



Friday 9th October 2026

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 14th October - Individual and sibling school photos

Thursday 15th October - Whole School Disco

Tuesday 20th October - Parents Evening 1

Thursday 22nd October - Parents Evening 2 / End of Term 1

Friday 23rd October - Staff Development Day 3 - No School

Monday 2nd November - Start of Term 2

Reading Race



Well done to **Bumblebee Class** who read the most times at home this week!

Ladybird Class - 52 reads this week, total for this term 209 reads

Butterfly Class - 48 reads this week, total for this term is 273 reads

Dragonfly Class - 66 reads this week, total for this term is 313 reads

Bumblebee Class - 77 reads this week, total for this term 321 reads

Stars of the Week



Well done to our wonderful 'Stars of the Week'! These children have been chosen by their teacher for demonstrating one of our characteristics of effective learning.

Fred
Edie
Huxley
Arabella

Congratulations to our 'Lucky Stars of the Week'! These children were chosen by random and then the children in their class have thought of a reason for them to be a Star of the Week e.g. they have been a brilliant friend, they have helped someone with their learning or they always make their friend smile.

Lottie
Stephen
Romeo
Maya

Attendance



Well done to **Butterfly Class**! Attendance Ted will be spending the week with you.

Ladybird Class - 97.27%

Butterfly Class - 99.13%

Dragonfly Class - 97.92%

Bumblebee Class - 94.09%

Year R - 97.27%

Year 1 - 96.92%

Year 2 - 97.33%

We had 7 children arrive late this week.

Whole School (this week only) - 97.14%

We had 80 children achieve 100% attendance this week and join our weekly disco!

Whole School (this year) - **96.60%** (our whole school target is over 95%)

Please see the useful link below from the NHS which gives some guidance about common childhood illnesses.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Harvest

We have had a wonderful week celebrating Harvest.

KS1 children visited the church on Tuesday. I was incredibly proud of how well they behaved and how beautifully they sang. Ruth, Giles, Alan, John, Chris and Yvonne put together a wonderful presentation for the children including a puppet show. It was also so lovely to see all of decorations and donations presented around the church. We thoroughly enjoyed our visit and hope to go back again soon.

It was great to see so many parents at our KS1 harvest celebration/ meet the teacher on Wednesday and at our Year R harvest stay and play on Thursday. We hope you enjoyed looking around the classrooms and enjoyed the harvest activities.

Phonics Workshop

Thank you to all of the parents who were able to attend the phonics workshop on Thursday. The PowerPoint is now on our website if you were unable to attend and I am always available to answer any questions you may have throughout the year.

Parents Evening

Parent's evening forms went home this week and parents' evenings will take place on Tuesday 20th and Thursday 22nd October. Please return your form outlining your preference for day/time by Monday so that we can send out appointment times as soon as possible.

Gold Book

I have given out my first gold book certificates this week. When children have earnt 100 Dojo's they come to see me to have their name put in the gold book and receive a certificate and a sticker. Once they have earnt 500 Dojo's and had 5 certificates they will be invited to a special afternoon tea.

School Photos

Individual and sibling school photos will be taking place next Wednesday 14th October. The photographer will stay after school if you would like any additional family photos. They will be available from 3.30pm and it will be on a first come, first serve basis.

Take 10 to Read: World Record Attempt

On Thursday we took part in a new world record attempt called: Take 10 to Read. We joined a webinar with the National Literacy Trust. We were read the story 'Super Uma', we followed a tutorial to learn how to draw the unicorn from the story and we read our own books for 10 minutes.

Year R and Year 3 September 2027

For children starting school in September 2027 applications for both Reception and Year 3 will open on Friday 6 November 2026 and close on Friday 15 January 2027.

You can apply for up to 3 schools:

- Put the schools in order of preference.
- It is in your best interest to list 3 schools.
- Naming only 1 school does not guarantee your child a place at that school or give your child priority for a place over another child.
- You cannot name the same school more than once.

Ditton Church of England Junior School Open Sessions for September 2027

Tuesday 13th October 2026 • 09:00 - 09:30
Thursday 21st October 2026 • 09:00 - 09:30
Thursday 7th January 2027 • 14:00 - 14:30

Please call the office or email to book your visit

☎ 01732 843 446
✉ schooloffice@ditton-jun.kent.sch.uk



<https://www.ditton-jun.kent.sch.uk/our-school/admissions/>



Ditton Infant School



*Caring, sharing, learning and achieving
within an inclusive and happy environment.*

Reception 2027 Prospective Parents Tours

We understand that choosing the first school for your child is one of the most important decisions you will make and we are looking forward to inviting you and your child into our school for a visit during **November 2026.**

Please see below for a list of our tour dates and times. Each tour will have a limited number of places so please contact the school office on **01732 844107** or email **secretary@ditton-inf.kent.sch.uk** if you would like to join one of the tours.

We will also be holding an after school **Stay & Play** session.
Families are welcome to choose which session they would like to book onto.

Tours

Mrs Kreiselmeier will show groups of parents round the school answering any questions families may have. Both parents and children welcome.

Monday 2nd November	10.00am
Tuesday 3rd November	10.00am
Monday 9th November	10.00am
Tuesday 10th November	10.00am
Monday 16th November	10.00am
Tuesday 17th November	10.00am
Monday 23rd November	10.00am

Stay & Play Session

A fun filled after school session for parents/carers to bring their pre-school child to play in the Year R area after school.



**Thursday 3rd December
4.00 – 5.00pm**



Play • Make Friends • Discover



In the meantime do spend some time browsing our website
www.ditton-inf.kent.sch.uk
which will give you a flavour of what life is like at Ditton Infants!

We look forward to meeting you and welcoming you to our school.

PTFA

Ditton Infants School
PARENT TEACHER AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

PTFA
AGM

You're warmly invited!

All parents, carers and staff welcome!

TUESDAY 20TH OCTOBER

COFFEE & PASTRIES FROM 9:00AM

AGM BEGINS 9:15AM

FIND OUT MORE
Hear about what we've been up to, upcoming events and how you can get involved.

NEW FACES WELCOME
Whether you've been part of the PTFA before or you're just curious, we'd love to see you!

IMPORTANT INFO
Nomination forms for the committee and AGM details are available from the school office. If you'd like to nominate yourself or another parent, please get in touch.

QUESTIONS?
Contact us at dittoninfantsptfa@hotmail.co.uk

Come along, grab a cuppa, meet the team and be part of our school community!

DITTON INFANTS PTFA
SCARECROW TRAIL

LET'S BRING OUR COMMUNITY TOGETHER THIS OCTOBER!

Create your very own scarecrow to display proudly at the front of your house, pay just £6 entry, and we'll add your address to our Scarecrow Trail list!

Families can purchase a £2 trail list on the dates and locations listed below, and then over the October half term holiday from Friday 23rd of October to Sunday 31st of October can enjoy walks round our beautiful village hunting down the fantastic scarecrows!

Let your imagination run wild and give our children something fun, wholesome and exciting to do together this October half term...

A PRIZE WILL BE AWARDED FOR the best scarecrow voted for by our community on our PTFA Facebook page.

IMPORTANT DATES

SCARECROW ENTRIES
£6 PER SCARECROW
PAYMENT DEADLINE: FRIDAY 16TH OCTOBER

TRAIL LISTS
£2 EACH
AVAILABLE TO BUY ON THURSDAY 22ND OCTOBER OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL GATES AND SAT 24TH OCTOBER OUTSIDE THE KILNBARN

Please pay your £6 entry fee via PayPal, using the Friends & Family option, to: dittoninfantsptfa@hotmail.co.uk
IMPORTANT: Please include your name, contact number and full address in the PayPal payment details so we know who you are and where your scarecrow will be located.

Alternatively, contact us via Facebook Messenger to arrange a cash payment.

PLEASE NOTE: SCARECROW ENTRIES ARE OPEN TO DITTON ADDRESSES ONLY.
Every scarecrow entered and every map sold will help raise much-needed funds for Ditton Infants PTFA and our lovely little school.

LET'S MAKE THIS HALF TERM ONE TO REMEMBER!

Parent Workshop

Me & My Child: Understanding Resilience

08/10/2026 10:30am — 12:30pm

[Me & My Child: Understanding Resilience | Join meeting in Teams | Microsoft Teams](#)



Understanding Your Child's Behaviour

12/10/2026 10:30am — 12:30pm

[Understanding Your Child's Behaviour | Join meeting in Teams | Microsoft Teams](#)



Supporting Your Child with Worries & Fears

18/11/2026 12:30pm — 14:30pm

[Supporting Your Child with Worries & Fears | Join meeting in Teams | Microsoft Teams](#)



Me & My Child: Understanding Resilience

30/11/2026 12:30pm — 14:30pm

[Me & My Child: Understanding Resilience | Join meeting in Teams | Microsoft Teams](#)



Understanding Neurodiversity

07/12/2026 12:30pm — 14:30pm

[Understanding Neurodiversity \(Primary\) | Join meeting in Teams | Microsoft Teams](#)



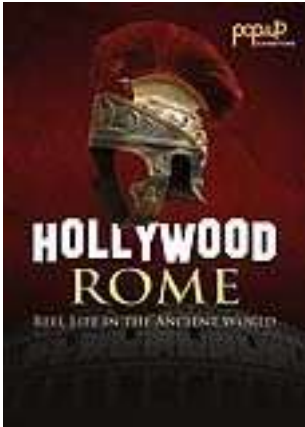
Emotional Wellbeing team Kent
Emotional Support team Medway

Please call for more information 0300 300 1955

Community Events

Autumn at Maidstone Museum

Autumn is a great time to visit. Our **Hollywood Rome** exhibition is on until 31 October, so there's still time to see how the movies imagined the ancient world.



October half term at the museum

Looking for half-term plans? We have a full week:

- **The Gruffalo: Free Family Workshop**, Mon 26 Oct, 10.30am–12.30pm
- **Half Term Make It! Crafts**, Tue 27 – Thu 29 Oct, 10.15am–2.30pm
- **African Drumming: Free Session**, Wed 28 Oct, 10.30am–12.15pm
- **SEND Family Crafts**, Fri 30 Oct, 1.30–2.30pm

November

On Saturday 7 November, our **Dungeons & Dragons Taster Session** (11am–3pm) is a chance to try roleplaying for the first time.

From Saturday 14 November, **Hiroshige's Tōkaidō: A Japanese Journey** opens. This exhibition follows the famous road between Edo and Kyoto through beautiful Japanese woodblock prints. It runs until 19 December, which makes it a good winter family outing.

December

From 5 to 19 December, **Father Christmas's Fireplace** is back. Come and visit the big man himself!



Details: museum.maidstone.gov.uk/whats-on/event

Hello lovely friends of Godstone Farm :)

October appears to be zooming by at approximately 100mph, half term is suddenly just around the corner, and Christmas is now close enough that we probably need to start talking about it without whispering. ☺

BUT - I didn't want you to miss these important Godstone Farm dates coming up very soon.

So rather than anything too fancy, here's your easy-peasy summary of what's happening at the farm over the next few weeks and beyond...

Sat 17th October - Sun 1st Nov: [Half Term - Halloween at Godstone Farm](#)

Spooky fun, fang-tastic family activities and [paid extra] pumpkin carving. [Select dates between 17/10 and 01/11 on the usual booking calendar here.](#)

[\(Or find out more on the info page here\)](#)

Sat 24th + Sun 25th Oct: [Mini Fireworks Festival](#)

Festival vibes with fire performers and stilt walkers, tasty food, and amazing lasers in the gentle low bang fireworks show (this one always sells out - [tickets are available here](#)).

[\(Or find out more on the info page here\)](#)

Sun 8th November: [The Gruffalo and The Gruffalo's Child](#) are coming to Godstone Farm

Save Sunday 8 November for a very special family adventure. The Gruffalo and The Gruffalo's Child will be appearing at intervals throughout the day, alongside all the animals, play and farm fun included in your day out. Keep your camera handy for those memorable family moments. [\(Click here to book a timed photo opportunity\)](#)

Weekends from 21st Nov + 18th - 24th Dec: [Father Christmas at the Farm](#)

Includes farm park entry, a quality toy, a Christmas show, loads of festive activities and some very special time with the big jolly man in red. (Peak dates are already filling fast - [you can book tickets here](#))

[\(Or find out more on the info page here\)](#)

That's it! Consider this your friendly Godstone reminder before October disappears as quickly as September did. Hopefully I'll be back in your inbox soon with more animals and fewer dates. ☺🐾

Best hoof forward!

Simon

P.S. Nearly forgot - we've also got a few spaces left on our [October half term farm activity day camps](#). If you're in need of childcare for half term and want them to have a very unique experience, [click here to find out more](#).



Simon

General Manager

Godstone Farm

havefun@godstonefarm.co.uk

Please remember...

If you have a query or concern involving your child, please speak to the class teacher in the first instance and then I am also available and can normally call or speak to you on the same day. Thank you for your continued support.

Have a lovely weekend,
Mrs Kreiselmeier