

DARLEY DENE DISPATCHES

Empowering success through a strong and respectful home-school partnership

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Headteacher's Message

It might already be but a distant memory but I hope everyone had a great half term break! The weather has definitely decided that winter is on its way, and now that the clocks have changed it really feels we are on the countdown to the end of the calendar year.

As Ms. Kober shared in the last newsletter before the half term, she is now absent for a few weeks for a final operation as part of her ongoing treatment, and I am here to support the leadership team and the school while she is away. Whilst I pay very regular visits to Darley Dene as part of my substantive role across Lumen Learning Trust, it is a particular treat to be able to spend longer in Darley Dene and get to know the children and the community even better.

The children have settled right back into their learning after the half term break, do take the time to click on one of the "Quick Links" on the right to see what your child's class has been up to this week.

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Reading

We would like to invite parents and carers into school on

Tuesday 21st November from 2pm – 3pm for a phonics and reading workshop. During this workshop, we will share with you how we teach phonics and reading in school and the vocabulary used. The importance of reading and how you can support your child(ren) at home with reading. We hope to see lots of you there!

Stay, Play & Learn - Owls, Robins and Sparrows

You will have received information this week regarding Stay, Play and Learn sessions for the week commencing 13th November. The children thoroughly enjoy showing you around their classroom so please do sign up for one of these sessions to make the most of this opportunity. Please note, these sessions are for 1 parent only and preferably no siblings.

Owls Wednesday 15th November 1.30-3pm

Robins Monday 13th November 9-9.30am
Tuesday 14th November 9-9.30am
Friday 17th November 9-9.30am

Sparrows Monday 13th November 2-3pm
Tuesday 14th November 2- 3pm
Wednesday 15th November 2- 3pm



Times Tables Rockstars

This week we have relaunched our TTRS certificates with the children. In school, we will celebrate our three top scorers every week as well as the child in each KS2 class who achieves the most points due to effort. The leadership board in school will be updated weekly and certificates will begin coming home next week.

Visits and Visitors

Frustratingly Storm Ciaran prevented Magpies' trip to Butser Farm yesterday. We are in the process of reorganizing it so the children won't be missing out. Well done to Magpies who managed their disappointment so sensibly and had a great day's learning in school instead.

This morning we welcomed our Chair of the local governing body, Mrs. Marijke Reid, who came to meet with the leadership team and carry out a safeguarding audit. As part of this process she met with groups of children as well as other staff members to gain insight into all aspects of safeguarding practice at Darley Dene.

As part of their role, all of our governors take part in regular visits looking at developments to our school provision and supporting the leadership team in identifying possible next steps. Over the course of the next few weeks governors will be in to see how our children learn their phonics; to look at the provision in some foundation subjects (all the subjects that aren't English & Maths), and to find out a little more about our pastoral provision.

Farewells and Welcomes

We have a few staff changes coming our way over the next few weeks. Next week we will be saying goodbye to Mr. Jonathan Liddell who is moving on to another support role in one of the other local schools. Mr. Liddell has been with us at Darley Dene for 13 years and in that time has supported many children across the school.

Mrs. Lindsay Wallace will sadly also be leaving us in a few weeks. Mrs. Wallace has worked with us for 3 years mainly with our younger children and in Owls. She will be missed by the whole team.

Finally Mrs. Michelle Dight is leaving to take up a role in a larger specialist unit in a school nearer her home. Mrs. Dight has been with us for 10 years, working mainly with our Owls children where her expertise and support has been particularly valuable.

We will miss all three of these team members and wish them all the very best for the future.

Joining our team we have:

Miss Rebecca Taylor joining Magpies and Miss Emily White joining Woodpeckers from Monday 6th November. Both Miss Taylor and Miss White bring with them valuable experience of working with children in other settings. They will already be known to some of the parents as they have children at Darley Dene already. I'm sure you all join me in welcoming them to the school in their new role.

PE Kits

Please ensure your child's PE kit is in school. PE kits will remain at school for the whole half term and be sent home again at the end of autumn 2. As we have now entered the colder months, please ensure your child has appropriate PE clothing for the outside weather. For example, black leggings/jogging bottoms and a jumper. If you have any difficulties providing a PE kit, please do speak to your child's class teacher, the office or our HSLW, Catherine Webb.



Upcoming Festive Calendar Dates

As we approach the festive season, there are a variety of special events in our school calendar for the children to enjoy. More information for each event will be sent out closer to the time, however we have included them below for your reference.

- Tuesday 7th December - 9:15am - EYFS & KS1 Christmas Production in school, families welcome to attend.
- Tuesday 12th December - Year 1-6 Pantomime Performance in school for the children.
- Wednesday 13th December - Christmas Jumper and Festive Lunch in school for the children.
- Friday 15th December - KS2 Christmas Concert - 1:45pm KS2 Christmas Concert at St Paul's Church, families welcome to attend.

Celebration

All of our children are enjoying the opportunity to earn one of the new certificate. Well done to all of the children who have already been successful and good luck to everyone else for the coming weeks.

Oracy Champions

Ebrahim
Antonia
Esmae

Sports Stars

Lily
Levi
Violet
Paulo
Aaliyah
Emine
Taree
Poppy

Jigsaw

Eliegh
Max
Aria-Mae
Bonnie
Archie
Hidayah

Maths

Ayaan
Jack
Joshua
Sophia
Anusha
Dollie-Jaye
Alfie
Riley

Writing

Primrose
Amelia
Srisajini
Yovana
Cu Cuhlainn
Flynn

Explorer of the Week

Year 6 have tutoring sessions with Explore Learning on a weekly basis. Each week a Year 6 pupil will be awarded a certificate for the effort shown, commitment and, the amount of resilience shown towards understanding new concepts in their tutoring sessions. This week the Explorers of the week **Angela**.

Oracy

Talk Question

Do ideas come from inside or outside your head?



Dynamos and House Teams

The Dynamos have had a busy start to the new half term! Before half term, the children and Miss Legg were discussing assemblies at Darley Dene and the role the Dynamos could have within these. From this, they then came up with 'Assembly Monitors'.

While sitting on chairs at the side, the Dynamos will be setting high expectations to the wider school and awarding green points to different children, who are making excellent green choices. They will choose 3 children each for this and write their names down in their Dynamo book. The green point stickers will then be given after assembly. On the day that they are an assembly monitor, the Dynamos will need to bring their Dynamo bag. Their bag will contain: a notebook, pencil and some green point stickers.

This week, the Dynamos have continued their work around playground pals and started to think about Anti Bullying Week, which is approaching soon. We look forward to sharing our plans around this soon!

Below, some of the Dynamos have taken some time to reflect on their new role:

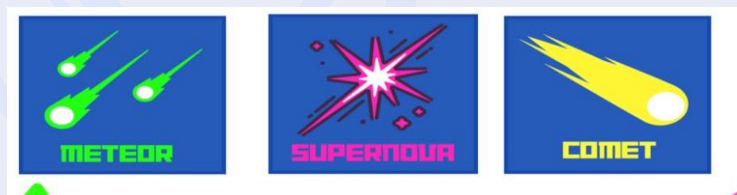
I have loved
Jude, Year 4

Being a dynamo is special because I am a role model for my school and I can help it become better. We can give our opinions about different things too, agreeing and disagreeing.

Miguel, Year 5

I have loved becoming a
Dynamo! Firstly, I get to attend fun meeting and we were given really cool bags!

Jude, Year 4



Over the last few weeks, the children have been working hard to gather house points for their house. This has been through golden leaves, house competitions and sporting tournaments.

Our recent Hello Yellow day competition was a huge success and Miss Legg was blown away by the entries from across the school.



At the end of the term, one house will be deemed the winner based on the house point total. The winning house will receive the Darley Dene House Cup, which will be displayed with the relevant house colours. The colours are linked to the logos above. Children and staff in the winning house will also be treated to a house colour themed day and a short house party.

Below is the current house point total:

Meteor	8
Supernova	17
Comet	13

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.

OWLS: Ethan, Lily

SPARROWS: Frankie

JAYS: Rory, Reuben, Levi, Mia

WOODPECKERS: Tyler

MAGPIES: Fatmana, Caesar

DOVES: Charlotte-Ann

EAGLES: Marwan x 2, Taliya, Lexi D, Flynn, Bahar, Isabella

Messages from the School Office

Safeguarding

Now that the days are getting shorter and it is darker earlier, if you would still like your child to walk home alone after an Enrichment Club at 4.30 – we ask that you give us additional permission to enable them to do this. Please contact the school office office.darleydene@lumenlearningtrust.co.uk who can send you paperwork that will need completing.

Absence

If your child is unwell or off school for another reason, please ensure that you phone the school office promptly on the first day of absence by 8:00am and report by pressing 1. We will contact you if your child is not in school when the registers close. For any medical appointments please email a copy of your appointment to the school office.

Lunch Boxes

Darley Dene is a nut free school. Please do not send your child to school with chocolate spread Sandwiches 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 we will call home to request that an alternative be brought in. Thank you for your co-operation.



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.

Wrap Club

At Darley Dene we offer extended care at our breakfast and after school Wrap Clubs in order to support our families should they require it. Wrap Club is open to pupils in all year groups, including Nursery. At Wrap Club we have a variety of activities for the children to take part in.

- Play dough, puzzles, Rubik's games, book corner, kitchen area. Lego, bingo, transformers, costumes, construction, dominos, 4 in a row, cards, balloons, dolls. Engines, bowling and a wide selection of board games.
- We have plenty of puzzle words, cut-outs, water colour, painting and colouring.
- We promote "Reading for Pleasure" and free art, providing different sorts of materials every week to expand our children's imagination.

Breakfast Club

- The Breakfast Club is a safe, stimulating and nurturing environment, provided for those children who may have parents or carers with work commitments outside of the usual school hours.
- Children who join us for Breakfast Club enjoy an array of activities - ***from reading and crafts, to games and puzzles*** - supervised by our friendly and experienced team.
- The children are provided with a delicious and nutritious breakfast which includes ***bagels, toast, juice, cereal, yoghurts and a variety of spreads and preserves.***
- The Club can be booked online through ScoPay and operates from the school premises from 7.35am until the start of the school day.

If you are interested in finding out more about our Breakfast Club please contact the school office or visit our website.

Trust Vacancies

Riverbridge Primary School in Staines is looking to recruit two term time Office Assistants

Riverbridge is recruiting for their office administration team. If you have excellent IT skills, highly effective written and verbal communication skills and the ability to manage multiple priorities then they would love to hear from you. The application deadline has been extended to Monday 13th November with interviews to take place on Thursday 16th November. To find out more about the role and to apply online please visit eteach via this link: <https://www.eteach.com/job/school-office-assistant-1378706>.

Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF)

Surrey County Council have partnered with HolidayActivities to support the delivery of the Holiday Activities and Food programme (HAF), a scheme which offers free school holiday club places to children entitled to Free School Meals (FSM). This means that we automatically distribute HAF vouchers to all our eligible families via the free HolidayActivities platform without families having to request the vouchers. Vouchers will be sent via email to the same parent who currently receives the holiday time FSM vouchers. If your child is eligible for free school meals and you would like to check the contact details for the individual who will be receiving the vouchers please contact the school office by latest 3pm on Monday 6th November. For more information about HolidayActivities, please see their website <https://www.holidayactivities.com/>.



Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards



Mrs. Mary Ellen McCarthy
Executive Principal

FODD (Friends of Darley Dene) News

Don't forget our school lottery! Tickets are £1 each, buy as many as you like and it is open to friends, family and neighbours.

The weekly prize is 30% of the total school ticket sales for each week, so the more we sell, the bigger the prize!

40% will go to F.O.D.D to help buy extras for the children at Darley Dene, *and* there is also a national draw with the **chance to win £25,000** that you will automatically be entered into.

Please click onto the link below to buy a ticket!

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/darley-dene-primary-school>

