

# DARLEY DENE DISPATCHES

Empowering success through a strong and respectful home-school partnership

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## Headteacher's Message

We come to the end of another busy week - hard to believe we are going into the last week of November. As in all Primary schools, Christmas starts quite early as the children start to learn the songs and words for their Christmas celebrations from after half term. Do make a note of the dates of your child's play - details at the end of the newsletter.

As you will see below, we are looking at what we can do to be healthier in every way - but we need your help to find out your thoughts about different elements of this area for learning. Our first survey is all about lunches. Please complete the simple Google form to share your thoughts about this.

## Surrey Healthy Schools

Currently, we are working towards achieving the Surrey Healthy Schools award. Surrey Healthy Schools is a commitment to promoting personal, social and health development across the local authority. In order to meet the requirements for this award, we are reviewing our healthy eating and packed lunch policy. In order to review our policy, we would like to gain responses from our wider community. Below, please find attached a link to a Google form.

## [Healthy Lunches Questionnaire](#)

## Winter Poetry Writing House Competition

*There's a chill in the air, the leaves have fallen and the nights are growing longer; winter is upon us. How do you spend your winter days? Your poem could be about waiting for the snow to build a snowman, or enjoying a delicious hot chocolate. Will you be eagerly awaiting Santa on Christmas Eve? What about nature during this frosty time? Your poem could be about the animals deep in hibernation or the bare trees waiting for spring to arrive. For many, this season is a time for family, friends and kindness as well as overindulgence and parties!*


Today, the children have been challenged to write a poem in any style around the theme of wintertime. All entries are to be given to their class teacher by **Friday 8th December**. Children who submit an entry, to their usual expected writing standard, will receive a house point. A winner from each house will then be chosen, receiving additional house points, and they will also have the opportunity to read their poem during the festive performances to parents.

## QUICK LINKS

[Term Dates](#)[School Calendar](#)[Enrichment Clubs](#)[Uniform](#)[School Meals](#)[Robins](#)[Sparrows](#)[Jays](#)[Woodpeckers](#)[Owls](#)[Magpies](#)[Doves](#)[Kingfishers](#)[Eagles](#)

## Collins eBooks Update

Your child now has access to Collins eBooks at home. As well as the hard copy books which are sent home regularly, your child can now log in to read books on any electronic device you have at home. We hope our families find this resource useful to use while on-the-go and support engagement if your child is reluctant to read. This week, class teachers have been busy assigning books at the appropriate level to your child. If you are unable to see an assigned book, please do not hesitate to speak to them directly. All children were sent home with their login details today - so please check their bags. More details about how to use Collins eBooks is outlined below. Happy reading!



### Collins Big Cat eBook libraries

#### Parent Guide

##### Logging in

To access your child's Big Cat eBooks, go to:  
<https://ebooks.collinsopenpage.com/> (See right).

Enter the username and password provided by your school to access your library.

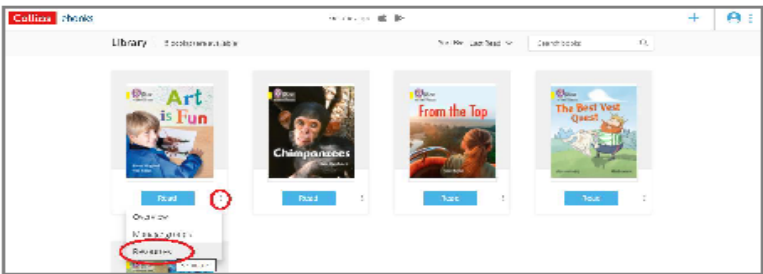
If you misplace your password, contact your school.

**PLEASE NOTE** - The eBook platform is **not** recommended for use on Kindles. All Apple and Android devices must run on the following OS:

Platform	OS (support)
Android	9 and above
iOS	12 and above

##### Library

Once logged in, you will land on the library. Here you will see any books that have been assigned to your child by their teacher. You can access a resource sheet for each book by clicking the three dots, then "Resources," as shown below.



##### The reader

To open one of the books, select either the cover or the "Read" button. You will see this screen.

## Year 3 Magpies Butser Farm Trip

*Magpies had a wonderful day at Butser Ancient Farm to support our learning about the Stone Age and Iron Ages. There was lots of exploring to be had, viewing the different houses and learning some fascinating new facts about the differences of the two periods.*

*Our day was full of different activities, the children loved having the opportunity to make jewelry using pliers creating either an earring, ring or a bracelet. Whilst exploring the houses we all enjoyed our lunch in a Stone Age house around a large fire and after lunch continuing to learn and enjoy some great fun and challenging activities. The children were extremely well behaved and we all loved visiting the Farm.*



### **Year4 (DOVES) Parents: Year 4 Residential – “Rise Up”: Information Meeting**

On **Monday 27th November**, there will be an information meeting regarding the Year 4 residential trip ‘Rise Up’ that will be happening in May 2024. This will happen at **3.20pm in the Year 4 classroom**, once all the children have been dismissed. More information regarding this trip will be shared with families soon.

### **Emergency Contact Details**

Our Office team have been reviewing all the contact information we have for all the children. For too many of our children we only have one emergency contact number and we need three. Mrs. Surey and her team will be sending home hard copies of the contact details we have. Please review them and make sure we have the names and contact numbers of the adults we can contact in the event of an emergency.

### **Coats and Jumpers**

The weather is getting colder and even more miserable. However we still have children coming to school without a coat and/or a jumper. Please can you ensure your child comes to school with both of these? Please also ensure that these are clearly named?

### **Lost Lunchboxes**

At the end of most days we have children spending a long time looking for their lost lunchbox because we have a number of children with exactly the same lunchbox... Please could you put your child’s name clearly on the outside of their lunchbox so they can quickly and easily identify it at the end of the day?

### **Christmas Jumper & Christmas Dinner day – Weds 13<sup>th</sup> December**

On Weds 13<sup>th</sup> December all the children who normally have a packed lunch are invited to have a special Christmas dinner instead. If you would like your child to take part in this, look out for a special email coming out with the booking details and cost. If your child normally has school dinners, the festive dinner will automatically be provided. **Please note that there will be no Deli Option or Pasta available.**

### **Oracy**

For parents of our youngest children, this BBC website is a useful one – full of ideas to help develop your child’s language – do have a look: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people>

## **Talk Question**

**Is a millionaire still a millionaire if they live alone on a desert island?**



## Celebration

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

### Oracy Champions

Mateo  
Noah  
Elif  
Franek  
Jasmine  
Jude  
Scarlett  
Roshan

### Jigsaw

Alice  
Ivy  
Elsie-Jean  
Harper  
Gracie  
Zabia

### Sports Stars

Ebrahim  
Roman H  
Esmee  
Raven  
Lorelai  
Alan  
Matt W  
Alfie  
Jess

### Maths

Noah  
Rory  
Alice  
Mia  
Arabella  
Sienna  
Dollie-Jaye  
Mohamad  
Talha

### Writing

Antoni  
Tyler  
Jayden  
Daniel  
Taree  
Roshan

### 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 Explorer of the week is **Faye**

### Times Tables Rock Stars

Srisajini  
Orest  
Poppy  
Angela

## House Teams

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. 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	50
Supernova	51
Comet	54



### 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, Mateo

**SPARROWS:** Fallon, Violet, Elif, Christian, Denis

**JAYS:** Reuben, Logan, Gizem, Payton, Leelou, Hicabia, Labiba

**WOODPECKERS:** Amelia

**DOVES:** Mia, Izabella

**KINGFISHERS:** Mohamad, Kacper

**EAGLES:** Flynn, Lillie, Lexi C

## 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 4.20 – we ask that you give us additional permission to enable them to do this. Please contact the school office [office.darleydene@lumenlearningtrust.co.uk](mailto: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.

### Uniform

Please ensure that your child's uniform including Coats, Jackets and PE Kits as well as water bottles are named.

### 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.

## Upcoming Diary Dates

Wed 6 <sup>th</sup> December	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Production	9.15am
Thurs 7 <sup>th</sup> December	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Production	9.15am
Tues 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 1-6 Pantomime Performance in school for the children.	
Weds 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Jumper and Festive Lunch in school for the children.	
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> December	KS2 Christmas Concert	1:45pm at St Paul's Church, families welcome to attend.

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards

  
Mrs. Mary Ellen McCarthy  
Executive Principal, Lumen Learning Trust

## 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.

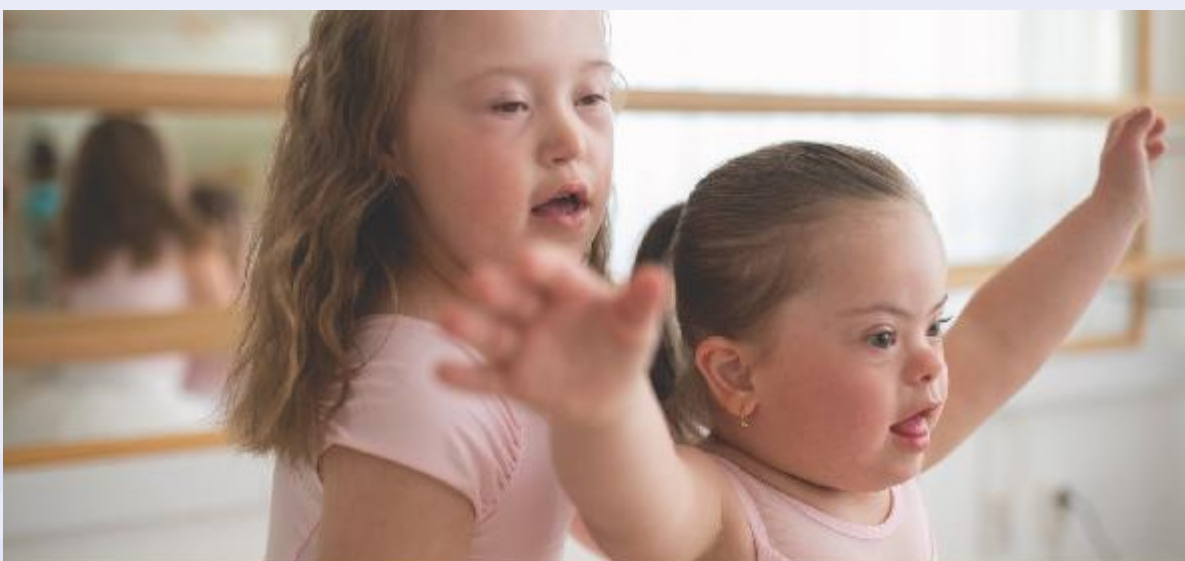
The weekly prize is 30% of the total school ticket sales for each week, so the more we sell, the bigger the prize!

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>





**SYNERGY DANCE<sup>®</sup>**

### Woking Leisure Centre - SENSational Ballet Dance Class

Saturday's 12:30 pm - 1:15 pm (7-12 years - term runs from 6th January - 23rd March 2024)

Does your child dream of tutus and becoming a ballerina? Join our unique SEN ballet class - to learn basic ballet technique, posture and style without the pressure of grades! Designed for SEN students, this class is taught in a relaxed style and parents/carers are welcome. Dressing up encouraged!

Taught by expert instructors, Synergy Dance are Active Surrey School Engagement Partners, approved by Acrobatic Arts.

#### **BOOK NOW**

**<https://bit.ly/synergy-woking>**

**monthly payment plans available, please email [kathryn@synergydance.co.uk](mailto:kathryn@synergydance.co.uk)**

#### **For holiday workshops go to;**

**<https://bit.ly/synergy-workshops>**

Award Winning as seen on Strictly Come Dancing 2021  
2023 SME Best All-ages Dance Activity Company  
2023 Digital Dance & Fitness Provider of the Year  
2023 SME Diversity & Inclusion Award  
2021, 2022 & 2023 Specialist Dance School of the Year  
2022 Digital Business of the Year  
2022 Best Dance Outreach Programmes Provider – UK  
2021 Leader of the Year (Rachael Hurton)  
2021 Diversity & Inclusion Award SRA



**Practice Dance Online: <https://synergy-dance-online.teachable.com/>**





# **PARENTING ALONE?**

**Come and join our networking and support  
group for single mothers. Wednesdays  
1:30-3pm at Revive Coffee Shop, 99  
Guildford St, Chertsey KT16 9AS**

 Email: [chloe@beaconchurch.net](mailto:chloe@beaconchurch.net) with any  
queries







**EAT WELL  
SPEND LESS**



## Learn how to cook and eat healthily on a budget

Learn new skills - cooking from scratch, meal planning and budgeting. Recipes from soup to cookies - for free!



Join us on Tuesdays from  
23rd January 2024, 10am - 12.30pm  
For 6 weeks with a break for half term on 13th Feb

Addlestone Young People  
and Family Centre, Church Road  
KT15 1SH

Contact Helen Bunclark  
[Eatwellspendless@runnymede.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:Eatwellspendless@runnymede.foodbank.org.uk)  
or Runnymede foodbank 01932 943056  
for more details and to book a place

Registered Charity in England and Wales No 1095763





**EAT WELL  
SPEND LESS**



**the  
trussell  
trust**  
Stop UK Hunger



**foodbank**  
by trussell trust

## **Learn how to cook and eat healthily on a budget**

**Learn new skills - cooking from  
scratch, meal planning and  
budgeting. Recipes from soup to  
cookies - for free!**



**Join us on Fridays from  
26th January 2024, 10am - 12.30pm  
For 6 weeks with a break for half term on 16th Feb**

**The Beacon, 94 Guildford Street  
Chertsey, KT16 9AS**

**Contact Helen Bunclark  
Eatwellspendless@runnymede.foodbank.org.uk  
or Runnymede foodbank 01932 943056  
for more details and to book a place**



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