

# DARLEY DENE DISPATCHES

Empowering success through a strong and respectful home-school partnership

01932 847674

office.darleydene@lumenlearningtrust.co.uk

www.darleydeneprimary.co.uk

## Headteacher's Message

Whilst writing this on a wet and windy evening, it can only mean one thing – the autumn term is well and truly in full swing. The children have fully settled into their learning for the term, and as we walk around school, the corridors are filled with the echoes of questions being asked, word rhymes being repeated, times tables being rehearsed, and songs being sung.

I would like to take this opportunity to invite all our families to see the exciting learning taking place at our Open Afternoon event on Thursday, 25th September from 2:30pm. During this time, key information about how to support your child will be shared by our phase leaders. Following this brief presentation, classrooms will be open for you to visit alongside your child, who I am sure will be eager to show you around and introduce you to their teacher.

Our uniform is an important part of fostering a sense of belonging to Darley Dene. I would like to remind our families of some key expectations from our uniform policy and ask for your continued support in ensuring children come to school correctly dressed. Shoes and socks should be completely black, and boots are not part of our school uniform. Children should wear only small stud earrings and a wristwatch—no other jewellery is permitted. Hair should be fully tied back using ties in neutral colours.

Over the first few days, there has been an increase in children bringing toys and items from home. To prevent these from being lost or becoming a distraction in class, please keep all personal belongings at home. For everyone's safety, bikes and scooters should not be ridden on the playground at any time; they should be walked to and from the storage area. I would also like to remind families that animals are not permitted on the school site.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain both a purposeful learning environment and a safe, welcoming site for everyone.

Finally, it's a joy to share that our Reception teacher, Miss Smit, got married today! We hope they had a truly magical day and look forward to hearing all about it when she returns on Monday as Mrs. Holmes. I'm sure you'll join us in wishing her well.

## QUICK LINKS

Term Dates

School Calendar

Enrichment Clubs

Uniform

School Meals

Nursery

Reception

Year 1

Year 2

Year 3

Year 4

Year 5

Year 6

LAN Centre



## Secondary school place

Year 6 parents please remember to apply for a secondary school place for your child by 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025. You can apply for a secondary school place from 1 September 2025. Please see link below for application form.

[Secondary admissions](#)

## Home Learning

Home learning will be given out on a Thursday and will need to be completed (and returned in KS1) for the following Tuesday. [Home Learning](#).

Alongside their home learning, the expectation is for children to read daily at home for 10-15 minutes. If your child is in Reception or KS1, please log this in their reading journal. If your child is in KS2 (Year 3,4,5 or 6) they will be able to write a short paragraph in their reading journal. *Examples may include their favourite parts in the story, character descriptions and their predictions.*

Each week, your child will also have a chance to visit the Library and they will bring a reading for pleasure book home. This may be a book they can read by themselves or a book to read with you.

## House Competition

Our first House Competition of the year is here and the first opportunity for children to compete on behalf of their houses has come! The children have been asked to design a badge that the Dynamos might wear that shows the spirit and significance of the Dynamo role and celebrates Darley Dene as a unique and special place to learn. There will be prizes awarded to winners from KS1 and KS2. Best of luck to all applicants.

## KS1 update

We have had a wonderful first full week back at school in Reception and Key Stage 1 and we have also welcomed our youngest Nursery children into school. The children have settled in brilliantly, making new friends and getting to know their teachers. Classrooms have been filled with excitement, curiosity and happy smiles as they've explored new routines and enjoyed lots of creative activities.

## KS2 update

Congratulations KS2 on completing their first full week back at school and managing to bring a calm and friendly atmosphere to the school already. I would like to extend a special welcome to all the new starters that have joined our school and to our new Year 3 class who have recently joined the key stage this year.

Our new year 6 cohort will be important in setting the standard and example to other classes in the school and I am pleased to see that they have taken on this mantle already with aplomb. The Victorian Workshop that took place this Friday was a big success and the Year 6 children showed wonderful enthusiasm for the topic and the opportunity offered by the visit.

## Dynamos

Dynamo applications are officially open! If your child would like to apply to be a Dynamo, they will need to complete an application detailing why they would make a suitable candidate and return the form by Monday next week (15.9.25). Best of luck to all applicants!

## September 2025 - School Readiness webinars

The school nursing service are offering free health webinars on school readiness again this year. They are delivered by the school nursing team aimed at Parents who have children starting school in September. Parents can access the booking system to access these free webinars via our website:

[www.surreychildandfamily.co.uk/services/school-nursing-5-19-years/](http://www.surreychildandfamily.co.uk/services/school-nursing-5-19-years/) [School Nursing 5-19 Years](#)

Dates for delivery are: 25.09.2025/22.10.2025



## Oracy Celebration

All of our children are enjoying the opportunity to earn one of the certificates. Well done to all the children who have already been successful and good luck to everyone else for the coming weeks.

### Oracy Champions

Reyn  
Lilly-May  
Labiba  
Olivia  
Fatmana  
Jude

### Jigsaw

Eslem  
Anisha  
Charlotte W  
Elsie-Jean  
Isabella S

### Sports Stars

Alihan  
Zion  
Levy  
Paige  
Kaylee  
Jayden H

### Maths

Ayan  
Ivan  
Darius  
Remi  
Manha  
Thabie  
Elsy  
TJ

### Writing

Priscilla  
Tae  
Leo D  
NoahM  
Raven  
Hanna  
Jayden T  
Christina

## Gold Leaves

Congratulations to the children who earned a Gold Leaf this week. This could be for an exemplary piece of work, an over and above gesture of kindness, showing responsibility, perseverance, determination or other positive trait etc.

**LAN Centre:** Miles

**Nursery:** Archie L

**Reception:** Hruno

**Year 1:** Isabella, Taylor, CJ

**Year 2:** Anisha, Soleil

**Year 3:** Reuben, Rory, Ronnie

**Year 4:** Charlotte

**Year 5:** Fatmana, Kaylee, Advik, Elsie-Jean

**Year 6:** Danica, Kayden

## Timestables Rockstars

Nellie, Tyler, Advik

## Reading, reading, reading

Reading continues to be at the heart of our curriculum. All pupils have also had the opportunity to visit our school library and explore a wide range of books to spark their curiosity. A reminder that reading journals should be brought into school every day, and we ask that every child reads at home for at least 10 minutes each day. We are also very excited to announce the launch of a new competition: each class will be designing their very own book corner, with a prize awarded to the winning class. We can't wait to see the creative ideas the children come up with!

## Recommendations

Previously we have been recommending individual books each week for our phases. However, we are going to try something new. In school we are encouraging the children and teachers to suggest books to each other based on what they have already shown an interest in reading. So, we will do the same in the newsletter for our families.

**#BOOKMATCH**  
Books for fans of Michelle Harrison

© The Reader Teacher

Book covers shown include: *The Wild Magic*, *Emma Carroll*, *In Darkling Woods*, *Merrybegot*, *Red Moon Rising*, *Sisters of the Lost Marsh*, *Snowy Legs*, *A Tangle of Magic*, *The Turnaway Girls*, *Twister*, *Wide*, and *The Witch's Boy*.

**IF YOU LIKE MICHELLE HARRISON, READ THESE**  
For more #BookMatch & similar suggested reads, visit [TheReaderTeacher.com](http://TheReaderTeacher.com)



## Enrichment Clubs

These are now live on SCOPay for you to book if you have any problem, please contact the school office.

Club	Year Group	Day	Lead	N. of spaces	Description
Mathletes	KS1 & KS2	Monday	Mrs Mackie	15	Join Mathletics club to play games, complete quizzes and have fun online, outside or in the classroom whilst doing different types of Maths.
Chess Club	KS2	Tuesday	Mr Markham	15	Chess club will run at Darley Dene for the Autumn term and give all children in KS2 an opportunity to learn about the game, practice their chess skills, and have fun playing against their friends. Chess is a famous game that gives all children the wonderful opportunity to develop logic, reasoning, and problem solving skills.
Arts and Crafts	KS1 & KS2	Tuesday	Miss Nhambure	15	Fun and inspiring art & craft club for children where they build imagination using different arts and crafts processes.
Yoga and Wellness	KS1 & Reception	Thursday	Miss Smit	15	The Mindfulness Club offers a relaxing and engaging space for EYFS/KS1 students to explore activities that support their mental and physical well-being. Each week features a mix of yoga, mindful colouring, and other mindfulness exercises, such as guided meditations, gratitude activities, or sensory exploration, designed to promote relaxation, focus, and self-awareness. These sessions help children build resilience, improve concentration, and develop positive coping strategies in a fun and supportive environment.
KS2 Football	KS2	Thursday	LLT	15	Do you want to be part of the Darley Dene football team. This club will allow children to learn and develop new football skills as well as enjoy gameplay in a structured setting. Children will need to bring a PE/sports kit for this club!
Dance/Cheerleading	KS1 & KS2	Thursday	Resolution Dance	30	Children are encouraged to express themselves through positivity. They will learn routines and stunts in a safe environment. Children will need to bring a PE/sports kit for this club!



## Messages from the School Office

### ScoPay App

The school uses the ScoPay App to communicate with families in all instances. It is important for all parents to have this App on their devices. The school office communicates with parents electronically via email and if urgent via text messages using this App.

**Lunches** are also available to book for your child on the App, this is the easiest way to ensure you and your child are choosing what your child wants to eat so that they can enjoy their healthy lunch. Lunch can be chosen weekly, monthly or for the whole term.

**Breakfast Club** - parents can book this club which runs from 7:35am every day. Places can only be booked if you have credit on your account.

**Afterschool Club** - parents can book the afterschool club which has 2 sessions early until 4.30pm or full until 5.30pm. Places can only be booked if you have credit on your account.

### Darley Dene Nursery

Our Addlestone based nursery is an integral part of the wider Darley Dene family, working alongside our Reception year group and supporting children in taking their first steps towards being school-ready. Taking children from 2 years old in September, we offer a wealth of opportunities to learn as they play whilst following the Early Years Foundation Stage framework in an engaging, creative, friendly and encouraging environment. For more information please contact the school office on 01932 847674.

**Funded 30 hours and 15 hour Nursery Spaces available in September for 2 year olds as well as 3 year olds. Please complete your details here [Nursery Application Form](#) in order to book your Nursery place for your child in September. If you have younger children and have not registered for when they turn 2 years old, we would encourage you to complete the application form now so that they can be added to the waiting list.**

### Uniform

Please ensure that your child's uniform including Coats, Jackets and PE Kits as well as water bottles **are named**.

### Parking

Please be considerate to the local residents whilst dropping off your children at school. Thank you

### Earrings

It is a Trust-wide stipulation that school children must not wear earrings while taking part in PE lessons. Members of staff cannot remove earrings on behalf of children so a child must be able to remove their earrings independently or alternatively the earrings are removed before they come to school. Children with newly pierced ears are included in these guidelines and so are also required to remove their earrings; the duration of the lesson is not long enough to allow piercings to close over. Additionally, we are not able to allow children to take part in lessons with plasters covering earrings so it is imperative that children learn to remove/insert earrings themselves.

### Privacy Notice for Pupils, Parents and Carers

Under data protection law, individuals have a right to be informed about how the school uses any personal data that we hold about them. We comply with this right by providing 'privacy notices' (sometimes called 'fair processing notices') to individuals where we are processing their personal data. Our Lumen Learning Trust privacy notice for pupils, parents and carers explains how we collect, store and use pupil & parent/carer personal data. This document can be found via this link: [General Data Protection Regulation](#).

### Your child's profile name within Google Classroom

Your child will automatically be provided with their own personalised profile to enable them to access Google Classroom as part of their educational experience at our school. This is a fantastic online tool that allows a virtual learning environment to connect teachers and classmates from any location. Additionally, both in certain and uncertain times it ensures that we can provide a safe, secure and reliable way to continuously deliver education. You can read more about our remote learning offer, how and why we use Google Classroom and the security of your child's data by visiting our school website and navigating to Curriculum > Online Learning.



Each child has a unique profile which represents them in the online classroom, this is comprised of a name tag. Only the individuals in the virtual class can view this profile and all members of a Classroom are bound by the Lumen Family Acceptable Use of ICT Agreement and E-Safety Rules. For clarity purposes their name tag is comprised of their forename and surname. However, if you would like your child's profile name to show only the first initial of their forename and full surname please do contact our school office who can action this for you.

### **Sharing data and information with NHS Surrey to support children to access local health and wellbeing services**

Surrey Children's Community Health Provider, Children and Family Health Surrey request regular information from us about our children to support planning and delivery of school-based health screening at different points of a child's life. Information provided to them by the school is Name, Gender, Address and DOB. Assurances have been received from the Service that this request is in accordance with Government guidelines and adheres to the required Data Protection standards. If you would like further information please refer to <http://childrenshealthsurrey.nhs.uk>.  
<https://childrenshealthsurrey.nhs.uk/about-us/privacy-policy>

### **Pupil Premium/FSM**

Have your circumstances changed? You may qualify for your child to have free school meals and other benefits under the Pupil Premium/FSM scheme from Surrey County Council. Scan the QR code to check.



### **Entrance to School**

Entrance to the school should be via the main school gates only between 08.30am - 08.50am. If you need to speak to the office staff, parents should go via the internal door to the office from the playground. The main office entrance is for the use of Breakfast Club only before 08:30am.

### **Water bottles**

Water only is allowed in children's water bottles. **No juice or sugary drinks are allowed in school.** Please also name your child's water bottle.

### **Lunch Boxes**

Darley Dene is a **nut free** school. Please **DO NOT** send your child to school with chocolate spread Sandwiches, chocolate crepes for lunch as it is not possible to distinguish between Nutella and a nut free chocolate spread. If your child has a chocolate spread sandwich or a chocolate crepe we will call home to request that an alternative be brought in. Thank you for your co-operation.

### **School Meals**

Autumn term menu available [click here](#)  
Please continue to pay for lunches through your ScoPay account.

Nursery **£2.49**

KS2 **£2.80**



### **Medication**

If your child has been prescribed with medication which needs to be administered during the school day, please ensure that you complete a Pupil Medication Request form which can be found on the school's website or from the school office. Without the completed form staff will not be able to administer any medication.

### **Our School App**

Live and ready for you to install, our school app is available free of charge on your mobile device via the iOS App Store or Android Google Play. Just search for 'School News', look for the dark blue logo (right) and install to give you access to the key parts of our website including our website school calendar, a quick contact tab as well as handy extras to



connect you to key school information and online forms. The app calendar will even allow you to add school events to your own device calendar so you need never miss an important date again. Make sure you install it today!

Please visit this link for full instructions on how to install the app on your device: [Darley Dene App](#)

### **Attendance & Fixed Penalty Notices**

Please be advised if families take their children out of school without authority for 5 or more days (which do not have to be consecutive), then the following will apply:

1. If a parent/carer has not incurred a penalty notice relating to the relevant child/children since 19 August 2024, then the penalty notice will be charged at the rate of £160.00, per parent/carer per child, if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80.00 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.
2. If you have incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children since 19 August 2024, the rolling 3 year period will be activated from the date of the first penalty notice and the second penalty notice will be charged at the flat rate of £160.00, per parent/carer per child, if paid within 28 days. There will be no reduction for payment within 21 days. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.
3. If you have incurred 2 penalty notices relating to this child/children in the rolling 3 year period since the first penalty notice was issued, then you will NOT receive a third penalty notice – Surrey County Council will have no option but to consider a prosecution, per parent/carer per child, in the Magistrates Court under s 444 Education Act 1996. Requests for exceptional leave need to be submitted via the form on our website, at least 2 weeks before the date being requested. All other exceptional leave will or will not be authorised on a case by case basis. A child's attendance and previous requests for leave will always be considered when making a decision.

[Attendance & Punctuality Policy 2024](#)

### **Vacancies**

#### **Saxon Primary School is recruiting**

We are looking to recruit a number of Teaching Assistants with a passion for creating lifelong learners, committed to inclusion who has a high expectation of themselves and every child. Working Hours: both Monday to Friday, term time only (39 weeks per year) full time roles of 30 hours per week to be worked 8:30am to 3.15pm and morning only roles working 22.5 hours per week, 8.30am to 1.15pm. These roles are fixed term positions to 31st August 2026.

For more information on these roles please see: [Teaching Assistant](#)



## Upcoming Diary Dates Term Dates 2025 - 2026

### Autumn Term

Mon 15<sup>th</sup> Sept - Enrichment Clubs starts  
Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> - Fri 26<sup>th</sup> - Book Fair  
Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> Sept - LAN Centre visit to Taplow Adventure Farm  
Fri 26<sup>th</sup> Sept - Nursery & Reception Coffee Morning - 9am  
Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct - Whole School Parent Coffee Morning - 9am  
Fri 10<sup>th</sup> Oct - World Mental Health Day - Hello Yellow Day  
Mon 13<sup>th</sup> - Tues 14<sup>th</sup> - Year 6 Bikeability  
Mon 20<sup>th</sup> Oct - Parent consultations 4:30pm - 7:00pm  
Tues 21<sup>st</sup> Oct - Individual and siblings photos  
Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct - Parent consultations 3:30pm - 6:00pm  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup> Oct - INSET DAY 3  
Mon 27<sup>th</sup> Oct - Friday 31<sup>st</sup> Oct - HALF TERM  
Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov - Children return to school  
Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov - Fri 7<sup>th</sup> Nov - Year 6 Bikeability  
Tues 11<sup>th</sup> Nov - Frid 14<sup>th</sup> Nov - Year 6 Bristol Trip  
Thurs 20<sup>th</sup> Nov - Year 1 Chertsey Museum Toy Workshop  
Tues 9<sup>th</sup> Dec - Pantomime YR -Y6  
Fri 19<sup>th</sup> Dec - End of term 1:00pm

### Spring Term 2026

Mon 5<sup>th</sup> Jan - Children return to school  
Mon 16<sup>th</sup> Feb - Fri 20<sup>th</sup> Feb - HALF TERM  
Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb - Children return to school  
Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Mar - End of term 1:00pm

### Summer Term 2026

Mon 13<sup>th</sup> Apr - Children return to school  
Mon 25<sup>th</sup> May - Fri 29<sup>th</sup> May - HALF TERM  
Mon 1<sup>st</sup> June - Children return to school  
Fri 17<sup>th</sup> July - End of term 1:00pm  
Mon 20<sup>th</sup> July - INSET DAY 4  
Tues 21<sup>st</sup> July - INSET DAY 5

Kind regards



**Zoe Devonport**  
Headteacher

## Darley Dene Primary School Penalty Notice and Fines

Changes effective 19/08/24

1

### FIRST OFFENCE

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for term time leave or irregular attendance the amount will be:  
**£160 per parent per child if paid within 28 days.**  
Reduced to £80 per parent per child if paid within 21 days.

2

### SECOND OFFENCE (WITHIN 3 YEARS)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for term time leave or irregular attendance the amount will be:  
**£160 per parent per child if paid within 28 days.**  
No reduced rate will be offered.

3

### THIRD OFFENCE AND ANY FURTHER OFFENCES (WITHIN 3 YEARS)

The third time an offence is committed for term time leave or irregular attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued, and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates' Court. Magistrates fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child. Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on a parent's future DBS certificate, due to failure to safeguard a child's education.

**10 SESSIONS (5 DAYS) OF UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE IN A 10-WEEK PERIOD**  
Penalty Notice Fines will be considered when there has been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period.



01932 847 674



[www.darleydeneprimary.co.uk](http://www.darleydeneprimary.co.uk)





## NURSERY & RECEPTION COFFEE MORNING

FRIDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER  
9AM - 9:45AM

Catherine Webb, the Home School Link Worker,  
and Mrs Jones the ELSA will be available to answer  
any questions and discuss any support  
you may need with your child settling in school.

We really look forward to seeing you.  
Catherine Webb & Mrs Jones  
The Pastoral Team

## JUBILEE HIGH SCHOOL OPEN EVENTS



OPEN EVENING 24th  
SEPTEMBER 2025  
(5:00pm - 8:00pm)

OPEN MORNINGS  
22nd, 24th & 29th SEPTEMBER and 1st OCTOBER 2025  
(Tour Times 9:15am and 10:15am)

BOOK ONLINE AT [WWW.JUBILEEHIGH.SURREY.SCH.UK](http://WWW.JUBILEEHIGH.SURREY.SCH.UK)

Bourne  
Education  
Trust



CHERTSEY HIGH SCHOOL

# OPEN EVENING

Wednesday 1st October  
6pm-8pm

[www.chertseyhighschool.co.uk](http://www.chertseyhighschool.co.uk)



## THAMESMEAD SCHOOL OPEN EVENING

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2025

5.30pm - 8.00pm

Headteacher's talks at 5.30, 6.15, 7.00, 7.45pm



**We warmly invite parents and primary school students to visit our successful school**

You do not need to book to attend but will need a ticket on arrival if you would like to go to the Headteacher's Talk.

More details are on our website.

**Thamesmead School, Manygate Lane, Shepperton, TW17 9EE**

Tel: 01932 219400 Email: [info@thamesmead.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:info@thamesmead.surrey.sch.uk)

Website: [www.thamesmead.surrey.sch.uk](http://www.thamesmead.surrey.sch.uk)

Morning tours of the school are also bookable via the school office

"My daughter is happy and thriving at Thamesmead. An extremely good school and would highly recommend to other parents" – Year 7 parent.

"We never had any doubt choosing Thamesmead was the right decision. We're proud to be part of the Thamesmead community." – Year 8 parent

"Thamesmead teachers have been outstanding, showing true passion for their role and supporting our children." – Year 10 parent



## HOW Nurturing Programme Parent Groups have helped other parents

"I am a much more confident, positive and understanding parent. I feel much more able to cope now."

"We are having less family arguments and the household is a lot calmer."

"The group was fun. It's the only two hours I have for myself each week."

"The atmosphere was really relaxed. No-one judged anyone and everyone was listened to and respected."



Check out [emotionalhealth.org.uk](http://emotionalhealth.org.uk) for more information on *The Parenting Puzzle* book and The Nurturing Programme

## The 10-week Nurturing Programme for parents and carers

Where:  
THE ECHELFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL  
COMMUNITY ROOM

When:  
THURSDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> OCTOBER 2025  
9am - 11am  
EVERY THURSDAY @ 9 TILL  
11<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2025

Contact details:  
NATASHA MUNRO  
HOME SCHOOL LINK WORKER.  
Please book through school office @  
OFFICE:ECHELFORD@WOMEN LEARNING TRUST.CO.UK



[emotionalhealth.org.uk](http://emotionalhealth.org.uk)  
Registered charity 1062514



## The Nurturing Programme

Information for parents and carers

How to get the best out of family life



## What is the Nurturing Programme?

Children are rewarding, stimulating and fun, but looking after them can be stressful and challenging.

The Nurturing Programme helps deal with those challenges so that you can have a calmer, happier life.

A tried and tested programme, it helps us think about what we do, why we do it and how it makes us feel.



## What does it cover?

Over the 10-week Programme, you will look at lots of different topics, including:

**Understanding** why children behave as they do

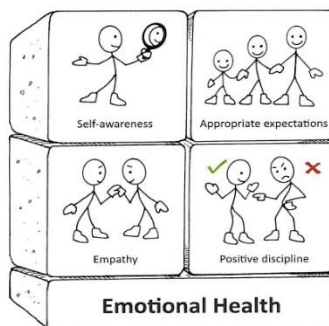
**Recognising** the feelings behind behaviour (ours and theirs)

**Exploring** different approaches to discipline

**Finding** ways to develop co-operation and self-discipline in children

**Learning** the importance of looking after ourselves

## The Four Constructs of the Nurturing Programme



© The Centre for Emotional Health, 2022

## Practical information

Partners are welcome and it's also fine to come on your own or with a relative or friend

There are ten 2-hour sessions with a tea and coffee break

8-10 parents are invited and there are two trained group leaders

Some groups provide a creche; check with group leaders beforehand

You need to come to all ten sessions as they fit together like a puzzle

