



November 2025



Newsletter

DEAR PARENTS AND CARERS

Welcome to November's Newsletter. Please take a moment to read this month's newsletter to stay informed and find out how you can support your child's journey at school.

Mrs Barnaville & Mrs Gallagher

St Martin de Porres Feast Day

At the start of November, we celebrated the feast day of our patron saint, St Martin de Porres. KS2 pupils attended a special Mass at Church, while KS1 took part in a beautiful liturgy in school.

In class, we learned more about St Martin's life and discovered some fascinating facts about him, including: He grew up in poverty and learned barbering and medicine from a surgeon.

He established an orphanage and a children's hospital, and was known for performing many miracles of healing. St Martin is the patron saint of barbers, innkeepers, public health workers, animals, and all those seeking racial harmony.



School Council

On Thursday 27th November, some of our School Council representatives visited Downside Primary School to meet with council members from other local schools.

The meeting focused on how we can work together to make Luton a Child-Friendly Town as part of the Borough Council's 2040 strategy. This initiative aims to ensure that all children and young people (ages 0–24) grow up:

Happy, healthy, and secure, with a voice that matters

With access to basic needs and essential services

Experiencing reduced educational and health inequalities

Having equal opportunities for children with SEND

Enjoying opportunities to play, socialise, and thrive

The ideas and discussions from this meeting will be shared at the Annual School Council Conference next month, where schools from across the town will come together to continue this important work.

November - Month of Remembrance



Throughout November, our school community has taken time to remember those who have passed away, including loved ones, by honouring them in our Remembrance Book. We also reflected on the lives lost in war.

To mark this important time, each year group created a beautiful piece of artwork, now displayed around the school. We came together for liturgies in both Key Stages and observed a two-minute silence at 11am, followed by the poignant sound of the Last Post.



Attendance

Please see below the attendance data for November

Please remember to consult our Attendance Policy for the correct process and time frame for you to request any Leave of Absence for your child. Under the new guidance, Leave of Absence can only be authorised by the Head Teacher in the most exceptional of circumstances and in accordance with your School's Attendance Policy.

A gentle reminder: Absences immediately before or after school holidays will be reviewed. We may ask for supporting information to help us record them accurately.

Class	%
Bears	95.1
Tigers	95.7
1M	96.7
1P	92.7
2M	97.2
2P	96.9
3M	97.9
3P	96.8
4M	98.2
4P	97.3
5M	98.5
5P	98.3
6M	96.3
6P	96.4
Total Average	95.9

Advent

As we enter the season of Advent, beginning on Sunday, 30th November, we invite you to join us in prayer as a family.

Loving God,

As this Advent season begins, help us to open our hearts in preparation for the coming of Your Son, Jesus. Fill our homes and our school with hope, peace, joy, and love, so that we may share these blessings with one another.

Teach us to be patient and kind as we await the light of Christ in our lives.

Amen.



Sponsored Activity

Well done to all the children who took part in our sponsored activity – you were amazing! A big thank you to Mr Flynn for organising such a fantastic event. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves, and together we raised over £1,000!

A special congratulations to Freddie, Jake, and Ryan, who each raised over £100 – what an incredible effort!

All the money raised will go towards enhancing our outdoor environment, creating even better spaces for the children to enjoy.

Finally, a heartfelt thank you to all our parents for your support and encouragement. We couldn't have done it without you!



COMMUNICATION

If you have any concerns or queries about your child, please contact the class teacher via email at help@smdpluton.co.uk. Teachers are unable to speak with parents on the playground at the end of the day, as their priority is ensuring children are dismissed safely. They are often required to attend meetings, training, or clubs after school. They will respond to your message when they are able to give you the time and attention your query deserves.

All school communication is sent via parentmail—please ensure you are signed up to receive updates so you don't miss important information. While Class Dojo is used within school for classroom activities, it is not a platform for parent-teacher communication. This helps us keep messages consistent and avoid overwhelming families with information from multiple sources. Messages sent to teachers via Class Dojo will not be read or responded to. If you have any concerns relating to your child, their class teacher will be more than happy to help but this needs to be emailed to help@smdpluton.co.uk and they will respond at their earliest convenience.