

January 2026

Dear families

Stretch - Cycle 2

What is Stretch and why do we complete Stretch projects at DMP?

As part of the English curriculum, students will take part in a 'Stretch' project. Students complete an independent project and explore questions related to a chosen subject. Stretch projects prepare students for tasks at secondary school, research in further education and to develop essential independent learning skills to help them climb their mountain to university. Students benefit by developing their communication skills, both speaking and listening, as well as building their confidence when presenting in front of their peers.

Within school, students complete their Stretch project during Stretch afternoons which involves them researching and writing their speech. The speeches should be approximately 2- 3 minutes in length. Students are encouraged to learn their speech off by heart, using notecards as prompts. They will then present their project to their class, two winners per class will be selected based on a scoring system. The two finalists from each class will then take part in the Stretch Key Stage Finals where overall winners and runners-up are chosen and prizes awarded.

Stretch Posters

At home, students will be required to develop a poster which will support their presentation in the finals. Students will plan the poster in school and then have the option of either completing a paper-based poster to support their speech or creating a PowerPoint presentation using computers. PowerPoint presentations should be sent to individual class email addresses, for example: huddersfield@dixonsmp.com or nottingham@dixonsmp.com. In the 'Subject' box of your email, please state: 'Stretch Presentation' and student initials.

Please note that paper-based posters or a PowerPoint are equally acceptable and A3 paper will be provided by class teachers, if requested. Posters should be bold and colourful and only include key information and pictures, in order to support the speech.

Cycle 2 Stretch Topics

Year 2 – Would you prefer a hot or cold climate?

Question 1. What is a hot place like?

Question 2. What is a cold place like?

Year 3 - How do Mountains, Volcanoes and Earthquakes impact the world?

Question 1. How are mountains and volcanoes formed? How does an earthquake occur (happen)?

Question 2. What impact do these natural disasters have on humans and wildlife in the world?



Year 4 - Migration

Question 1. What is migration?

Question 2. What foods, cultures and languages are shared through migration?

Year 5 - What makes a great leader?

Question 1. What made a historical leader successful?

Question 2. What makes a contemporary leader successful?

Year 6 - Civil Rights - Is society fair?

Question 1. Which people in history have already campaigned for a fair society?

Question 2. What changes can we make in the future?

The booklets that your child/children use in class for research and to draft and write their speeches will be sent home. Lessons 1-5 will be completed in school; launch lesson, the research for the topic, planning the speech and writing the first draft of the speech.

The rest of the booklet can be completed at home including, writing further drafts of the speech and planning the poster/PowerPoint Presentation. This enables children to be independent in completing research at home and refining their speech in preparation for the finals.

Booklets need to be brought back to school when stretch projects are handed in. The deadline for this is the week beginning **9.3.26** for in class finals; Key Stage finals will be held on **19.3.26**.

Should you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact myself or your child's class teacher.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Keenan

Year 4 Teacher and Stretch Lead

