



NEWS

Spring Term
2026

Welcome to our Spring Term Newsletter

Topics we cover in this issue are:

1. Our Proud Sponsors
2. Teacher Guidance & Support
3. Don't forget to Meet Auntie Duck
4. Neurodiversity Pack
5. A reminder about our Upper Key Stage 2 resources
6. Free DDCT Resources
7. Introducing a fantastic organisation, Tales from Mother Earth (TfME), and their new resource, Darcy's Tale

A very happy spring term to you all.

It's great to see the first signs of the new plants coming up and the temperature getting a bit less offensive, let's hope we start to see the sun soon as well!

We are sticking with our plan to keep our newsletters brief and to the point, but please feel free to contact us if you ever want to know more – info@dogduckandcat.co.uk



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1. Our Proud Sponsors

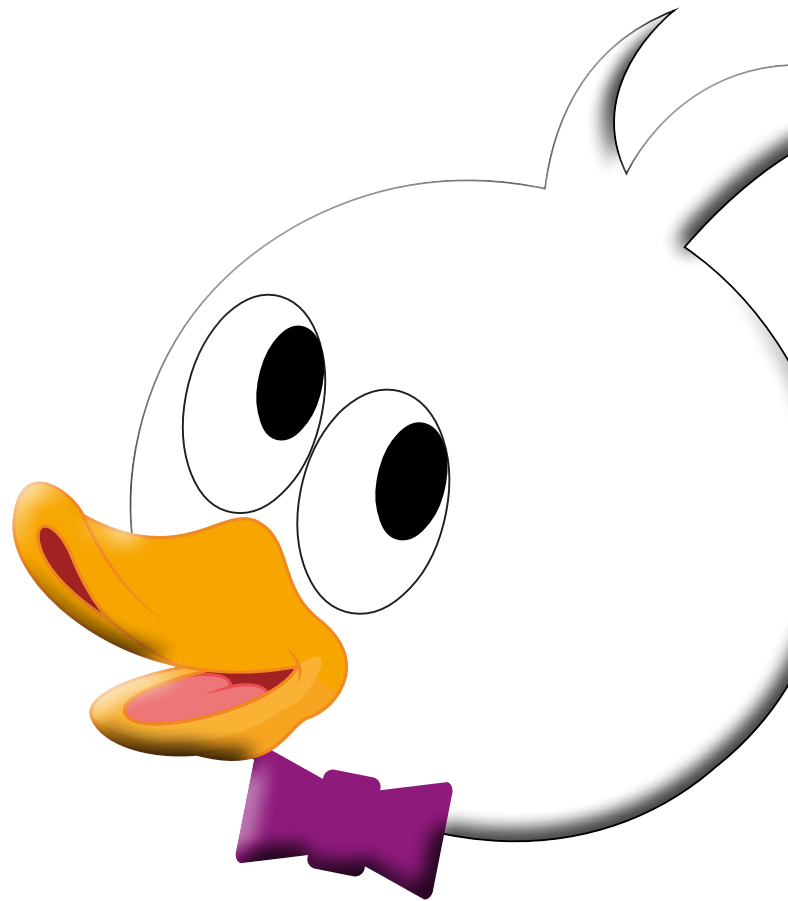
We're very happy to be able to report that Connex Education Partnership (CEP) will be continuing to sponsor us until the end of this academic year. This is an incredibly valued partnership and we are extremely proud that an organisation like CEP want to sponsor us at the DDCT.

Any school that are working with CEP has full pre-paid access to all the DDCT resources and we will be emailing them all separately with their log in details between now and Easter.



We are also very happy to report another sponsor has signed up to support us at the DDCT.

K2 services, based in Dudley, have agreed to sponsor us until April 2027! This is a wonderful local business that employs over 2000 local people, so this again is a huge opportunity to promote the work we do and raise awareness of issues that face children and young people every day.



2. Teacher Guidance & Support

Since our last edition of the newsletter, we have continued with our work to update our website with all sorts of useful materials and tools to help teachers make the most of our amazing resources!

Features and documents within the Teachers & Professionals to help schools include:

Resource Mapping

- DDCT resources mapped to the current statutory DfE RSHE curriculum requirements for primary phase. We will also be releasing a new mapping document to the updated 2025 statutory RSHE requirements in spring term, so watch this space!
- DDCT resources mapped to the PSHE Association Programme of Study (PoS) for KS1 and 2. We will also be releasing a new mapping document to the updated Programme of Study for KS1 and 2 when this is released by the PSHE Association later in the spring term, so please look out for this when we release it.

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- **Supporting Documents**

- Model RSE Policy template and guidance. This will shortly be updated in line with the updated 2025 RSHE statutory guidance document to help you prepare for the new requirements from the DfE.
- Guidance on delivering DDCT resources
- Suggested additional resources to supplement DDCT materials

- **Suggested Curriculum**

- Suggested curriculum delivery overview
- Suggested curriculum delivery for each year group

- **Pupil Progress Trackers**

- Individual pupil trackers for KS1, LKS & UKS2
- Whole class trackers for KS1, LKS & UKS2

As ever, we will be working away in the background to update and create new tools to help you provide high quality and effective PSHE using the DDCT resources.

We have begun the process of mapping all our resources to the new RSHE guidance that will become statutory in September 2026. That task will be completed by Easter, so we are looking forward to sharing all new mapping documents with you in the summer term.

If you have any suggestions for any additional tools, then please get in touch and let us know, we are always happy to investigate new ways to support you all.

And a reminder too that we work closely with specialist PSHE/RSHE consultant Russell Stanley of Health & Wellbeing in Schools Ltd, so if you need any specialist advice, training or support, especially around implementing the updated RSHE requirements ahead of September 2026, then we are able to provide this for you!

3. Don't forget to meet Auntie Duck!

In a joint project between ourselves at the Dog, Duck and Cat Trust, Sandwell Public Health, and the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA), a story and series of resources have been created.



Auntie Duck has been created to raise awareness of air pollution, but also to highlight simple and positive things we can all do to help reduce that pollution, make our air that bit clearer, help people with conditions like asthma, and save some money too!

Please go to www.dogduckandcat.co.uk and 'Meet Auntie Duck' to find out more.



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4. Neurodiversity Pack

DDCT was approached by Barnardo's in summer 2024 about working together as part of their PINS (Promoting Inclusion around Neurodiversity in Schools) project.

After some consultation between ourselves, and with schools and professional partners, we devised a brand-new story, 'Everyone Deserves a Friend'.

In this story we looked at neurodiversity and in particular autism.

The great news is that we are now finishing a brand-new story that focuses on another type of neurodiversity, ADHD. We have consulted with a vast range of partners on the story and as ever it has grown and developed due to all the wonderful ideas they shared with us.

Our plan is to combine these two stories, and devise three new lessons, which will then allow us to create a new **Neurodiversity Awareness Pack**.



I won't give anymore of the game away at this point, but I am very much looking forward to sharing more news on the pack with you in the summer newsletter.



5. A reminder about our Upper Key Stage 2 resources

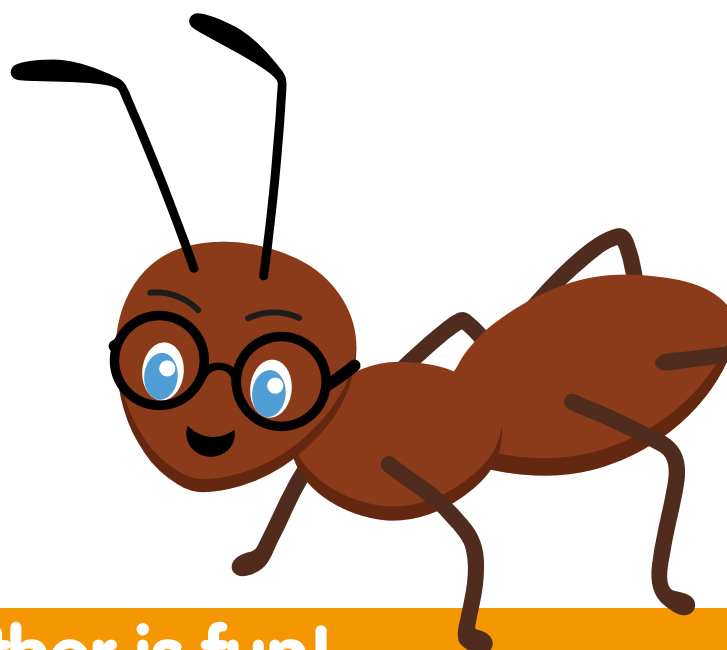
One of the fantastic pieces of partnership working that DDCT and CEP have been engaged in is around the development of educational resources for Upper Key Stage 2.

A brand-new character, Ant, has been created as well as a totally new set of learning resources.

They cover:

- Emotional and Mental Health and Wellbeing
- Risk taking
- Online conduct, safety and life
- Consent
- Families and relationships
- Equality, Diversity and Inclusion
- Physical health and wellbeing
- Alcohol and drugs
- Dealing with bereavement
- Puberty

Please visit <https://www.dogduckandcat.co.uk/teachers-professionals> and take a look.



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6. Free DDCT Resources!!

Did you know that some of our materials are free to access?

If are thinking about purchasing access to our full programme, then you can take a look to get an idea of what we are all about! We currently have the following fully resourced learning materials free to anyone who wishes to use them in school:

KS1

- **Sweets, Treats, Medicines and Tablets**
In this story, Duck finds himself in a difficult situation and Cat learns how she should treat others.
- **Pollinators Patch**
This resource looks at the importance of pollination, introduces us to the pollinators who pollinate our plants and explains why this process is vital for all living creatures on planet Earth.

LKS2

- **Moggy's New Medicine**
In this story, Moggy tells us all about asthma, and what that means to him.
- **Everyone Deserves a Friend**
In this story we look at neurodiversity, how a person with a neurodiverse condition might feel and some of the barriers that they may encounter. We also look at how we can all make simple changes so we can help people, both neurodiverse and neurotypical, to be the best they can be and feel included and valued.

UKS2

- **What is Emotional Wellbeing and Resilience?** In this set of resources, we focus on emotional wellbeing and resilience, what those terms mean and how we can help ourselves or get help if we need it.
- **What is Consent?**
In this resource we focus on consent, what it is, why it is so important for us all and why gaining consent from someone is absolutely vital.

[Click here](#) to visit the free teaching resources section of our website and access all of these materials which you are very welcome to use in your school.

Thinking about accessing our full programme of resources?

As a charity, the DDCT try to make using our resources as affordable as possible to schools and teachers. For any individual school or setting that would like to access to all of the DDCT resources it's very simple:

- We ask for a minimum annual donation of £149 from individual schools, which we then use to fund the development of new resources and cover our running costs.
- This donation gives individual schools access to our full programme and resources for 12 months; this also includes any new resources developed in that time as well - [click here](#) to register your interest and find out how our materials can be used in your school.



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7. Introducing a fantastic organisation, Tales from Mother Earth (TfME), and their new resource, Darcy's Tale

TfME is a children's storybook series designed to connect young readers, aged 3 to 10 years, with nature and inspire conservation awareness.

Darcy's Tale is a short film created by Aardman that was developed into a children's storybook by working with the Greater Lincolnshire Project Groundwater Team and the Environment Agency.

Let's hear from Vicky Jones and Brett Rycroft-Jones Flood Resilience Programme Co-ordinators at Lincolnshire Country Council to explain more:

"Flooding can be devastating for communities from all sources and groundwater is especially difficult as it can occur long periods after a rainfall event and can be quite isolating to those whom experience it.

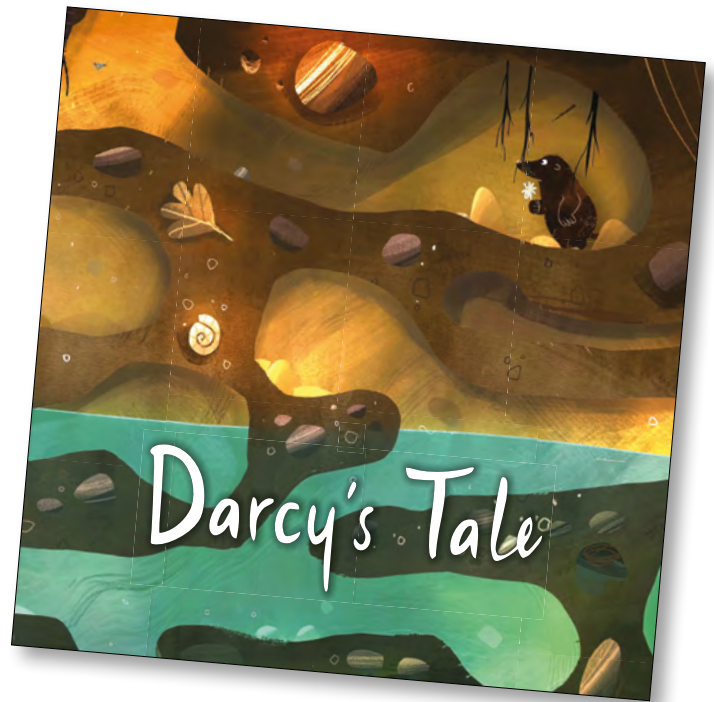
Educating children on flooding matters to building future resilience and Darcy's Tale has been a great way to do this building on the animation with the beautifully created book by TfME. We're proud to be sponsoring the books rollout on a national scale."

– Vicky Jones

"It is important for children to learn about flooding and its impact because it builds personal resilience, equips them with life-saving knowledge, and empowers them to become active contributors to their community safety.

This education helps mitigate both the immediate physical dangers and the long-term psychological impacts of flood events. Ultimately, teaching children about flooding and groundwater is an investment in creating safer, more informed, and resilient communities that are better equipped to face future climate challenge"

– Brett Rycroft-Jones



As part of this project, we are delighted to be able to provide FREE GIFTS for the children in your classes! We have books and some adorable cuddly Darcy toy moles to give away!

All you have to do is colour in one of our set colouring pictures found here on the [Lincolnshire Council Project Groundwater website](https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/groundwater) and send it back to hello@talesfrommotherearth.co.uk – and every picture received gets a book and toy gift while stocks last and for a limited time only.

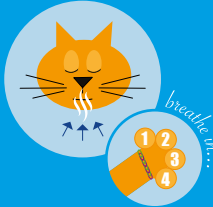
Darcy's Tale is produced as part of project groundwater, which is funded by Defra as part of the £200 million Flood and Coastal Innovation Programmes which is managed by the Environment Agency. The programmes will drive innovation in flood and coastal resilience and adaptation to a changing climate.

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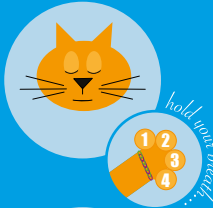
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Fantastic4's

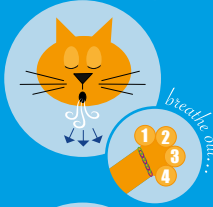
Sometimes children and adults, get nervous, panicky worried and stressed. It's perfectly normal, but it's not a nice feeling. Breathing can help us to calm ourselves down and relax. We've got a simple breathing exercise for you to try, that can be done by anyone!



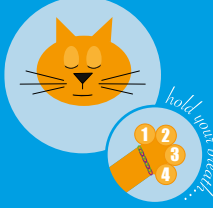
Step 1
Breathe in counting to 4



Step 2
Hold your breath while counting to 4 on your hand



Step 3
Breathe out while counting to 4



Step 4
Hold your breath while counting to 4 on your hand

Why not have a go at learning the 'Fantastic 4's', just like Cat did?

If you ever feel nervous, panicky, worried or stressed you can give it a try. It might just help you!

Do you have any suggestions?

Please email us, we are always happy to listen!

info@dogduckandcat.co.uk



Do you have any questions?

Please email us with your question, we will be happy to answer them!

info@dogduckandcat.co.uk



Do you need help to register?

Please email us, we will be happy to help you!

info@dogduckandcat.co.uk



Wishing you all a great rest of the half term!

We hope that you enjoyed our latest newsletter and found it useful. If you'd like to contact us about any of the information provided, or just for a chat, then please get in touch via info@dogduckandcat.co.uk

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