



Durley C of E Primary School Newsletter

Autumn Term 1 – 25th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Our school has been a flurry of activity since the start of term and I have enjoyed starting to get to know the children and you, as parents and carers. A huge well done to our Year R pupils, most of whom are now full-time – they are doing brilliantly and have settled in really well. It has been lovely visiting all the classes and seeing the wonderful learning the children have been doing.

Red and Green Classes have been learning about space and shared their knowledge of the phases of the moon in Celebration Worship last week.

Blue and Yellow Classes have been reading 'Mr Gumpy's Motor Car' and have done some amazing writing based on this. Purple Class have continued their learning about World War II and I read some of their writing yesterday. They have worked incredibly hard!

Amazing Children

A special well done to all the children who have shown me their writing based on the book 'The Iron Man'. They had worked incredibly hard and their work was of really high quality! Another well done to one of our pupils from Purple Class, who played the piano beautifully on Friday in Celebration Worship. Mr Burgess was really impressed, as they had had learnt a piece of music in just a week. Amazing!

Finally, congratulations to three of our pupil class pupils for achieving certificates for their dedication in music.

Harvest

We are fast approaching our harvest service and we have been busy planning this at school. The harvest celebration will take place here in school, on **Thursday 2nd October at 9.15am**. You are all warmly invited to join us. This year, we are supporting the Hedge End Food Bank and we would be grateful for donations for this charity. Representatives from the food bank will join us for our harvest service and have particularly asked for donations of: **tinned stew, hot dogs and corned beef, pasta sauce, UHT milk, rice, crackers, sugar and biscuits**.

Year 3 and 4 Swimming

Year 3 and 4 had their first swimming lesson last Friday and were a delight to take to Winchester. I had the pleasure of accompanying the children and their behaviour was impeccable. It was great to see the children have so much fun in the pool. Thank you to our staff for all their hard work in organising this; especially Mrs Maitland, who has worked tirelessly behind the scenes arranging the coach, liaising with the Leisure Centre to name a few things! The final session is on **Friday 14th November**.

Promoting School Values and Celebration Worship

We have continued to focus on one of our school values or a school rule each week and certificates have been awarded to children exhibiting this. Last week, we celebrated pupils showing 'pride' and this week's key value is 'kindness'.

This has linked well with our work on anti-bullying and this was also something we talked about in worship on Monday. We looked at what constitutes bullying and how we can deal with this. We also looked at the difference between an incident of unkindness and bullying. I

talked to the children about the acronym 'STOP'. We will be continuing to work with the children on this, but if you can talk to your children at home, that would be great.

Durley Parent's Association (DSA)

I met with both the chair and vice-chair last week, Chloe Collins and Lise Sellers and together we planned events for the rest of the autumn term. We will holding a fun run on **Friday 10th October** – more details to follow very soon. The DSA have funded so many resources for our children and without them, we simply could not afford to purchase these. They have funded basketball hoops, additional playtime equipment, IT resources and the coach for the residential to Beaulieu to name a few. A huge thank you to you, as parents and carers for your support of the DSA's events and to the DSA team who work tirelessly to support Durley School. They will be selling ice creams and donuts after school this Thursday for £1.00.

Safeguarding at Durley

I have been speaking to the children about how we keep them safe in school and finding out about their understanding of safeguarding. This is a crucial role for me as Headteacher and one I take very seriously. Here in school, we have three members of staff with a key responsibility for safeguarding. These members of staff are '**Designated Safeguarding Leaders**' (**DSLs**) and are trained to undertake this role. I am the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead and are supported by **Mr James Firth and Mrs Jenny Dew**, both of whom are Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leaders. If you have a safeguarding concern, please do either email or call the school office and we will be able to support you.

Support in Parenting

We are often approached by parents for advice in parenting and supporting your children and being a parent is a tough job at the best of times. We are always more than happy to be a listening ear and provide support or signpost if we are able to. The avenues outlined here are very helpful for parents and I have directed people to these regularly and previous families I have worked with have found these places very helpful.

Helpline for Parents

Well-being Parenting Support (see leaflet attached)

<https://pbs.hants.gov.uk/wellbeing-support-service>

ABOUT US

Hampshire Primary Behaviour Service has been commissioned by The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Partnership of Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) to provide an early intervention service for families.

This will endeavour to provide families with a range of strategies for positive behaviour management and a deeper understanding of the reasons behind the behaviour.

- Support families to help their children self-regulate and control their emotional responses
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CONTACT US

Basingstoke, Deane & North Test Valley
haweood.pbscentre@hants.gov.uk
01256 320506

Fareham & Gosport
pbs.fareham@hants.gov.uk
01329 281690

Havant & East Hants
pbs.robinson@hants.gov.uk
02392 573676

New Forest & South Test Valley
pbs.offord@hants.gov.uk
02380 661777

Rushmoor, Hart & East Hants
pbs.thelwell@hants.gov.uk
01252 514888

Winchester & Eastleigh
pbs.kaplan@hants.gov.uk
02380 613152

Hampshire County Council

Children's Wellbeing Service



NHS
Hampshire and Isle of Wight

Is it bullying?

Bullying is...

Several Times On Purpose

Unsure? Tell an adult



HAMPSHIRE CAMHS INFORMATION & ADVICE SESSION

YOUNG PERSON'S MENTAL HEALTH

10am - 2pm

The Arc, Jewry Street
Winchester, SO23 8SB

This is an opportunity for parents/carers, professionals or young people to come and chat to our CAMHS clinicians, ask questions, get advice and resources. Bookable slots available via our website or just drop in.

hampshirecamhs.nhs.uk

2 April	3 September
7 May	1 October
4 June	5 November
2 July	3 December
6 August	

Are you Eligible for Free School Meals?

If you think your child might be eligible to receive free school meals, please check out the link below to check your criteria. As a school we will get additional funding for those who receive free school meals and you can also apply if your child is in Key Stage 1 and currently receiving Universal Free School Meals.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/freeschoolmeals/juniorsecondary>

HMRC Tax Free Childcare Vouchers

If you use our Breakfast or After School Childcare Clubs you can use HMRC Tax Free vouchers to pay for this. If you are eligible to receive these and haven't already signed up, please do so using the link below and let us know your reference.

<https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>



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, including chocolate spreads in sandwiches, as we currently have a number of pupils with a severe allergic reaction.



We are a Banana Free School

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

Have a lovely rest of the week,

Best wishes,

Caroline Grist
Headteacher

Calendar Dates for 2025-2026

IN-SERVICE TRAINING DAYS (School Closures) for academic year 2025-2026

Wednesday 3 September 2025

Monday 3 November 2025

Friday 5 December 2025

Monday 1 June 2026

Wednesday 22 July 2026

**Diary Dates for the 2025-2026 school year – all dates can be subject to change.
All changes and new dates in the diary will appear in red.**

Autumn Term 2025

Thursday 4 September	8:50am start of Autumn Term 2025
Friday 19 September	First Year 3 and 4 swimming lesson
Thursday 25 September	Whole School Nasal Flu spray
Sunday 28 September	Café Church in school
Monday 29 September	Start of book swap
Tuesday 30 September	2:45pm Phonics meeting for parents of children in Year R
Thursday 2 October	9:15am Harvest festival in school – all welcome
Tuesday 7 October	OPEN DAY for prospective parents
Friday 10 October	DSA Sponsored Fun Run – all welcome
Monday 13 October	Years R/1 Little City roll play in school
Tuesday 14 October	2:45pm maths meeting for parents of pupils in Reception
Tuesday 21 October	3:00-5:00pm Parents Evening
Thursday 23 October	4:00-7:00pm Parents Evening
Thursday 23 October	Rotary Shoe Box collection
Friday 24 October	Non-uniform day in exchange for sweets for tombola for DSA Family Bingo Night

HALF TERM 27-31 October

Tuesday 11 November	10:45am Remembrance Service – all welcome
Friday 14 November	FINAL Red class swimming
Thursday 20 November	Portrait photos in school – pre-school children welcome
Sunday 23 November	Stir up Sunday service in school
Friday 28 November	Non-uniform day in exchange for bottles for DSA Family Bingo Night
Monday 1 December	School post Box Open for Christmas cards
Wednesday 3 December	DSA 12 Days of Xmas daily raffle starts
Thursday 4 December	5:00-7:00pm DSA Family Bingo Night
Friday 5 December 2025	INSERVICE Training Day – No school for children
Wednesday 10 December	9:15am Blue and Yellow class Nativity play

Thursday 11 December	9:15am Blue and Yellow class Nativity play
Monday 15 December	Holy Cross Church Angel Festival starts
Wednesday 17 December	pm Christmas parties
Thursday 18 December	Christmas lunch and Christmas jumper day for Children's society
Friday 19 December	1:30pm Christmas Carol Service in Holy Cross Church
Friday 19 December	No after school childcare club

XMAS HOLIDAYS 22 December – 2 January

Spring Term 2026

Monday 5 January	Spring term starts
Thursday 8 January	Year 6 Bikeability
Thursday 8 January	3:40pm SATs meeting for parents of Y6 pupils in Green class
Friday 9 January	Y6 Bikeability
Friday 30 January	1:30 Christingle service in Holy Cross Church, Durley
Tuesday 10 February	Safer Internet Day

HALF TERM 16-20 February

Tuesday 24 February	3:00-5:00pm Parents Evening
Thursday 26 February	4:00-7:00pm Parents Evening
2-4 March 2026	Year 3 and 4 residential trip to Home Farm, Beaulieu
Thursday 5 March	World Book Day
9-13 March 2026	Year 5 and 6 residential visit to Little Canada, Isle of Wight
Thursday 12 March	Wyvern Cluster Vocal Festival
Sunday 22 March	Mothering Sunday Café Church in school
Monday 23 March	2:30 Music concert
Friday 27 March	1:30pm Easter service in Holy Cross Church, Durley.
Friday 27 March	No after school childcare club

EASTER HOLIDAYS 30 March – 10 April