



Dear Parents

Welcome back to a new school year. The children have all settled back into school today, buzzing with exciting stories of their summer holidays. I hope you have all managed to have a restful break as the new term has already got off to a busy start, with Bikeability for Year 5 and 6 and the residential visit to Minstead for years 3 and 4 next week.

This week we say a sad farewell to Mrs Anita Watts who will be leaving us after 24 years involvement with Durley School and 18 years as a Teaching Assistant. Although this Thursday, 7 September will be Mrs Watts' last working day we hope you will be able to join us for a farewell tea party in October. We also welcome 18 new children to Blue Class Year R.

Can I also remind you that there is **NO** parking on the track for parents, relatives or friends dropping off or collecting children at the start or end of the school day. Parking is always available at Quob Stables (opposite the school) or the Memorial Hall.

### **DSA AGM**

The Durley School Association will be holding their Annual General Meeting on **Monday 25 September at 7:30pm**. They are keen to recruit new members to help with their vital role in fundraising and supporting the school. If you think you might be able to join their team please don't hesitate to speak to the staff in the school office.

### **READING**

This year we will be introducing many new reading initiatives to encourage more of our children to take up reading for pleasure. Each classroom has a new reading corner following our 'Design a Reading Corner' competition last year. We have a family reading night at **6:00pm on Friday 29 September** where your children can listen to stories in school before bedtime. We hope that many of you will be able to join us.

### **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 allergy to nuts.

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.

As some of you may be aware I am currently in my second week of Jury Service which is not the sort of start of start to the school year that I would have wanted, but I suspect there is never a good time! If you need to have a discussion with a Senior member of staff this week, please either speak to the Assistant Headteacher, Mrs Hanratty or email me at [adminoffice@durley.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@durley.hants.sch.uk)

Please find the attached diary dates for the coming school year and after-school events. All music lessons will begin this week (woodwind/brass Thursday, recorder/piano Friday) so please remember to bring your instruments and music books.

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

Yours sincerely,

**Kirstie Baines—Headteacher**

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