

Quote of the Week

How lucky am I to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard. – A.A. Milne

A Message from our Head of School

Dear Parents and Carers,

As I write my last newsletter and my time at DKH draws to an end, my heart is filled with both gratitude and sadness. It is with a heavy heart that I will say goodbye to pupils, parents, carers and staff. Being a part of DKH has been an immensely fulfilling journey, filled with wonderful memories and meaningful connections. Your support, kindness, and the vibrant spirit of this community have made my time here truly special.

I want to express my gratitude for allowing me the honour and privilege to be a part of your children's lives, your lives, to witness the growth and achievements of your children and to contribute to the fabric of this exceptional community. The children of DKH will always hold a special place in my heart, their laughter echoing in the corridors, their curiosity a constant source of inspiration. They are not just pupils; they are bright stars and it has been a true joy to watch them shine.

I am grateful for the dedication from all staff. From office staff, premises staff and support staff to teaching staff and our catering team, each member, working hard to foster an environment of learning and growth, not only developing our children's learning but nurturing their character and spirit.

Finally, I would like to wish each and every one of you happiness, success, and fulfilment. The future holds endless possibilities, and the school continues to be in the excellent hands of Mrs Amien-Cloete, our Executive Head who will be supported by Miss O'Reilly, our interim Deputy Head. I am confident that the passion and dedication that define our school community will continue to thrive.

Parents are reminded that the last day of the Autumn Term is Wednesday 20th December. The school will close at 15:30 and your prompt collection of children is appreciated. The Spring Term commences on Monday 8th January 2024. Please accept my best wishes for a happy Christmas, to the families who are celebrating and a safe, happy and healthy New Year. Though physically distant, my thoughts and well-wishes remain close. Thank you for the privilege of being a part of your lives.

With heartfelt gratitude and warm regards,

Barbara Ghezzi

Lights! Camera! Action!

The festive spirit filled the air this week as children in **Years 1 to 6** impressed their families and teachers with fantastic performances. From the story of a very bossy king, to traditional Spanish songs, to our brass band and even a carol in Latin, children amazed and delighted their audiences with their singing, reciting, performing and confidence! You can see all the highlights on our website by click the links here: [Year 1 and Year 2](#), [Year 3 and Year 4](#), [Year 5 and Year 6](#). We are looking forward to the **EYFS performance on Monday 18th December!**



Dates for the Diary



18.12.23	EYFS Christmas Performance
19.12.23	Class Parties
20.12.23	School Panto
20.12.23	Last day of Winter Term
08.01.24	Start of Spring Term – Children return to school
11.01.24	Elm Class swimming sessions begin
22.01.24	Alleyn's Art workshop with Maple Class start
15.01.24	Year 4 visit to Horniman Museum
22.01.24	Alleyn's Art workshop with Maple Class Start
06.02.24	School Photos and Class Photos
12.02.24 – 16.02.24	Half Term
04.03.24	Alleyn's Science workshop with Elm Class starts
05.03.24	Imperial War Museum – Maple Class
29.03.24 – 12.04.24	Easter Break
15.04.24	INSET Day – No Children
16.04.24	Children return to school
18.04.24	Hazel Class swimming sessions begin
22.04.24	Year 3 and Year 4 bikability week begins
05.05.24	Bank Holiday – No school
13.05.24	Year 6 SATS begin
20.05.24	Year 6 School Journey begins
27.05.24 – 31.05.24	Half Term

Attendance

Caterpillar	83.2%	Rowan	94.17%
Willow	91.32%	Hazel	99.18%
Elder	93.19%	Elm	92.59%
Beech	94.12%	Maple	95.14%

Star of the Week!



We would like to recognise the children who have been great examples of our school values and have shown true commitment to their learning. Well done!

Nursery	Teddy , for always trying so hard!
Reception	Sadie , for her fantastic turning taking! You are a fantastic role model! Rafe , for always sharing his super ideas with us!
Willow	All of Willow Class for their incredible dedication and hard work in their play rehearsals and putting on a brilliant show!
Elder	All of Elder Class , for their confident performance of 'The Bossy King' that included some amazing acting, singing and choreography!
Beech	Mariatu , for her focus in her writing lessons. Madina , for contributions to class discussions and her amazing writing.
Rowan	Jayden , for displaying such a great work ethic in all areas of learning-fabulous! Jeremiah , for his endless curiosity in science lessons and adding well thought out ideas in discussions. Elizabeth , for making amazing progress in writing this term. Impressive! Rebecca , setting herself goals and working hard to achieve them.
Hazel	Kai , for showing so much ambition towards his writing this term. Lenny , for his fantastic behaviour in class and all over the school.
Maple	Trevane , for being able to identify and plot co-ordinates in all 4 quadrants. Maguette , for always having high expectations of herself and always striving to do better.
Elm	Aaron , passion shown toward his learning this week and for being helpful towards staff. Davida , always working so hard and for being a focused and ambitious learner.

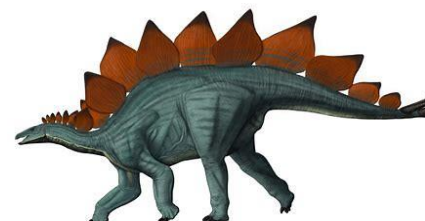
Charles's Friday Facts *By Charles, Year 5*

Did you know that although the stegosaurus' body was around 9 metres long, it only had a brain the size of a plum?

Did you know that its name means 'roof lizard' because of the diamond-shaped plates on its back?

You can learn more about the stegosaurus [here](#).

If your child is good with deadlines and would like to contribute to the newsletter, please speak with Victoria O'Reilly, Deputy Headteacher.



We love LEARNING

Rowan Class have been learning all about the Titanic disaster. They have written diaries in the role of a first-class passenger, written a newspaper report, engaged in drama activities in the role of the passengers and created 'Who Was to Blame?' posters. See some of their impressive work below!

