



DARLEY DENE DISPATCHES

Empowering success through a strong and respectful home-school partnership

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Headteacher's Message

What a busy and exciting week it has been here at Darley Dene. There has been so much happening across the school, and I wanted to take a moment to share some of the highlights with you.

Yesterday, we were delighted to welcome EYFS Surrey into our Nursery to complete the initial audit for the Enabling Interactions programme, which we were successful in securing last year. Following their visit, they shared how purposeful our environment felt and how well the staff team supported the children throughout the morning. It was wonderful to receive such positive feedback at this early stage, especially after opening our doors to 2-year-olds in September.

On Wednesday, we had a lovely surprise when Miss Legg popped in for a visit while enjoying her maternity leave. The children were so excited to see her, and she was equally thrilled to catch up with them. True to form, Miss Legg was full of enthusiasm and ideas for the school and is looking forward to returning later this year.

October is always a special month in our calendar, full of events and celebrations. The children have taken part in a whole-school assembly for Black History Month, exploring the remarkable achievements and contributions of Black people around the world. We revisited our core school value, "We All Belong", helping the children understand that they, too, can make a difference in building a kinder, more inclusive society.

Today, the school was filled with bright splashes of yellow as we marked Hello Yellow Day in support of Young Minds. A big thank you for your generous donations. Supporting this charity links beautifully with our ongoing commitment to promoting positive mental health and wellbeing for our families.

We were also joined by St Paul's Church, who led our Harvest Celebration this week. This celebration reminds us of the importance of giving back and showing gratitude for what we have - values we aim to nurture in our children every day.

Looking ahead, there are many trips and visits planned between now and Christmas, which will provide valuable learning experiences for the children. Please do keep an eye on letters and updates, and ensure you have paid and have the information needed to prepare your child.

Finally, a reminder that Parent Consultation appointments went live this week on ScoPay. These meetings are an important opportunity for you to meet with your child's class teacher, hear how they've settled into the year, celebrate their progress so far, and discuss how we can continue to support them together at home and at school. A strong home - school partnership is key to every child's success, so we look forward to seeing you there.

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



Inclusion Update: High Quality Teaching and Reasonable Adjustments

A few weeks ago, we shared what SEND provision looks like here at Darley Dene. This week, we're taking a closer look at what High Quality Teaching and Reasonable Adjustments mean in practice - and how all children benefit from inclusive classroom practice.

In every classroom, our teachers use a range of strategies to support different learning needs. This is called *High Quality Teaching*. It means lessons are planned with every learner in mind, not just adapted afterwards. You might see:

- Visual supports such as word mats, now/next boards, and visual timetables.
- Flexible seating options like carpet spots, wobble cushions or quiet corners.
- Chunked instructions and regular teacher check-ins.
- Use of technology such as Chromebooks for recording ideas or reading text aloud.
- Pre-teaching or overlearning key vocabulary and concepts

These are often small changes, but they make a big difference. We call them *reasonable adjustments* - steps that help remove barriers so all children can access the curriculum, feel included and experience success. Inclusion is most powerful when school and home work together. Try asking open questions to encourage reflection and build independence:

- "What helped you learn best today?"
- "Was there something tricky - and what made it easier?"
- "How did you solve a problem or stay calm when something was difficult?"
- "Is there something your teacher did that really helped you understand?"
-

These conversations help children notice what supports them and develop self-awareness - key parts of learning and wellbeing.

Time to talk

What are some things that you look forward to when you go to school?



Secondary school place

Year 6 parents please remember to apply for a secondary school place for your child by 31st October 2025. If you need support applying for secondary schools, please speak to Mrs. Webb by 23rd October 2025. Please see link below for application form: [Secondary admissions](#)

EYFS & KS1 News

This week in EYFS, the children have continued exploring Hair Love, celebrating what makes each of them unique and special. They've also been busy learning all about the number 4 and enjoying activities linked to the beautiful changes of autumn. In Year 1, the children have been learning about nouns and using their new knowledge to write about the story Handa's Surprise. They've also been investigating their sense of smell and learning how our noses help us! Year 2 have been working hard on their persuasive writing and sharpening their number skills through lots of fun challenges. Well done to everyone for another fantastic week of learning!

KS2 News

This is always a fun and exciting time in a term, when the foundations of what is being taught in each classroom for this first half term have been laid, and the focus is on deepening this learning through challenging projects and engaging tasks. What has stood out to me as phase leader has been the incredible creativity and immersion that has been displayed, with each classroom feeling like its own world full of its own knowledge, ideas, and questions. I am



looking forward to welcoming the Year 4 and 5 families on Monday to a meeting all about the Bowles residential trip, if you are interested in your child taking part in this incredible opportunity then please sign up as soon as possible or enquire with the office for more information.

House Competition

Congratulations to Ms Mackie and the Year 5 for their success in being crowned the book corner champions by Mr Bartlett. Their space themed success was a colourful and out-of-this-world triumph! Stay tuned for our next House Competition that will be announced at the start of next week.

House Points



29



36



50

Darley Dene Wellbeing - Hello Yellow

A big thank you to all those who brought in donations for 'Hello Yellow' day! The money raised will go towards supporting the charity 'Young Minds', who specialise in supporting children in tackling challenges around mental health. This is a topic close to the heart of all of us who work with children or put children at the heart of our community.

Reading, reading, reading

A huge well done to Year 5 for winning our Book Corner Competition! Their reading area is a truly inspiring space where children can continue their journey of discovering the joy of books.

We're thrilled to let you know that Nursery and Reception children will soon be receiving special book packages to take home. Please take the time to read these books with your children.

Maths

Over the past few weeks, I've thoroughly enjoyed visiting classes to see the fantastic learning taking place and to chat with pupils about what they've been exploring in Maths. It's been wonderful to hear how much they enjoy tackling challenges and celebrating their successes.

We have some exciting events on the horizon!

First up is the Times Table Rock Stars House Competition, which begins on Monday 21st October and runs until 6pm on Thursday 23rd October. The competition promises to be full of energy and determination — who will take the crown as our first House Champions of the year?

Looking ahead, I'm also delighted to announce that next term we will be launching Magma Maths. This innovative online platform encourages children to see themselves as confident mathematicians. It allows pupils to show their working, receive instant feedback, and build deeper mathematical understanding. More details will follow next term - watch this space!

Year 5 Planetarium Dome Experience

On Wednesday, the children had an incredible opportunity to explore the wonders of space inside one of the largest planetarium domes in the UK. As they gazed up at the immersive night sky, they learned about the ancient Greek constellations - spotting the lion, the bear, and many more. They were fascinated to see real satellite train footage passing overhead and discovered amazing facts about the planets in our solar system. It was a truly fantastic experience that brought the universe to life!



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.

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

Bradley
Graham
Reuben
Bella
Elsy
Harper M

Jigsaw

Darius
Kaeylinn
Hunter C
Paige
Kaylee

Sports Stars

Roman B
Isabella AD
Emilie
Paulo
Aria-Mae
Matthew

Maths

Amber
Eslem
Noah R
Tariq
Franek
Diana
Orest

Writing

Pablo
Sharon
Aaliyah-Marie
Tyler
Roni
Jordan
Ameerah

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.

Nursery: Huxley

Reception: Ivan

Year 1: Victoria, Bradley, Sharon, Taylor

Year 2: Alyssia, Marya, Aaliyah-Marie, Lilly-May

Year 3: Hunter, Raven, Leigh, Eyup

Year 4: Roni, Tyler, Reni, Isabelle

Year 5: Arzo, Ire, Anusha, Skylar, Shylla, Summer, Daisy-May, Advik, Kaylee

Year 6: Sudem, Lena, Christina, Jake

Timetables Rockstars

Eleen, Lizzie, Srisajini, Izabela

Messages from the School Office

Uniform

We want children to be proud of Darley Dene and to take a pride in their appearance whilst wearing our school uniform, encouraging a sense of belonging amongst the children as well as embedding our identity in the wider community. Please ensure that your child's uniform including Coats, Jackets and PE Kits as well as water bottles **are named**.

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.

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.

Attendance & Fixed Penalty Notices

Amount Payable for a Penalty Notice and Consequences for repeat unauthorised absences

1. If you have not incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children in a rolling 3 year period 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.

Surrey County Council is not responsible for authorising pupil absence and therefore cannot withdraw any Penalty Notice requests without the written permission of the Headteacher.

[Attendance & Punctuality Policy 2024](#)



Vacancies

Darley Dene Primary School is recruiting: We are looking to appoint a Teaching Assistant with a Level 3 qualification who has a passion for creating life long learners, is committed to inclusion and equality and has high expectations of themselves and every child. For more information please see: [Level 3 Teaching Assistant](#)

Darley Dene Primary School is recruiting: We are seeking to appoint 2 highly enthusiastic, proactive, flexible and reliable individuals for the role of Teaching Assistant. This is an opportunity for individuals who are patient and emotionally resilient to join our friendly, inclusive and inspirational team of teaching and support staff. For more information please see: [Teaching Assistant](#)

Saxon Primary School is recruiting: Do you have a passion for Early Years? This is an exciting opportunity for an Early Years Nursery Assistant to work in our Nursery, who is not afraid to immerse themselves in the children's play. We are looking for someone who can be flexible and support learning in a creative way. For more information on these roles please see: [Nursery Assistant](#)

Upcoming Diary Dates

Term Dates 2025 - 2026

Autumn Term

Mon 13th - Tues 14th Oct - Year 6 Bikeability
Mon 20th - Thurs 23rd Oct - TTRS House Competition Y2-Y6
Mon 20th Oct - Parent consultations 4:30pm - 7:00pm
Tues 21st Oct - Individual and siblings photos
Wed 22nd Oct - Parent consultations 3:30pm - 6:00pm
Thur 23rd Oct - End of term - normal time
Friday 24th Oct - INSET DAY 3
Mon 27th Oct - Friday 31st Oct - HALF TERM
Mon 3rd Nov - Children return to school
Mon 3rd Nov - Fri 7th Nov - Year 6 Bikeability
Tues 11th Nov - Frid 14th Nov - Year 6 Bristol Trip
Thurs 20th Nov - Year 1 Chertsey Museum Toy Workshop
Fri 28th Nov - Year 6 cake & ice lolly sale
Tues 9th Dec - Pantomime YR -Y6
Fri 19th Dec - End of term 1:00pm

Spring Term 2026

Mon 5th Jan - Children return to school
Fri 6th Feb - Year 4 cake & ice lolly sale
Mon 16th Feb - Fri 20th Feb - HALF TERM
Mon 23rd Feb - Children return to school
Fri 13th Mar - Year 3 cake & ice lolly sale
Fri 27th Mar - End of term 1:00pm

Summer Term 2026

Mon 13th Apr - Children return to school
Fri 17th Apr - Year 2 cake & ice lolly sale
Mon 25th May - Fri 29th May - HALF TERM
Mon 1st June - Children return to school
Fri 12th June - Year 1 cake & ice lolly sale
Fri 3rd July - Year Reception cake & ice lolly sale
Fri 17th July - End of term 1:00pm
Mon 20th July - INSET DAY
Tues 21st July - INSET DAY 5

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

Term Dates 2026 - 2027

Autumn Term

Tues 1st Sept - INSET DAY 1
Wed 2nd Sept - INSET DAY 2
Thurs 3rd Sept - Children return to school
Fri 16th Oct - End of term - normal time
Mon 19th Oct - Fri 30th Oct - Half term (two weeks)
Mon 2nd Nov - Children return to school
Fri 18th Dec - End of term 1:00pm

Spring Term 2027

Tues 5th Jan - INSET DAY 3
Wed 6th Jan - Children return to school
Fri 12th Feb - End of term - normal time
Mon 15th Feb - Fri 19th Feb - Half term
Mon 22nd Feb - Children return to school
Thurs 25th Mar - End of term 1:00pm

Summer Term 2027

Mon 12th Apr Children return to school
Fri 28th May - End of term - normal time
Mon 31st May - Fri 4th Jun - Half term
Mon - 7th Jun - Children return to school
Tues 20th Jul - End of term 1:00pm
Wed 21st - INSET DAY 4
Thurs 22nd Jul - INSET DAY 5

Kind regards

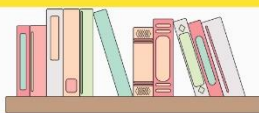


Zoe Devonport
Headteacher



20-25 OCTOBER - AT ADDLESTONE LIBRARY

MONDAY 20TH
(CLOSED)



HAPPY
Diwali

TUESDAY 21ST
9:30-17:00

Pebble Rhymetime 11.00
Dancing Mamas Academy FREE session
at 11.30 straight after Rhymetime



Dancing
Mamas
Academy
Est. 2004

Diwali
themed
colouring
available all
week

WEDNESDAY 22ND
9:30-17:00

Autumn wreath crafts all day drop in 50p



THURSDAY 23RD
9:30-17:00

Pebble Rhymetime at 11.00 with Family Information
Services available for a chat afterwards
Autumn wreath crafts - all day drop in 50p



FRIDAY 24TH
9:30-17:00

Autumn wreath crafts - all day drop in 50p
Holiday Duplo - all day drop in- free



SATURDAY 25TH
9:30-17:00

Pebble Rhymetime 11.00
Pebble Rhymetime 15.00
Autumn wreath crafts - all day drop in 50p



@addlestone.library



@Addlestone Library



27 OCTOBER-1 NOVEMBER AT ADDLESTONE LIBRARY

MONDAY 27TH
(CLOSED)



SPOOKY
SEASON



TUESDAY 28TH
9:30-17:00

Pebble Rhymetime 11.00

Spooky Mummy crafts all day drop in £1.50



Free spooky
scavenger
hunt runs all
week!

WEDNESDAY 29TH
9:30-17:00

Spooky Colouring- all day- FREE
Spooky Mummy crafts - all day drop in £1.50



THURSDAY 30TH
9:30-17:00

Pebble Rhymetime 11.00
Spooky Mummy crafts - all day drop in £1.50



FRIDAY 31ST
9:30-17:00

Spooky Storytime 11.00-12.00
Spooky Mummy crafts - all day drop in £1.50



SATURDAY 1ST
9:30-17:00

Pebble Rhymetime 11.00
Pebble Rhymetime 15.00
Spooky Mummy crafts - all day drop in £1.50
Mindfulness Club -all day drop in Ages 3-99+ 50p



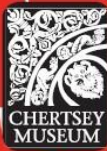
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October Holiday Activities



Egg Carton Animal Portraits

Tuesday 28th Oct
11am-12pm or 2-3pm
Ages 5-12, £4.00

Come along to the museum and create an animal portrait from an egg carton!

Spooky Skeletons and Witches' Potion

Thursday 30th Oct
11am-12:30pm or 2-3:30pm
Ages 5-12, £4.50

Create a paper skeleton decoration and then mix up a witches' potion!

All 5 year olds must be accompanied.
Booking is essential for all activities

Book online at
<https://chertsey-museum.arttickets.org.uk> or
by phone: 01932 565 764

www.chertseymuseum.org/events
Call 01932 565764 to book your place



SW FOOTBALL ACADEMY HALF TERM CAMP

SIR WILLIAM PERKINS SCHOOL
27th - 31st October 2025

9am-3pm

Camp Price- £175
Early Bird Price- £150
Day Price- £35

- ✓ Skill Development Sessions
- ✓ Team-Building Activities
- ✓ Matches and Tournaments
- ✓ U8-U10 & U11-U13

Book Via Link (Fresha)
Find the link on all socials and website or get in touch by phone, WhatsApp or email

Info@swfootballacademy.com
07496 358783



Location:
Sir William Perkins School
Guildford Road, Chertsey
KT16 9BN

