



Dear Parents and Carers

A huge thank you to everyone who made and bought cakes, organised sponsored events and come up with amazing fundraising ideas for this years Buddy Bags LENT project! We have seen sponsored swimming and bike rides, completing chores such as car washing, hoovering and tidying bedrooms as well as litter picks, a treasure hunt and sponsored Park Run. Pippa in Year 5 has impressed us all with her ice bath challenge and Luke and Ben with their tie-dye T-Shirts! We have currently had fun raising over £1700 towards a very worthy cause.

We had a visit on Tuesday from Helen Frank who is a volunteer from the Buddy Bag Foundation. She showed us the contents of a Buddy Bag for a child aged 0-2, and explained what will happen next to the money the children have raised. We have already raised enough money for a number of bags which will certainly help to change children's lives. If you still have money to send into school, we would be very grateful if this could happen before Easter, although we will still be collecting immediately after the Easter break. We are all looking forward to the bag packing day next term.



Congratulations to our Year 3 and 4 swimming team who finished in second place at last weeks competition against 6 local schools. For many of the children this was the first time they had swum competitively and they all agreed they had enjoyed the experience. Well done to the team!

Many thanks to the congregation of Holy Cross Church for the gift of flowers for every child in the school to take home in celebration of Mothering Sunday and the nurturing love of the family.



Staffing

Tomorrow is Mrs Crowley's final day with us. Mrs Crowley has been a wonderful Reception class teacher giving our children a great start and foundation to their education. She has not only taken a lead in Early Years with us, but worked across the school to develop our Religious Education curriculum and support acts of worship. She will be sorely missed by us all for her humour and care for the children as well as being a good friend and very supportive and inspirational member of staff. We wish her all the very best of luck in her new adventures.

School Easter Service

We have our school Easter service in Holy Cross church tomorrow. If you are intending on joining us, please can you ensure you have notified the school office. It is vital that we know who is in the church for the fire regulations, and also to help us with seating arrangements as the building is very small. If you are joining us, parking is very limited and we are always needing support to walk with the children leaving school at 1:00pm for a 1:30pm start in the

church. Everyone is welcome to join us for refreshments in the school hall following the service.

Diary Dates

We are starting to put dates for next year into the school diary, which I will be adding to the bottom of each newsletter, so please keep an eye out for these. We have set dates for meetings for parents and children at Key Stage 2 in the next academic year (current years 2-5) to give you information about the residential visits to Beaulieu and Little Canada on the Isle of Wight in March 2026. **The meeting for Years 2 and 3 parents and children is on Tuesday 13 May at 3:40pm and on Thursday 1 May at 3:40pm for parents and children in current years 4 and 5.**

Church Services in school

Please can you also diarise our special café church pet service which will be on **Sunday 27 April** in school. We look forward to seeing your pets (live, toy or a photo!) joining us.

School Office

A reminder that the school office is currently not always being manned due to staff absence however all answer phone messages and emails are being picked up. Please ensure you use the admin office email address for all emails – **adminoffice@durley.hants.sch.uk**

To alleviate the pressure on the school office, please could you ensure that we have at least **24 hours' notice** if you require your child to attend breakfast or after school club, or you no longer need the place.

Finally, as we come to the end of another very busy term, we wish you all a restful and Happy Easter and look forward to seeing you back in school on Tuesday 22 April at 8:45am for the start of the summer term.

Kind regards,

Kirstie Baines

Kirstie Baines
Headteacher

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

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.

Spring Term 2025

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
Sunday 27 April 9:30 for 10:00am start. Pet service – bring your pet along to join us in worship in the school hall.

22nd April - 9th May Please complete a form to let us know you if want to enter a bear into the Bear Hunt – more details will follow nearer the time

Thursday 1 May 3:40pm in school hall. Meeting for parents and children in current Years 4 and 5 (next Yr 5 & 6) about the trip to Little Canada, Isle of Wight in March 2026.

Monday 5 May School closed for Bank Holiday
12-15 May Y6 SAT's testing week

Tuesday 13 May 3:40pm in school hall. Meeting for parents and children in current Years 2 and 3 (next academic year 3 & 4) about the trip to Home Farm, Beaulieu in March 2026.

Thursday 15 May 3:30-5:00pm Y6 end of SAT's picnic and rounders for Year 6 children.

Monday 19 May Whole school class photos

Friday 23 May School Grounds morning

24th May - 21st June The Bear Hunt is open! Best of luck finding all of the bears.

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 21 June Holy Cross Church Summer Fete at Wintershill Hall, Durley

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

Wednesday 2 July Non Uniform day – bottles for bottle stall

Thursday 3 July Family Reading Night

Saturday 5 July	3:00-5:00pm School Summer Fayre
Tuesday 8 July	Wyvern Transition Day for new intake – Children make their own way to Wyvern – DATE CHANGE
Wednesday 9 July	1:30pm KS2 School Play – DATE CHANGE
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 (no after school childcare club)

Monday 21 July and Tuesday 22 July School closed for staff training

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

Spring Term 2026

2-4 March 2026

Year 3 and 4 residential trip to Home Farm, Beaulieu

9-13 March 2026

Year 5 and 6 residential visit to Little Canada, Isle of Wight