



Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to believe that we are almost half way through the summer term already.



Well done to our Year 6 pupils who pulled out all the stops last week giving their best in completing the National Key Stage 2 tests. They remained calm, cheerful and resilient throughout the process, making us all very proud.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our LENT project last term for Buddy Back Packs. We raised over £2 000 for the charity and on Tuesday all of the children will take part in packing bags with books, toys, pyjamas, toiletries etc ready to send out across the UK.

The April Church Pet Service in school was a huge success with adults and children joining us with their pets. Janet Clarke led the service, reminding us of how much we value our relationship with our pets and the unconditional love they give us. I am pleased to say all of the dogs seemed to quickly make friends with each other. Many thanks to everyone who brought along their pets and particularly to one of our families who brought along their two ponies who not only came into the school hall, but spent most of the service peering in from the fire exit doors and joining in with the singing! Janet ended the service by blessing each one of the pets.



Well done to our KS2 recorder players who entered music exams on the very last day of the Spring term. Although this can be quite a nerve racking experience, they all did extremely well achieving Distinctions and Merits at both Grade 1 and 2. Congratulations to the children and thank you to their teacher Mr Burgess.

We have a busy week ahead of us. Here are a few reminders:

- On **Monday** afternoon we have round 1 for children in years 3 and 4 of **Battle of the Books**. Children are in mixed age teams and have read at least one book which they will be quizzed on.
- On **Tuesday** morning, every child in the school will be involved in packing the **Buddy Bags** and getting them ready to send off to children taken into emergency care thanks to the amazing fundraising through last terms LENT project. The children have written messages of love and hope to go inside the bags.

- On **Wednesday afternoon** all of the children in Red and Green classes will be taking part in a **friendly cricket tournament** on the school field. Parents and carers are very welcome to pop in to watch. Red class 1:15-2:15 and Green Class 2:15-3:15pm
- On **Thursday at 3:30pm** , the DSA will be selling **donuts and ice creams** on the school playground for £1.00.
- On **Friday** we have a **non-uniform day** in exchange for bedding plants and you are all invited to help us with our **school grounds morning**.
- And finally please remember to put out your bear/s for the **Bear Hunt**. Booklets to complete the hunt are only £3:00 and a great way to spend a few hours over the half term break. Booklets can be obtained from the school office or Durley Pubs.

## BEAR HUNT

We are keeping our fingers crossed that the weather holds out for this years Bear Hunt which has nearly 70 entries for you all to hunt down. You can join in the hunt around the village and beyond for just £3.00 by purchasing a booklet which can be obtained from the school office. Please can you ensure all completed booklets are returned to the school by 1 July.

The Summer Fayre on 5 July will soon be upon us. Please look out for Prize Draw Tickets to purchase as we have many amazing prizes on offer including a very generous £150 first prize. Please come along and support this years Summer Fayre on Saturday 5 July 3:00-5:00pm. There will be many new exciting stalls and entertainment for the children.

## GROUNDS MORNING – this Friday 23 May 9:00-12:00pm

This Friday 23 May, we have a special grounds morning where we are looking forward to sprucing up the outside areas of the school in preparation for the second half of the summer term. It will be a non-uniform day for children to wear something suitable for gardening in exchange for bedding plants for our pots and raised beds. Please see the letter emailed on Friday and came home to you as a hard copy for signing up to help out.



## GOVERNING BODY

The end of this school term also heralds a change in our Governing Body. **Jane Paul** will be leaving the team after nearly 30 years in varying roles within the school including a member of the DSA, Clerk and Chair to the Governing Body as well as attending residential. Her own children left the school many years ago, however she has continued to volunteer her time and expertise to the school's leadership.

Chair of Governors, **Jenny Carkeet** will also be leaving the team. Jenny has been Chair to the Governing Body for the past 8 years, taking over the position after only a year on the board! She has ensured the school has maintained its high standards and we thank her for seeing the school through two outstanding Ofsted inspections.

We also say goodbye to parent Governors **Nina Robinson** and **Jemma Parker** who have supported the Governor's Curriculum committee over the years and will also be leaving as their children have reached Year 6.

We are immensely grateful to all of our Governors for their support and dedication. We are now looking for a co-opted Governor from the community (possibly a grandparent) and a

parent Governor. Please contact either myself or Jenny Carkeet if you would be interested in joining the team.

#### **SCHOOL OFFICE**

A reminder that all enquiries need to be made via the admin office email address as follows – **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.

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.**

Monday 19 May	Whole school class photos
<b>Tuesday 20 May</b>	<b>am Buddy Bag packing in the school hall</b>
<b>Friday 23 May</b>	<b>Final day for Blue and Yellow class students.</b>
Friday 23 May	School Grounds morning – <b>Non uniform day in exchange for bedding plants</b>
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**

**9-13 March 2026**

**Year 3 and 4 residential trip to Home Farm, Beaulieu**

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