

DARLEY DENE DISPATCHES

Empowering success through a strong and respectful home-school partnership

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www.darleydeneprimary.co.uk

Headteacher's Message

Welcome back to a brand-new school year. It has been wonderful to welcome all our families back to school this week, seeing so many bright, smiling faces ready to learn. We also welcomed our new teachers Miss Pole, Miss Jones and Miss Spiers as well as our new teaching assistant Miss Brooker. Our Reception children enjoyed a hugely successful first full day today and we are looking forward to welcoming our Nursery new starters next week. Home visits have been happening across these year groups to ensure a smooth transition for our youngest children.

The relationship between home and school is paramount to your child's success and open communication is key. As a parent or carer, you are always able to speak briefly to classroom staff each morning and afternoon when you drop off and collect your child. Should you need a longer chat, you can request a meeting or email us via the main office address at any time, which will always be shared with the relevant staff. Please do come and speak to us about anything, no matter how minor it may seem, so that small issues don't become big problems.

As we start the year, it is the perfect time to take a moment to read through our [uniform expectations](#). We want children to be proud of Darley Dene and to take 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. A few key points to highlight include keeping earrings to small, plain studs only with no other jewellery permitted. Children are welcome to wear a watch, but please note that smartwatches are not allowed. Hair accessories and hair bows should strictly be in school colours, and footwear must be smart, plain black shoes. Please ensure that your child's uniform including Coats, Jackets, Hats and PE Kits as well as water bottles are named.

Thank you so much for your support with our new lunchtime systems. Dolce is our new catering provider, and we would like to remind parents that you have the responsibility of ordering your child's meals in advance online. The platform includes the option to look at images of the meals so you can make the best choice together with your child.

To keep things running smoothly, our new lunchbox trolley for Key Stage 2 children will now be placed on the playground at the start and end of each day. Also a quick reminder that children are also welcome to bring a snack into school for breaktime, as long as it is a healthy option such as fresh fruit, vegetables, healthy cereal bars and rice cake.

We have been incredibly fortunate to have been gifted many new books for the school recently through our connections with the Book Trust, Bookmark, and St George's College, which is so exciting for our readers. We need to take some dedicated time to re-catalogue our school library so that all the new titles can be properly organised. While the main library is temporarily paused, the children still have full access to a rich selection of books in their classroom reading corners.

Please take a moment to note down the upcoming key dates below, and as always, thank you for your continued support as we embark on another wonderful year together.

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

Reception Parents and Carers

Today we welcomed all of our Reception children for their first full day and they all did remarkably well. Thank you to all of the parents and carers who attended the Reception workshops on Literacy and Maths. If you were not able to attend, the handouts will be sent home this afternoon and the presentations can be found on our website: [Reception Literacy & Maths Workshops](#)

School attendance & your child. A Guide for Parents & Carers

Under the Education Act of 1996, 'the parent is responsible for making sure their child receives a full-time education. If a child of compulsory school age who is a registered pupil at a school fails to attend regularly at the school, his parent is guilty of an offence.' Failure to ensure a child receives their educational needs results in a series of fines and prosecutions for the parent.



What time do I need to get my child to school?

Arrival from: **8:30am**

Register taken: **8:45am**

LATE if arriving after: **8:45am**

UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE: 9:25am

Every Minute Counts!

What difference does arriving a few minutes late make to my child?

If your child is late and has missed the beginning of the school day. Being late, even if only a few minutes, can leave a child (of any age) feeling unsettled and can impact on their whole day.

- 5 minutes may not seem very long but the impact is **3 days lost a year.**
- 10 minutes late a day results in **6 days lost a year.**
- 15 minutes late a day equals **9 days lost a year.**

What's 'Too sick' for school?

We know children get sick and parents often ask 'what is too sick for school?' Here are a few guidelines to help you make a decision as often children can still come to school even if they are feeling a little under the weather.

Be assured, your child's welfare is our priority and if we think your child is too unwell for school we will call for you to collect them.

Send me to school if:

- ✓ My throat's a little sore
- ✓ My temperature is normal
- ✓ I haven't been sick or had any diarrhoea in the last 48 hours

Keep me at home if:

- ✗ I have a temperature over 37.8 degrees Celsius
- ✗ I'm being sick or have diarrhoea or I have done in the last 48 hours

We understand that illness might not be the only reason for a child's absence. There are ways parents and school can work together to make sure your child can have good attendance – just come and speak to us!

Family Communication

Please speak to your child's class teacher quickly so that we can problem solve together before small issues become big problems.

Class teachers are available for any brief updates/questions that you may have about your child at the end of the school day. However if a more in depth conversation is needed or you have a concern about your child, please contact the school office to arrange a meeting.

An initial meeting will be made with you and your child's class teacher via the school office, in the unlikely event that the situation has not been resolved, this will then be escalated to a member of the SLT.

Please note that the response time for requests for meetings is 2 working days as per the school's policy.



Secondary school place

Year 6 parents please remember to apply for a secondary school place for your child by 31st October 2026. You can apply for a secondary school place from 1st September 2026. Please see link below for the application form.

[Secondary admissions](#)

Inclusion Update

Our weekly Inclusion Update will continue to share information, strategies and ideas to help parents and carers understand how we support inclusion and SEND across our school, as well as ways to support children at home.

After the first few days of the new school year, take some time to reflect with your child on how they are feeling about their new class. Ask what they have enjoyed, what feels different and what they are looking forward to.

PE

Please see below the information regarding the days your children will need their P.E kits. Year 1 to Year 6 will be required to come into school wearing their PE kit on their PE day. Children in Reception will need to bring their P.E kit in a suitable bag to change into at school.

Class	Day
Reception	Wednesday
Year 1	Monday
Year 2	Monday
Year 3	Thursday
Year 4	Friday
Year 5	Thursday
Year 6	Friday

Messages from the School Office

Privacy Notice for Pupils, Parents and Carers

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

Your child's profile name within Google Classroom

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

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



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

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

Darley Dene Nursery

Spaces for January are limited, we encourage you to submit your application as soon as possible.

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.

A blue rectangular graphic with a white border. At the top left, there is a yellow sun partially obscured by a white cloud. Below the sun, a blue bird is perched on a green branch. At the bottom left, there is a small blue bird flying. The text is white and orange. It asks if you are new to the area or looking for a nursery place, states that spaces are available for 2-4 year olds starting in January, and provides contact information for Mrs. Surey, Admissions Officer. It also includes Ofsted Good Provider logos.

Are you new to the area?

Are you looking for a Nursery place in the future?

Spaces are available for 2-4 year olds starting in January.

Need more information?
Please contact
Mrs Surey, Admissions Officer via email at
office.darleydene@lumenlearning.trust.co.uk
or call 01932 847674

Breakfast Club

A payable session is available from **07.30-08.00am** for **£2.50 per day**.

This is also available to book via the ScoPAY App

Paid session: Every morning 7.30-8.00am

Free session: Every morning from 8.00-8.30am

For parents using the Before School Club, we ask that you do not drive into the school car park but park and walk your child into the Club and confirm with the staff member whether your child is having breakfast.

After School Club

Our Before and After School Clubs are run by Darley Dene staff for children in Reception to Year 6. This is a popular facility. Therefore, places must be booked in advance to ensure we have the correct staffing levels to enable us to fulfil our safeguarding expectations.

Opening Hours: Every afternoon after school till **4.30pm** (For Children from Year Reception through to Year 6)

Cost: includes activities, fruit and a snack tea

£7.50 per session



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.

Parking

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

Earrings

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

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 **£2.75**

KS2 **£2.80**



Upcoming Diary Dates

Term Dates 2026 - 2027

Autumn Term

Mon 7th Sept - Fri 11th Sept - House competition: Book Corners
Mon 14th Sept - Enrichment Clubs Start
Mon 21st Sept - Fri 25th Sept - Scholastic Bookfair Week
Thurs 24th Sept - The Darley Dene Community Showcase
Mon 28th Sept - Thurs 1st Oct - TTRS Battle
Thurs 1st Oct - AIM High St George's Year 5 & 6 Maths
Fri 2nd Oct - INSET DAY 3
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 4
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

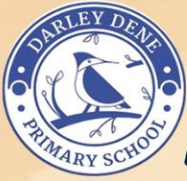
Mon 12th Apr - Children return to school
Fri 28th May - End of term - normal time
Mon 31st May - Fri 4th Jun - Half term
Mon 7th Jun - Children return to school
Tues 20th Jul - End of term 1:00pm
Wed 21st - INSET DAY 5
Thurs 22nd Jul - INSET DAY 6

Kind regards



Zoe Devonport
Headteacher





GET UP AND GO!

FREE BREAKFAST CLUB

EVERY DAY • RECEPTION - YEAR 6

BOOKING
IS NOW OPEN
VIA SCOPAY



8:00AM - 8:30AM

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

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

GOOD FOOD
GOOD FRIENDS
GREAT START



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Darley Dene Nursery & Primary School



COMMUNITY SHOWCASE & MEET THE TEACHER



24th SEPTEMBER
3:00 PM - 4:30 PM



An opportunity to meet your child's new teacher, visit their new classroom as well as local groups and organisations in the local community.



Citizens Advice Drop-In Service

September and October 2026

Citizens Advice will be available at the following locations, no appointment necessary

Ashford Library 10am - 12pm Church Rd, Ashford TW15 2XB	Tues 8th Sept, Tues 22nd Sept Tues 13th Oct, Tues 27th Oct
Addlestone Baptist Church 10am - 12pm 5 Crouch Oak Lane, Addlestone, KT15 2AN	Tues 1st Sept Tues 6th Oct
Chertsey 10am - 12pm Beacon Centre, 95 Guildford Street, Chertsey, KT16 9AS	Weds 9th Sept, Weds 23rd Sept Weds 7th Oct, Weds 21st Oct
Egham 10am - 12pm Virginia Lodge, 68A Station Road, Egham TW20 9LF	Mon 21st Sept Mon 19th Oct
Englefield Green Village Centre 1pm - 2pm 68 Victoria Street, Englefield Green, TW20 0QX	Weds 30th Sept Weds 28th Oct
Staines Library 10am - 12pm Elmsleigh Centre, Staines, TW18 4QB	Thurs 3rd Sept, Thurs 17th Sept Thurs 1st Oct, Thurs 15th Oct
Stanwell Events 10am - 12pm The Community Building, Cordelia Park, Stanwell, TW19 7ER	Fri 18th Sept Fri 16th Oct
Sunbury 10am - 12pm St. Saviour's Church, Vicarage Road, Sunbury TW16 7TP	Mon 28th Sept Mon 26th Oct

Due to a reduction in funding available this financial year, unfortunately we've had to reduce the number of Drop-In sessions that we can offer. We continue to work hard with our partners to bring in new funding and donations, and hope to be able to increase the number of Drop-In sessions again in the future.

Please note that the Drop-In service is limited to 15 minutes of initial exploratory advice per person and we are unable to complete forms such as PIP at these sessions. If further, more detailed advice or form filling is required, you will be offered a telephone appointment.

We apologise if you have to queue at busy times, please respect our staff and volunteers. Our queue will close 15 minutes before the published finish time. If you've been unable to obtain advice at our Outreach session, you'll be offered a telephone appointment. Dates correct at time of publishing but subject to amendment at short notice.

Our freephone Adviceline is open Monday - Friday 10am to 4pm (excl. public holidays)

0808 250 5706

www.randscab.org.uk

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- Adolescence and young people's mental health
- Children's early development and behaviour
- Adult emotional health including trauma
- Special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)

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In paid partnership with:



Community Groups St Peter's Church Chertsey

In St Peter's Church hall Windsor St. Chertsey KT16 8AT

Coffee Break Every Friday. 10-11.30am.

Friendly community coffee morning..



Welcome Lunch 1st Fri of the month. 12.30pm

Community 'home-cooked' lunch, open to all.

£3 donation for a cooked meal and pudding.



Toddler's Church Thurs Term Time 10-11.30am

Stay & play preschool group with lots of toys, baby area & music time. £2 donation per family, free refreshments.

Little Stars Tues Term Time 10.30 - 1pm

Supportive playgroup for parents & carers of children with additional needs. No diagnosis needed. Parents are welcome if their child is at school. Includes lunch.



Youth Group Sundays 6.30-8pm Term Time

Games, food & space to be and ask questions. Age 11-18



Everyone Welcome, you don't need to be 'religious'

Visit www.stpeterschertsey.org.uk
There's lots more going on!



ST. PETER'S CHURCH

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- **English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)** Improve your English skills while learning how to support your child's education and understand how the education system in England works.
- **Maths** Explore the maths methods used in primary schools today and gain confidence in supporting learning at home.
- **Literacy and Reading** Discover how reading, writing, and English are taught in schools today, and learn ways to encourage literacy and a love of reading at home.

surreycc.gov.uk/familylearning

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