

DARLEY DENE DISPATCHES

Empowering success through a strong and respectful home-school partnership

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Headteacher's Message

The children have had a wonderful first full week. Thank you to all the teachers for setting up such purposeful and engaging learning environments. We are looking forward to welcoming all of our parents on September 24th to the Darley Dene Community Showcase. During the event, you will have the opportunity to meet various support services available across our local community, visit your child's classroom, and meet their class teacher.

To start the year, we reviewed our approach to helping children develop a strong understanding of positive behaviour for learning, looking closely at our current Stay on Green system. We have made a few tweaks below that reaffirm our commitment to unconditional positive regard and restorative practices, whilst also considering the monitoring of behaviour and feedback from staff.

Stay on Green charts are now always displayed horizontally rather than vertically so children no longer move "up and down" the chart.

Specific warning colours (blue, yellow, and red) have been replaced with a white regulation space.

Moving away from Green indicates a need for support. Staff will guide children using regulation strategies to reset and return to their colour.

Over the next few weeks, children will learn about the revised system in assemblies and class, using Zones of Regulation to manage their feelings and be ready to learn. We want children to understand that making mistakes or feeling uneasy at times is completely normal, provided they use strategies to remain calm and safe.

Our free breakfast club is off to such a positive start. Children attending are already benefiting from entering the classroom regulated after enjoying a healthy breakfast and social time with their peers. This club is open to all Darley Dene families from 8:00am daily free of charge. A huge thank you to all the staff involved in running this each morning.

Finally, please remember that our school is located on a busy road, particularly during morning rush hour and afternoon pick-up times. As the police station is so close, emergency vehicles sometimes exit at high speed. Please continue to support your children in crossing the road safely. Only Year 5 & 6 children are permitted to walk home alone; please note that during the darker months (between October half term and February half term), all children will need to be collected by an adult.

Thank you for your support so far whilst settling into the new school year. Have a wonderful but potentially wet weekend.

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

Update from Ms. Kober

I am delighted to share the news that Mrs. Devonport has successfully gained her National Professional Qualification for Headship. Mrs. Devonport worked on this accreditation for a year alongside her first year in Headship and her achievement is testament to her determination and resilience. I am sure you will join me in offering her many congratulations.

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](#)

WE ARE A NUT FREE SCHOOL

We would like to remind you that Darley Dene Primary & Nursery School is a nut free school therefore we do not allow any food containing nuts to be consumed anywhere on the school grounds.

Please do not give your child any food that contains nuts.

This includes: Nutella and hazelnut based products, sesame and sesame seed based products including hummus, pesto cereal bars, peanut butter, chicken satay etc. If you are unsure, we would be grateful if you could check the ingredients before you pack their lunches, this will be hi-lighted in bold on the ingredient list. This is very important as there are children that have a severe nut allergy and we all need to adhere to this rule to keep everyone safe.

Inclusion Update

Introducing the Surrey PINS Project

We are pleased to be taking part in the Surrey Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools (PINS) Project and look forward to sharing our journey with you over the coming months.

The project aims to strengthen inclusive practice in mainstream primary schools, with a particular focus on supporting neurodivergent children and children with SEND.

Please watch the short video below to find out more about PINS. We would also be grateful if parents and carers could complete the survey, as your feedback will help us identify our strengths and areas for further development.

We look forward to sharing more with you throughout the year!

Video: [PINS 3 Surrey Introduction Video](#)

[Survey](#): Please complete by Monday 21st September 2026

Time to Talk

As part of our ongoing work with **around Oracy**, our weekly **Time to Talk** questions will use different *Springboards for Talk* to encourage meaningful conversations at home. These prompts help children develop confidence in sharing their ideas, listening to others and explaining their thinking.

If I Ruled the World...

If you ruled the world, what is one change you would make to help children feel happy and welcome when starting a new school?

Dynamos

This week, we are excited to open applications for our Darley Dene Dynamos for this academic year. Our Dynamos form our Pupil-Led Leadership Team, representing the voice of our children and playing an active role in shaping and improving school life. Throughout the year, they will gather the views and ideas of their peers, lead projects and work together to make a positive difference across our school community. We look forward to welcoming our new team of Dynamos and empowering our children to see that their voice matters and they can make a difference.



Wellbeing Ambassadors

This week, our newly appointed Wellbeing Ambassadors completed their training with Eikon, equipping them with the knowledge, confidence and practical skills to help promote positive wellbeing across our school community. During the training, they explored what wellbeing means and developed important skills such as active listening, communication and empathy. They also gained a deeper understanding of the Five Ways to Wellbeing – *Connect, Be Active, Take Notice, Keep Learning and Give* – and considered how these simple actions can support positive mental health in everyday life.

The training also encouraged our ambassadors to think about how they can be a positive and approachable presence for their peers, promote conversations around wellbeing and recognise when someone may need additional support from a trusted adult. They are now looking forward to putting their learning into practice, raising awareness of wellbeing and helping to create a school community where everyone feels connected and supported. We are very proud of the enthusiasm and commitment they have shown and look forward to seeing the positive impact they will make.

House Competitions

We are excited to launch our Autumn Term House Competitions, bringing our school ethos of “We All Belong” to life through teamwork, participation and plenty of House spirit! Throughout the term, children will have the opportunity to take part in a range of fun and exciting competitions, working together to earn valuable House Points for their team. Every child can play their part, contribute their strengths and cheer on their teammates as we celebrate what we can achieve when we work together. With lots of opportunities to get involved, every point will count as our Houses compete for the top spot. Which House will come together, rise to the challenge and lift the trophy this term?

[Autumn House Competitions Events .pdf](#)

Maths

What an AMAZING week of Maths learning we have had across the school! From classrooms to playgrounds, our pupils have been exploring, representing, practising and applying their mathematical thinking in lots of exciting ways.

In Key Stage 1, our youngest mathematicians have been busy creating number lines and exploring number representations outside, using natural resources they found around them. Who knew Maths could be so much fun in the fresh air? Our KS2 pupils have been getting hands-on with Dienes blocks, developing their understanding of place value and representing numbers in the hundreds, thousands and even all the way up to one million!

Our Upper KS2 mathematicians have been using Tagtiv8 to identify the numbers represented by different Roman numerals. Combining movement, teamwork and Maths makes for a winning combination!

Our Maths Focus This Term

This term, we are working hard to strengthen those essential number skills:

-  Number bonds to 10 and 100
-  Rapid recall of times tables in KS2
-  Building fluency, confidence and speed!

Maths Practice at Home

We are incredibly lucky to have subscriptions to Numbots and Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS). Please encourage your child to practise these important skills for at least 10 minutes every day at home. A little practice each day makes a BIG difference!

SAVE THE DATE!

-  Monday 28th September
-  The TTRS House Battle begins for Years 3 - 6! More details will be coming very soon...

PE

It has been wonderful to see the children so active and enthusiastic during our first full week back! Please ensure that children come to school wearing the correct PE kit on their allocated PE days. If you have any questions regarding PE kit or lessons, please speak to your child's class teacher.



Reading

What a wonderful first week we have had! It has been fantastic to welcome everyone back to school and see our classrooms once again filled with enthusiasm, curiosity and excitement for learning.

There has already been some brilliant learning taking place across the school as each class has launched their new Power of Reading text for the Half Term. From exploring new characters and settings to making predictions and asking thoughtful questions, the children have thrown themselves into their new texts. We are looking forward to seeing where these books take their learning over the coming weeks!

Our phonics lessons are now in full swing, with children developing their confidence in recognising sounds, blending and reading words. For those children working towards the Phonics Screening Check, this regular practice will help them build the skills and confidence they need throughout the year.

Remember, a little bit of reading and phonics practice at home can make a sound difference too!

You may have noticed that things are looking a little different in our school library! We are currently giving the space an exciting revamp, with lots of work going on behind the scenes to create an inviting, organised and inspiring space for our young readers.

Our new-look library will be revealed very soon! We can't wait for the children to explore it and hopefully discover their next favourite book. Speaking of books, we are delighted that the Scholastic Book Fair will be coming to school during the week beginning 21st September!

The Book Fair is a fantastic opportunity for children and families to browse a wonderful selection of books and perhaps find a new favourite to take home. More information about opening times and how to purchase books will be shared with families shortly.

Thank you to all our families for helping us make such a positive start to the new school year. We are looking forward to another fantastic year of learning together!

Music

We are delighted to be offering guitar lessons at school again this year in partnership with Surrey Arts! Whether your child is a complete beginner or already knows a few chords, lessons are a fantastic opportunity to develop their musical skills, confidence and love of performing.

Lessons take place in school with an experienced guitar teacher, with both acoustic and electric guitars available. We are also pleased to offer free places for children eligible for Free School Meals, helping to make instrumental tuition accessible to as many of our budding musicians as possible.

Please sign up by scanning the QR Code below:



Autumn Term Curriculum

Please refer to the Curriculum page on our website for your child's class timetable, curriculum web for this half term and the yearly overview. [Darley Dene Primary School - Curriculum](#)



AutumnTerm Clubs - Spaces still available

We still have spaces available for our Enrichment Clubs starting next week.

Please note, all families in receipt of Pupil Premium are eligible to have 1 free club per child.

If you haven't already signed up and would like to, please contact the school office.

Name of Club	Key Stage	Day	Description
Reading & Phonics Club	KS1 & KS2	Monday	Reading After School Club is a fun place where children can enjoy books, improve their reading skills, and share stories with friends. Each week, we read exciting books, play word games and talk about our favorite characters. The club helps build confidence, imagination, and a love of reading in a friendly and welcoming environment.
Spanish Club	KS1 & KS2	Monday	Join us to explore the Spanish language through fun games, songs, stories, and crafts! Children will learn basic Spanish words and phrases while discovering the cultures of Spanish speaking countries. No experience needed - just curiosity and enthusiasm!
Arts & Crafts	KS1 & KS2	Tuesday	Unleash your child's creativity in our after-school Arts and Crafts Club! Our weekly sessions offer a fun space to explore painting, clay modeling and exciting DIY projects while making new friends.
KS2 Football	KS2	Wednesday	A fun and active club where children learn football skills, practice teamwork, and play friendly matches. Children develop coordination, confidence, and good sportsmanship while staying fit and enjoying the game.
Dance/ Cheerleading	KS1 & KS2	Thursday	Children are encouraged to express themselves through positivity. They will learn routines and stunts in a safe environment. Children will need to bring a PE/sports kit for this club!
KS1 Football	KS1	Thursday	A fun and active club where children learn football skills, practice teamwork, and play friendly matches. Children develop coordination, confidence, and good sportsmanship while staying fit and enjoying the game.

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

Willow
Eslem
Graham
Dolcie
Roni

Jigsaw

Kiara
Hairam
Noah M
Josh
Jacinta

Sports Stars

Tae
Darius
Alice
Rory M
Tyler Mu

Maths

Mihai
Noah LA
Ola
Eyup
Paulo
Aaliyah

Writing

Arin
Illyria
Azeemah
Leelou
Amelia
Srisajini

Timestables Rockstars

Ronnie, Lukas



Gold Leaves

Congratulations to the children who earned a Gold Leaf this week. This could be for an exemplary piece of work, an over and above gesture of kindness, showing responsibility, perseverance, determination or other positive trait etc.

Nursery: Luna, Savannah

Reception: Nafay

Year 1: Rhuno, Martyna

Year 2: Ellie, Eslem

Year 3: Curtis, Nancy-May

Year 4: Labiba, Ryan, Amelia, Rory

Year 5: Aya, Isabelle, Reni

Year 6: Summer, Charlie

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://childrenshealthissurrey.nhs.uk> <https://childrenshealthissurrey.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.



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 01952 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 - 08.45am. 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 School Grid account.

Nursery **£2.75**

KS2 **£2.80**



Upcoming Diary Dates

Term Dates 2026 - 2027

Autumn Term

Mon 14th Sept - Enrichment Clubs Start
Mon 21st Sept - Fri 25th Sept - Scholastic Bookfair Week
Tues 22nd Sept - Reception 27/28 Open Afternoon - 3:30pm-4:30pm
Thurs 24th Sept - The Darley Dene Community Showcase
Fri 25th Sept - Nursery & Reception Coffee Morning
Fri 25th Sept - Year 6 Cake Sale
Mon 28th Sept - Thurs 1st Oct - TTRS Battle
Thurs 1st Oct - AIM High St George's Year 5 & 6 Maths
Thurs 1st Oct - House Competition: Penalty Shoot Out
Fri 2nd Oct - INSET DAY 3
Mon 5th Oct - House Competition: Harvest Challenge Launch
Wed 7th Oct - Individuals and Siblings Photos
Fri 9th Oct - Whole School Coffee Morning
Fri 9th Oct - Hello Yellow Day
Tues 13th Oct - Wisley Gardens Trip - Year 6
Tues 13th Oct - Year 1 Stay and Play Session 1 - 9:10am-9:45am
Wed 14th Oct - Year 1 Stay and Play Session 2 - 9:10am-9:45am
Thurs 15th Oct - Family Dynamo: Design a pumpkin Competition
Thurs 15th Oct - Reception and LAN Centre Crazy Hair Day
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
Mon 9th Nov - Family Consultations 4:30pm -7:30pm
Tues 10th Nov - Diwali Dance workshop - EYFS & KS1
Tues 10th Nov - Reception 27/28 Open Afternoon - 3:30pm-4:30pm
Wed 11th Nov - Family Consultations 3:30pm - 6:00pm
Tues 12th Nov - House Competition: Spelling Bee
Mon 16th Nov - Fri 20th Nov - Anti Bullying Week
Mon 16th Nov - Odd Socks Day
Tues 17th Nov - Fri 20th Nov - Year 6 Bristol
Fri 20th Nov - Children in Need (Mufti Day)
Fri 20th Nov - Year 4 Cake sale
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





PARENT PARTNERSHIPS WHAT'S COMING UP IN EYFS & KS1

Autumn 1

Thursday 10th September – Home Learning begins

Monday 14th September – Enrichment Clubs start

Friday 25th September – Nursery & Reception Coffee Morning

Thursday 24th September – Darley Dene Community Showcase & Meet the Teacher

Monday 21st – Friday 25th September – Scholastic Book Fair

Friday 2nd October – INSET

Wednesday 7th October – Individual/ Sibling Photos

Friday 9th October – Family Coffee Morning

Friday 9th October – Hello Yellow Day

Tuesday 13th & Wednesday 14th October – Year 1 Stay, Play & Learn

Thursday 15th October – Reception & LAN Crazy Hair Day

Friday 16th October – Last day of term

Monday 19th October – Friday 30th October – HALF TERM

Autumn 2

Monday 2nd November – Term starts

Monday 9th November – Diabetes Screening

Monday 9th & Wednesday 11th November – Family Consultations

Monday 16th – Friday 20th November – Anti Bullying Week

Monday 16th November – Odd Socks Day

Friday 20th November – Children in Need Mufti

Monday 23rd November Year 2 Superhero Day

Monday 23rd November & Wednesday 25th – Reception Stay, Play and Learn

Tuesday 24th November – LAN Stay, Play & Learn session

Tuesday 24th & Thursday 26th November – Nursery Stay, Play & Learn session

Monday 30th November – Last week of Enrichment Clubs

Wednesday 2nd December – EYFS & KS1 Nativity Performance

Thursday 3rd December – EYFS & KS1 Nativity Performance

Tuesday 8th December – EYFS & KS1 Christmas Movie Night (Family Dynamo event)

Wednesday 16th December – Christmas Jumper & Lunch Day

Thursday 17th December – Class Christmas Parties

Friday 18th December – Winning House Team Party

Friday 18th December – Last Day of Term





PARENT PARTNERSHIPS WHAT'S COMING UP IN KS2

Autumn 1

Thursday 10th September – Home Learning begins
Monday 14th September – Enrichment Clubs start
Monday 21st – Friday 25th September – Scholastic Book Fair
Thursday 24th September – Darley Dene Community Showcase & Meet the Teacher
Friday 25th September – Year 6 Cake Sale
Friday 2nd October – INSET
Tuesday 6th October – Wonderdome – Year 5
Wednesday 7th October – Individual/ Sibling Photos
Friday 9th October – Family Coffee Morning
Friday 9th October – Hello Yellow Day
Tuesday 13th October – Year 6 Wisley Trip
Thursday 15th October – Generation Wild Year 4
Friday 16th October – Last day of term
Monday 19th October – Friday 30th October – HALF TERM

Autumn 2

Monday 2nd November – Term starts
Monday 9th November – Diabetes Screening
Monday 9th & Wednesday 11th November – Family Consultations
Monday 16th – Friday 20th November – Anti Bullying Week
Monday 16th November – Odd Socks Day
Tuesday 17th November – Friday 20th November – Bristol
Friday 20th November – Year 4 Cake Sale
Friday 20th November – Children in Need Mufti
Thursday 26th November – Year 3 Local Walk
Monday 30th November – Last week of Enrichment Clubs
Thursday 10th December – Family Dynamo presents: KS2 Movie Night
Tuesday 15th December – KS2 Christmas Concert
Wednesday 16th December – Christmas Jumper & Lunch Day
Thursday 17th December – Class Christmas Parties
Friday 18th December – Winning House Team Party
Friday 18th December – Last Day of Term



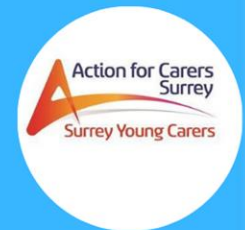
Darley Dene Nursery & Primary School



COMMUNITY SHOWCASE & MEET THE TEACHER

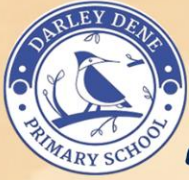


24th SEPTEMBER
3:00 PM - 4:30 PM



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





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



Generated with Goggle Gemini and Canva



National Nurturing
School Award
2026

Ofsted
Good
Provider

