look out for a future parentmail for cost and further information about the school disco.

Wear it Pink

Thank you to everyone who donated.

We have raised £206 for Breast Cancer Now.

Parents Evening -

Tuesday 17th October or Wednesday 18th October

Parents' evenings will be held in the School hall where each teacher has a dedicated space.

Parents are asked to wait in Mole Classroom (entering via the external door on the playground near the small black gate).

While waiting, parents are able to look at their child's books**.**

We do ask that children do not attend as they are unable to go into the parents evening slot with you. There will be no one to supervise your child.

Year 6 children (Owl Class) are welcome to attend their appointment with their parents.

Thank You

We would like to say a big thank you to all of the wonderful items that have been donated for the Christmas hampers, these will be turned into great raffle prizes at the Christmas Bonanza.





Anti - Bulling Week -



In November it is National ANTI-BULLYING WEEK. As always at Derry Hill, we will be promoting diversity and kindness and we invite everyone to wear odd socks on Monday 23rd November to celebrate what makes us all unique.

The theme of the week this year is "BREAK THE SILENCE" and we hope to encourage children, young people and adults to talk openly, listen, and take action against bulling.

(**This is a non-fundraising event to raise awareness of anti – bulling. Odd socks to be worn with school uniform**)

Jack and The Beanstalk Pantomime



We are all getting excited for the whole school trip to the pantomime in Swindon on **Wednesday 9th December**.

Children are required to wear school uniform on the day.

Please remember to provide your child with a packed lunch and drink.

For children in Reception, Key Stage 1 and those in receipt of Free School Meals there is an option on school grid to select a picnic lunch (This will be listed shortly for you to choose), please could you make sure this is selected by Wednesday 2nd December to give the kitchen time to order in the food.

Drinks are not provided so you will need to send your child with a drink.

There is also an option for key stage 2 children to order a packed lunch as well.

We will be eating Lunch when we arrive back from the panto so please make sure that your child has a substantial snack for whilst they are there.

Thank You







Christmas Bonanza

We are fast approaching the FoDHS main fundraiser of the year, the Christmas Bonanza on Friday 4th December.

One of the most popular children's stalls we have is our Pocket Money Envelopes where children pay 50p and get to choose an envelope that contains an amount of money unknown to them until they open it. These are kindly donated and today your children will come home from school with either a silver or red coloured envelope to fill with change, seal and return to either their teacher or myself. Your child can decorate the envelope but ensure that no amount or names are on there.
If you aren't taking part this year please return the unused envelope so we can use it another time.

We also sell jars of sweets that are donated, if you fancy filling a jar with sweets they can be brought into school anytime from now and they will be on sale on the evening of the bonanza.

I do also have a couple of spaces left for anyone that would like a table to sell their own wares. Please come and see me or leave an email address with the office and I will contact you.



There is lots on offer for you to come and explore :

-Meet Santa in the Grotto
-Secret Santa (where children can choose a present for a family member and wrap it up)
-Stalls
-Festive food and mulled wine
-Raffle
And much much more!

Mrs Snow

OPAL Update

Huge thanks to all those parents that have taken time to complete and return the survey regarding play provision at Derry Hill School.
The data will go towards a baseline audit that will show huge progression as we navigate our way through the next 18 months implementing new, fun and exciting playtimes for all your children. There is still time to complete if you would like to share your views.

We are in the process of collecting resources, creating storage and planning play opportunities. Thank you again to those of you that have donated some fabulous equipment already using the clearly marked bins by the front entrance. To stop any overwhelming requests, we will ask for targeted donations going forward.
Therefore, next week our donation focus is **HATS;** sunhats, bowler hats, Trilby hats, fascinators, boaters, top hats, woolly hats, flat caps we are not fussy!

If you have any hats that are looking for a new home, please use the bins to deposit so the office is not overrun.



If anyone has any questions regarding the OPAL programme, has contacts or businesses that may be able to provide some equipment or questions about the donations we are looking for please use the following email address: OPAL@derryhill.wilts.sch.uk rather than going through the office. The inbox will be checked daily but a reply may take a couple of days.

Many thanks

OPAL working party