



# DEVONSHIRE DISPATCH

[www.devonshireprimary.org](http://www.devonshireprimary.org)

Twitter - @DevonshireSM2

24<sup>th</sup> July 2024

**PLEASE REMEMBER SCHOOL CLOSSES EARLY ON Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2024**

## Devonshire Diary

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July – last day of term (1.20pm Rec and KS1 and 1.30pm for KS2)**

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September – first day of term**

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September (3.30pm) – Year 6 meet the teacher session**

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September (3.30pm) – Year 5 meet the teacher session**

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September (3.30pm) – Year 4 meet the teacher session**

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September (3.30pm) – Year 1 meet the teacher session**

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September (3.30pm) – Year 2 meet the teacher session**

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September (3.30pm) – Year 3 meet the teacher session**

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November – parents' evening (school closes early)**

**6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> November – Individual/Sibling photos**

## Year 6

Year 6 are coming to the end of their primary school education. They have all made a valuable contribution to Devonshire life and we wish them all the best at their new schools. The schools lucky enough to have our children joining them are Harris Academy (Sutton), Overton Grange School, Nonsuch High School for Girls, Reigate Grammar, Wilson's School, Wallington High School for Girls, Epsom College, Greenshaw High School, Sutton Grammar, Harris Academy (Morden), Oaks Park High School, Carshalton Boys Sports College, Cheam High School, Glenthorne High School, Carshalton High School for Girls and Tiffin's School

We wish all children leaving us at the end of term, from all year groups, all the very best at their new schools.

## Staffing news

At the end of the school year, Miss Walton, Mrs Kerbey and Mrs Seymour are leaving. We are very grateful for all their hard work whilst at Devonshire and of course will miss them, but wish them all the best for the future.

Joining our teaching team next year are Miss Hudson and Miss Wright and joining our teaching assistant team are Miss Lyall and Miss Anatsui-Agvei. We know that they will be made to feel very welcome.

## Next year

Your child has had the chance to visit their new classroom, meet their new teacher, as well as the teaching assistants that will be working in their year group next year.

At the start of next term, you will have the opportunity to meet your child's class teacher, visit their classroom and hear about the learning that they will be doing.

## Devonshire out and about

Year 5 recently participated in a food technology workshop at The Beacon, a high school in Bantstead. They worked in the school's DT laboratories and were taught by the school's DT teachers and came back to school having each created a rainbow fruit salad.

Our school councillors visited the residents of Crossways nursing home, delivering plants that they had grown. The residents thoroughly enjoyed their visit.

## Travel plan news

Last week we were notified that we had achieved the Gold level in our Travel Plan. This is a tremendous achievement and reflects the commitment of the whole school community (children, parents/carers and staff) working together to reduce the number of vehicle trips to school and raising awareness about travel issues, such as air pollution and road safety. Thank you for your support with our Travel Plan work. Thank you to Mrs Archer and our Junior Travel Plan Ambassadors who co-ordinate our travel plan activities.

## Green Trees Award

Outdoor learning is so important to us at Devonshire. This year, we have been working on the Green Trees Award and were delighted to have been informed that we have achieved the Green Trees Gold Award. Thank you to Mrs Page for leading the school's work on this.

### **Grow your own lunch challenge**

Earlier in the school year, Mrs Page set a challenge for each year group. They had to plant and grow ingredients that could be used as part of a meal. The meal that they created had to include at least 2 ingredients that they had grown. At the start of July, the meals were created. Miss Oastler and Mrs Page had the pleasure of taste testing the dishes. Reception made the winning dish, creating a Spanish Patatas Bravas, with potatoes and tomatoes that they had grown. The dish was decorated with mini carrots that they had grown.

### **Art news**

'Courtyard of a House in Delft' by Pieter De Hooch was the picture that inspired our work as part of Take One Picture Week. Every child created a piece of art based on an element of this picture. All of the work was displayed in our Take One Picture art gallery which all children and parents/carers had the chance to visit. It was lovely to welcome so many parents/carers into school and the feedback that we got was very positive. We have already planned next year's Take One Picture week.

### **Reading Champion news**

Thank you to our Reading Champions who have helped promote a love of reading. There is always a Reading Champion in the library at lunchtime and the library is always full of children reading books with a Reading Champion on hand, to recommend good books or help children with reading. They recently met with Emma Lavery, our Chair of Governors, to discuss their role.

### **Attendance news**

Our overall school attendance is 94.5%, slightly below our attendance target of 96%. 361 children have attendance that is 96% or above, with 32 having 100% attendance. Larks class are the class with the highest attendance.

### **Traffic news**

The safety of all road users and pedestrians is of paramount importance. Devonshire Avenue can get very busy with traffic and pedestrians crossing the road at the start and end of the school day. Please take extra care in the road at these times. Remember the speed limit is 20mph and this must be observed for the safety of all road users.

A reminder that the parking spaces in the flats opposite the school, belong to the residents of the flats and should not be used by our parents/carers. We work hard to maintain good relationships with our neighbours and this can be compromised when residents find that their parking spaces are not available.

### **Sports news**

This half term has been a sporty one!

In June, we had our sports mornings, which were a mixture of activities and running races, with the children competing as part of their coloured team.

In July, we had our fitness week, with all year groups participating in an activity that is over and above their PE curriculum. Many children tried new activities, learnt new skills and developed confidence in their abilities.

We participated in the borough's district sports and swimming gala. The teams demonstrated fantastic sportsmanship, cheering on their teammates, as well as other schools. We were very proud of both teams, who were excellent ambassadors for Devonshire. Our district sports team won the runners up shield, only being 4 points behind the winning team - well done!

Thank you to Miss Newton, our PE leader, who has organised these sporting opportunities for the children.

Our annual Devonshire Cup has taken place in recent weeks with classes from Year 5 and 6 creating teams that entered the Devonshire cup. After a number of matches, the final was between Oak class and Hazel class, with Oak class being the winners. Hawthorn won the fair play and good sportsmanship medals.

### **OPAL news**

Thank you so much for your donations to OPAL at our recent collection day. We were overwhelmed by the quantity of donations! Mrs Bassett and her team will be adding them to the OPAL resources, available to the children from September. OPAL is an important part of the 'personal development' opportunities that we have available for the children. It enables them to be creative and adventurous with their play and apply all of our school values (our 6Rs), to have fun and to develop skills associated with our values.

### **Eco group news**

Thank you to our eco group, led by Dr Reddy, who have worked on various projects throughout the year, reminding us about the importance of the environment and taking care of it. Their most recent project is creating bricks out of plastic bottles, containing non-recyclable rubbish, which they have used as the edging for a Magnolia tree they have planted in the school garden area.

### PSA news

A huge **"Thank You"** to all the staff and family volunteers who supported our Summer Fayre in June. Although the weather was against us, the event was very well attended and a huge success. Thank you to everyone who came along on the day, bought raffle tickets, or provided sweets or bottles of drinks on one of our mufti days. The PSA fundraising activities this year (discos, Christmas grotto, Christmas jumper sale, Band & Bingo evening, Bags2School collections, 2<sup>nd</sup> hand uniform sales) have raised nearly £8000 for our school – details of how much we raised at each of our events can be found at <https://devonshire-primary-school.secure-primariesite.net/psa-parentstaff-association/>

We still need more volunteers to help at these events and suggest new ones! Please get in touch if you are interested/have a good idea to share via [psa@devonshire.sutton.sch.uk](mailto:psa@devonshire.sutton.sch.uk)

### Lost Property

Lost property is currently quite full - especially with school jumpers and cardigans. If your child has lost anything, please do take a look in lost property before the end of the school year. Lost property will be outside the main entrance every afternoon, until the end of term. If it is raining, it will be in the lobby area by the Office. Any unclaimed items will be recycled at the end of term.

### You said, we did...

Taking on board feedback from the recent parent/carer survey, we have expanded the number of social media platforms that we post information on.

Facebook – Devonshire Primary School, Sutton

X (formerly Twitter) - @DevonshireSM2

Instagram – devonshiresm2

### Support for parents/carers

Sutton's Education Wellbeing service parent/carer group have a course coming up 'Supporting your child with fears, worries and anxiety'. It is particularly relevant to parents/carers of children between 4 – 10 years old, who have recently (within the last 6 – 8 months) started to struggle with worry, avoiding certain places or situations or struggle to leave their parents/carers. Attached to this newsletter is a flyer with more information.

As the Summer Holiday fast approaches, we are all looking forward to a break but for some families it's filled with worries about the next 6 weeks and how to manage the challenges it may bring. Sutton Family Hub have online parenting courses available for all families in Sutton and also provide advice and guidance free of charge for parents of children of all ages. Attached to this newsletter is a flyer with more information.

Limes College and Cognus are running a Parent Family Support Group, next term, to support parents/carers to learn more about different topics and explore new ideas that will support their child's social emotional growth and development. Attached to this newsletter is a flyer with more information.

### How can we help?

The Education Wellbeing Service offers workshops at your school. We would like to hear from you about how we can improve our offer and make sure that we are meeting your needs! Please could you fill out this online form so that we can offer you the most beneficial and relevant content next year?

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=ZCPRohN7h0O\\_7iTewf29swdNe2eHSHJEoabBlNkg6UpURVNJR0Y4MVdUWFVYTlcwWlgxN1RLVlpNW4u&origin=QRCode](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=ZCPRohN7h0O_7iTewf29swdNe2eHSHJEoabBlNkg6UpURVNJR0Y4MVdUWFVYTlcwWlgxN1RLVlpNW4u&origin=QRCode)

Maddie West, the Education Wellbeing Practitioner at Devonshire, is also available for parents who feel they would like more support with children experiencing anxiety or children's common behavioural challenges. Please contact Mrs Carter-Hodge or see the flyer attached to this newsletter for more information.

### Keeping your children safe: online & beyond

It's never easy to know how to keep our children safe when they aren't with us, and sometimes even when they are, if we don't know what's happening in their lives or on their devices! The long holidays can be a difficult time to keep a track of; who are they talking to, what are they doing, are they okay? Don't despair though...scroll through this page for help or click a button to go straight to a particular topic - <https://parentsafe.lgfl.net/>

### Over the summer

There are many activities happening over the summer holidays. Some local ones include

- The ecology centre in Carshalton has a variety of summer activities <https://sncv.org.uk/sutton-ecology-centre-summer-holiday-events-2024/>
- Whitehall in Cheam has a series of activities over the summer. Details of these can be found on <https://libraries.sutton.gov.uk/events/location/154>
- Sutton STEAMS ahead has a number of activities over the summer holidays. Details of these can be found on their website - [www.steamsahead.sutton.gov.uk](http://www.steamsahead.sutton.gov.uk)
- Sutton library have a reading challenge that children can participate in.
- There are a number of places where children can eat for free or for £1 during the summer holidays. <https://moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free>
- If you travel to London by train, there are a variety of attractions that you can get discounted entry into, as your train ticket can be used to entitle you to 2 for the price of 1 on entry to some famous landmarks. Details can be found at [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk)
- The Youth Engagement Team are running free fun sports sessions for 10 – 14 year olds at the Sutton Life Centre. Please see the flyer attached to this newsletter for more information.

### This year

The children have worked hard this year and should be proud of their learning, their achievements and the progress they have made. Your child's school report summarises key information about their learning and them as learners, as well their attainment in each subject.

As we approach the end of this school year, we want to take this opportunity to thank you for your support. We wish you all a very happy summer and look forward to seeing you all next school year.

As a reminder, the term dates for school year are:

#### **Autumn Term 2024**

3<sup>rd</sup> September – 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024

Half term – 28<sup>th</sup> October – 1<sup>st</sup> November 2024

#### **Spring Term 2025**

7<sup>th</sup> January – 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Half term – 17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> February 2025

#### **Summer Term 2025**

22<sup>nd</sup> April – 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2025

Half term – 26<sup>th</sup> May – 30<sup>th</sup> May 2025

#### **INSET Days – most of which are at the start of a term or a half term**

2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024

7<sup>th</sup> October 2024 – **not at the start of a term or half term**

6<sup>th</sup> January 2025

22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025

2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025

# Multi-Sportz Utd

**Come along & join The Youth Engagement Team during the Summer Holidays!**

**We are hosting FREE Fun Sport Sessions for 10-14 years old**

Sutton  Centre

*Helping you live safer, fairer, greener.*

myplace

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**All-Weather Pitch, Alcorn Close, Sutton SM3 9PX**

**On the following dates & times:**

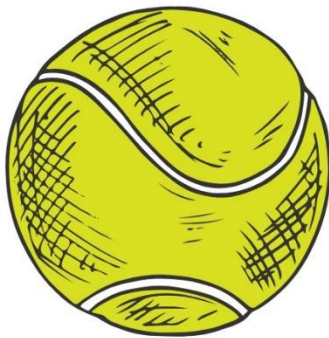
**July - 30th, 31st (1-3pm)**

**Aug - 6th, 7th, 13th, 14th (10am-12pm & 1-3pm) & 28th (1-3pm)**

**You must Pre-Book space & complete consent form on links:**

**<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/multi-sportz-utd-tickets-951432158197>**

**<https://form.jotform.com/222921005380041>**



**Please wear/bring appropriate kit to play sport including shin pads & bring a water bottle**

**Parents responsible for their own child & all children must be accompanied by a parent/guardian**

**FOR ANY FURTHER INFORMATION E-MAIL: [SNMAILBOX.YOUTHTEAMSUTTON@MET.POLICE.UK](mailto:SNMAILBOX.YOUTHTEAMSUTTON@MET.POLICE.UK)**



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# School's Out Take an emotional health check



Head into the summer with a better understanding of your **child's brain development** and their **emotional wellbeing** as you support them into their next new phase.

## FACT

Our brains develop most rapidly in childhood shaping our emotional health and wellbeing for the rest of our lives.

## HERE FOR YOU

Online courses developed by clinical psychologists can help you to **understand your child**, **read their behaviour** and **help them look after their emotional health**.



[inourplace.co.uk](https://inourplace.co.uk)

**Understanding your child** online course has been paid for by **London Borough of Sutton**, so you can access it **completely free** using the code **TREE**

Short courses on **Understanding the impact of the pandemic on your child or teenager** also included.

**Sutton – Education Wellbeing Service**  
**Parent/Carer Group: Supporting your Child**  
**with Fears, Worries & Anxiety**

**NHS**  
South West London and  
St George's Mental Health  
NHS Trust

Is your child:

- Aged between 4-10 years old?
  - Recently (in last 6-8 months) started to struggle with worry?
  - Avoiding certain places, things or situations?
  - Finding it difficult separating from you?
- If yes, this group might be for you!**



Topics will include:

- Learning about your child's fears/worries and how they're maintained
- Strategies to support your child to face worries in manageable steps

**Group Details:** Groups will run across 5 weekly sessions. We're running two groups – please see dates/times below. We ask that parents/carers attend every session.

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September –  
Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October  
(every Monday)  
9:30 am – 11 am

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September –  
Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October  
(every Wednesday)  
9:30 am – 11 am



Location: The Quad,  
Carshalton, SM5 1JW

or

Location: Tweeddale Children's  
Centre, Carshalton, SM5 1SW



**Suitability:** Our Parent/Carer group supports children with mild to moderate anxiety. We ask that Parents/Carers are not engaging with other support services to avoid families getting lots of different advice.

To sign-up & register your interest, please  
complete this form:

<https://forms.office.com/e/9tmKXaYZHf>

You can also complete this form by scanning  
this QR code →

We'll start with a screening call to make sure  
the group is right for you!





## Primary Family Support Group

### Empowering parents to build healthy relationships with their children

**When:** Wednesdays at 1pm-2pm/2.15pm

**Venue:** Limes College, Sutton West Site, Robin Hood Lane, Sutton, SM1 2SD

**Entrance:** Walk down the drive. On the right you will see the family centre and on the left next to a concrete ball court there are some blue gates (directly opposite the family centre) (not the car park gates)  
The gate is locked so a member of staff will meet you at the gate at 12.50pm/12.55pm to let you in

**Dates:**

25/09/24: Introductions, ground rules, parenting styles

02/10/24: Parent's mental health and well-being

09/10/24: Promoting positivity in children

16/10/24: Trauma and the developing brain

23/10/24 – No Group, Half Term

30/10/24 – No Group, Half Term

06/11/24: Rules/boundaries, sanctions/rewards, bedtimes etc.

13/11/24: Online Safety

20/11/2024: Attachment

27/11/24: Supporting children's mental health, anxiety, self-esteem /Zones of regulation

04/12/24: Review ending, what next, evaluation

11/12/24: Optional additional session

### All welcome

*Whilst we know that some parents may not be able to attend every session, we do encourage parents to attend as many sessions as possible. As the group develops with each session, trust and relationships will build and parents will hopefully feel more supported by each other and grow in confidence.*

Once you have signed up to the group, we ask that parents contact Elaine or Nibby if for some reason you are unable to

We would like to extend this invite to all parents of a primary aged child in the London Borough of Sutton. We hope to offer parents a safe space to meet other parents in a similar situation to learn more about different topics and explore new ideas that will support your child's social emotional growth and development.

Parents will:

Feel more empowered and confident to trust their own judgements when supporting their children

Build self-esteem and confidence

Share ideas and tips with each other

For more information and to register your interest and to discuss any queries please call or email either: Nibby, Jackie or Elaine

Nibby: 07984 757878  
[nibby.withers@cognus.org.uk](mailto:nibby.withers@cognus.org.uk)

Elaine: 07736338601  
[eberriman@thelimescollege.org](mailto:eberriman@thelimescollege.org)

Jackie: 07736 338809  
[jlawrence@thelimescollege.org](mailto:jlawrence@thelimescollege.org)





## Sutton Education Wellbeing Team

We are an early intervention service, set up to provide support for families who are experiencing common behavioural difficulties or fears and worries and we are currently based in your school.



**Maddie West**  
Children's Wellbeing Practitioner

You may see me around the school on Tuesdays. Feel free to say hi and ask me about the work we do.



Visit our YouTube channel  
**Children & Young People's Wellbeing Service**

for a great selection of mental health and wellbeing videos for parents, staff and young people.

For more information about our interventions, speak to the family support worker Ms Carter- Hodge, who can provide you with our application form. Please return it to her once you've completed the form.

### Do you often struggle to get your child to do the things you need them to do? Do your child's worries or fears impact on your family's daily life?

Parenting can often feel hectic, without enough time to think about what you're doing to get the best out of your child. It is easy to become stuck in a cycle of reacting to children's emotions and behaviour in the moment without having the space to think proactively about how you're managing them and setting them up to do well.

#### Our Parent Interventions

We offer 2, parent-led, Guided Self-help support programmes for parents looking to explore new ways of supporting their children with...

##### Anxiety



##### Challenging Behaviour



#### Who We See...

Parents with children:

- ✓ aged 4 - 11 who often feel worried (e.g. panicky or fearful of specific things such as dogs or social situations).
- ✓ aged 3 - 11 and are experiencing any of the following common difficulties: not listening to or following instructions, difficulties at bedtime, tantrums, rude to parents.
- ✗ who have a mental health diagnosis
- ✗ who are waiting for or receiving intervention from CAMHS

#### How will it help?

Our programmes empower parents/ carers by helping you to understand and manage your child's difficulties. Through a process called Guided Self-Help, we will provide tools and coping strategies you can use with your child to help you understand their feelings and behaviour patterns and put in place effective strategies so that family life can feel calmer and happier.