



Durley C of E Primary School Newsletter

Autumn Term 1 – 10th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome Back

A warm welcome to all of our families after the summer break. It has been lovely to meet so many of you both before and after school, whilst I have been out at the school gate. A huge thank you for making me feel so welcome – I am so excited to join Durley School. It has been a busy first few days! I do hope you and your children had a good summer; let's hope the recent sunshine lasts!

I have thoroughly enjoyed visiting all of the classes and the children have settled in beautifully. A special mention to our Year R pupils, who have navigated their first lunchtime this week and this morning had a surprise that had appeared on their playground! Yellow Class impressed me with their wonderful animal dances in P.E, Red Class have been learning about differences in families in P.S.H.E, Green Class have created some wonderful art work and our Year 6 pupils have begun their topic on World War 2.

Welcome to new staff

We welcome Ms Melanie Alexander who is our new teacher in Yellow Class and Mr Darren Wyatt, our new caretaker. I am sure you will join me in wishing these members of staff all the very best for their time at our school

Start of the Year Reminders

Please 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.

We do not allow jewellery in school except for small stud earrings, which must be taped or taken out for PE. Please ensure that your child has a water bottle in school each day and a coat if raining. Their PE kit needs to be 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.

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.

Year 3 and 4 Swimming

Year 3 and 4 parents should now have received a letter regarding their children's swimming. Please do return this as soon as possible. Swimming starts next Friday 19 September with the final session on the 14 November.

Class Newsletters

You should, by now, have been sent your children's class newsletter. If for any reason, you haven't, please do let a member of the office team know or speak to your child's class teacher.

Promoting School Values and Celebration Worship

At the recent INSET day, staff discussed and focused on our school values and rules. In class, we have revisited these with the children and these have been a focus in collective worship. Each week, we will focus on a different value and this will be introduced on a Monday in worship. This week's is 'RESPECT'. Staff will award do-jos for children demonstrating this value and certificates in Friday's Celebration Worship will be given to pupils who have lived out this value over the course of the week.

Music Lessons

Peripatetic music lessons for brass/band will be on a Wednesday afternoon with Mr Smith. Woodwind will be on a Wednesday morning and will start on the 17 September with Mr Ottley. Mr Burgess' lessons for piano (Tuesday and Friday) and recorder (Friday) will start this week.

Parking Before and After School

Unfortunately, the school has already received a complaint from a local resident about unsafe and inconsiderate parking before and after the school day. We fully appreciate that you, as parents and carers, are keen to drop off and pick up as speedily as possible. Please may we remind you to do this safely and considerately and take extra care when parking along the main road. A huge thank you for your support with this.

Message from Durley Parish Council

The overgrown bracken along the path between the Memorial Hall and the school has been discussed at a recent meeting and they are hopeful it will be cut back very soon.



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.



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.

Please see the diary dates to keep up to date with everything coming up in school. Anything new will be posted in red.

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