

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

Spirits are high at Darley Dene this week as our festive events have begun, and what a joyful start it has been. A huge thank you to our EYFS and KS1 children for putting on two fantastic nativity performances, as well as our Nursery children for their two adorable sing-a-long performances. It has been wonderful to see how the Oracy skills we teach in school have developed the confidence of our youngest pupils, enabling them to present so beautifully and proudly on stage.

Thank you to all staff involved for making each performance such a special and memorable event. And of course, thank you to our families for practising with the children at home and for making the effort to come and watch them, your presence truly makes such a difference. If you were not able to attend this week, please don't worry; there are more opportunities to be part of the audience. The KS2 Reading Fluency Workshop led by Mr Bartlett was also well attended this morning, and I hope you find this information helpful at home. All upcoming dates can be found at the bottom of this newsletter.

This week, we also hosted Pyjama-rama Day, raising money for children's cancer charities. It was lovely to see the children reflect on the purpose of the day and understand why school uniform wasn't required. Thank you for all your generous donations.

On Thursday, our Year 2 children visited Wakehurst, Kew Gardens. The excitement in the classroom before they boarded the coach was something I wish we could have bottled up. On their return, they were eager to share that they had "seen so many plants"—which, fortunately, was exactly the point of the trip, so we can safely call it a success!

Despite the many adjustments to routines across the school this week, the children have managed themselves wonderfully. This is a real credit to the learning we continually do centred around the Zones of Regulation and the Resilience strategies. I am so proud of each and every one of them.

At the end of this term, Miss Hearmon will be leaving us as she moves on to an exciting new opportunity. She has worked at Darley Dene through a significant period of change in recent years and has been a real constant for our children, who, like the staff, will miss her greatly. I am sure you will join me in wishing her all the very best over the coming weeks.

Lastly, I wanted to share that during our staff meeting, we engaged in training focused on promoting high-quality talk in our classrooms. This remains the golden thread running through all of our lessons. Strong speaking and listening skills will support our children not only as they move through school, but throughout their lives. We kindly ask all families to continue engaging in meaningful talk at home as your conversations help too. Each newsletter includes a 'Time for Talk' question to support this.

Quick Links

Term Dates

School Calendar

Our Facebook Page

LAN Centre News

Nursery News

Reception News

Year 1 News

Year 2 News

Year 3 News

Year 4 News

Year 5 News

Year 6 News

Inclusion Update: Nurture 100

Last week, we launched our Nurture 100 Principles across the school. We began by focusing on the principle of Safety and explored how our school provides a safe base for all children.

The children discussed the different ways they feel physically safe in school - for example, having clear fire exits, regular fire alarms, protection from the weather and shared expectations such as keeping our hands and feet to ourselves. They also reflected on what it means to feel emotionally safe, including being able to express who they are, having support to regulate their emotions, and using tools such as calm boxes and worry monsters.

This week, we also met with Dynamos, who will be gathering all of the children's ideas and turning them into child-friendly, Darley Dene versions of the six Nurture 100 principles. We are looking forward to sharing each of these with you as they are completed.

Time to talk

Understanding what makes children and young people feel happy, safe, and loved helps us support their wellbeing and build resilience when challenges arise. This half term, we will be focusing on **Questions to Understand Their Positive Feelings**, sharing weekly prompts to help guide meaningful conversations at home and nurture those positive emotions.

Can you share a memory of a time when you laughed uncontrollably or felt pure joy?



Enrichment Clubs

Enrichment clubs have finished for this term. Look out for info on the spring clubs shortly.

Events this coming week:

Stay, Play and Learn in Reception and LAN

We look forward to welcoming our LAN and Reception families into school for the first Stay, Play and Learn of this year. The session will include spending time with the children in the classroom, followed by a short workshop on how you can support with phonics at home. The children love welcoming their families into school and it's always an exciting event for them. If you haven't already signed up, it's not too late! Please click on the link below.

Tuesday 9th December - LAN Stay Play and Learn 2.30-3pm

Tuesday 9th December - Reception Stay Play and Learn 2-3pm

Wednesday 10th December - Reception Stay Play and Learn 2-3pm

Click here to confirm your attendance: [LAN Centre](#), [Reception](#)

KS1 - Year 1 & 2 Reading & Phonics Workshop

This will be taking place this Friday 12th December at 8.45am for half an hour in the hall. Please drop your child to class and then make your way to the school hall.

Pyjama-Rama Day

Thank you to all families who participated in and raised money for Pyjama-rama day at Darley Dene. We were able to raise £114.70 in the end and this money will be used to support children whose lives have been affected by living with cancer. I was able to share some of these stories with the school as part of the whole-school assembly and hopefully show the real-time impact of what the money raised by the school means.

Reading

Reading continues to be at the heart of our learning across the school. We are proud to see children engaging with a wide range of books and developing a genuine love of reading. Our school library plays a vital role in this, offering a rich variety of texts that inspire curiosity, imagination and confidence.



Children are invited to choose a new reading-for-pleasure book each week to take home and enjoy. We encourage all families to spend time reading together - just a few minutes each day can make a huge difference. Sharing books helps children develop essential reading skills, strengthens comprehension and vocabulary, and nurtures a lifelong love of reading.

Thank you for your continued support in making reading a joyful and meaningful part of every child's week.

Maths

Welcome to **DecemBAR** 🎄 ➗ - our exciting month-long series of daily bar-modelling maths challenges! This festive initiative is designed to help pupils visualise mathematical structures, solve complex problems, and boost their confidence using the bar-modelling method. It's a powerful strategy that deepens understanding, and it has been wonderful to see every class across **KS1 and KS2** tackling a new challenge each day.

Here are a few problems for you to try at home with your children.

Have fun taking on the **DecemBAR Challenge!** 💡 🇬🇧

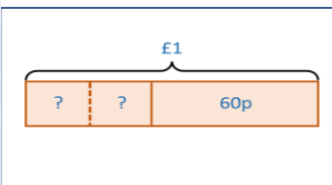
Mo buys two gingerbread biscuits.

He pays with a £1 coin.

He receives 60p change.



How much does one gingerbread biscuit cost?



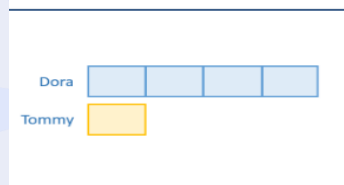
Dora has 4 times as many marshmallows as Tommy.

• Dora eats $\frac{2}{3}$ of her marshmallows.

• She gives Tommy $\frac{1}{4}$ of the marshmallows she has left.

• Dora now has 24 marshmallows left.

How many marshmallows does Tommy have now?



P.E. News

Football training has been going brilliantly, with the children showing real teamwork, determination and excitement each week. It's been amazing to see their confidence grow as they develop their skills on the pitch. A quick reminder that Junior Parkrun continues every Sunday, and it's a fantastic way for children to stay active, build fitness and represent Darley Dene in the community. We also want to give a huge congratulations to our Year 4s who are now nearing the end of their swimming sessions. They've worked incredibly hard, shown great resilience and made fantastic progress in the pool. We are very proud of them!

🕒 Need an Earlier Drop-Off? The Darley Dene Breakfast Club Can Help!

We understand mornings can be hectic. Take the stress out of your routine and make sure your child is safely looked after and well-fed before the school day even starts!

Benefits for You:

- **Early Drop-Off:** Bring your child as early as 7.35am.
- **Peace of Mind:** They'll enjoy a healthy breakfast and supervised activities.
- **Ready to Learn:** Your child will be energised and focused for the day ahead.

Please book your child's session via the ScoPay App at least 48 hours in advance at £5.50 per session per day. The Breakfast Club getting festive on PJ day



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

Deina
Remi
Reuben
Gabi
Daisy K
Milan

Jigsaw

Tamari
Cristian
Emilie
Arzo

Sports Stars

CJ
Noah R
Levi
Lukas
Advik
Lena

Maths

Rhuno
Illyria
Isabella AD
Reuben
Charlotte
Bahar
Anelie

Writing

Diego
Sorayah
Esmee
Dolcie
Arabella
Daisy-May
Charlotte-Ann

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: Mateo

Reception: Marcel J

Year 1: Sorayah, Sharon

Year 2: Whole Class

Year 3: Labiba, Dolcie, Mia

Year 4: Lizzie, Arabella

Year 5: Aaliyah, Elsy, Bahar

Year 6: Jayden, Jake

Timetables Rockstars

Paige, Elsy

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.



Breakfast and After School Club

A reminder to parents that spaces in both these clubs are limited. Please ensure you book within 48 hours prior to the days needed to secure your child's space. If you need help booking, please call the office.

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

The Echelford Primary School is recruiting: Are you committed and passionate about education and keen to make a difference? Are you highly motivated, proactive, flexible and reliable? We are offering a wonderful opportunity to become an integral part of our exceptional community of children and adults.

We are looking to appoint someone who wants to create a provision that is stimulating, safe, caring and creative. The right candidate will be organised and able to lead and work as part of a team and use their own initiative.

For more information on these roles please see: [Wraparound Care Manager](#)

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



Upcoming Diary Dates Term Dates 2025 - 2026

Autumn Term

Tues 9th Dec - Pantomime YR-Y6
Tues 9th Dec - Stay, Play and Learn - LAN Centre 2:30pm - 3pm
Tues 9th Dec - Stay, Play and Learn - Reception 2pm - 3pm
Wed 10th Dec - Stay, Play and Learn - Reception 2pm - 3pm
Mon 15th Dec - KS2 Christmas concert 1pm - 2pm
Tues 16th Dec - Christmas Disco - Reception, LAN & KS1 - 3:15pm -4:15pm
Tues 16th Dec - Christmas Disco - KS2 - 4:15pm - 5:15pm
Wed 17th Dec - Year 4 Delight Exhibition
Wed 17th Dec - Christmas Jumper & Christmas lunch - whole school
Fri 19th Dec - End of term 1:00pm

Spring Term 2026

Mon 5th Jan - Children return to school
Mon 5th Jan - Year 6 WWII Workshop
Tues 20th Jan - Homework Help Y1-Y6 Parent Workshop
Tues 20th Jan - Year 5 trip to SKY Academy
Fri 30th Jan - Year 4 Bikeability
Mon 2nd Jan - Year 1 trip to The Look Out Centre
Tues 3rd Feb - Maths Early Number YR-Y1 Parent Workshop
Thurs 5th Feb - Magma Maths Y2-Y6 Parent Workshop
Fri 6th Feb - NSPCC Number Day
Fri 6th Feb - Year 4 cake & ice lolly sale
Mon 9th Feb - 13th Feb - Children's Mental Health week
Mon 9th Feb - Family Consultations 4.30pm - 7.00pm
Tues 10th Feb - Year 2 St Paul's Cathedral Trip
Wed 11th Feb - Family Consultations 3.30 - 6.00pm
Mon 16th Feb - Fri 20th Feb - HALF TERM
Mon 23rd Feb - Children return to school
Mon 23rd - Wed 25th Mar - Year 3 Forces & Magnet Workshop
Tues 24th Feb - SATS Information meeting - Year 6
Mon 2nd - Fri 6th Mar - Book Week
Mon 2nd Mar - Surrey Singing Music Festival 2-7pm
Thurs 5th Mar - Bedtime Stories - Parents and Children 5:30pm-6:45pm
Thurs 5th Mar - Year 2 Florence Nightingale Workshop
Mon 9th Mar - Stay, Play and Learn - Nursery 2pm - 3pm
Tues 10th Mar - Stay, Play and Learn - Reception & LAN 2pm - 3pm
Wed 11th Mar - Year 5 Class Assembly
Wed 11th Mar - Stay, Play and Learn - Reception 2pm - 3pm
Thurs 12th Mar - Year 4 Roman Villa Visit
Thurs 12th Mar - Young Carers Day
Thurs 12th Mar - Stay, Play and Learn - Nursery 2pm - 3pm
Fri 13th Mar - Comic Relief Day
Fri 13th Mar - Year 3 cake & ice lolly sale
16th Mar - 20th Mar - Year 6 Mock SATs
Tues 17th Mar - Year 4 Class Assembly
Thurs 19th Mar - LAN trip to Bocketts Farm
Fri 20th - Mar - Resilience Workshop
Mon 23rd -27th Mar - National School Football Week
Tues 24th Mar - Year 6 Class Assembly
Fri 27th Mar - End of term 1:00pm
Tues 31st Mar - Multiplication Tables Check - Year 4



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





Runnymede Family Centre

Every Wednesday
10 - 12

Family Support at the Revive Cafe
99 Guildford Street, Chertsey, England, KT16 9AS
www.revivecoffeeshop.co.uk

Family Support Workers from Runnymede Family centre will be available to offer support and advice on all aspects of family life.
Drop in, no booking required.

If you would like more information please scan the QR code or email:
runnymedefamilycentre@barnardos.org.uk



Addlestone Salvation Army - KT15 1SG

BZZ

Free family fun



SATURDAY 6TH DECEMBER
11AM - 2PM

Food available at a small cost



For toddler - primary age families

What's going on at Addlestone Library? December 2025

1 CLOSED	2 Pebble RhymeTime 11.00 Xmas tree craft all day drop in	3 Booktrust Storytime 15.30 Xmas tree craft all day drop in	4 Pebble RhymeTime 11.00 Xmas tree craft all day drop in	5 Xmas tree craft all day drop in	6 Pebble RhymeTime 11.00 and 15.00 Xmas tree craft all day drop in
8 CLOSED	9 Pebble RhymeTime 11.00 Xmas wreath craft all day drop in	10 Xmas wreath craft all day drop in	11 Pebble RhymeTime 11.00 Xmas wreath craft all day drop in	12 Xmas wreath craft all day drop in	13 Pebble RhymeTime 11.00 and 15.00 Sophie Cork author talk and signing 15.30 Xmas wreath craft all day drop in
15 CLOSED	16 Pebble RhymeTime at 11.00 Hannukah craft Make reindeer food all day drop in	17 Hannukah craft Make reindeer food all day drop in	18 Pebble RhymeTime 11.00 Hannukah craft Make reindeer all day drop in	19 Hannukah craft Make reindeer all day drop in	20 Pebble RhymeTime 11.00 and 15.00 Hannukah craft Make reindeer food
22 CLOSED	23 Festive Pebble RhymeTime at 11.00	24 CLOSE AT 13.00	25 CLOSED	26 CLOSED	27 CLOSED
29 CLOSED	30 Pebble RhymeTime at 11.00	31 Mindfulness Club runs 2nd-5 th December. Come and make a peg worry doll. All day drop in. 50p			



*Be a Star
and donate
a gift*



Could you help us make Christmas special for those who may have little or nothing under the tree on Christmas morning?

Please bring your new toy donation to
Addlestone Salvation Army
Church Road
(follow the lane to the left of CO-OP)
KT15 1SG

Open Tuesday - Friday 16th to 19th December
From 9.30 - 11.30 am



However, if you want to make a financial donation instead, please use our QR code

or visit our website

www.salvationarmy.org.uk/addlestone



The Salvation Army Trustee Company acting as Trustee of The Salvation Army Trust (Central Funds). A Christian Church and Registered Charity No. 214779 and in Scotland SC009329. The Salvation Army Territorial Headquarters, 1 Champion Park, London SE5 8FL.

BOYS FOOTBALL 1 Day Christmas Camp



TA SPORTS
In partnership with

WHAT?
Technical development/1st touch/receiving the ball.

Team games / combinations / 3v3,
Defensive techniques and understanding.

Finishing & 4 aside transitions –
attacking and defending.

WHERE?

3G Pitch
ABBEY
RANGERS FC
Addlestone
KT15 2QH

WHEN?

Tuesday 23rd December
8.30am – 4.00pm

AGE?

Under 5 (Reception)
Under 6 (Year 1)
Under 7 (Year 2)
Under 8 (Year 3)
Under 9 (Year 4)
Under 10 (Year 5)

COST?
£35.00



M:07825 089500

E: tom@tasportscoaching.co.uk

CHARLIE AND THE
CHOCOLATE FACTORY

MUSICAL THEATRE CHRISTMAS Camp

9 AM - 3 PM • 29TH - 30TH DECEMBER • £35/DAY

NEW HAW, KT15 3ND

JOIN US FOR A MOVIE NIGHT 3 - 5PM ON THE 29TH TOO!



FOR BOOKINGS AND ENQUIRIES:
BOOKINGS.MTCAMP@GMAIL.COM

You're invited!
Join us for Christmas
at St Peter's Church
Windsor St. Chertsey

*Joy
to the
world*

- 30 Nov 6.30pm Women's Advent Retreat
- Thu 11th 10am Toddlers Nativity
- Thurs 11th & 18th 7pm Quiet Reflection Space
8pm Compline Prayer
- Sun 14th 9am Blue Christmas
(for those who find Christmas time difficult)
- Sun 14th 10.30 Nativity Service
- Wed 17th 6pm Carols Round the Tree
with Chertsey Orchestra & Addlestone Singers
- Fri 19th 11.45am Coffee Break Carols
12.30pm Community Christmas Dinner
(Sign up office@stpeterschertsey.org.uk)
- Sun 21st 6.30pm Carols by Candlelight
- Christmas Eve 4pm Christingle
- Christmas Eve 11.30 Midnight Mass
- Christmas Day 9am Traditional service
- Christmas Day 10.30 Informal all-age service

ST. PETER'S
CHURCH

www.stpeterschertsey.org.uk
2025. Registered Charity No. 1159207

