



Dobcroft Newsletter

13th December 2024



[Click here for school dinners](#)

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Whole school news [Y2 news](#) [Y1 news](#) [Foundation Stage 2 News](#) [Ladybirds News](#)

Applications for new starters in September 2025

Parents/carers of children that will be starting school in September 2025 need to apply for their place by the 15th January. [Click here](#) for the page on our website that has more information. [Click here](#) for Sheffield City Council's advice booklet.

Trip to Holy Trinity Church (Grove Road) – 20th December, Y2 parents ONLY

On the last day of term the whole school will be walking to Holy Trinity Church to sing Christmas songs. Due to limited space in the church, parents of Y2 children **only** are invited to join us at the church from 9.30am (we will be walking down immediately after registration so timings may vary slightly). **We will also need parent helpers from each class to support the walk to/from the church.** Parent helpers will also be permitted to stay and watch. Please let your class teacher know if you are able to help.

Dress Down Day – 20th December

On the last day of term we are having a non-uniform day. **Please donate £1 via Parent Pay.** All contributions will be allocated to FODS and currently we are raising money to buy established plants to add to our new area at the front of the school and a sail sun-shade to replace the willow trees that blew down in the storms.

Staffing update – Hedgehogs

We are sure you will join us in welcoming back Mrs Blackburn to Hedgehogs class from next week as part of a phased return to work over the next month. Mrs Blackburn will be working full time from the week commencing 27th January. From this date, Miss Sutherland will work Monday, Tuesday and alternate Wednesday and Mrs Blackburn will work alternate Wednesdays, Thursday and Friday.

Mindfulness Holiday Activity from Beacon House

[Click here](#) for a winter walk bingo activity you can share over the Christmas break.

Sheffield United Christmas Camp

Book on using the venue link below:



LU Westfield – [Book 24/25 LU Westfield Christmas Camp from Sheffield United](#)

LU Graves – [Book 24/25 LU Graves Christmas Camp from Sheffield United](#)

LU Thornccliffe – [Book 24/25 LU Thornccliffe Christmas Camp from Sheffield United](#)

Handsworth – [Book 24/25 Handsworth Christmas Camp from Sheffield United](#)

They will also be running a girls only camp across both days.

LU Westfield Girls Only – [Book 24/25 GIRLS ONLY LU Westfield Christmas Camp from Sheffield United](#)

LU Graves Girls Only – [Book 24/25 GIRLS ONLY LU Graves Christmas Camp from Sheffield United](#)

SEND Coffee Morning resources

Thank you to all of those who attended the SEND coffee morning on 12th December. We hope you found it supportive and informative. We discussed, amongst other things, how to manage Christmas with children with SEND needs who may find some aspects of celebrating Christmas a challenge. Please go to our [website](#) to find the Coffee Morning Powerpoint with some survival tips and hints for parents!

[Click here for term dates 24–25](#)

Dec 2024

Y1 Performance

16th – 9.30am

17th – 2.30pm

18th – 9.30am

17th

Y1 Christmas Party
(send your child with a small snack box)

18th

Christmas Lunch

18th

Y2 Christmas Party

Dec 2024

18th

Ladybirds
Christmas Party
(beginning of the week children)

19th

Ladybirds
Christmas Party
(end of the week children)

19th

FS2 Christmas Party

20th

Dress down day

Ladybirds Christmas Party

Please send your child to school with a small labelled snack box (2–3 snacks and a drink) that they can eat as part of our Christmas party celebrations. We have a number of children with allergies, and remember, no nuts please! Children are welcome to wear Christmas jumpers or party clothes!

Wednesday 18th – Mon–Wed Children **only**
Thursday 19th – Full time and Wed– Fri children

FS2 Parent Transition Questionnaire

We value your feedback about the transition process for our FS2 children, both positive and any areas we can improve. Your comments form part of our school improvement cycle and we will inform you of any changes once we have analysed your feedback.

Please [Click here to complete the survey](#).

FS2 Christmas Party Thursday 19th December (pm)

Please send your child to school with a small labelled snack box (2–3 snacks and a drink) that they can eat as part of our Christmas party celebrations. We have a number of children with allergies, and remember, no nuts please!

FS2 parent helpers for the Church visit on Friday 20th December

On the last day of term the whole school will be walking to Holy Trinity Church to sing Christmas songs. We will be walking down immediately after registration at around 9am. **We will need parent helpers from each class to support the walk to/from the church.** Parent helpers will also be permitted to stay and watch. Please let your class teacher know if you are able to help.

Y1 Christmas Party 17th December (morning)

Please send your child to school with a small labelled snack box (2–3 snacks and a drink) that they can eat as part of our Christmas party celebrations. We have a number of children with allergies, and remember, no nuts please!
If your child would like to wear a Christmas jumper / colour or something 'Christmassy' for the party they can come into school wearing this.

Y2 Christmas Party 18th December (afternoon)

Please send your child to school with a small labelled snack box (2–3 snacks and a drink) that they can eat as part of our Christmas party celebrations. We have a number of children with allergies, and remember, no nuts please!
If your child would like to wear a Christmas jumper / colours or something 'Christmassy' for the party they can bring this along and change into these just before the party.

Second hand uniform

As part of our drive to be an environmentally aware school our Eco Team sell good quality, second hand uniform at school events. You can now also contact Gemma Bottery (a parent member of our Eco Team) on ecoteam@dobcroft-inf.sheffield.sch.uk to request specific items. Gemma will monitor this email on a weekly basis, so if you have suddenly realised that you need more school jumpers, please get in touch with her. You can also buy school logo badges from the office which can be sewn onto garments of the appropriate school colours at a cost of £3.50.

Attendance & Punctuality

Attendance target 2024–25: **97.5%**. Currently school is at **97.3%** (97.4% last week). Remember reduced % means 'Learning time lost'!
A reminder that the chief medical officer encourages children to attend school if they have a cold, however if they have sickness, or diarrhoea, they need to remain absent for **48 hours** after the last time this occurs. If your child has a temperature, they need to remain off school. Attendance as often as possible is important for your child.
Punctuality: It is important that you aim to be in school for the start time. This is **8.55am** in Foundation Stage and **9am** in Y1 and Y2. This is the time your child needs to be on the

20th

Whole school trip to Holy Trinity Church – Y2 parents (only) invited to join (parent/carer helpers required to help with the walk to/from the church)

20th

End of term

Jan 2025

6th

First day back of Spring 1 term

22nd

Whole school parent share a story 3.10pm–3.30pm
FS1 (Ladybirds) 9am or 3.10pm

Feb 2025

7th

Whole school Number Day

carpet, things put away ready for register and to learn, not when you are arriving at the entrance. Arriving late is disruptive to both your own child and the rest of the class. It is also likely your child will have missed some key learning for the day.
This week **0.50%** of children were marked as late.

Ask me about...

Each week your class teacher will update this area with information about what your child has been learning during the week so that you can ask them questions about it.

Ladybirds

We are very proud of all of the children in Ladybirds for their fantastic performance last week. We hope you enjoyed their singing show!

This week the children have enjoyed creating their own Christmas wishlists and writing or mark making the names of the items they have chosen. We have enjoyed making Christmas cards and wreaths in the making area, and using rainbow talk to describe different scents relating to Christmas such as cinnamon and clove.

Next week we are looking forward to making animal safe reindeer food and having a hot chocolate treat as we have collected all of our bugs for a class treat following our school values and class charter.

Foundation Stage Two (Otters, Mice and Badgers)

A great big well done to all of the children for their performances of our Winter concert. We were so proud of every single one of them, and know that you all are too.

This week the children have really enjoyed visiting the pantomime 'Robin Hood'. They joined in with cheering, singing, and boo-ing in all of the right places and had a brilliant morning. We are excited to bring our pantomime experience into our learning after the Christmas holidays.

In maths, we have been counting, ordering and finding more and less with numerals to 5. We have been practising explaining our thinking in full sentences.

We wrote recipes for reindeer food and made this using biodegradable glitter, made Christmas cards and calendars, and decorations for our Christmas trees. We are excited to share these with you when we bring them home next week.

Each class has earned their bee treat this week for following our school values and class charters. The children have been voting for their class treats, and can't wait for them to happen next week!

Thank you all for your continued support this half term!

Y1 (Hedgehogs, Squirrels and Foxes)

English – We have been learning how to use "and" to extend sentences and make them even more interesting for the reader

Maths – We have continued our learning on subtracting and addition using the crossing out method and we have used our problem solving skills to solve both addition and subtraction equations.

History – We have been comparing our grandparent's toys with our own and identifying differences and similarities.

Science – Considering signs of winter and comparing it to Autumn.

Music – We have done our dress rehearsal for our Christmas play.

Computing – Creating digital paintings

Y2 (Woodpeckers, Kingfishers and Eagles)

English – We have written our setting description of a winter wonderland, using our senses to think about what we imagine we would see, hear or feel.

Maths – We have identified vertical lines of symmetry in 2D shapes.

Science – We carried out an experiment to find out which material would protect an egg the best.

Computing – Anti bullying – we talked about who we could tell if we saw something online we didn't like.

Music – We have been practising our Christmas songs and performed at Ranulf Court and St Luke's Hospice.