



Dear Parents and Carers,

This week, the children in Years 5 and 6 are on their residential visit to the Isle of Wight. They will be away all week. We wish them the very best of luck and look forward to their return and hearing about their many adventures.

I felt very proud watching a group of our Year 4 and 5 pupils singing on the stage at the Thornden Hall last week, as part of our Wyvern Cluster vocal festival, it was a wonderful performance.



Thank you to everyone who took part in the Dare 2 Dream LENT project sale – either buying or selling. The children raised an amazing £420 for the charity. I have been hearing of many other ingenious ways of fundraising from our children. One of our pupils in Red class designed a ‘spot the ball’ competition for his friends and family raising £31 and a group of Year 4 pupils have undertaken a sponsored litter pick around the village. They have collected 4 large bags of rubbish and already raised an incredible £170. If you want to sponsor them, they have set up a Gofundme page which can be found using the following link: <https://gofund.me/21f04a4e>.

The children in Blue and Yellow classes will be holding their own bake sale for the charity on **Tuesday 26 March at 3:30pm** in the school hall. Please bring cash only.

This week we are having the lower end of the playground resurfaced giving more space for children’s play. Once the ground works have been completed, we will purchase new seating and activities for the children to use at playtime. Many thanks to the DSA and yourselves for fundraising over the past year to fund this work which should be completed by Wednesday.

Durley School Association



Thank you to everyone who helped at the Key Stage 2 disco on Friday and of course to the children who behaved impeccably as well as having lot of fun dancing, playing games and eating.

Early next term, we will be holding a sponsored event to raise funds for much needed new ipads to deliver the EYFS/Key Stage 1 Curriculum. Our current ipads are first generation and unable to accept the apps we need to be able to deliver the computing National Curriculum to our younger children. The children will be undertaking a ‘triathlon’ of running, reading and computing on Wednesday 24 April. More information will follow.

Our Librarian, Mrs Cook has started us off with her own fundraising page and will be donating all of the proceeds to our new ipads. Her triathlon is a bit more adventurous than ours with a 400m swim, 22km cycle and 5km trail run on **Friday 29 March**. If you wish to sponsor her please follow the link https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/marciacookdurleytriathlon?utm_term=wJJN52Y2N&fbclid=IwAR2RhLR9iB0ZdMLxhUWpLHk7IReKjrFyqPYc60nmrqNPuofQDvJ1WXOnY_aem_AVvby5hVJa6DAueGFssyVb4UexcRweYZW_QRMEc1K4mqMp_Z2XWm8Ksn1z9mn3mEwl0

Parking on the Track!

We completely understand that parking outside the school is not easy however I would like to politely remind you that unfortunately we are **NOT** able to provide parking for parents and relatives on the school track for the following reasons. Firstly, we try to limit the number of cars using the

track at the start and end of the school day for the safety of children crossing. Secondly, even if it appears that there is a space for parking, we have staff and visitors needing to attend the children's clubs at the end of the day. If a member of staff cannot find a parking space, we have children waiting around for the clubs to start. Finally, we have a limited number of spaces which are only available for agreed accessible parking and not for general use. The track is a privately owned footpath and access road for users of the properties beyond the school. Please can I ask that this reminder is communicated to anybody dropping off or collecting who will not have access to this newsletter.

Music Concerts



We have two music concerts this term. Year 1 and 2 will be performing in a drumming concert on **Thursday 21 March at 2:00pm**. All children who have peripatetic music lessons will be performing on **Monday 25 March** at 2:30pm. Please come along and join us.

Virtual SCARF Meeting for Parents only (Safety, Caring, Achievement, Resilience, Friendship)

Coram Life, who produce our PSHE curriculum, will deliver an online meeting for parents and carers on **Thursday 6th June at 6.30pm** the subject will be about growing and changing bodies. There will also be a question and answer session. I will send you the link closer to the time.

Palm Sunday Service in School – Sunday 24 March

We are honoured to be able to welcome the congregations from all three churches (Botley, Durley and Curdridge) and a donkey for our Palm Sunday Service in school on Sunday 24 March. Everyone is welcome to join us for breakfast at 9:30am prior to the service starting at 10:00am. Rev. Gregg would like 10 volunteers to help him with the service by reading some short pieces as part of the Palm Sunday celebrations. If you are able to join us and would be willing to take part, please let me know by this Wednesday 20 March.



Staffing

Congratulations to Yellow class teacher Miss Phillips and her partner who are expecting their second child in October. Unfortunately Miss Phillips is absent for the remainder of this term with pregnancy related sickness. We will wish her well and look forward to her return after Easter.

Finally, a polite reminder as we are nearing the end of the financial year, we would be very grateful if you could ensure that you have paid in any money owing to us to help us with accounting the year-end.

Kind regards,

Kirstie Baines – Headteacher

DIARY DATES

IN-SERVICE TRAINING DAYS (School Closures) for academic year 2023-2024

Monday 3 June 2024

Monday 22 July 2024

Tuesday 23 July 2024

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

Monday 2 September 2024

Friday 20 December 2024

Monday 2 June 2025

Monday 21 July 2025

Tuesday 22 July 2025

Diary Dates for the 2023-2024 school year – all dates can be subject to changes. All changes and new dates in the diary will appear in red.

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| 18-22 March | Year 5 and 6 Residential visit to Isle of Wight |
| Thursday 21 March | 2:00pm Year 1 and 2 music concert (drumming) Parents welcome |
| Thursday 21 March | 5:00-6:15pm Blue and Yellow class disco |
| Sunday 24 March | 10:00am Palm Sunday church in school. |
| Monday 25 March | 2:30pm music concert for KS2 pupils who have peripatetic music lessons |
| Tuesday 26 March | 3:30pm Blue and Yellow class bake sale in the school hall. Cash only. |
| Thursday 28 March | 1:30pm School Easter service Holy Cross Church. All welcome 3:30pm school closes for Easter break. No after school childcare club. |
| SUMMER TERM 2024 | |
| Monday 15 April | 8:50am School re-opens for the summer term |
| 13-16 May | Year 6 National SATs week |
| Monday 20 May | School photographer –class and whole school photos |
| 27-31 May | |
| Thursday 6 June | HALF TERM 6:30pm virtual SCARF meeting for parents only. Suitable for parents of all children in the school about growing and changing bodies |
| Thursday 13 June | 7:30-8:30 new parents meeting |
| Saturday 15 June | Church Fete |
| Wednesday 19 June | 1:30pm SPORTS DAY all welcome |
| Saturday 29 June | School Summer Fayre |
| Tuesday 2 July | Year 6 Wyvern Induction day – drop off and collection to be arranged by parents/carers. |
| Tuesday 9 July | 1:30pm KS2 school play |
| Wednesday 10 July | 6:00pm KS2 school play |
| Thursday 11 July | 6:00pm KS2 school play |
| Friday 12 July | 1:00pm Y6 Leaver's service Portsmouth Cathedral (children only) |
| Friday 19 July | 1:30pm Leavers service Holy Cross Church School ends for the summer break. No after school childcare club. |
| Monday 22 July | School closed for IN-SERVICE TRAINING DAYS |
| Tuesday 23 July | School closed for IN-SERVICE TRAINING DAYS |