



Autumn Term Week 9 – 11th November 2025

Dear Parent/Carers,

Academy Review- Primary Phase

Twice a year, our school takes part in a review led by Academy leaders and senior leaders from other schools within our Trust. These reviews help ensure that we are continuing to improve and remain focused on the right areas for development.

We were delighted to receive such positive feedback from the review of our primary phase, which took place yesterday. Reviewers were impressed by the high levels of focus and engagement seen across the school. Reading was highlighted as a particular strength, with both our Read Write Inc. approach and our new reading comprehension strategy praised—an impressive achievement for the first half term of its introduction.

Pupil behaviour was described as *impeccable* and children were eager to share their love of reading. We are extremely proud of our pupils and staff for their hard work and commitment, which continue to make such a difference every day. As always, we have been given a specific focus to work on to help us continue improving and we look forward to building on this positive feedback as we move forward.

Have a lovely week.

Mrs J Tierney and the Primary Phase team



Our future successes are built on the work we do today.

Dates for the diary

November

12th – Primary Open Morning @ 9.30am

13th – Beagle House Muffi

18th & 19th – Parents' Evening

19th – Reception class cinema trip

20th – Y6 trip to Sainsburys

December

1st – Non-pupil day

4th – Primary Open Morning @ 9.30am

9th – Rainbow Theatre Performance

10th – EYFS Nativity @ 9.00am

12th – Christmas Fayre

15th – KS2 Carol Service, St Clements Church at 2pm

17th Christmas Dinner & Jumper Day

19th – End of term, closing at 1pm

January

5th – Back to School

Celebrations

Attendance Matters

This year's attendance by
Year Group:

Year 1 – 95.1%

Year 2 – 96.2%

Year 3 – 94.7%

Year 4 – 95.3%

Year 5 – 94.1%

Year 6 – 94.1%

Year 7 – 94.4%

Year 8 – 94.2%

Year 9 – 91.5%

Year 10 – 93.2%

Year 11 – 93.3%

School attendance for
the year so far is
currently

93.8%

**Thank you for supporting
our target of 96%**

Primary celebrations

'Stars in our eyes'

Mael B – Nursery

Teddy H – Reception/Y1

Leon N – Class 1/2

Bilal I – Class 2/3

Esme E – Class 4/5

Nellie U – Class 6



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What have we been up to:

Year 6 thoroughly enjoyed their trip to the Junior Life Skills event at the leisure centre organised by Fusion Lifestyle! They talked to lifeguards, police officers, fire fighters as well as lots of other professionals and they learnt about online safety, fire safety, meditation and how to keep healthy. To top off an exciting morning, they then competed in a swimming gala with other local schools and Mason Keeley was awarded a trophy for being 'Swimmer of the Gala'! Well done to everyone in year 6 for taking part in such a brilliant day!



Mason impressed everyone at the Junior Life Skills Swimming Gala with his determination, his excellent swimming and above all, his sportsmanship. He was supportive of everyone around him, cheered on his class members and performed to a very high standard himself. Well done you Mason!!

At Dartmouth Academy we have a range of exciting clubs!

One of them is karate. Over the past few months children from 6-11 have been learning a variety of skills linked to karate and have progressed in this sport. Their fitness, discipline and focus during this club is incredible.



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Pupils in reception, year 1, year 2 and year 3 had a fantastic few days investigating pond life and enjoying nature walks, all led by expert practitioners at Slapton Ley. Below you can see the children pond dipping for minuscule invertebrates, recreating the way the specimens they found looked and moved, exploring the woodlands and finally having a play on the small beach.



Pupils from Year 4 upwards attended a special Academy Service at the Britannia Royal Naval College in Dartmouth this week, where we took time to remember the brave men and women who have lost their lives in battle to keep our nation safe from war. The setting, steeped in history and service, provided a fitting backdrop for reflection and gratitude. During the service, we also heard a moving message about the meaning of peace, shared by one of our Academy's teaching assistants, Valentyna Iliana. Their powerful words reminded us that peace is not simply the absence of war, but the presence of freedom, safety, and hope. The poem "Peace" spoke deeply to all present, urging us to appreciate the everyday blessings of living without fear and to stand united in our wish for a more peaceful world.

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We know that this is a particularly important day for many families within our Academy community — those whose loved ones serve in the military, or who are close friends with military families. We also recognise and hold in our thoughts, members of our school community who have sought refuge in the UK from current unrest in their home countries. Today, we stand together in remembrance, gratitude, and hope for peace everywhere.



Peace

For people who have never known war,
the word **PEACE** is just a word.
A simple entry in a dictionary, abstract, distant,
something you cannot touch, or truly understand.
An ordinary, almost invisible word.

But for those who know what war is,
this word carries an entirely different meaning.
Peace means being free to speak your own language, on your own land.
It's the sky traced with white lines left by passenger planes - not by missiles.

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Peace is when fireworks mean celebration, not fear.
When you can walk beneath the stars without a curfew.
When you spend money on little things, not on donations for the army.

Peace is reading novels, not scrolling through endless news.
It's a whole family gathered for the holidays, around one table -
not through a lonely video call.

Peace is when, to the question "How are you?",
you truly expect to hear "I'm fine," and not silence in return.

Peace is when planning tomorrow, or even next year,
is not a privilege - but simply life as it should be.
It's the most precious thing in the world, when you live not in pauses between alarms...
but truly live.

And for Ukraine - the word peace means even more.
We did not choose war, but we had to become strong.
Our artists and musicians, our business owners and farmers,
our violinists, tractor drivers, doctors - all stood together to defend our home.

Because peace never comes on its own.
It must be fought for - with bravery, faith, and unity.
This fight is not only for victory over evil, but for the right of every Ukrainian
to wake up in a peaceful home.

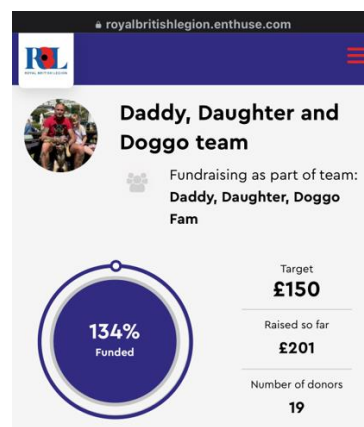
And perhaps the truest words about peace, belong to a child;
for only children can feel the world with pure hearts, without fear or conditions.



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Kaila is very excited and proud to report that she took part in the Royal British Legion Poppy walk in Plymouth at the weekend and raised an impressive **£201** in donations for veterans.

We had 2 dedications, one was for her great-great grandad who fought in World War 2 and the other was for my former regiment (royal green jackets) who lost their lives in the Afghanistan conflict.



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