



Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to the autumn term and new school year. I hope you all managed to have a restful break and your children are ready and excited about the busy school year ahead. Year 6 have their cycle safety training coming up soon, Harvest is only a few weeks away and we are making final preparations for the Year 3 and 4 swimming lessons! The children in Red and Green classes have started their Stone Age to Iron Age history topic with an archaeological dig on the school field, Year 6 have already been looking at the events of World War II and EYFS/Key Stage 1 will be starting their topic work on weather and seasons later in the week. You will find all of the diary dates at the end of this newsletter.

Our new school website is now up and running, so please do have a look at it. The calendar for the year will be uploaded early next week. You will find all of the information about your child's class and year group curriculum on the site, as well as school policies and procedures.

This week we have welcomed all of our new children and families into the school and we wish them all the very best of luck.

We also welcome our new Yellow Class teacher Miss Ella Bradley to our team and teaching assistant in Key Stage 1 Miss Emily Ridout.

As well as the new members of our school we will be thinking of last years leavers in Year 6 as they continue on their learning journey at secondary school.

START OF THE YEAR REMINDERS

Please could you ensure that you either email or phone the school office if your child is going to be absent from school due to illness or lateness. A reminder that absence for sickness or diarrhoea is 48 hours after the final episode. The best way to contact your child's class teacher is either by emailing the school office at adminoffice@durley.hants.sch.uk or speaking to them directly at the classroom door at the end of the school day. This email should also be used for any general messaging.

With children moving to new classes, please can you let the school office know if there is going to be a different person collecting your child at the end of the school day. When children reach their final year at Durley School in Year 6, we are keen to encourage a little bit more independence in preparation for moving onto secondary school, so we allow them to walk to a pre-arranged place to meet their parent/carer at the end of the school day rather than being collected from the classroom door. We also allow them to collect a KS2 sibling if you think they are ready to do this. Please can parents of Year 6 pupils email the school office to ensure we are aware of any agreement you have made with your child with regards to collection at the end of the day.

We do not allow jewellery in school except for earrings, which must be taped or taken out for PE. Please can you ensure that your child has a water bottle in school each day, and their PE kit in school each week for their two PE sessions. Your child's class newsletter will state which days they will have PE. Please can you ensure that all uniform is clearly named.

We are continuing to strengthen our safeguarding procedures within the school, and would like to clarify that as a school we do allow parents to take photographs of their own children at school

events such as our Harvest festival, sports day and school performances. We do however ask you not to put photographs of other people's children on social media without the permission of their parents/carers.

If your child is starting in Year 3 this term, it unfortunately marks the end of the Universal Free School Meals scheme. If you think you might be eligible for income related free school meals please do not hesitate to contact the school office or check on the following website: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>. Lunches will be charged at £3:20 per lunch, which will provide your child with a varied and healthy selection of hot meals, salad, vegetables, homemade fresh bread and desserts.

Finally we do not allow electronics in school (mobile phones, electronic games etc). If any are found they will be kept in a locked cupboard during the day and returned to parents at 3:30pm.

MUSIC LESSONS

Peripatetic music lessons for, brass/band (Monday), and woodwind (Thursday). Brass and woodwind lessons will start next week, beginning 9 September. Mr Burgess' lessons for piano (Tuesday and Friday) and recorder (Friday) will start this week.

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITY CLUBS

All activity clubs for this term will start w/c 9 September and finish w/e 13 December. The clubs are currently open to Years 1 to 6 with Year R from the Spring term. Please speak to the providers directly or school office if you would like to sign your child up.

PARKING



Can I also remind you that there is **NO** parking or turning on the track next to the school for parents, relatives or friends dropping off or collecting children at the start or end of the school day. Parking is always available at the side of the road or at the Memorial Hall. I also urge you to park along the roadside with due consideration of neighbours and children.

REMINDER – WE ARE A NUT-FREE SCHOOL

As we start the new school year, can I remind you that we do not allow any children to bring nuts into school, this includes products that may contain nuts as we currently have a number of pupils with a severe allergic reaction.



This year we also have a pupil with a severe banana allergy. We will not be continuing with bananas as part of our fruit offering for EYFS/KS1 children and urge you to ensure bananas are not part of your child's packed lunch.

If you feel that we may need to update our records with any new medical condition for your child, or contact details, please could you speak to your child's class teacher or the school office.

A reminder that our school website has a copy of all the newsletters throughout the year and a calendar with all of the current dates and useful information.

Kind Regards

Kirstie Baines
Headteacher

IN-SERVICE TRAINING DAYS (School Closures) for academic year 2024-2025

Friday 20 December 2024
Monday 2 June 2025
Monday 21 July 2025
Tuesday 22 July 2025

Diary Dates for the 2024-2025 school year – all dates can be subject to change. All changes and new dates in the diary will appear in red.

Autumn Term 2024

W/b 9 September	all after school activity clubs start
W/b 9 September	all music lessons start
Thursday 12 September	pm Year 6 virtual author event (The Blatchley Riddle – Sheikin and Sepetys)
Friday 20 September	Year 3 and 4 Swimming lessons start
Wednesday 25 September	1:30pm sponsored sport event – parents welcome to watch!
Thursday 26 September	9:15 Harvest Festival
Wednesday 25 September	Sponsored Fancy Dress Fun Run
Tuesday 1 October	Bags2School – more information to follow
Thursday 3 October	5:30pm Family Reading Night
Thursday 10 October	OPEN DAY for new parents 2025
Thursday 10 October	5:00-6:15 EYFS/KS1 disco
Tuesday 15 October	3:00-6:00pm Parent’s meeting with classteacher
Thursday 17 October	whole school nasal flu immunisation
Thursday 17 October	4:00-7:00pm Parent’s meeting with classteacher
Friday 18 October	Year 6 Bikeability
Monday 21 October	Year 6 Bikeability
Thursday 24 October	Red and Green class visit to Butser Farm museum
Friday 25 October	6:30-8:00pm KS2 disco

23-27 October HALF TERM

Monday 11 November	10:45am Remembrance Service
Friday 15 November	Children in Need
Thursday 21 November	Photographer in school (portraits)
Wednesday 27 November	Year 6 ROAR concert Portsmouth Cathedral
Friday 29 November	Non uniform day for sweet tombola DSA Christmas Fayre
Monday 2 December	School Christmas Post Box open
Wednesday 4 December	Non uniform day – bottle tombola
Saturday 7 December	DSA Christmas Fayre
Wednesday 11 December	9:20am Blue and Yellow Class Nativity
Thursday 12 December	9:20am Blue and Yellow Class Nativity
Friday 13 December	am. KS2 church rehearsal

Friday 13 December	Final after school activity club
Tuesday 17 December	pm Class Christmas parties
Wednesday 18 December	Christmas lunch and Christmas Jumper Day
Thursday 19 December	1:30pm Carol Service in Holy Cross Church School ends at 3:30pm. No after school child care club.

Spring Term 2025

Monday 6 January	8:45am start of the Spring Term
Thursday 9 January	3:35 SAT's meeting for Year 6 parents and their children in Green class.
Monday 20 January	Visit from Fire Brigade for children in Years 1 and 5
Thursday 30 January	pm Red and Green class visit to children's concert in Central Hall, Southampton
Friday 31 January	1:30pm Christingle Service in Durley Church. Parents welcome to join us.
Tuesday 11 February	Safer Internet Day

17-21 February

Spring HALF TERM

Tuesday 25 February	3:00pm-6:00pm Parent's Evening
Thursday 27 February	4:00pm-7:00pm Parent's Evening
Thursday 6 March	World Book Day
Thursday 6 March	5:30-6:30 Family Reading Night
Thursday 13 March	Y5/6 vocal festival in Thornden Hall
Friday 14 March	6:30-8:00pm KS2 outside disco
Thursday 20 March	5:00pm-6:15pm EYFS/KS1 Disco
Monday 24 March	2:30pm Music concert for KS2 pupils who have peripatetic music lessons
Friday 4 April	1:30pm Easter service in Holy Cross Church School ends at 3:30pm. No after school child care or clubs

7 April – 21 April

Easter Holiday

Summer Term 2025

Tuesday 22 April	8:45am start of the Summer Term
Monday 5 May	School closed for Bank Holiday
12-15 May	Y6 SAT's testing week
Thursday 15 May	Y6 end of SAT's picnic and rounders
Monday 19 May	Whole school class photos
Friday 23 May	School Grounds morning
26-30 May	Summer HALF TERM
Monday 2 June	In-Service training day for staff. SCHOOL CLOSED
Thursday 12 June	7:30-8:30 New Parents meeting
Wednesday 18 June	1:30pm Whole School Sports Day (parents and carers welcome)
Saturday 22 June	Holy Cross Church Summer Fete
Friday 27 June	Non uniform day – sweets for sweet tombola

Monday 30 June	2:30pm - Music concert for KS2 pupils who have peripatetic music lessons
Tuesday 1 July	Wyvern Transition Day for new intake – Children make their own way to Wyvern.
Wednesday 2 July	Non Uniform day – bottles for bottle stall
Thursday 3 July	Family Reading Night
Saturday 5 July	School Summer Fayre
Tuesday 8 July	1:30pm KS2 School Play
9 and 10 July	6:00pm KS2 School Play
Thursday 10 July	Annual Reports to parents
Friday 11 July	Y6 to Portsmouth cathedral for morning workshops and afternoon leavers service.
Friday 18 July	Final day of term. 1:30pm Leavers' service in Holy Cross Church
Monday 21 July and Tuesday 22 July School closed for staff training	