



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

As we approach the end of our first half term, I would like to take a moment to talk about something that makes a big difference to every child's learning and wellbeing – attendance.

Good attendance is directly linked to children's progress, confidence, and friendships at school. Every day really does count. Attending school just 90% of the time means missing half a day of learning every week – that's the equivalent of four whole weeks across the school year. Research shows that children who attend regularly are more likely to achieve higher results and develop stronger social skills. Even being late by ten minutes each day adds up to over six hours of lost learning per term.

We understand that sometimes children are unwell and need to stay home. However, we often find that children can still attend with minor coughs, colds or tiredness, and we are always here to support them through the day if needed.

The NHS has created a really helpful guide for parents to decide whether a child should stay at home or come to school. You can find it here: [Is my child too ill for school? – NHS Guidance](#). We have also attached a poster at the end of this newsletter summarising the main advice.

This week has been a busy and exciting one! Our LAN Centre had a brilliant day at Legoland, enjoying the fantastic rides and building their understanding of the world. Year 6 took part in their Bikeability training to build confidence and safety skills on their bikes. We also welcomed Jo Roberts, our Chair of Trustees, who led an assembly to launch us into becoming a ParkRun school. Meanwhile, our Early Years team completed their first interactions training to continue developing the excellent support we provide to our youngest children.

A reminder that Parent Consultations will take place on Monday 20th October and Wednesday 22nd October next week. This is a valuable opportunity to discuss your child's progress, celebrate successes, and talk about next steps for the year ahead. Please make sure you have booked your appointment via ScoPay or with the school office team.

Please also note that **Friday 24th October is an INSET Day**. School will be closed to children on this day for staff training.

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

Time to talk

What's the most interesting thing you learnt today?



Inclusion Update: Building Resilience When Learning Is Challenging

Sometimes learning can feel tricky - and that's okay! In fact, challenge is where real learning happens. What matters most is how children respond when things don't go to plan or feel frustrating. At school, we help children develop resilience - the ability to keep trying, problem-solve, and recover from setbacks.

We use the Zones of Regulation to help children recognise how they're feeling when learning becomes difficult. If they notice they're moving into the Yellow Zone (frustrated, worried, or restless) or Red Zone (angry or overwhelmed), they can use tools and strategies from their classroom Zones toolkit to help them return to the Green Zone - calm, focused, and ready to learn.

Our toolkits include strategies such as:

- Taking a short movement or brain break.
- Using a "help" card or asking a peer or adult for support.
- Using positive self-talk like "*I can try again*" or "*Mistakes help me learn.*"
- Changing approach - e.g. talking ideas through, using manipulatives, or checking examples.
- Taking calm breaths or using a sensory or fidget tool to refocus.

When children learn to manage their feelings about learning challenges, they develop confidence, perseverance, and independence - essential skills for life both in and beyond the classroom.

How you can support at home

- Encourage a "have another go" attitude - celebrate effort as much as success.
- Talk about mistakes as part of learning: "That didn't work yet — what could we try next?"
- When frustration builds, suggest a short break, a stretch, or some deep breaths before returning to the task.
- Model your own resilience - share times you've had to keep trying and how you managed your feelings.

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 school, the children have been busy exploring lots of exciting learning! In EYFS, the children have enjoyed singing the rhyme *1, 2, 3, 4, 5, Once I Caught a Fish Alive* as part of their *Under the Sea* theme. They have been investigating which objects sink or float in water and have had fun creating colourful coral reefs using different materials. In Year 1, the children have been learning about their senses, focusing on the sense of touch. They explored a variety of materials to find out which ones feel rough, soft, smooth, or bumpy. Year 2 have been busy writing their own news articles, learning how to share information clearly and in an interesting way. They have also started learning about compasses and how we use them to find direction. Well done to all the children for a fantastic week of learning!

KS2 News

Another week has passed in KS2 and all the class teachers have been reflecting on the positive ways in which the classroom culture has been established in each classroom and the paths to learning have been established. In phase assembly this week, I spoke with KS2 about feelings and the misunderstanding we can sometimes have - especially as young people - that some feelings are permanent. We practised recognising how feelings can be like a glitter jar. Sometimes when they are shook up, it can take a while until the glitter settles and the liquid inside becomes clear again. We are looking forward to seeing parents arrive for consultations next week!



House Competition

TTRS House Battle of the Bands Begins Next Week!

Get ready, Years 3-6! Starting Monday 20th October at 8:30am, we'll kick off our first House Times Tables Rock Stars Battle of the Bands of this academic year! Will Supernova defend their champion title from last year, or will Comet or Meteor rise to the top this time? The challenge runs every day until 6:00pm, so children can keep the competition going from home too. The TTRS House Battle finishes at 3.15pm on Thursday 23rd October. Let's rock those times tables - bring it on!

Reading

"Book in a Jar" Autumn Reading Activity







Here is an activity you can try with your child this week to promote their love for reading. Children choose their favourite book (or a class text) and create a "Book in a Jar" — a creative, visual representation of the story inside a jar. It's a fantastic mix of reading comprehension, art and presentation.

How it works:

1. Choose a book: Pupils pick a book they've read recently (home or school).
2. Summarise the story: On a small card, they write a short summary (no spoilers!).
3. Create the jar:
 - Use a clean jam jar or plastic tub.
 - Add miniature objects, drawings, or craft items that represent key elements of the story — e.g. a mini broomstick for *Harry Potter*, leaves and a toadstool for *The Gruffalo*, etc.
 - Optional: include a quote or a tiny paper "book cover" inside.
4. Present it: Pupils share their jars with the class or display them for parents at consultation evening.

Maths

As the leaves fall and the days get crisper, it's a wonderful time to take learning outdoors. When you're out and about this week, why not explore some fun, hands-on Maths activities with your child?

-  Leaf Sorting & Counting – Collect and group leaves by colour, size, or shape, then count how many are in each group.
-  Nature Patterns – Create repeating patterns using natural materials (leaf–stick–stone–leaf).
-  Stick Measuring – Find sticks of different lengths and compare them — longest, shortest, or "about the same."
-  Data Detectives – Collect natural items (like leaf colours) and record the results in a tally chart.
-  Perimeter Walk – Measure the perimeter of a garden or the park using strides.
-  Autumn Fractions – Use groups of conkers or pinecones to show fractions — for example, "¼ of the pinecones are open."

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.



P.E. News

Junior Parkrun Launch!

This week, the children took part in an inspiring assembly led by the Parkrun team, who introduced them to Junior Parkrun — a free, fun, and inclusive 2km weekly event for children aged 4–14. Junior Parkrun is all about getting active, enjoying the outdoors, and celebrating personal achievements — whether children choose to walk, jog, skip, or run!

Families can get involved by registering at www.parkrun.org.uk/register and finding their nearest event: <https://www.parkrun.org.uk/events/juniorevents/> Parents and carers are also welcome to join in by running, walking, or volunteering alongside their children.

We'll be sharing more details soon about a Darley Dene School Parkrun morning, where we can all come together to celebrate healthy, happy and active lifestyles!

LAN - Legoland Trip

Our trip to Legoland Windsor was a fantastic day full of excitement and smiles. The children explored the park, enjoyed the gentle rides and were amazed by all the incredible Lego creations. Everyone showed brilliant teamwork, curiosity and confidence throughout the day. A special highlight was the Submarine Adventure, where we spotted real fish and sea creatures, linking perfectly to our 'Under the Sea' topic this week and bringing our classroom learning to life. Thank you to the adults who came along to support - it was a wonderful day of learning, laughter and adventure.



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

Isabella D F
Isabella A D
Mia
Ayanna
Advika
Alyaan

Jigsaw

Noah L-A
Anisa
Dev
Madison
Daisy K
Yovana

Sports Stars

Illyria
Zion
Levi
Aya
Jordan
Jayden H

Maths

Ariana
CJ
Graham
Payton
Reni
Elsie-Jean
Milan

Writing

Yeva
Mileh
Radu
Ronnie
Isabelle
Shylla
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: Lexi, Ayan, Lucia, Miles, Mateo, Priscilla

Nursery: Audrey

Reception: Tay, Ariana

Year 1: Jacob, Eslem, Leo D, Illyria, Leo M, Noah

Year 2: Ola, John, Leo

Year 3: Reuben, Ronnie, Rory, Tariq, Levy, Payton, Eyup, Hallie, Harper, Labiba

Year 4: Jacinta, Lorelai

Year 5: Daisy, Advik, Elsy, Srisajini

Year 6: Izabella, Christina

Timetables Rockstars

Olivia, Bahar, Emine

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](#)



Upcoming Diary Dates

Term Dates 2025 - 2026

Autumn Term

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
Tues 9th Dec - Stay, Play and Learn - Reception & LAN 2pm - 3pm
Wed 10th Dec - Stay, Play and Learn - Reception 2pm - 3pm
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
Mon 9th Mar - Stay, Play and Learn - Nursery 2pm - 3pm
Tues 10th Mar - Stay, Play and Learn - Reception & LAN 2pm - 3pm
Wed 11th Mar - Stay, Play and Learn - Reception 2pm - 3pm
Thurs 12th Mar - Stay, Play and Learn - Nursery 2pm - 3pm
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
Mon 15th June - Stay, Play and Learn - Nursery 2pm - 3pm
Tues 16th June - Stay, Play and Learn - Reception & LAN 2pm - 3pm
Wed 17th June - Stay, Play and Learn - Reception 2pm - 3pm
Thurs 18th June - Stay, Play and Learn - Nursery 2pm - 3pm
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



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

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.darleydenepriamry.co.uk



Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.



**TIMES TABLES
ROCK STARS**



FEATURING

Comet, Meteor, Supernova

08:30 20 October 2025 - 15:15 23 October 2025
(BETWEEN 08:00 AND 18:00 DAILY)

*** ANSWER AS MANY QUESTIONS AS POSSIBLE *
PLAY IN ANY GAME TYPE * THE WINNING CLASS
WILL HAVE THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF CORRECT
ANSWERS PER PUPIL * ASK YOUR TEACHER FOR
FULL DETAILS AND RULES ***



20-25 OCTOBER - AT ADDLESTONE LIBRARY

MONDAY 20TH
(CLOSED)



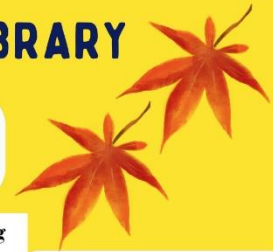
HAPPY
Diwali

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. 2021



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



@addlestone.library



@Addlestone Library



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






INTERNATIONAL NIGHT

Saturday 18th October 6pm

Celebrating being part of God's global family

Come and feast on a selection of food from many of our member's countries of origin

admin@stpaulscofe.org
 01932 846059




Download our NEW app today!

Get instant access to health and wellbeing information and advice for you and your family.

Scan the QR Code below or search for 'Surrey Child and Family Health'







t: 0300 247 0025
 e: scfh.contact@hrcgcaregroup.com
 w: surreychildandfamily.co.uk






MY IMAGINATION PRESENTS

OCTOBER HALF TERM

SUPERHERO WORKSHOP

28 & 29 OCTOBER
10-1 PM EACH DAY
CHILDREN 4-6 YRS
£129 PER CHLD

ST PAUL'S CHURCH HALL,
ADDLESTONE
WWW.MYIMAGINATION.ORG.UK

TEACHING SELF-REGULATION TECHNIQUES



Support programmes for parents & carers of children with autism

A variety of 6-part support programmes for parents and carers of children with autism (or suspected autism) are available online and in-person around Surrey. Your child must live in Surrey or attend a Surrey education setting.

Early bird programme for parents of children aged 5 years and under

- Understanding autism
- Communication
- Understanding autistic experiences
- Supporting daily living
- Health and wellbeing
- Connections

Cygnets programme for parents of children aged 5-18 years old

- Introductory session
- Overview of autism with parent and carer experience
- Thinking & sensory
- Social interaction & communication
- Understanding & supporting behaviour
- Analysing behaviour

Teen life for parents of children aged 10-16 years old

- Understanding autism
- Understanding autistic identity
- Stress, anxiety and understanding behaviour
- Health and wellbeing
- Puberty
- Education and transitioning into adulthood

Can I ask some questions?
 Email us on parenttraining@freemantles.surrey.sch.uk

How do I join a course?
 Please scan the QR code to register your interest & be part of our mailing list. We will email you each time a new set of courses are available for booking.

Surrey Parent Training Programmes