



Dear Parents and Carers

The children in Year 6 went on their first school trip in two years to the D-Day Museum in Portsmouth on Wednesday as a link to their World War II topic this term. They enjoyed a guided talk about the D-Day lander and were able to explore artefacts and replicas in the exhibition.



Thank you to all of the families who joined us on Sunday for the annual cake making and Stir up Sunday. The cake had a fair amount of fruit and brandy in it and will be eaten after the service in Holy Cross Church on Christmas day.

A plea from staff that we would be very grateful if long hair could be suitably tied back to prevent children from passing crawling bugs around or hair getting in the way of their work.

Miss Dawson has been joining us in school on her days off with her therapy dog in training – Luna. Children from across the school



have been having great fun reading to Luna, who loves to be around people and listen to stories which she finds so calming they sometimes send her to sleep!

This Christmas we have set up a link with Home Park Care Home in Knowle Lane, Horton Heath. We are unable to visit the residents but we are writing letters, sending cards and pictures to cheer them up. We will also be recording some of our carol singing to send to them. In preparation for our Christmas dinner in school on **Wednesday 15 December** we always make table decorations with foliage and a candle, which this year will be taking to the residents after our lunch. Please can you send in garden foliage on the day to make our decorations particularly wonderful this year.



Emergency Closures

We do not anticipate the cold weather expected over this weekend to have any impact on the school being open next week, however in the event of an emergency closure due to extreme weather such as heavy snow fall, we will always contact you as soon as we can by text and email. Please ensure that office has your up to date contact details.

Covid-19

Thank you to all of you who are continuing to get your children LFT and PCR tested for Covid-19 even though many of the children just have a very heavy cold. We continue to be vigilant in school as we have so many exciting Christmas events to look forward to.

After School Activities

A reminder that **today Friday 26 November** is the final session for KS1 R & R Sports Club and KS2 Dance Club as we have an INSET day closure next Friday 3 December and we will be setting up the Grotto, in the hall and playground in preparation for a visit from father Christmas on 10 December.

Congratulations

Congratulations to our Year 5/6 girls football team who played in their first tournament this week at Wyvern College, against other teams in the Wyvern cluster. We were extremely proud of them finishing in second place against 7 teams and remained unbeaten until the final game.



DSA CHRISTMAS

Prize Draw

Thank you to everyone who has already managed to sell prize draw tickets to family and friends and have asked for more books to sell from the school office. Please keep up the hard sell everyone! Ticket stubs with the money need to be returned as soon as possible, but by Wednesday 8 December at the latest in preparation for the draw on **Friday 10 December at 4:30pm** in school.

Durley Lights

Last **Saturday 20 November** was the start of the wonderful Durley Village lights. You don't have to wait until December to get involved with bringing festive joy to us all this season, you can make a start at lighting up the outside of your house now! If your family or friends comment on how lovely Durley is looking, please direct them to our Gofundme page to support the purchase of additional, much needed Chromebooks.

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/durley-village-lights?qid=89797b61668f300c28c090cbe5629127>

Come and see the Reindeer

We now only have a very few tickets left to see Father Christmas on **Friday 10 December**. Please hurry and make your purchase before we open it up to families outside Durley School. If you wish to just come along and feed the reindeer and have your photo taken, you can either book online or just turn up paying on the door, and bring along family and



friends. Drinks and snacks will also be available to purchase during the event in the school hall. <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/durleyschoolassociation/#.YZeKbtDP2Uk>.

Durley Village Carol Singing

Sadly this year we have put on hold one of our favourite annual Christmas events 'Carols Round the Bonfire' which is a charity event to raise money for the Durley Christmas lunch usually held in January.

On Thursday 16 December, the carol singers will be singing at the Robin Hood (6pm) and Farmers Home (8pm). If you would like to join them please bring along a lantern or jam jar with t-light. Everyone is very welcome. They will be starting their Carol singing on the Green at the Thresher Room (next to Ladybirds Pre-School) between 4:00 and 6:00pm with the Clink & Drink mobile bar in support. All proceeds will go towards the village Christmas meal for the elderly to be held in June 2022.

Diary Dates

Friday 26 November	Final swimming session for Years 3,4 & 5
Friday 3 December	School Closure for staff training
Monday 6 December	Xmas Post Box open for deliveries
Tuesday 7 December	KS1 Nativity for Ladybirds Pre-school & invited guests only
Wednesday 8 December	9:20am KS1 Nativity parents invited
Thursday 9 December	9:20am KS1 Nativity parents invited
Friday 10 December	9:30am KS2 singing rehearsal in Holy Cross Church Children's School Christmas Fayre (Children only) 4:30-7:30 visit Santa's Grotto & his reindeer (please sign up)
Tuesday 14 December	pm Xmas parties
Wednesday 15 December	Xmas Lunch & Xmas Jumper Day (for Save the Children)
Thursday 16 December	11:00am Key Stage 2 singing to the Luncheon Club in the Memorial Hall pm Pop up Christmas shop for Children
Friday 17 December	1:15pm Carol Service in Holy Cross Church, Durley. Sadly invitation is for parents of pupils in Years 5 and 6 only due to lack of space.

Please can we remind you that if you need to contact your child's teacher or somebody in the school office that you do so using the adminoffice@durley.hants.sch.uk email in the first instance.

Wishing you all a safe and restful weekend.

Kirstie Baines
Headteacher