



## Durley C of E Primary School Newsletter

### Spring Term 2 – 27<sup>th</sup> February 2026

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Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that you all had a lovely half term and managed to find some time to relax. The children have come back brilliantly and are working hard in school. We are looking forward to both of the Key Stage 2 residentials and of course World Book Day in what is only a five week half term!

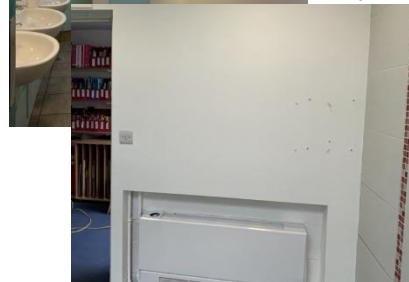
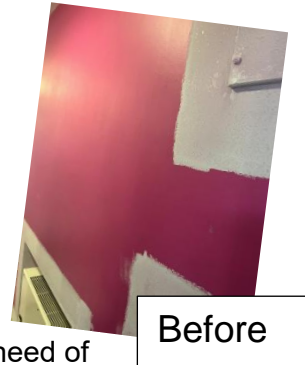
### Toilet Revamp!

A huge thank you to the group of volunteers who gave up their time over half term to reinvigorate the children's toilets. They now look amazing!

Thank you to Lewis, older brother of one of our Yellow class pupils who not only gave up his day on Monday - but came back Tuesday and Wednesday to do the finishing touches!



Lewis, is a qualified painter and decorator. His business is called 'Mitchell's Magic'. If you are in need of any re-decoration, we can highly recommend him!



In addition to Lewis, Mr Exley moved things around with his work commitments and gave up his time to don his paint brush and of course not forgetting Mr Wyatt, our fab caretaker, who did so much of the prep work. Finally, Mrs Heywood-Waddington also kindly volunteered her time. Thank you ever so much.

Next in-line are the staff toilets, as they are in desperate need of refreshing. We will let you know again of any other times that Mr Wyatt is planning to re-paint them. If you are available to help, we would be very grateful!

### DSA

I met with members of the DSA this morning, together with Colette Richmond, our Chair of Governors and together we looked forward to the events that are in the calendar for the rest of this year. There are some great things in the pipeline. Please do support these events as the money raised goes directly to the school.

The DSA have funded new cameras for each class, teacher laptops and new equipment for the playground to name just a few things so far this year.

Our DSA have agreed to fund the resources for both the children's and staff toilets which will make such a difference to pupils and staff alike. Thank you so very much.

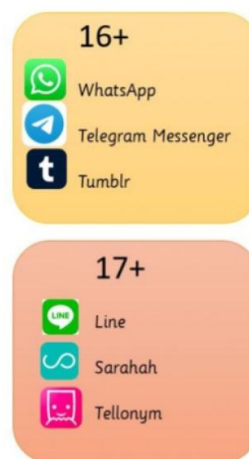
Can I remind you that the DSA have arranged a Bags2Schools collection for Tuesday 3 March. The bags can brought into school anytime on Monday or at drop off on Tuesday. All bags will need to be with us by 9:30 at the latest. We will not be able to accept any others after this time.

The DSA are holding their annual AGM next **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March via 'Teams' at 7.30pm**. if you feel you can spare any time, however small, please do join the team. The link for the meeting is: <https://teams.live.com/join/9367703038549?p=qZpT46I7s4tWkZRwdq>

## Safer Internet Focus

We started this half term by thinking about Safer Internet Day and the week's focus started with an assembly based on the concept of Artificial Intelligence and how this linked with our Core Christian Values – particularly respect and the importance of showing this when using the internet.

Over the course of the week, classes have explored this theme and in our ever-changing world, hopefully help your child navigate their technology. A reminder of the apps children to use is below.



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## Children's Mental Health Week

Just before half term, we focused on Children's Mental Health and I challenged the children to create a map of 'My Place' and it has been a pleasure to see the children's entries! They are amazing. I tasked Mrs Pink and Mrs Maitland with judging the posters – they found it very tough!

Huge congratulations to everyone who entered, the standard was very high.



## A few Reminders

I am always so proud of how smart our children look in their school uniform and I remember when I visited the school, before I became Headteacher, this was something that really struck me. Please can you ensure that if your child has long hair (shoulder length and longer) that it is tyed back. From a health and safety viewpoint, e.g. P.E or at breaktime, this is much more appropriate.

If your child has their ears pierced, they must only wear studs – not any dangly earrings please. Where possible, earrings should be taken out for P.E or taped over. We have a small supply of tape in school but if you can provide this for your child, it would be very much appreciated.

Children must not wear any other jewellery such as bracelets or necklaces and nail varnish is not permitted. We do have some nail varnish remover and we will ask children to remove it if this is not done at home.

In addition to this, if your child has not got their P.E kit, we will, as far as possible, get them to take part in the lesson and they will receive a 'neutral' do-jo for a lack of kit. If this happens again, it will result in a negative do-jo.

Finally, we are also noticing an increase in children bringing in their own 'focus tools' or cuddly toys. We are very happy to provide focus tools if there is a specific need but please can we ask that, unless it has been agreed with the SENCo, that children do not bring their own from home.

This is because, ones that are not school-based have, in the past, for example, burst and I have known this to cause an allergic reaction.

## Amazing Children

I have had the pleasure of seeing so many of our pupils for their amazing work.

Today, I had a visit from one of our Year 6 pupils who received a Headteacher's Award for her dedication and commitment to playing the recorder. She was very proud to play in Celebration Worship too!

I have also awarded Headteacher's Awards for super phonics work, brilliant project work and some super maths. Well done all those who got an award.

We have also had lots of children collecting their Silver Dojo badges and also a few golds as well. We are now going to look into organising another badge as gold is the highest at the moment and we still have another term and a half to go! Congratulations to you all.

## Cake Sale

The Student Council organised a bake sale just before half term and this raised over £200! The teachers put together a 'wish list' of items which included some more Maths resources, playground equipment to name a couple of things. This money will pay for these items.

## World Book Day

This will be celebrated next Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March. Children are invited to come into school wearing pjs or dressing up as a book character. We are sorry for the later than usual notice – we appreciate your flexibility and support with this.

## Parents Evening

It was lovely to welcome you all to our recent Parent's Evening and see how proud you were of the great work your children have been doing. I had some really positive feedback about Durley School, during the two evenings, which was wonderful to hear.

## And Finally.....

One of our parents and Governors, Mr Rob Pfeifer will be running the London Marathon this year in support of a Chance to Shine. Mr Pfeifer has this to say:

*I am thrilled to share that I will be participating in the London Marathon 2026 (April 26<sup>th</sup>), running to support the work of Chance To Shine. This amazing cricket charity is dedicated to ensuring that every child has the opportunity to shine through cricket and physical activity, promoting vital life skills such as teamwork, resilience, and confidence.*



*I have worked with Chance to Shine for over 10 years and seen the huge difference access to cricket can make in schools, clubs and community settings. Durley Primary has previously benefitted from Chance to Shine funding and I will be in school this summer to work again with all classes.*

*Your contribution will directly impact young lives and help provide them with opportunities they might not otherwise have. Thank you for any donation towards my target! You can donate via [Rob Pfeiffer is fundraising for Chance to Shine](#)*

I'm sure you will all join me in wishing Rob Good Luck for the run in April and we look forward to working with him in school during the summer term.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend. I am looking forward to joining our Year 3 and 4 pupils to Beaulieu. When I did the pre-visit in half term, with my children, they loved it!

Best wishes,

*Caroline Grist*  
Headteacher

**All diary dates below.**

## Calendar Dates for 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**.

### Spring Term 2026

HALF TERM	16-20 February
2-4 March 2026	Year 3 and 4 residential trip to Home Farm, Beaulieu
Tuesday 3 March	DSA Bags2School. Bags to be dropped by 9:30am
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
Friday 20 March	6:00-8:00pm DSA Easter themed quiz night and film
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

### Summer Term 2026

Monday 4 May	Bank Holiday
11-14 May	Year 6 SATs
Dates throughout May tbc	DSA Durley Bear Hunt
18-22 May	Walk to School week
Monday 18 May	Whole school, year groups and year 6 photos
Thursday 21 May	DSA Discos (KS1 3:45-5:00. KS2 5:15-6:45)

HALF TERM 25-29 May

Monday 1 June	Inset day
Thursday 11 June	7:30-8:30 New Year R parents meeting
Tuesday 16 June	9:30-10:30 New Year R session 1
Wednesday 17 June	13:30 Sports Day
Tuesday 23 June	9:30-10:30 New Year R session 2
Wednesday 24 June	14:15 Summer music concert
Thursday 25 June	5:30-6:30 Summer family reading night
Tuesday 30 June	9:30-10.30 New Year R session 3

Friday 3 July	Year 6 Leavers Services Portsmouth Cathedral
Friday 3 July	4:00-7:30 DSA Summer Fayre
Monday 6 July	KS2 production dress rehearsal
Tuesday 7 July	6:00 KS2 production
Wednesday 8 July	1:30 KS2 production
Thursday 9 July	6:00 KS2 production
Tuesday 21 July	13:30 Year 6 leavers service Holy Cross Church
Tuesday 21 July	No after school childcare club
Wednesday 22 July	Inset day

SUMMER HOLIDAYS