



DARLEY DENE DISPATCHES

Empowering success through a strong and respectful home-school partnership

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Headteacher's Message

Welcome to the new term

I hope everyone enjoyed their break from school and that the return to routine is a welcome one. The children have made an excellent start and have settled well.

We will be focusing on the quality of teaching this term alongside pupil welfare and fostering a love of reading. These priorities take up little space on when written on a page but are significant, ongoing tasks, which take considerable effort from leaders and teachers. We will be asking for families to contribute ideas and actions towards achieving these aims and hope that you will be ready to actively participate. Members of our local governing body will also be visiting school to support the leadership team in asking searching questions about our journey towards achieving good outcomes for your children in all areas of school life.

I look forward to seeing you around school and wish you all a happy and healthy 2024.

Parking

Before the Christmas holidays, a number of parents mentioned concerns about parking on the double yellow lines outside the main gate. Last academic year I raised a complaint about this situation and we were visited by members of the local council who assessed the situation. During their visit, I was informed that we could expect yellow zig-zag lines to be painted by our main entrance within 6 months but this time period has now passed. Over Christmas I completed another form on the local council website and received a reply to say that my comments would be noted and included in the 2022 review. I made direct contact with our local community engagement officer to say that the form and auto-response are out of date and he has shared this with the county council.

I will continue to ask for further guidance around parking near to school but for now, would ask that everyone is at least careful when opening and closing car doors and controlling your speed – wherever you are. Whilst it is not illegal to drop-off on the double yellow lines, it is illegal to wait or park on them unless you display a blue-badge. It is also possible to be prosecuted for obstructing a pavement. In the rush of family routines at the beginning and end of the day I do understand that it can feel quicker or easier to do what you need without stopping to think about others. At the same time, I know how desperately sorry anyone would feel if they caused harm to someone else's child and I strongly encourage you to pause and consider if you could make a safer choice.

QUICK LINKS

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

PE Kit

From this term going forward, children in **Year 1 to Year 6** will be required to come **into school** already wearing their PE kit on their PE day. **Year 1 and 2** will have PE on a Monday too, but their PE kit is *not required for the lesson on this day*. The uniform policy for PE kit and days for each year group to wear their kit into school are as follows:

- Plain white round necked T-shirt
- Black jumper
- Black shorts, leggings or jogging bottoms
- Trainers

| Class | Day |
|--------|-----------|
| Year 1 | Friday |
| Year 2 | Friday |
| Year 3 | Thursday |
| Year 4 | Thursday |
| Year 5 | Wednesday |
| Year 6 | Wednesday |

Please ensure your child is wearing a weather appropriate PE kit when they arrive at school. We would like to remind families that a PE kit is a required part of school uniform outlined in the uniform policy and this should be followed. 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 who will be able to support.

Earrings Reminder

It is a Surrey 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.

Parent-teacher Consultations **Mon 5th February & Weds 7th February**

Important dates for all parents to put in their diaries are the dates for the parent-teacher consultations. These will be taking place just before half term on Monday 5th February from 4.30-7.00pm and on Weds 7th February 3.30-6.00pm. Look out for more information about how to book your appointment early next term.

Admissions

A reminder to parents in Nursery that the closing date for Reception applications for September 2024 entry is **15 January 2024**. Surrey CC encourage online applications via <https://www.eadmissions.org.uk/eAdmissions/app>. Full information is available on Surrey's website at www.surreycc.gov.uk/primaryadmissions.



Uniform

Darley Dene has a very smart uniform which sets it apart from a number of our other local schools. We are keen to start our new calendar year with a commitment to ensuring our Darley Dene children come to school smartly dressed in their full uniform, ready for learning. Please can you help them achieve this goal? Please remember that we do allow black trainers for school shoes, however they need to be completely plain black, clean and smart. Boots, sandals, fashion statement trainers are not an option and if your child comes to school wearing these, we will be ringing you and asking you to bring their school shoes in for them. If your child has shoulder-length or longer hair, please ensure it is tied back for the start of the school day.

Thank you in advance for your help with this.

Parenting Support

The School Nursing Service are setting up a Parents drop-in service in **Addlestone Family Centre** on Monday mornings, starting on **January 8th 2024** to support families in the area.

The school nurses will be running the clinic every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month starting on 08/01/24 at 09:30- 11:15 in Addlestone's Young People & Family Centre 121-125 Church Rd, Addlestone KT15 1SH.

The School Nursing service can offer [referrals, support, advice, and signposting](#) about a range of things including: [Dental care](#), [Sleep](#), [Toileting](#), [Health promotion](#), [Healthy eating](#), [Heights & Weights](#), [Behaviour](#), [Mental health](#) and [Eating difficulties](#).

There is free parking available on sight.

There are other clinics also running in Woking and Surrey heath information available on CSH website. [School nursing: Children and Family Health Surrey \(childrenshealthsurrey.nhs.uk\)](https://www.childrenshealthsurrey.nhs.uk)

The Surrey-wide 0-19 Advice Line 01883 340922 is available from 8.00am-5.00pm Monday to Friday (excluding bank holidays). This useful resource is available for parents seeking advice on any health issues.

House Competition



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|-----------|---|
| Meteor | 2 |
| Supernova | 1 |
| Comet | 1 |



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.

EAGLES: Faye, Harley, Ethan, Lexi C

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.***



Spring Term Enrichment Clubs

After School Enrichment Clubs – Spring Term 2024

Clubs will start week beginning Monday 8th January 2024 and finish week ending Friday 22nd March 2024 (excluding half term). Clubs will run for a course of 10 weeks at a total cost of £30.

What happens if I choose for my child to attend a club?

- We expect the same excellent standards of behaviour from the children during the clubs as we do at school. This means that any child who does not meet these high expectations will be spoken to, as will the family and this may lead to the child being asked to leave the club.
- Children **should not** bring a snack or drink to any of the clubs. They will use the water bottles that they bring to school to drink from.
- Children will be dismissed from class at the end of the school day by their class teacher directly to the after school club adult leader.
- It is not possible to watch the clubs as it is distracting for the children. Please do not arrive to collect your child more than five minutes before the end of the club. All children should be collected through the main school gates at 4.20pm.
- On occasion staff may have to cancel a club at short notice. We will always endeavour to reschedule the session at a later date either during school time or after school on the same day. Refunds will only be issued if a club has been cancelled.
- In fulfilling our safeguarding expectations, all our outside providers undergo enhanced DBS checks.
- **There are no 'taster' sessions for a club. If your child is allocated a place which is accepted but subsequently your child changes their mind we cannot refund the cost of any sessions not attended.**
- **Clubs must be paid for in advance. If payment is not received by Friday 5th January, your place will be withdrawn.**

How do I book my child a place in a club?

| Day | Club | Year Group | Provider/Teacher | Space Used (back up) | No of places | Time | Description |
|---------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------------|--|
| Monday | Cookery Club | Years 4,5 & 6 | Miss Legg | Doves Classroom | 15 | 3.20-4.20pm | Are you ready to become a super chef? This club will explore different smells, textures and tastes through a variety of recipes. |
| Tuesday | Story & Craft Club | Years EYFS & KS1 | Mrs Blasigh | Owls Classroom | 20 | 3.20-4.20pm | Fun and inspiring art club for children where they build imagination using stories creating collages, paintings and pieces of art work they would like to take home. |



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|------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|---------------|--|
| Tuesday | Board Games Club | Years 4,5 & 6 | Mark from the Geek Retreat | Library | 10 | 3.20 – 4.20pm | A club for the board gamers of Darley Dene run by the Geek Retreat, come and show off your skills and learn new board games. |
| Wednesday | Disney Club | Years 1,2 & 3 | Mrs Lansdell | Woodpeckers Classroom | 15 | 3.20 – 4.20pm | Do you love Disney films? If so, this is the club for you. Each week we will focus on a new film with exciting activities and crafts to compliment the story. We may even sing some of the well known songs... To infinity and beyond! |
| Wednesday | Football | Years 3-6 | Sports Elite | Junior playground (Main Hall) | 20 | 3.20-4.20pm | This club will allow children to learn and develop new football skills as well as enjoy gameplay in a structured setting. Children will need to bring a PE/Sports kit for this club. |
| Thursday | Cheerleading | Years 1-6 | Heather Close, Resolution Dance | Main Hall | 30 | 3.20-4.20pm | 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. |
| Thursday | Art & Craft Club | KS2 | Mrs Bashir | Robins Classroom | 15 | 3.20 – 4.20pm | Are you ready to get crafty? This club is an opportunity to be creative, using exciting new techniques and a variety of materials. Let your imagination lead the way for each masterpiece. |
| Friday | Football | Years 1 & 2 | Sports Elite | Junior playground (Main Hall) | 20 | 3.20-4.20pm | This club will allow children to learn and develop new football skills as well as enjoy gameplay in a structured setting. Children will need to bring a PE/Sports kit for this club |



Upcoming Diary Dates

Spring Term 2024

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|---|---|
| Tues 9 th January | Year 4 (Doves class) Parent info – Multiplication Tables Check 3.20pm |
| Thurs 11 th January | KS1 Freshwater Theatre Company - Columbus and Armstrong |
| Fri 12 th January | Year 6 WW2 Workshop, Chertsey Museum |
| Thur 18 th January | EYFS Freshwater Theatre Company – Animals |
| Wed 24 th January | Year 2 Trip to St Paul's Cathedral |
| Mon 5 th February | Parent-teacher consultations 4.30-7.00 |
| Weds 7 th February | Parent-teacher consultations 3.30-6.00 |
| Mon 12 th to Fri 16 th February | Half term |
| Mon 19 th February | Children return to school after half term break |
| Mon 26 th February | Book Fair |
| Thurs 28 th March | End of term 1.00pm |

Summer Term 2024

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|--|---|
| Mon 15 th April | Children return to school |
| Mon 13 th to Thurs 16 th May | KS2 SATs (Year 6) |
| Mon 27 th to Fri 31 st May | Half term |
| Mon 3 rd June | Children return to school after half term break |
| Fri 19 th July | End of term for children 1.00pm |
| Mon 22 nd July | INSET DAY 4 |
| Tues 23 rd July | INSET DAY 5 |

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards



Sarah Kober
Headteacher



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>



School uniform fund

Need help with the cost of school uniforms?

If your child needs a school uniform, you may be able to receive some financial help.



Who can apply for a voucher?

- 1 Household annual income below £33,000.
- 2 Savings below £6,000.
- 3 Must be liable for Council Tax.
- 4 From nursery age up to school Year 11.



Get more information on eligibility, and how to apply for funding by scanning the QR code or visit:
www.runnymede.gov.uk/benefits-support/household-support-fund



Runnymede
BOROUGH COUNCIL

