



Dair House Spring E-Letter Issue 5

Friday 13th February 2026

Spring Term

Issue 5

Head's Welcome



Dear Parents and Friends of Dair House,

This week has been jam-packed with activities and events that have really stretched and supported our pupils in so many positive ways.

I'd like to begin by sharing a story about the kindness of strangers. On Monday, I accompanied Mrs Bishop to a cross-country event at The Marist School. At first, it felt like any other competition, the familiar buzz of excited pupils, teams from across the area gathering, and children preparing to race through the woods in Ascot. Our runners performed brilliantly, showing great determination and team spirit. Unfortunately, our minibus didn't quite share their enthusiasm and found itself firmly stuck in the mud! Thankfully, help was quickly at hand. Fellow headteachers, our own parents, parents from other schools, and staff from The Marist all rallied together, quite literally pushing us out of the deep rut we were in. For me it was a lovely reminder of the supportive community we are part of and it really showed our children the good that can come when people step in to help one another.

It was also fantastic to see our children embracing their individuality during Children's Mental Health Week, especially on our *Dress to Express* day. Secretly, I wished I had an adult version of some of their costumes—they were wonderful! As you can see from our newsletter, we have also enjoyed netball fixtures, a visit to Windsor Castle, and an inspiring session with Josh Quigley, who spoke to our children about his remarkable adventures as a cyclist and mental health.

As you will have seen from the various communications sent out this week, next half-term is shaping up to be a busy one, with the sponsored run for Thames Hospice, World Book Day,

the building of the new MUGA, and the Secret Artist competition to name a few. I am really looking forward to all the exciting opportunities the staff have planned. As for me, I'll be spending half-term honing my own artistic skills, as it seems it's mandatory for all staff to create an entry for the competition! So if we're doing it, I hope you'll encourage your children to take part too!

I hope you all have a superb half-term holiday, and we look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 23rd February.

Warmest wishes,

Mrs. Bull

Headteacher

Our Talented Children



Work of the week:

While we didn't hold our traditional rewards assembly this week due to our exciting Kickboxing assembly, we couldn't let these fantastic achievements go unnoticed! Our students have been busy both inside and outside the classroom, showing incredible initiative, bravery, and talent.

We would like to give a quick recognition to the following students for their efforts:

Liyaa and Emily were making a splash last week! Congratulations for their fantastic individual achievements and progress in swimming. **Emily Y3** was awarded her Level 3 Learn to Swim certificate and **Liyaa Y5** took part in a sponsored swim, collectively with her team they managed to swim 120 lengths!

Y5 Paloma - was awarded the **Headteacher's Award for Commitment** for her hard work and dedication to the Gym Squad.

A massive well done to **Josh** for earning his purple kickboxing belt! Moving up the ranks requires great focus and perseverance.

Mia and **Imaan** for their participation in an IT Masterclass at The Marist at the end of last month. It is wonderful to see our students stretching their digital skills!









Y3/Y6 Cross Country

On Monday, members of our Cross-Country team took part in a challenging and very muddy race at The Marist School. The course led runners through woodland trails and around open fields, making for an exciting, and demanding event. With this being a particularly popular fixture in the local calendar, competition was strong across all age groups.

Representing Dair House School were:

- **Year 3:** Mary
- **Year 5:** Jojo, Charlie H, Anna, Ava H and Evie
- **Year 6:** William, Annabelle, Bella, Lulu, Kaveer, Cameron, Zaydaan, Sophie and Alex

Every single runner demonstrated determination, resilience, and fantastic team spirit. We are especially proud of Mary, who achieved a superb silver medal, finishing 2nd in her category. William and Jojo both secured impressive 4th place finishes in their respective age groups.

It was wonderful to see all our runners digging deep in the final stretches of their races, giving that extra push to chase down competitors and finish strongly. Their effort and sportsmanship truly reflected the values we encourage at Dair House.

The results of where all children positioned have not yet been published but we look forward to sharing these with the children as soon as we hear.

Our afternoon ended with a little unexpected adventure when our school minibus became stuck in the mud! A huge thank you to everyone who helped us free it – especially Mr Richards, whose assistance was greatly appreciated. Thanks to teamwork and good spirits, we were soon on our way and arrived safely back at school.

Well done to all our runners, we are incredibly proud of you!







Kickboxing Assembly

We were thrilled to host Samurai Kickboxing on Tuesday morning for an incredible whole-school assembly.

The energy in the hall was electric as our students transitioned from quiet focus to high-energy movement. It wasn't just about the kicks; it was about the discipline behind them.

Highlights:

- The Power of Focus: Students learned how "warrior focus" can help them not just in sports, but in finishing their schoolwork and listening to teachers.
- Skill Showcase: From basic stances to controlled strikes, the students got a hands-on look at what it takes to train like a martial artist.
- The Samurai Code: The instructor emphasized Respect, Self-Control, and Confidence—values we celebrate every day here at Dair House.

Keep the Momentum Going

The Samurai Kickboxing team loved meeting our students. If your child is interested in continuing their journey and building on the skills they saw in assembly, we're excited to let you know that your child is invited to come along for a **free trial session!**

Class details:

- Wednesday Lunchtimes 11:50am - 12:25pm
- Year 3 – Year 6

If your child enjoys the trial, they can continue for the rest of the term. Places are limited, so please book quickly to secure a space.

[Book your child's free trial here](#) (new students only)

Please note: For insurance reasons, only children who register for the taster session can attend. Remember to have your child wear comfortable sports clothing and bring a bottle of water.

A huge thank you to the Samurai team for bringing so much energy to our Tuesday!









Y3/4 Netball v St Bernards

On Tuesday, our Year 3/4 Netball team faced St Bernard's Prep in an exciting and closely contested match, with Siya leading the team confidently as captain.

From the very start, both teams were evenly matched. There was some excellent passing on display and plenty of attacking opportunities, making for a fast-paced and competitive game. The match was played in 7-minute thirds, and after two games the score stood at an impressive 3–3. With everything to play for, we decided to finish with one final 7-minute game. Despite a tremendous effort from our team, the match concluded with a 6–3 win to St Bernard's. The final score, however, did not truly reflect how competitive and well-balanced the game was throughout.

We were delighted to welcome two new players, Sebastian and Samar, to the team, both making a fantastic impact. Samar showed great determination in defence, marking his opponent closely and applying constant pressure. Sebastian demonstrated excellent awareness, reading the game well, moving into space and helping transition the ball effectively to our Goal Attack and Goal Shooter.

Mrs Goodman and I were extremely impressed with the progress and teamwork shown by all the players. It is wonderful to see their confidence and understanding of the game continuing to grow.

A special congratulations goes to Mary, who was named Player of the Match for her outstanding effort and contribution.

Well done to everyone involved – we are very proud of you all!



Y5/6 Netball v St Bernards

On Wednesday, our Year 5 and 6 pupils took to the netball courts at home to play against St Bernard's Prep. It was a fantastic afternoon of sport, with both teams demonstrating great determination, teamwork and school spirit.

The **A Team**, captained by Annabelle, played an exciting and fast-paced match. St Bernard's fielded a particularly tall side, which initially made passing challenging. However, our players quickly adapted their strategy, moving the ball swiftly around the court with sharp, accurate passes and creating strong shooting opportunities. Every player worked tirelessly, marking closely, chasing down the ball and communicating brilliantly throughout.

It was fantastic to see how adaptable the team was, with players confidently moving between positions to support one another and ensure everyone had the opportunity to play in their preferred roles. The teamwork on display was outstanding.

Well done to William for being voted the player of the match from St Bernards, your sheer determination to make sure you get the ball is truly outstanding.

The A Team secured a brilliant **6-1 win**, with goals scored by Maanya and Annabelle. Congratulations to the whole team on a superb performance!

The **B Team**, captained by Kaysha, also faced a strong and well-organised St Bernard's side. The match was competitive and fast-moving, and the team showed great resilience and effort throughout. Jacob scored two excellent goals for Dair House. Although the result did not go in our favour this time, the players should be very proud of how they represented the school and applied the skills they have been developing in lessons.

Jacob was awarded player of the match by his captain Kaysha! Well done Jacob for playing so well!

Both teams demonstrated commitment, teamwork and excellent sportsmanship. Well done to all involved!



Dress to Express Day, MH Week and Josh Quigley Visit

This week we celebrated Children's Mental Health Week, exploring this year's theme, *'This Is My Place'*. During Monday's assembly, Mrs Haward spoke to all the children about what mental health means and the importance of feeling that we truly belong in our school community.

On Wednesday, we enjoyed our Dress to Express day, where children came in outfits that made them feel most like themselves—from pyjamas and sports kits to dinosaurs and police officers! It was wonderful to celebrate individuality, confidence, and the unique place each child holds within our school.

We were also incredibly honoured to welcome world-record-breaking cyclist and inspirational speaker **Josh Quigley** to Dair House this week. Through captivating storytelling and interactive workshops, Josh explored the themes of courage, belonging, commitment and resilience, reflecting on his experiences and achievements.

Following his assembly, Josh hosted smaller workshops where they explored how to eat well and how having a balanced healthy diet contributes positively to our mental health.

A massive thank you to Josh for sharing his journey with us. His visit has left a lasting impression on our school community, reminding us all that with the right mindset, no finish line is out of reach.





Y1 Visit to Windsor Castle

Year 1 had a fantastic time at Windsor Castle yesterday. We were all blown away by the size of the stone castle and the beautiful rooms in the state apartments. First, we looked for the features of castles, arrow slits, canons and battlements and discussed how it was used in the past. Then we visited St George's Chapel and saw the changing of the guard ceremony. We all thought the doll's house was magnificent and we even created our own shields after observing them in St Georges Hall. Despite the rain all the children were in good spirits, they were enthusiastic and worked incredibly hard on their tasks. Well done Year 1!







Year 5 Music Project

Our Year 5 Music Project drew to a close this week, marking the end of 2 terms of hard work and steady progress. On Monday, the children came together for a final performance as a band, confidently playing the well-loved classic *Oh When the Saints*. Mrs Blencowe was extremely proud of everything they have achieved; each pupil has shown real commitment while learning to play either the flute, clarinet, or trumpet. Although the class instrumental lessons have now finished, we are hoping that some of the Year 5 children will feel inspired enough to continue learning their instrument in individual lessons with our peripatetic music teachers. Please do let Mrs Blencowe know if this is something you would like your child to continue with.

After half-term, it will be the turn of our Year 4 pupils to explore their musical talents as they begin their own instrumental journey. Providing every child with the chance to learn an instrument is an important part of our Dair House ethos, and we firmly believe that developing musical skills, whatever the level, should never be overlooked.

Keep an ear out, we might have some future maestros in our midst!



Pictures Of The Week











Reminders for the week ahead

Monday 16th February - Friday 20th February: Half Term Holiday

Upcoming Events

Tuesday 24th February: Y3/4 Football v St Bernards @ St Bernards

Wednesday 25th February: Parents' Evening 5pm-8pm

Wednesday 25th February: Y5/6 Football v St Bernards @ Dair House

Friday 27th February: Girls Year 3-6 Mufti day for winning the changing room challenge

PTA Update



Dear Parents

We would like to invite you to our first PTA event of 2026, our Easter Family Event on Friday 20th March from 3.15pm until 5pm. This year we invite you to visit our Easter Bake Sale and refreshments stall, and for children there is an Easter Egg hunt, Easter Craft activity and an opportunity to enter and take part in the Easter Bonnet Parade led by the Easter Bunny.

For those entering the Easter Bonnet Parade, children are invited to be creative and make a bright and colourful Easter bonnet at home to wear at the event. All children entering the Easter Bonnet Parade will receive a prize.

The event will take place in the Playground/Playing fields of the school, and the program of events is as follows.

- Easter Bake Sale & Refreshments Stall– open from 3.15pm until 5pm
- Easter Egg Hunt – KS1 3.15pm until 3.45pm, KS 3.45pm until 4.15pm

- Easter Bonnet Parade – The Easter Bonnet Parade will be led by the Easter Bunny at 4.15pm.

Tickets will be on sale after half term.

Please note to allow all children to attend, the Wild World After school club on Friday 20th March will be cancelled.

Looking forward to seeing you at the event

PTA



uKids February Holiday Camp

It's Finally Here! 🚀

Half Term Fun Starts TODAY!

The wait is officially over—**Half Term has arrived!** Our Multi-Activity Holiday Camp with @usportsxukids is officially underway, and the energy is already through the roof.

If you haven't secured a spot for the remaining days this week, **now is your very last chance.** We are ready and waiting with a jam-packed schedule of:

- **Super Sports:** High-energy games to burn off that holiday steam.

- **Operation Outdoors:** Fresh air, exploration, and adventure.
- **Crazy Crafts:** Getting messy and creative with new projects.
- **Brain Busters:** Fun puzzles to keep those young minds buzzing.

It's the ultimate way for **ages 3–11** to stay active and inspired while school is out.

⚡ Grab the Last Few Spots

We have a tiny handful of spaces left for the rest of the week. Don't let them miss out on the best week of February!

Secure your spot here: u-kids.co.uk/camps/south-bucks-holiday-club



Contact



If you have any questions, comments or achievements to feature in the newsletter please contact the School Office:

schooloffice@dairhouse.school

01753 643964

Don't forget to follow us on social media to see instant updates of School Life:

[Facebook](#)

[Instagram](#)

[Twitter](#)

[TikTok](#)