



DARLEY DENE DISPATCHES

Empowering success through a strong and respectful home-school partnership

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Headteacher's Message

Winter has certainly arrived this week. The children have enjoyed the frosty playground and are excited about the anticipation of snow which may or may not arrive...

We still have some issues with children not bringing in a warm coat and/or a jumper. I know some children don't appear to feel the cold and are disinclined to wear their coat, but please could everyone ensure their child has a named coat in school anyway. Thanks in advance for your help with this.

Christmas Reading Challenge

Today marks the start of advent and also the start of our Christmas Reading Challenge. The children are to read, or share read, one piece of text a day. For example, the back of a packet, a website, a piece of junk mail etc. Each child has been sent home with a printed Christmas tree and accompanying baubles to stick on each day to show the piece of text has been read. There is another form for the parent to sign and this is the one that should be returned to the class teacher At the start of next term to receive a house point. All children from EYFS-Year 6 can participate as the reading can be shared by an adult for those children who are still learning to read. The children were so excited about this in assembly, with some suggesting they would really like to read a whole book as well. Please let your child's class teacher know if you have any questions.

Maths

At Darley Dene we are working with the Surrey Maths Hub to help us strengthen and refine our practice in Maths provision still further. On Monday our Maths subject leader, Mrs. Butler, hosted a visit by the Maths Hub that looked carefully at all aspects of our practice in this area. They visited lessons and looked at books and talked to some children and teachers. The feedback from this visit was very positive with clear evidence that the staff team were taking on the development points and making sure they were putting them into practice in their maths lessons. Thank you to Mrs. Butler and the whole staff team for all the hard work that is going into this aspect of our provision.

Farewells and Welcomes

Next week we are saying goodbye to Mrs. Sawyer who is stepping away from her role at Darley Dene in order to travel and spend time with her family. Mrs. Sawyer has been a part of the Darley Dene team since 2015 and has been a loyal friend to our school community all these years. We wish Mrs. Sawyer all the very best and ask that she sends us a postcard or two when she's on her travels.

QUICK LINKS

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We have appointed three new teaching assistants - two of whom are starting next week. Miss Sarah Lush will be starting on Monday in Magpies working alongside Mrs. Lanecka and the Year 3 children. Miss Lush has extensive experience working in schools in Hampshire and has recently relocated to Surrey. We're delighted she is able to bring all that experience to our Darley Dene community.

Miss Elle Edwards has been working on a supply basis in Darley Dene over the last couple of weeks so will already be known to some of the children. From Monday Miss Edwards will be based in Owls full time to replace Mrs. Dight who left us a couple of weeks ago.

I'm sure you all join me in offering both our new team members a warm welcome.

Healthy Schools

Last week we launched our work towards achieving the Surrey Healthy Schools award and asked that you help us by sharing your views about packed lunches via this google form.

If you haven't had a chance to do that yet, please do take the time to complete it for us as your input is so important to helping us decide on the next steps.

Healthy Lunches Questionnaire

Attendance

We still have too many children who are having too many days off from school and we need to work together to ensure their attendance is improved.

To support with this we will be increasing the number of attendance checks to every three weeks. Following the check, parents of children whose attendance continues to cause concern will be contacted to inform them of their child's attendance figure and the planned action that will be taken to help improve it.

It may be helpful for you to be aware of what we look for when checking attendance:

- Has the child had time out of school for a holiday? Please be aware that holidays during term time will not be authorised and you are likely to incur a fine of £60 per parent per child
- Is the child repeatedly missing certain days e.g. Mondays or Fridays?
- Are all the children in one family absent on the same day each time with parents telling the school that they are ill? Whilst this can happen, it is rare and when we see these absences happening frequently, they won't be authorised.

Please note that the only person who can authorise a child's absence is the Headteacher. In Miss Kober's absence, that is currently my responsibility. If the reason given for a child's absence does not feel plausible then it won't be authorised.

Sometimes parents take their child out of school for a special treat and tell the school the child is ill. More often than not this avoidance of fact is uncovered because children are excited to tell their friends about their day(s) out.

Parents sometimes make the error of thinking "one day out won't count". That is a mistake and unfair on the child who then has to work twice as hard to catch up with the work as well as their friendship groups.

Every child's attendance should be at least 95% or above. If your child's attendance is less than that and the absences are not authorised, you are running the risk of a fine or prosecution. Please work with us to help your child achieve the best attendance they can.

Every day counts



Important dates – please note:

End of term – Tues 19th December 1.00pm

Beginning of Spring term – Thurs 4th January 2024

Christmas Jumper & Christmas Dinner day – Weds 13th December

On Weds 13th December all the children who normally have a packed lunch are invited to have a special Christmas dinner instead. 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.**

Contact Information Sheets – return by Fri 8th December

Thank you to everyone who has already returned the contact information sheets with your up to date phone numbers and names of people who we can contact in an emergency. If you haven't returned yours yet – please be sure to complete and send it back by **Fri 8th December**

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 **Ines**

Celebration

All of our children are enjoying the opportunity to earn one of the 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

Ethan (Owls)
Bradley
Andrei
Logan-Jay
Amelia
Matthew
Nethuli
Lillie

Jigsaw

Labiba
Arabella
Anusha
Mia
Joshua
Lucy Anne

Sports Stars

Priscilla
Aria
Noah R
Hicabi
Arzo
Yovana
Maddie
Skyla

Maths

Oscar H
Ayaan
Aleksandra
Harper
Andrei
Skyler
Isla
Eros
Ellie

Writing

Dolcie
Chloe
Yusuf
Freddie
Jacob
Rebecca

Times Tables Rock Stars

Orest
Poppy
Angela



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.

MAGPIES: Elsie-Jean, Aaliyah

DOVES: TJ

KINGFISHERS: Alfie, Kacper, Poppy, Ardi

EAGLES: Bahar, Lillie, Flynn, Poppy, Lucy Anne

Talk Question

When does loud start?

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

Messages from the School Office

Safeguarding

Are the contact details we have for you up to date? This is a safeguarding issue. We need to have the contact details of at least 3 people we can ring in case of an emergency.

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.

Trust Vacancies

Walton Oak Primary School is recruiting

Are you ambitious and keen to make a difference? We are seeking to appoint a highly enthusiastic, proactive, flexible and reliable individual for the role of Teaching Assistant. This is an opportunity for an individual who is patient and emotionally resilient to join our friendly, inclusive and inspirational team of teaching and support staff. For more information please see: <https://www.eteach.com/job/teaching-assistant-1386465>

Darley Dene Primary School in Addlestone is recruiting

Are you ambitious and keen to make a difference? We are seeking to appoint a highly enthusiastic, proactive, flexible and reliable individual for the role of Teaching Assistant. This is an opportunity for an individual who is patient and emotionally resilient to join our friendly, inclusive and inspirational team of teaching and support staff. For more information please see: <https://www.eteach.com/job/teaching-assistant-1378206>

Lumen Learning Trust is recruiting

We are looking to appoint a member of staff to support in the delivery of P.E. lessons across the five Lumen Learning Trust (LLT) schools, this is an exciting role for anyone who is interested in coaching and developing youth sport. This role is supported by Sports Premium funding and therefore is a fixed term contract, expiring on 31st August 2025. There is the possibility that the contract will be extended subject to the funding from the DfE continuing. <https://www.eteach.com/job/sports-coach-1389220>



Upcoming Diary Dates

Wed 6 th December	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Production	9.15am
Thurs 7 th December	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Production	9.15am
Fri 8 th December	Deadline for return of Contact information sheets	
Tues 12 th December	Year 1-6 Pantomime Performance in school for the children.	
Weds 13 th December	Christmas Jumper and Festive Lunch in school for the children.	
Fri 15 th December	KS2 Christmas Concert	1:45pm at St Paul's Church, families welcome to attend.
Tues 19 th December	End of term 1.00pm	
Thurs 4 th January 2024	Beginning of Spring term	

Have a lovely weekend.
Kind regards



Mrs. Mary Ellen McCarthy
Executive Principal, Lumen Learning Trust





Runnymede
Family Centre

NEWSLETTER – DECEMBER 2023

email us: info@runnymede-familycentre.org

visit us: www.runnymede-familycentre.org

call us: 01784 464395



The following information is for parents, carers and RFC partner agencies, we hope you find it useful.

Please find us, like us and follow us on our facebook page!

We will update the page with the latest information and signposting.



We have a paediatric first aid class
for parents/carers at our
Addlestone site on
Tuesday 30th
January, 7-9pm

If you would like to attend please
contact Runnymede Family Centre.
The cost of the class is £10, non
refundable



We have another Action for
Carers Information and advice
session on Tuesday 16th

January at 10am

Barbara will be at our Addlestone site, Church road, Addlestone KT15
1SH. Parents can drop in to see what support is available to them.



Job Club

Runnymede
Family Centre



Looking for work? Come and visit the Job
Club at Runnymede Family Centre
(Addlestone) for one of our 1:1 sessions with
ADP. Offering support with CV
writing/updating, Interview techniques and
help with online job applications



All sessions are from 10am-12pm:

Tuesday 19th December 2023

Please contact
01784 464395 for
further details and to
book your 30 minute
session



**It's OK to not be OK at Christmas time, here's some helpful organisations
you can contact if you need to**

PANDAS offers hope, empathy and support for every parent affected by perinatal mental
illness 0808 1961 776 pandasfoundation.org.uk



PAPYRUS the UK charity dedicated to the prevention of suicide and the promotion of positive
mental health and emotional wellbeing in young people 0800 068 4141 papyrus-uk.org



CALM stand together with everyone who's struggling with life, no matter who they are, where
they're from or what they're going through 0808 58 58 58 thecalmzone.net



Samaritans are there, day or night, for anyone who's struggling to cope, who needs someone to
listen without judgement or pressure 116 123 samaritans.org



SHOUT is the UK's first and only free, confidential, 24/7 text messaging support service for
anyone who is struggling to cope Text SHOUT to 85258 giveusashout.org



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>

