



Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to the autumn term and new school year. I hope you all managed to have a restful break and your children are ready and excited about the busy school year ahead. Year 6 have their cycle safety training this Friday, Harvest is only a few weeks away, we are making final preparations for the Year 3 and 4 residential to Beaulieu and swimming lessons! You will find all of the diary dates at the end of this newsletter. I am delighted to say that having a school built in 1872, means that we do not need to worry about the reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete (RAAC) issue.

This week we have welcomed all of our new children and families into the school and we wish them all the best of luck.

We also welcome our new Assistant Headteacher Mr James Firth and Yellow Class teacher Mrs Becky Bishop (Thursday and Friday) to our team. We are also thrilled that our school librarian Mrs Marcia Cook has returned to us, and will be working each Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoon.

I would like to thank last years Leavers and their families for the generous gift of a picnic table in the school colours, which can be seen on the larger playground. We will be thinking of them this week as they continue on their learning journey at secondary school.



## START OF THE YEAR REMINDERS

Please could you ensure that you either email or phone the school office if your child is going to be absent from school due to illness or lateness. A reminder that absence for sickness or diarrhoea is 48 hours after the final episode. The best way to contact your child's class teacher is either by emailing the school office at [adminoffice@durley.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@durley.hants.sch.uk) or speaking to them directly at the classroom door at the end of the school day.

With children moving to new classes, please can you let the school office know if there is going to be a different person collecting your child at the end of the school day. When children reach their final year at Durley School in Year 6, we are keen to encourage a little bit more independence in preparation for moving onto secondary school, so we allow them to walk to a pre-arranged place to meet their parent/carer at the end of the school day rather than being collected from the classroom door. We also allow them to collect a KS2 sibling if you think they are ready to do this. Please can parents of Year 6 pupils email the school office to ensure we are aware of any agreement you have made with your child with regards to collection at the end of the day.

We do not allow jewellery in school except for earrings, which must be taped or taken out for PE. Please can you ensure that your child has a water bottle in school each day, and their PE kit in school each week for their two PE sessions. Your child's class newsletter will state which days they will have PE. Please can you ensure that all uniform is clearly named.

We are continuing to strengthen our safeguarding procedures within the school, and would like to clarify that as a school we do allow parents to take photographs of their own children at school

events such as our Harvest festival, sports day and school performances. We do however ask you not to put photographs of other people's children on social media without the permission of their parents/carers.

If your child is starting in Year 3 this term, it unfortunately marks the end of the Universal Free School Meals scheme. If you think you might be eligible for income related free school meals please do not hesitate to contact the school office or check on the following website: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>. Lunches will be charged at £3:00 per lunch, which will provide your child with a varied and healthy selection of hot meals, salad, vegetables, homemade fresh bread and desserts.

Finally we do not allow electronics in school (mobile phones, electronic games etc). If any are found they will be kept in a locked cupboard during the day and returned to parents at 3:30pm.

### **STAFFING**

We are currently looking for additional staff to join our team at lunchtimes. If you think you may be able to help us, please contact the school office.

### **RESIDENTIAL VISIT**

I would like to draw you attention to the information meeting for parents and children of pupils in years 5 and 6 for Little Canada on the Isle of Wight which will take place between 18-22 March 2024. The meeting will be in the hall on Thursday 14 September at 3:30pm.

### **MUSIC LESSONS**

Peripatetic music lessons for, brass/band (Monday), and woodwind (Tuesday). Brass will start next week, beginning 11 September. Woodwind and Mr Burgess' lessons for piano (Tuesday and Friday) and recorder (Friday) will start this week

### **PARKING**

Can I also remind you that there is **NO** parking or turning on the track next to the school for parents, relatives or friends dropping off or collecting children at the start or end of the school day. Parking is always available at the side of the road or at the Memorial Hall.

### **REMINDER – WE ARE A NUT-FREE SCHOOL**

As we start the new school year, can I just remind you that we do not allow any children to bring nuts into school, this includes products that may contain nuts as we currently have a number of pupils with a severe allergic reaction.

If you feel that we may need to update our records with any new medical condition for your child, or contact details, please could you speak to your child's class teacher or the school office.

A reminder that our school website has a copy of all the newsletters throughout the year and a calendar with all of the current dates and useful information.

Kind Regards

*Kirstie Baines*

Kirstie Baines - **Headteacher**

## IN-SERVICE TRAINING DAYS (School Closures) for academic year 2023-2024

Friday 1 December 2023

Monday 3 June 2024

Monday 22 July 2024

Tuesday 23 July 2024

**Diary Dates for the 2023-2024 school year – all dates can be subject to changes. All changes and new dates in the diary will appear in red.**

### Autumn Term 2023

Monday 4 September	8:45 School opens for the summer term
Friday 8 September	Y6 Bikeability Day 1
W/b 4 September	all after school activity clubs start
W/b 11 September	all music lessons start
Thursday 14 September	3:35pm Residential to Little Canada, Isle of Wight visit meeting for parents and children in school hall
Friday 15 September	Y6 Bikeability Day 2
Thursday 21 September	9:00am Bags2School Collection in the school hall
Thursday 21 September	2:45pm DSA AGM in school hall
Friday 22 September	Year 3 and 4 Swimming lessons begin
Sunday 23 September	9:30am for 10:00am start Church in School – PET SERVICE
Wednesday 27 September	9:15am Harvest Festival for Hedge End Food Bank. All welcome
Thursday 28 September	1:30pm Sponsored Fancy Dress Fun Run
Friday 29 September	5:30-6:30pm Family Reading Night – all welcome.
2-4 October	Year 3 and 4 Residential to Beaulieu
Tuesday 17 October	3:00-6:00pm Parent's meeting with classteacher
Thursday 19 October	4:00-7:00pm Parent's meeting with classteacher
Friday 20 October	Book Swap

### 23-27 October HALF TERM

Tuesday 7 November	Year 6 visit to D-Day museum, Portsmouth
Thursday 9 November	Year 3 and 4 visit to Roman Palace at Fishbourne
Friday 10 November	10:45am Remembrance Service (No swimming)
Monday 13 November	Photographer in school (portraits)
Friday 17 November	Children in Need
Sunday 26 November	9:30 for 10:00am start Church in School, stir up Sunday cake making service
Friday 1 December	School closed for staff training
Monday 4 December	School Christmas Post Box open
Wednesday 6 December	9:20am Blue and Yellow Class Nativity
Thursday 7 December	9:20am Blue and Yellow Class Nativity
Friday 8 December	KS2 church rehearsal
<b>Saturday 9 December</b>	<b>DSA Christmas Fayre (Date Change)</b>
Tuesday 12 December	Whole School Flu immunisation
Tuesday 12 December	pm Class Christmas parties
Wednesday 13 December	Christmas lunch and Christmas Jumper Day

Friday 15 December 1:30pm Carol Service in Holy Cross Church  
School ends at 3:30pm. No after school child care or clubs.

#### SPRING TERM 2024

Tuesday 2 January 8:50 school opens for the Spring Term  
Friday 2 February 2:45pm Christingle service – all welcome  
**12-16 February HALF TERM**  
Tuesday 20 February 3:00-6:00pm Parents Meetings  
Thursday 22 February 4:00-7:00pm Parents Meetings  
18-22 March Year 5 and 6 Residential visit to Isle of Wight  
Thursday 28 March 1:30pm Easter service Holy Cross Church. All welcome  
3:30pm school closes for Easter break. No after school club.

#### SUMMER TERM 2024

Monday 15 April 8:50am School re-opens for the summer term  
13-16 May Year 6 National SATs week  
Monday 20 May School photographer –class and whole school photos  
**27-31 May HALF TERM**  
Thursday 13 June 7:30-8:30 new parents meeting  
Saturday 15 June Church Fete  
Wednesday 19 June 1:30pm SPORTS DAY all welcome  
Saturday 29 June School Summer Fayre  
Tuesday 2 July Year 6 Wyvern Induction day –  
Tuesday 9 July 1:30pm KS2 school play  
Wednesday 10 July 6:00pm KS2 school play  
Thursday 11 July 6:00pm KS2 school play  
Friday 19 July 1:30pm Leavers service Holy Cross Church  
School ends for the summer break. No after school club.