

Dovestone Learning Partnership

Welcome to our Dovestone Learning Partnership newsletter.

We are aiming to send out a newsletter each term to update you on the DLP activities. This is our Spring Term 2023 edition.

The DLP is a Co-operative Trust which was established in October 2017. We are a partnership of 9 schools:

- Christ Church Denshaw C.E. Primary School
- Delph Primary School
- Diggle Primary School
- Friezland Primary School
- Knowsley Junior School
- Saddleworth School
- St Agnes C.E. Primary School
- St Mary's Greenfield C.E. Primary School
- St Thomas' Leesfield C.E. Primary School



General Update

It has been yet another busy term for the partnership.

In February we held our Annual General Meeting where we looked back at our achievements over the past year, approved the Company accounts and informed members about our future plans. This was followed by our Trust Board meeting. The Board is made up of the Headteachers and Chairs of Governors (or their representative) of the schools together with our partners Oldham Sixth Form College and the Local Authority. This meeting is held termly and we use it to inform our trustees of the impact of our Trust developments and look at our accountabilities to our stakeholders. At this meeting we looked at recent CPD we had undertaken, the positive impacts to date of the counselling service we have commissioned and how we are developing our sports competitions across the DLP.

Over this term our networks have continued to meet with teachers sharing their skills and expertise in Early Years, Geography, Maths and PE. Our working parties are also meeting to continue the developments set out in their action plans. Peer Reviews have also begun with St Agnes and Christ Church Denshaw being the first to undergo the new process (see below).

St Thomas, Leesfield were our latest school to have a successful Ofsted Inspection – well done to all the staff, governors and children.

Unfortunately we have had to postpone our Music Festival but look out for the rearranged date in the summer term.

What's been happening this term.....?

Part of our DLP vision is to: ***Ensure that all our pupils experience a range of opportunities and experiences throughout their learning journey. Here are some of the exciting things that have been happening in our schools.***

St Agnes Science Week 2023

This year, British Science Week was 10th to 19th March. At St Agnes, we decided to celebrate it with a series of events and activities. At the beginning of the week the children came into school dressed up in science-themed outfits. We had a special assembly to launch the week and to discuss this year's theme of 'Connections'. At the end of the week Class 1 told us about their amazing diffusion experiments with skittles, Class 2 showed us some incredible art work demonstrating their understanding of food chains, Class 3 described the wide variety of animals they had discovered in the school grounds when they were exploring habitats, and Class 4 shared their experiences of their trip to Jodrell Bank. It was a fantastic week.

Saddleworth Activities



It has been a very busy half term with lots of exciting events and trips happening at Saddleworth School. Year 11 GCSE students took part in a walk to the local beauty spot Dovestone reservoir as part of the GCSE PE course. Youth Travel Ambassadors were getting ready for presenting their Active Travel idea to a team of colleagues from TfGM in a Dragons Den style pitch presentation to win £500.00 for the school. On Friday, 10th March we all wore a red accessory to raise money for Comic Relief on Red Nose Day. The school raised over £400.00 with cakes sales and collection buckets. Year 10 students engaged with Tilbury Douglas and took part in a tour of the Clock Tower and the Old Library in Oldham. We celebrated our first year anniversary in the new school on 2nd March. Staff gathered to celebrate with a slideshow of photos from the start of the new build start to the current day with celebration cupcakes, biscuit and a brew. There have been lots of sporting successes - our football, rugby, netball team have all done us proud with many successful wins!

Friezland School



Bikeability for our Y4-6 pupils, is one such event that many of the DLP schools participate in. Bikeability cycle training is a practical training programme which provides school children with a life skill and enables them to cycle confidently and competently on today's roads. Friezland's pupils took part in Level 1 and 2 training in March.

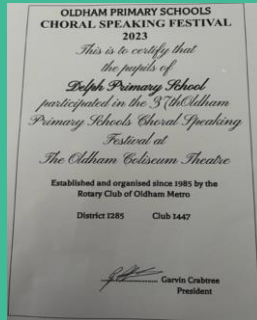
Diggle School - Jack and the Beanstalk

Diggle year one class took part in the Greater Manchester Music Hub interactive performance of Jack and the Beanstalk. The children learned the songs beforehand and joined in with great gusto on the day.



Delph School

Year 5 performed at the Oldham Choral Speaking Festival They achieved Distinction for their performance of two poems and have been awarded the Upper Junior Trophy this year



We also celebrated World Book day. The whole school looked at the book 'Dear Earth'. We enjoyed sharing our ideas about saving the planet and dressed up in upcycled clothes and made upcycled products. We even had a very special message from a very famous author!



St Mary's, Greenfield



St Mary's won the regional dance competition. So proud of our children and to Miss Olivia for such wonderful choreography.



We made sure the trophy had a safe seat back to school!

Peer Reviews

The Dovestone Learning Partnership conduct an annual Peer Review on all our schools to ensure that we are on self-improvement with in the standards agenda. The Peer Reviews this year have been conducted by serving Headteachers within the DLP and Julie Stevens who is a school improvement advisor for the Oldham Learning. In consultation with Julie and the nominated Headteacher working alongside, schools set the agenda for the peer review in line with current school developments and also external agendas.

Writing has been a focus for the DLP peer reviews in many schools this year inline with the national agenda for education. Significant development has been carried out both jointly in the partnership and in individual schools. Schools have developed their writing curriculum and this has been reviewed during the Peer Reviews. Schools across the DLP have a strong writing curriculum offer that has clear progression and continuity across year groups. The Peer reviews outlined consistency being the key and the development of marking policies to ensure that any feedback given impacts on pupil outcomes.

The Peer Review process is rigorous and enable all our schools to remain accountable and continually developing high standards of education for the children across Saddleworth and Lees.

DLP Sports Competitions:

During the spring term, despite the wet weather, we have continued with our exciting sport calendar, involving all DLP schools. In January some of our Y5-6 pupils took part in an athletics' festival, held at Saddleworth School. The event saw the pupils competing in a range of throwing, jumping and running events. The fantastic Saddleworth Sport Leaders supported the event, coaching the children and keeping score.

In February, some of our Y1-2 children took part in a Gymnastics Festival held at Friezland Primary School and practised their gym skills. Working with children across the DLP primaries, they then put together a short routine. This time, the Friezland Young Sport Leaders supported the event and helped the youngsters to refine their rolls and hold their balances! Well done everyone who took part and thank you to the staff who facilitated the events.

The summer term promises orienteering, rounders and tennis.

Meet the DLPers! (This is our regular feature to meet the staff within the DLP)



Today we meet Vanessa Payne, Headteacher of Knowsley Junior School

I'm very proud to be the headteacher of Knowsley Junior School, and to see all the amazing things our children achieve. We are a larger than average school, and are lucky enough to have over 300 pupils. We all live by our Rights Respecting Charter, where we recognise that with rights come responsibilities. One example of this is - we have the right to be educated and the responsibility to work hard. Respect is very important to us all, and our motto is; respecting each other, succeeding together. Teamwork is a vital part of everything we do, and being part of the DLP enhances this. Our children and staff thrive within this group of vibrant and diverse schools. We all learn from each other, and are stronger together.

Would you like to get involved with Dovestone Learning Partnership????

DLP would like to have some community representatives on their Trust Board. The Board meets three times a year and you would become a trustee of the partnership. Your role would be to represent the Saddleworth and Lees community, That would mean asking questions and making comments and suggestions for the work we do. If you are interested please email juliebowdidge@googlemail.com or telephone 07515257389 for more information.

We would love to hear from you.

To contact the DLP, either email your school's headteacher

or the DLP Facilitator at
juliebowdidge@googlemail.com



The staff, pupils and governors would like to wish you all a very happy Easter/Spring break.

Keep safe and well everyone