



DARLEY DENE DISPATCHES

Empowering success through a strong and respectful home-school partnership

01932 847674

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www.darleydeneprimary.co.uk

Headteacher's Message

As we reach the final week of this half term, I would like to take the opportunity to thank all of our families for your support throughout another incredibly busy and successful few weeks at school. We will welcome the children back on Monday 1st June and hope that over the break you are able to enjoy some valuable time together and make the most of the sunshine.

I am delighted to share some exciting staff news with our community. From September, Mr Bartlett will be taking on the role of KS2 Phase Leader. Since joining our school, he has consistently demonstrated a commitment to high standards and a clear alignment with our school values. We are very excited for him to join the Senior Leadership Team and know he will make a significant contribution to the continued development of the school.

We are equally pleased to announce that Mrs McIsaac has been successful in securing the role of English Subject Lead. During her time with us, she has shown great dedication not only within her own classroom, but also through her collaboration across the Trust to improve outcomes for children beyond her immediate teaching role. We look forward to seeing her continue to develop reading and writing opportunities for all.

This week has certainly been jam-packed with exciting opportunities for the children. On Monday, the children also took part in an assembly delivered by Eikon, following on from Mental Health Awareness Week. Other highlights this week included the Reception Class Assembly, TTRS Battle, our Singing House Competition, and participation in Walk to School Week, all of which brought great enthusiasm and teamwork from the children. We are also extremely proud of our girls' cricket team, who have successfully made it through to the finals, which is such a fantastic achievement and recognition of their hard work, determination and teamwork.

Our Reception Delight in Dance Performance was a wonderful success, and we were incredibly proud to see our youngest children perform so confidently in front of such a large audience. Our Year 2 Delight in Stories Open Classroom is due to take place this afternoon, which is an exciting end to the learning over the term. Our partnership with Delight Charity is of great benefit to our children and it is lovely to see them enjoying these opportunities.

There have also been multiple visits and collaborative opportunities involving St George's College this week, with our children attending trips there and students from St George's visiting us to support PE sessions and classroom learning. This continues to be another very positive partnership within our local community and one we value highly.

Finally, the FODD team and the school would like to invite parents and carers to attend an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) to discuss the future of FODD and formally disband the current committee. The meeting will take place on Thursday 2nd July at 3.30pm at Darley Dene School. At this meeting, the current Chair, Treasurer, Vice Treasurer and Secretary will all formally resign from their roles and should any parents or carers wish to take over please contact the school office.

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

Darley Dene Nursery

Spaces for September are limited, we encourage you to submit your application by the end of June.

Darley Dene Nursery provides 15 & 30 hour placements for 2-4 year olds. Why not come and see for yourself the lovely Nursery facilities we offer? We would love to show you around!

Please email the office for more information or book a tour on our website [here](#) or come to our Open Morning on June 6th from 10.00am - 11.30am.



Are you new to the area?
Are you looking for a place now or in the future?

You are invited to our
DARLEY DENE PRIMARY NURSERY & RECEPTION OPEN MORNING

SATURDAY 6TH JUNE 2026

COME WITH YOUR CHILD
FOR A STAY & PLAY SESSION BETWEEN
10:00am - 11:30am





Darley Dene Nursery

Applications are available for Darley Dene Nursery places for September 2026.

With 15 and 30 hour funded places available for 2 & 3 year olds, please contact the School Office for more information 01932 847674.





Transitions
The importance of transitions in children's lives

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 term, we will be focusing on the Nurture Principle of **Transitions**: The importance of transitions in children's lives, sharing weekly prompts to help guide meaningful conversations at home and nurture those positive emotions.

What part of your day feels easiest to move through, and which part feels trickier? Why?



Inclusion Update

Building Resilience – Mastery (Part 2: Developing Independence and Goal Setting)

Children build resilience when they feel a sense of control and can work towards goals.

In school, we support this by:

- Encouraging children to have a go before asking for help.
- Supporting children to set simple learning goals.
- Giving opportunities for children to make choices in their learning.
- Helping children reflect on what they have achieved.

At home, you can support by:

- Letting your child take responsibility for small tasks.
- Talking about goals such as *"What would you like to improve?"*

Reading

This half term, reading continues to be a key focus across the school and it has been wonderful to see so many children developing a love of books both in school and at home. In classes, pupils have been enjoying a range of high-quality texts through whole-class reading, story time and reading fluency sessions, where children practise reading aloud with expression, accuracy and confidence. We would also like to thank families for supporting home reading — even 10 minutes of reading each evening can make a huge difference to a child's progress. Please continue to encourage your child to read regularly, discuss what they have read and visit the local library whenever possible. We are excited to continue promoting a positive reading culture throughout the school with book recommendations, reading buddies and exciting text-based activities over the next half term.

Maths

A Spectacular Week of Maths!

What an absolute whirlwind of a week it has been for Mathematics across the school! From national celebrations to fierce house competitions, our pupils have truly shown their inner mathematicians.

Celebrating National Numeracy Day

On Wednesday, the entire school came together to celebrate National Numeracy Day. Most of our classes were treated to a fantastic live assembly hosted by the brilliant 'Mr. Money Bags', who kept everyone on their toes with an engaging "Would You Rather?" question-and-answer session.




It was wonderful to walk around the building and see Years 2 through to Year 6 fully immersed online, participating alongside hundreds of thousands of other children up and down the country!



TTRS House Battle of the Bands!

The excitement didn't stop there. On Thursday, the energy levels went through the roof for our latest House Competition: the Times Tables Rock Stars House Battle of the Bands! The enthusiasm was so high that we almost didn't have enough devices in school to handle the rockstar energy! The results are officially in.

An incredible effort from everyone who took part—well done to all our rockstars!

House	Points Scored
 Comet	249 points
 Supernova	206 points
 Meteor	180 points

Looking Ahead: LONDON ROCKS!

Get your fingers ready and keep those multiplication skills sharp! Our next big TTRS battle is just around the corner. Mark your calendars for June 23rd to June 25th for the ultimate showdown: LONDON ROCKS!

More information on how to get involved will be following soon, so watch this space!

Year 5 Habitat workshop

Year 5 enjoyed a workshop by David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation whereby the children created a 3d habitat of one of the many animals that is protected by the foundation that links to their Science topic on Living Things and their Habitats.

Year 5 and 6 - A Midsummer Night's Dream at St. George's

This week Year 5 and 6 went on a trip to St. George's to watch a wonderful performance of A Midsummer Night's Dream.

"I really enjoyed the production because the decorations were amazing, and the teachers were very welcoming. I thought the activities and dancing were beautiful and very well performed. My favourite part was when all the chairs appeared to float in the background." Jude, Year 6

Year 1 trip to St George's School

The Year 1 enjoyed their trip to St George's School singing along to the songs we practised in class. It was such fun joining other schools in the choir.

Eikon Whole School Assembly

On Monday, we were very fortunate to have an assembly led by Eikon, focusing on mental health and exploring the Five Ways to Wellbeing. This followed on fantastically from Mental Health Awareness Week. Later next term, Eikon will be back in school delivering training to our newly appointed Wellbeing Ambassadors.

Family Dynamos

Thank you to the Family Dynamos who attended the past virtual meeting. Summer events have now been organised, which is super exciting. The Family Dynamos will be running stalls at the Darley Dene Expo on 3rd July and hosting an exciting end-of-year party on 14th July. Our next Family Dynamo meeting will take place at **9:00am on Tuesday 16th June** at school.

House Competitions

What a fantastic celebration of teamwork, talent, and house spirit! The annual singing competition was a wonderful display of collaboration, with both adults and children coming together to perform beautifully. Every house represented themselves with pride, making it a truly tough competition. Congratulations to all of our houses for their incredible performances:

-  **1st Place – Supernova**
-  **2nd Place – Meteor**
-  **3rd Place – Comet**

A special mention goes to **Comet**, who were also awarded an extra point for their outstanding behaviour throughout the event. Well done Darley Dene. Next half term, we are excited to take part in more House Competitions



PE - Year 6 Girls Cricket Success

On Wednesday, our Year 6 girls proudly represented Darley Dene at the Spelthorne & Runnymede Dynamos Primary Schools Cricket Competition. The tournament consisted of outdoor 8 a side softball pairs cricket matches, with schools competing for a place in the Dynamos County Finals. The girls played brilliantly throughout the day, improving with every match and showing incredible teamwork and sportsmanship. We are extremely proud to announce that Darley Dene was the highest placing school from Runnymede in the Year 6 Girls competition and has been invited to compete in the Year 6 Girls County Finals. A fantastic achievement and a huge well done to all the girls involved!

Sports Day

Next term, Sports Day will take place on Wednesday 17th June, so please save the date. EYFS and KS1 events will be held in the morning, with KS2 Sports Day taking place in the afternoon. More information will be shared after half term and a letter will be sent to parents with full details about the day.

District Sports Competition

On Wednesday 10th June, some of our children will be representing Darley Dene at the District Sports competition, competing in track, field and relay events. We are so excited to see our children perform and shine in their strongest sports. We wish them the very best of luck!

The Darley Dene Expo

On Friday 3rd July, we are excited to invite families into school for our Darley Dene Expo. This is an open-classroom event where families are invited to see the immersive foundation learning that has been taking place across the school. The Expo will begin at 3:10pm, straight after dismissal. Alongside this, our Family Dynamo team will be leading two fair stalls for families to enjoy!

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

Ayan
Leo D
Ola
Josh
Lukas
Diana

Jigsaw

Rory A
Isabella AD
Reuben
Lorelai
Ire

Sports Stars

Hairam
Esmæ
Janani
Andrei B
Advik

Maths

Lexi
Aarish
Darius
Graham
Levi
Hanna
Skylar
Mia M

Writing

Miles
Lucia
Rhuno
Victoria
Evelin
Levy
Roni
Kaylee
Yusuf Y

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, Ayan

Nursery: Rukevwe, Zaniyah

Year 1: CJ, Ana Julia, Esem, Noah

Year 2: Elfida, Nancy-May

Year 3: Josh

Year 4: Tyler, Amelia, Jacinta, Reni

Year 5: Srisajini, Advika

Year 6: Emi, Charlotte-Ann, Mia, Harper, Hargun, Lena, Christina, Sudem, Isabella

Timetables Rockstars

Jayleen, Gizem, Reni, Alan



Messages from the School Office

COMING SOON! FREE BREAKFAST CLUB will be available from 8:00 - 8:30am everyday from September 2026! Look out for more information on how you can book your child's place coming soon!

Communication to Parents

The majority of communication to parents from the school is made via Email or Text Messages for important updates and information. If you are not receiving emails or text messages from the school please contact the Office to check that we have all your correct contact details.

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

Breakfast and ASC are bookable via Scopay. Please book 24 hours in advance to secure your child's space - **Please note credit is needed on your account in order to book sessions. If you need help booking, please call the office.**

Vision Tests

Please be aware children in reception classes no longer have a vision test at school. Children can have a vision test at any optician free till the age of 16: [Eye tests for children - NHS](#)

Vacancies

Darley Dene Primary School is recruiting: We are seeking to appoint a highly enthusiastic, proactive, flexible and reliable individual 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. If you actively enjoy working with children in a stimulating and creative environment, have experience ideally within the education sector and are professional in your approach with a desire to make a lasting personal contribution to our children's lives, we want to hear from you. For more information please visit: [Teaching Assistant](#)

The Echelford Primary School is recruiting: We are looking to appoint a talented part time Teaching Assistant on a fixed term contract to cover maternity leave with a proven record of providing high quality support to children of all abilities, including those with additional educational needs. The right candidate will be joining a strong, professional team of enthusiastic staff who will work alongside you in a supportive and constructive way. Full or part time considered for the role. For more information please visit: [Teaching Assistant](#)

Riverbridge Primary School is recruiting: We are looking to appoint a Deputy Wraparound Care Manager who is highly motivated, proactive and passionate about making a difference, to join our friendly, committed, hardworking team. For more information please see: [Deputy Wraparound Care Manager](#)

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

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



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](#)

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

Summer Term 2026

Mon 25th May - Fri 29th May - HALF TERM

Mon 1st June - Children return to school

Mon 1st June - 5th June - Create a house team chant music/P.E. for Sports Day

Tues 2nd June - Summer Of Song at The Echelford

Thur 4th June - Year 1 Maths Challenge

Fri 5th June - Class Photos

Fri 5th June - Year 3 Visit to St Augustine's Care Home

Mon 8th June - Fri 12th June - Healthy Eating Week

Mon 8th June - Fri 12th June - Create a house t-shirt design for sports day

Mon 8th June - Year 1 Windsor Castle Trip

Tues 9th June - Importance of Health and Fitness Parent Workshop

Tues 9th June - AIM High Writing Year 1 & 2

Wed 10th June - KS2 District Sports

Thur 11th June - Year 4 Maths Challenge

Thur 11th June - Year 2 Forest School at St George's

Fri 12th June - Year 3 Visit to St Augustine's Care Home

Fri 12th June - Year 1 cake & ice lolly sale

Fri 12th June - Young Carers Meet Up

Mon 15th June - Stay, Play and Learn - Nursery 2pm - 2:45pm

Mon 15th June - Stay, Play and Learn - Reception 2pm - 3pm

Mon 15th June - Stay, Play and Learn - LAN 2:30pm - 3pm

Tues 16th June - Stay, Play and Learn - Reception 2pm - 3pm

Tues 16th June - Year 6 Trip to Thorpe Park

Wed 17th June - Sports Day



Thurs 18th June - Stay, Play and Learn - Nursery 2pm - 2:45pm
Fri 19th June - KS2 St George's Theatre Trip
Fri 19th June - Year 3 Visit to St Augustine's Care Home
Mon 22nd June - PSHE - Changes to Curriculum -Workshop
Fri 26th June - Transition Coffee Morning
Fri 26th June - Year 3 Visit to St Augustine's Care Home
Mon 29th June - Fri 3rd July - World Cup Countries House Competition
Tues 30th June - Year 6 Move Up Day
Wed 1st July - Year 6 Move Up Day
Thur 2nd July - LAN Chessington World of Adventure Trip
Fri 3rd July - Resilience Workshop 9am
Fri 3rd July - Year 3 Visit to St Augustine's Care Home
Fri 3rd July - Year Reception cake & ice lolly sale
Fri 3rd - KS2 - The Darley Dene Expo
Mon 6th July - Fri 10th July - End of Year Quiz - House Competition
Wed 8th July - Wellbeing Ambassador Training
Wed 8th July - Year 6 - Pizza Express
Thurs 9th July - Year 6 Show
Fri 10th July - Year 3 Visit to St Augustine's Care Home
Mon 13th July - Year 6 Mini Olympic at St Georges
Tues 14th July - Family Dynamo Presents: Island Glow - The Final Party
Thurs 16th July - Year 6 Leaver's Assembly
Fri 17th July - End of term 1:00pm
Mon 20th July - INSET DAY 4
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

Kind regards



Zoe Devonport
Headteacher



COMING SOON

SEPTEMBER 2026

FREE BREAKFAST CLUB

EVERY DAY • RECEPTION - YEAR 6

GOOD FOOD
GOOD FRIENDS
GREAT START

Healthy breakfast,
calm start to the day
and time to settle in
with friends.

8:00AM - 8:30AM

*PAYABLE SESSIONS AVAILABLE 7:30AM - 8:00AM

- ✓ Monday to Friday sessions
- ✓ Flexible attendance - Choose when to attend



Ofsted
Good
Provider

National Nurturing
School Award
2026



THE DARLEY DENE EXPO

COME AND CELEBRATE OUR CHILDREN'S LEARNING!

- ✦ CLASSROOM DISPLAYS - SHOWCASING THEIR WORK
- ✦ RECEPTION CAKE SALE
- ✦ EXCITING STALLS BY OUR FAMILY DYNAMOS

FRIDAY 3RD JULY 2026
3:10PM

#Weallbelong

#ProudtobeDarleyDene



House Competitions

2026


SUMMER TERM

EVENTS SCHEDULE

Eco Warriors Challenge (Recycling)

Grab your gloves and get stuck in! Which House will clean up the most litter and become our ultimate eco-champions? Every piece counts! 

The Great School Scavenger Hunt

Clues are hidden... puzzles await... teamwork is EVERYTHING. Which House will crack the clues first and race to victory? 


BATTLE OF THE VOICES

Stand confidently, sing together, and show true teamwork! Which House will perform as one and shine?

Create Your Ultimate House Chant

Get creative and make it catchy! Your chant will represent your House on Sports Day—so make it powerful, proud, and impossible to ignore!

World Cup Challenge

Travel the globe through this exciting competition! Test your knowledge of countries, teams, and cultures—who will be crowned world champions? 

End-of-Year Mega Quiz

Think you've been paying attention this year? Time to prove it! From memorable moments to key highlights at Darley Dene—only one House will come out on top!



LONDON ROCKS



23RD - 25TH JUNE
8AM TO 6PM

**PLAY IN ANY
GAME TYPE!**

**30MIN TIME LIMIT
PER PERSON!**



**WINNING CLASS WILL HAVE THE HIGHEST
NUMBER OF CORRECT ANSWERS
PER STUDENT!**



**TIMES TABLES
ROCK STARS**

