



Friday 25th September 2026

Dates for your Diary

WC Monday 28th September - Harvest Food Collection

Friday 2nd October - Delivering our Harvest food collection to Ditton Church

Tuesday 6th October - KS1 visit to the church

Tuesday 6th October - Year R School Health Service delivering the National Child Measurement Programme

Wednesday 7th October - KS1 Harvest Celebration and Meet the Teacher session 2.45pm

Thursday 8th October - Year R Phonics Parent Workshop 2.15pm

Thursday 8th October - Year R Harvest Parent Stay and Play 2.40pm

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

Website

Our website is www.ditton-inf.kent.sch.uk

We try to keep our website as up to date as possible and it should have the answer to most general questions. You can find copies of this week's spellings, class newsletters and home learning on the class pages. You can also access the school term dates and calendar from the home page.

Reading Race



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

Ladybird Class - 36 reads this week, total for this term 109 reads

Butterfly Class - 51 reads this week, total for this term is 185 reads

Dragonfly Class - 61 reads this week, total for this term is 191 reads

Bumblebee Class - 53 reads this week, total for this term 187 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.

Luna
George
Emilia
Reggie

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.

Alfie
Eva
Myla
Sylvia

Attendance



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

Ladybird Class - 98.18%

Butterfly Class - 96.96%

Dragonfly Class - 96.67%

Bumblebee Class - 96.36%

Year R - 98.18%

Year 1 - 96.15%

Year 2 - 97.33%

We had 7 children arrive late this week.

Whole School (this week only) - 97.03%

We had 78 children achieve 100% attendance this week and join our weekly disco!

Whole School (this year) - **97.11%** (our whole school target is over 95%)

We have tried our best to match our staff development days to Ditton Junior School's. Unfortunately, there are some days that we haven't been able to match. A huge thank you to those families who did send their children to school today even though the Junior School had a staff development day.

For future reference:

Ditton Infant School Closed	Ditton Junior School Closed
Tuesday 1 st September - Staff development day	Tuesday 1 st September - Staff development day
Wednesday 2 nd September - Staff development day	Wednesday 2 nd September - Staff development day
Friday 23 rd October - Staff development day	Friday 25th September - Staff development day
Monday 4 th January - Staff development day	Friday 23 rd October - Staff development day
Monday 3 rd May - Bank Holiday	Monday 2nd November - Staff development day
Monday 7th June - Staff development day	Monday 4 th January - Staff development day
	Friday 12th March - Trust Day
	Monday 3 rd May - Bank Holiday
	Friday 9th July - Staff development day

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/>

Phonics Workshop

I will be running a phonics workshop for Year R parents and any Year 1 and 2 parents who would like a phonics refresher. I will discuss how we teach phonics and reading at school and how you can support at home. I am also happy to answer any questions you may have. The workshop will take place on **Thursday 8th October 2.15pm**. It will finish in time for the Year R Harvest Stay and Play at 2.40pm.

Harvest

We are looking forward to our harvest festival celebrations this year.

Traditionally donations are sent to the church via Mrs Campbell and we would like to continue this again this year. **We would like to accept in date produce from Monday 28th September to Friday 2nd October (next week).**

The children are also making decorations for the Harvest display at the church. Our School Council children will be taking the donations and decorations to the church on Friday 2nd October.

On Tuesday 5th October KS1 children will be visiting the church to see the Harvest decorations. We also hope to sing a Harvest song together.

On **Wednesday 7th October** we would then like to invite **KS1 parents** in to school at **2.45pm** to listen to the children's Harvest song and to then meet their child's class teacher/s and look around their new classrooms.

Year R parents are invited to attend a Harvest Stay and Play session with their child on **Thursday 8th October at 2.40pm** (this will follow a Phonics Workshop for parents at 2.15pm).



Leadership Roles and Responsibilities

This week the children with a leadership role or responsibility have received their badges. They are all doing a fantastic job already and we hope to keep promoting these roles and responsibilities throughout the year.

School Council - Daphne, George, Benji, Ivy, Joseph, Huxley, Finley, Millie, Myla, Brooklyn, Arabella, Scarlett

Eco Committee - Eva, Stephen, Arlo, Archie, Maya, Ronnie

Play Leaders - Danny, Hailey, Bella, Malaya, Archie, Finley, Zahra, Leah, Logan

Gardeners - William, Mila, Reagan

Prayer Leaders - Dexter, Owen, Remy, Millie, Abigail, Edie

iPad Monitors - Oliver, Elsie, Bella, Lucas

Assembly Helpers - Ivy, Benji, Dexter, Owen, Archie, Teddy, Bella, Abigail, Edie



Information Gathering

Thank you to everyone who has returned their information gathering form. If you need a replacement form please see the office. As part of our responsibilities under Benedict's Law, we are required to ensure that we have accurate and up-to-date information about children's medical needs, conditions, allergies and medication. This helps us to make sure we can provide appropriate care and respond safely should a medical situation arise.

Snack and Water

All children at Ditton Infants benefit from the free fruit and vegetable scheme for schools. We hope the children enjoy the variety of fruit and vegetables we have delivered each week. However, if your child would like to bring in a small named piece of fruit or vegetable, they are welcome to do so. **Please only send in fruit in its natural form.** Please keep processed fruit snacks e.g. fruit winders or pureed fruit pouches for lunchtime.

Children also need to bring in a water bottle every day and we encourage you to fill these with fresh plain water. We are happy to refill bottles throughout the day.



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.

PLASTICS AWARENESS POSTER COMPETITION



Become
an
Environmental
Champion!

Design a poster that inspires
others to reduce plastic and
protect our planet!



Get creative - make a
difference!

WHO CAN ENTER?



Open to pupils aged 4-11 in
Tonbridge and Malling

WHAT TO CREATE



Create a poster that raises
awareness of plastic pollution
and encourages positive
action.

GET INSPIRED!



- Choose to reuse
- Plastic free starts with me
- Refill, reuse, recycle
- Protect our planet from plastic
- Small changes make a big difference

HOW IT WORKS



1. CREATE
Design your
poster



2. SCHOOLS
Shortlist best
entries



3. SUBMIT
Deadline: 2 November
2026



4. WIN
Winners chosen
by CCF



More information and competition brief available:
climate.change@tmbc.gov.uk





Plastics Awareness Poster Competition

Aim: To raise awareness of plastic pollution and its environmental impacts.

For: Pupils aged 4 to 11 in Tonbridge and Malling.

Theme: Raising awareness of plastic pollution and how we can reduce its impact on the environment.

Closing date: 2nd November 2026

How to enter: Submit posters via email to climate.change@tmbc.gov.uk

1. About the competition

Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council (TMBC), in collaboration with the [Climate Change Forum](#) (CCF), is inviting pupils in Tonbridge and Malling to take part in a poster competition to raise awareness of plastic pollution. The competition supports TMBC's [Climate Change Strategy](#) and the work of the CCF, encouraging local action to reduce waste, pollution and wider environmental impacts.

Plastic can be useful in everyday life, but too much single-use plastic can harm wildlife, pollute rivers and oceans, create litter in our local area and contribute to wider environmental impacts.

Get involved and inspire change

Challenge your pupils to design a poster that helps others understand plastic pollution and encourages positive action. This is a chance for pupils to get creative, have their voices heard and show how even small changes can help protect the places where they live, learn and play. Schools are encouraged to get involved as a fun and meaningful way to support learning around sustainability, citizenship and caring for the environment, while helping pupils feel part of local climate action.

The best posters will share a clear message in a creative, eye-catching and easy-to-understand way.

2. Who can enter?

The competition is open to pupils aged 4 to 11 who attend schools within the Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council area. Entries must be submitted via schools, or by a parent or carer for home-educated pupils provided they are a resident within the TMBC area.

Entry categories

- Reception
- Key Stage 1
- Key Stage 2

3. What should pupils create?

Pupils should create a poster that raises awareness of plastic pollution and encourages people to take action. Posters can be hand-drawn or painted and must not be larger than A3 size.

Posters should:

- Be original and created by the pupil
- Include a clear message about plastic pollution
- Be colourful, creative and visually engaging
- Be easy for others to understand
- Be suitable for display and promotion to schools, families and the wider community

4. Submission requirements

Schools are responsible for ensuring that necessary parent/carer permissions have been obtained before submitting entries. Schools should shortlist entries internally and submit up to two posters per category. Emails must not exceed 10MB in size. Please submit entries:

- As a JPEG or PNG file
- As a scan or photograph of the original poster
- In either portrait or landscape orientation
- With a maximum of six entries per school

5. Accessibility and inclusion

The competition aims to be accessible and inclusive for all participating pupils. Schools and parents/carers of home-educated children are welcome to make reasonable adjustments where needed, so pupils can take part in a way that is suitable for their age, ability and needs. This could include support with reading the brief, adapting materials, using alternative formats or providing adult support where appropriate, as long as the poster remains the pupil's own idea and work.

6. Things to think about

Before creating a poster, pupils may want to think about:

- Where do we see plastic in everyday life?
- What plastic items are used once and then thrown away?
- How could we reduce the amount of plastic we use in the first place?
- What happens when plastic becomes litter?
- How can plastic affect animals, rivers, oceans and green spaces?
- What could people do differently at school, at home or in the local area?
- How local campaigns, such as ['Shake It Out'](#), help to improve recycling and reduce waste
- What message would make someone stop and think?

A strong poster might include:

- A short slogan
- A clear call to action
- Bold images, simple facts
- A positive message about change

Example slogans

- Choose to reuse
- Plastic free starts with me
- Refill, reuse, recycle
- Protect our planet from plastic
- Small changes make a big difference

7. Judging criteria

If a high volume of entries is received, an initial shortlisting process may be undertaken before entries are considered by the judging panel. Entries will be judged fairly and with consideration of age and ability.

Judges will be looking for:

- Clear message:** Does the poster clearly explain an issue or action linked to plastic pollution?
- Creativity:** Is the idea original, imaginative or memorable?
- Relevance to the theme:** Is there a focus on plastic pollution, reducing waste or environmental protection?
- Visual impact:** Is the poster eye-catching and easy to understand?
- Effort and age-appropriate presentation:** Has the pupil shown care, thought and effort in their work?

8. Prizes, recognition, and sharing

There are three award categories and one overall winner. Prizes include a TMBC-funded grant of up to £100 to support an environmental initiative or resource within a school or learning setting, subject to TMBC approval and agreement. Plus, a range of donated items and activities, including opportunities to explore nature and support positive environmental action, provided by local businesses and organisations, including Landscape Services, part of the Commercial Services Group and Zilch – Zero Waste.

Entries may be shared through TMBC and CCF communications, including:

- TMBC's website
- Social media
- Local news story or press release
- School communications
- Future campaign materials

Where appropriate, there may be opportunities to recognise winning entries through school-based or local activities, schools may be asked to host a presentation event. For home-educated entrants, final arrangements will be agreed with the parent/carer or responsible adult.

9. Key dates

Competition launch date: 13th July 2026

Closing date for entries: 2nd November 2026

Winners announced: 8th December 2026

10. How to submit

Submit entries by: 2nd November 2026

Submission method: email posters to climate.change@tmbc.gov.uk

Please keep the original poster and include the following information with each entry:

School entries

- School name
- Teacher name
- Teacher email address
- Pupil first name only
- Year group and entry category
- Confirmation that appropriate parent/carer consent has been obtained

Home-educated entries

- Parent/carer or responsible adult name
- Parent/carer or responsible adult email address
- Pupil first name only
- Year group/age and entry category
- Confirmation that appropriate parent/carer consent has been obtained

Posters should not contain personal information such as pupils' full names, home addresses or personal contact details. Personal information submitted as part of this competition will be processed for administering the competition, contacting entrants and publicising winning entries and in accordance with TMBC's Corporate Privacy Notice: <https://www.tmbc.gov.uk/council/corporate-privacy-notice>. Personal information will be retained only for as long as necessary to fulfil the purpose for which it was collected and will be securely deleted after 12 months.

11. Terms and Conditions

By submitting an entry, the school or parent/carer for home schooled pupils confirms:

- They are authorised to submit the entry and have obtained necessary consent for the poster to be published, shared and used for publicity or campaigns (e.g. social media, website or publications).
- Entrant's first name and school name may be announced on social media and on our website. Any restrictions on publication must be identified at the time of submission.
- The poster is the pupil's own work.
- TMBC may contact the school about the competition entry.
- Entries must be submitted digitally – scans or clear photos of the original poster are accepted.
- AI generated, 3D models, and digital created graphic designs are not eligible for the competition.
- Winners will be contacted via the email used to submit the posters.
- There are no entry fee and no purchase necessary to enter this competition.
- Prize details are correct at the time of publication but may be subject to change. TMBC and the CCF reserve the right to substitute prizes with alternatives where necessary. Any funding awarded must be claimed and used within an agreed period from the date of award.
- If the winner cannot be contacted within five days of notification, TMBC reserves the right to withdraw the winner and select an alternative winner.
- Entry into the competition will be deemed as acceptance of these terms and conditions.

12. Contact: climate.change@tmbc.gov.uk

13. Thank you

Thank you for supporting this campaign and helping pupils think about how we can reduce plastic pollution and protect our local environment.

We look forward to seeing the creative ideas from schools across Tonbridge and Malling.

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!*

Please join us for our Ditton Infants School

PTFA MEETING

Every One is Welcome!

 **TUESDAY
29th
SEPTEMBER**

 **WEALDEN
HALL
LARKFIELD**

 **from
7pm**

Come along and see what we're all about!

Join us for our first PTFA meeting of the year to chat about upcoming events, fundraising and ideas. Curious about getting involved? This is the perfect chance to come along and see what we do – no commitment, no pressure!

Every bit of input helps as we raise money for school, create amazing events and experiences for our children and build a friendly, supportive parent network. And of course, have a little fun along the way! 😊

*please let us know if you plan to attend
so we have an idea of numbers to book for*



BOO-GIE NIGHT

SPOOKY BEATS & HALLOWEEN TREATS!

THURSDAY 15TH OCTOBER

4:00-5:00PM £4PP INCLUDES GLOW STICKS
DRINK AND SNACK.

ALL CURRENT STUDENTS WELCOME. PLEASE DROP OFF AND COLLECT FROM YOUR USUAL DESIGNATED AREAS AND ENSURE TO COMPLETE FORMS AND MAKE PAYMENT BY THE DEADLINE.

WE'D LOVE TO SEE EVERYONE GETTING INTO THE HALLOWEEN SPIRIT.
PLEASE CHOOSE AGE APPROPRIATE COSTUMES THAT ARE FUN RATHER THAN FRIGHTENING.
NO MASKS FAKE BLOOD OR CAPES, TO HELP KEEP THE EVENT ENJOYABLE AND SAFE FOR EVERYONE.
THANK YOU FOR HELPING US MAKE IT A FUN FRIENDLY AND SPOOK-TACULAR EVENT FOR ALL.



BOO-GIE NIGHT!

PLEASE RETURN THE FOLLOWING FORM TO SCHOOL BY THURSDAY 1ST OCTOBER.

CHILD'S NAME(S) _____

CLASS(ES) _____

[] I HAVE MADE PAYMENT OF £_____ TO PTFA PAYPAL, USING THE FRIENDS AND FAMILY OPTION. DITTONINFANTSPTFA@HOTMAIL.CO.UK PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR CHILD'S NAME(S) AND CLASS(ES) IN THE NOTES.

[] I HAVE INCLUDED £_____ IN AN ENVELOPE WITH MY CHILD'S NAME & CLASS

PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOUR CHILD HAS ANY DIETARY REQUIREMENTS.




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	TRAIL LISTS
£6 PER SCARECROW	£2 EACH
PAYMENT DEADLINE: FRIDAY 16TH OCTOBER	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



A vibrant yellow and red poster for the Maidstone Brick Festival. It features a large Iron Man figure on the left, a QR code, and several circular inset images showing children playing with LEGO. The text is bold and colorful, listing various activities and the date of the event.

TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW!

AMAZING LEGO DISPLAYS

NEW & RETIRED LEGO SETS

BUILD CHALLENGES

ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES

CHARITY TOMBOLA

MILLIONS OF LOOSE BRICKS

PLUS SO MUCH MORE!!

MAIDSTONE BRICK FESTIVAL

4TH OCTOBER

MAIDSTONE LEISURE CENTRE

MORE LEGO® THAN YOU CAN DREAM OF



A dark blue poster for a fireworks display. It features a background of colorful fireworks and two circular logos in the top right corner. The text is in a mix of fonts, including a large, stylized script for the event name. A QR code is located in the bottom left corner.

DITTON JUNIOR SCHOOL PTA

CHURCH OF ENGLAND JUNIOR SCHOOL DITTON

FIREWORKS DISPLAY

Light up Ditton

FRIDAY 6TH NOVEMBER

DITTON C of E JUNIOR SCHOOL

Tickets on sale now

zeffy.com/en-GB/ticketing/light-up-ditton

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