

JANUARY 2026

DOWER HOUSE NEWSLETTER



Prince's Mead Pupils Bring Festive Joy to The Dower House

Members of Prince's Mead school Choir and Orchestra took music into the community, visiting the Dower House care home. Pupils performed a programme of traditional and contemporary carols, this included a beautiful rendition of Silent Night, which they sang to an alternative tune and even split into different parts!



We were also treated to their string group playing a folk song and some songs being accompanied by their wind group. Residents (and Matron) joining in enthusiastically with maracas and tambourines, filling the home with the spirit of Christmas.

All in all, a fantastic afternoon to get our Christmas started!

Headmaster Adam King said:

"Christmas is a time for kindness, connection, and generosity, and I am immensely proud of how our Prince's Mead community continues to give back. Whether through music, companionship, or thoughtful gifts, our pupils and families have helped make Christmas brighter for others. This spirit of giving is at the heart of who we are as a school."

At the end of November Santa visited The Dower House, handing out advent calendars to our residents.

Thank you, Santa!!



Ben's News

In January our wildlife will be seen in the borders looking for seedheads and running around the lawn looking for titbits and any grubs they can dig up. The garden doesn't have much interest at this time of year but very soon snowdrop & Cyclamen will start popping up through the lawns and borders.



Over the last month Terry and I have been getting through the border work, tidying up and preparing the borders for mulching in early spring. We have had a few strong winds so getting tidied up after them has got us behind where we wanted to be with the border work, but we are both on our way around so you all will see us very soon and the garden will be back in top condition for all to enjoy.



There are a few points of interest in the garden, the physio garden by the barn looks great on a sunny afternoon, very neat and some good lines for the eye to follow. The bog garden by the pond with the colours of the Cornus and the pond, the borders around the pond may be untidy but the water is very clear, so the fish are very easy to spot.
When it's not raining, please come and see for yourselves. Over the next month we will continue around to get everything tidied up for the spring ahead.

Dower House Christmas Carol Service



This year our Christmas Carol Service was taken by Rev Paul Bradish, joined by Rev Lis Chase on the keyboard and Helen bringing everyone together in harmony. Families & residents read aloud short readings from the bible about Christmas in between the carols. Afterward everyone participated in enjoying homemade mince pies and a glass of prosecco.

Thank you to Paul for creating our very own Carol Books that our residents were invited to keep.



Hannah Spires

Hannah put her heart and soul into making our afternoon extra special, she filled the room with festive songs that she played on the saxophone. There were plenty of toe tapping and singing by residents and staff.

Pippa & Marlyse

Marlyse contacted us to say that Pippa would love to play the flute & Violin to the residents near Christmas. Pippa decided on the Christmas songs and put the entire show together for us. Pippa is just 12 years of age! Such talent when you are so young, it was so lovely to see them enjoying playing to everyone.



January Quiz

1. What were the names of We Three Kings?
2. Who left footprints in the snow?
3. The Queen was in the parlour eating bread and honey...What was the King doing?
4. Who tried to stop the tide?
5. Which king suffered from a bad stammer?
6. Which king was found under a carpark in 2012?
7. Which living king is exiled from his country under accusation of fraud?
8. Which king is credited with agreeing to the Magna Carta?
9. Who called 'Once more unto the breach dear friends, once more'?
10. Whose ghost is seen at the opening of Hamlet?
11. Who succeeded Henry V111 to the throne of England?
12. How many daughters had King Lear?
13. Which monarch was the first to take up official residence at Buckingham Palace?
14. How many of Henry VIII's wives were named Catherine?
15. In 1926, which future British monarch competed in the Wimbledon tennis championships in the men's doubles?
16. Which monarch was on the throne when the Black Death first arrived in Britain in the mid-14th century?
17. Who was the mother of King Harold II, the last Anglo-Saxon king of England?
18. Which British king's famous last words are reported to be "Bugger Bognor!"?
19. Which Romanov ruler is credited with launching the Golden Age of the Russian Empire?
20. Which English king was known by the nickname "Lionheart"?





Something wonderful to look forward to in 2026 will be The Commonwealth Games, scheduled to be held in Glasgow, Scotland. The opening ceremony is on the August 13th, I'm sure will be watching and celebrating in the home.



Scotstoun Stadium was identified as the ideal venue to host Athletics in the city based on its existing infrastructure and the minimal venue readiness work and overlay required to deliver a world-class Athletics competition.



WHAT'S ON IN JANUARY

Every Monday at 10.30 Knit & Natter with our ladies from Inner Wheel

Every Tuesday morning Keep Fit

- Thursday 1st 11am The Word Game
- 3pm Quiz Time
- Friday 2nd 11am Games of Scrabble / Rummikub
- 2pm Packing away the Christmas Decorations
- Monday 5th 2pm Packing away the Christmas Decorations
- Tuesday 6th 11am Keep Fit in the New Year
- 3pm Games of Scrabble & Rummikub
- Wednesday 7th 11am The Word Game
- 3pm Craft time
- Thursday 8th 11am What the papers say
- 3pm Jonathan Prag on the Guitar
- Friday 9th 11am Morning Chats
- 3pm One to One visit's
- Monday 12th 3pm Quiz Time
- Tuesday 13th 11am Keep Fit
- 3pm Ryan Matthew Singing (New for 2026)
- Wednesday 14th 11am The Word Game
- 3pm Jackie Drew on the Violin
- Thursday 15th 11am Games morning
- 3pm Watercolour Painting
- Friday 16th 11am Games of legs
- 3pm Ice cream tasting
- Monday 19th 3pm Quiz Time
- Tuesday 20th 3pm
- Wednesday 21st 11am Keep Fit
- 3pm Sarah Hobbs
- Thursday 22nd 11am The Word Game
- 3pm Craft afternoon
- Friday 23rd 11am What the papers Say
- 3pm Brian Budden on the Piano
- Monday 26th 11am
- 3pm Games of Scrabble & Rummikub
- Tuesday 27th 11am Keep Fit
- 3pm Room Visits
- Wednesday 28th Holy Communion
- 3pm Carol Watson 'A Journey in Japan'
- Thursday 29th The Word Game
- 3pm Water Colour painting
- Friday 30th 11am Games of Legs
- 3pm Mill Farm coming to visit with Rabbits, Guinea Pigs and a Labrador!