



DEVONSHIRE DISPATCH

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7th May 2025

Devonshire Diary

Weds 7th May (9.15am and 2.30pm) – Online multiplication check meeting for Y4 parents/carers

Thurs 8th May – VE day 80th anniversary – come to school wearing red, white and blue

Friday 9th May (9 – 10am) – Y3 curriculum event for parents/carers

Week beginning 12th May – Ash class swimming

Week beginning 19th May – Cherry class swimming

Week beginning 19th May – Walk to School week

Monday 19th May (9.15am/2.30pm) – online PSHE meeting for parents/carers – more details to follow

Tues 20th May – Reception mini-beast workshop

Weds 21st May (2.15pm – 2.50pm) – celebration of work event

Mon 26th – Fri 30th May – half term

Mon 2nd June – school closed (INSET day)

Thursday 5th June (2.15 – 3pm) – Y5 curriculum event for parent/carers

Summer term so far...

All children have made a good start to their summer term learning. In addition to the learning inside of the classroom, Year 3 have been to the Natural History Museum, to support their geography learning, Year 4 have been to the Tutankhamun Immersive Exhibition to support their history learning and Year 5 have had a Viking workshop, to support their history learning. Year 4 and Early Years have started their Woodland project work.

Thank you to the parents/carers who have accompanied our trips – your help is very much appreciated and ensures that trips can be part of the children's learning.

Our extracurricular clubs have started, with several new clubs being introduced this term.

Parent Partnership

We are very proud of the Devonshire community and the partnership between school and home. To validate and extend our work in this area, we have been working towards achieving the Leading Parent Partnership Award and have been working hard this year to further extend parent partnership opportunities. This term, we have a number of events that parents/carers are invited to join us for – look out for the dates on our school website calendar.

Parent/Carer survey

School is a partnership between home and school, we all want the very best for your children. An important part of this partnership is seeking your views about school: different elements of school life, what you think is going well and what you think we could consider doing more of.

The value of your feedback cannot be underestimated and is a vital part of our self-evaluation and supports our planning for the next school year.

This year, a number of the opportunities that we have introduced, and further extended, came from feedback given to us from last year's parent/carers survey. These have included:

- increasing the number of enriching opportunities (trips/workshops/visitors to school) to support children's learning;
- increasing the number of opportunities for parents/carers to come into school and
- increasing the number of extra-curricular clubs, especially for our younger children.

We would be very grateful if you could take the time to fill in our annual parent/carers survey. Below are the links to the survey – please ensure that you complete the correct survey.

Parents/carers of children in **Nursery** - [Nursery parent/carers survey 2025](#)

Parents/carers of children in **Reception - Year 6** - [Reception - Year 6 parent/carers survey 2025](#)

If you have more than one child, please complete one per child. Your feedback is very much appreciated. The class who has the most surveys submitted will win a prize for the class. The total number of surveys per class will be totalled up on the Friday 23rd May (3pm), when the survey closes.

Top of the Form news

Our Top of the Form team recently competed in the semi-final of the Top of the Form competition and won! This means that they are through to the final – a huge congratulations to our team: Ella, Saanvi, Arjun and Suryansh. We will let you know how they get on in the final!

VE day 80th anniversary

On Thursday 8th May, the 80th anniversary of VE day, we are inviting all children to wear red, white and blue to school. During the day they will be learning about VE day, why it is so important and participating in VE day activities in class.

Come and see your child's work

On Wednesday 21st May, we will be opening the school doors between 2.30 – 2.50pm to give parent/carers the opportunity to visit their child's classroom and see their work. If you are coming to see your child's work, once you have seen their work and are ready to leave, you can take your child home with you. If you are unable to come into school, your child will be dismissed as normal, and the next day, take home a piece of work that they are particularly proud of and would like to show you.

Our annual 'Take One Picture' art gallery is also coming up, with the children's work being displayed on Monday 23rd June (3.30 – 4pm) and Tuesday 24th June (8.15 – 8.45am).

Sporting news

The dates that we have set for our sports mornings are below. Families are welcome to come and join us on the field on the relevant date.

Reception – Wednesday 11th June (9 – 10am)

Years 1 and 2 – Tuesday 12th June (9 – 11am)

Years 3 and 4 – Thursday 5th June (9 - 11am)

Years 5 and 6 – Friday 6th June (9 – 11am)

Attendance news

Our school attendance is currently 94.25%, with 96% being our target. 405 children have attendance of at least 96%, with 78 having 100% attendance – well done! Eagles class is our top attending class, with 97.7% attendance.

There are attendance letters being sent to parents/carers of children who have attendance that is 92% or below, alerting them to their child's attendance and reminding them that we are here to help if they are having difficulties linked to attendance.

Attached to this newsletter is the Cognus Attendance Support newsletter – please do have a read as it contains lots of useful information.

Governor news

When Ofsted visited us in January, they commented on the quality of the personal development opportunities that we have at Devonshire. Harriet Kenney, our personal development link governor, visited school recently to hear about and see examples of activities that we have in place to support children's personal development. During her visit, she saw our Year 5's participating in a Viking workshop and our Nursery working in the woodland area, completing activities linked to the Gruffalo.

PSA news

Planning for the largest and busiest event of the year – The Summer Fayre – is well underway! We need as many **VOLUNTEERS** as possible to offer an hour of their time to ensure that every stall can be open, lots of prizes can be won and the families of Devonshire have a great afternoon! Please click on the link below to register your offer of help on the day **Saturday 21st June 2025 – 12 – 3pm**. If you are unable to help on the day, but would like to volunteer in another way please get in touch. We are still looking for raffle prizes for our **Grand Prize Draw**, so do let us know if this is something you can help with. Many thanks, The PSA Team

[Let us know if you can help at the summer fayre - please complete this form.](#)

Sustainability news

Our next Little Recyclers collection is on Tuesday 1st July – please use this as an opportunity to look through any clothes that are no longer worn and bring them to school on the morning of Tuesday 1st July by 9am, leaving them by the PSA field house by 9am where they will be collected.

Lost property

Please ensure that you name your children's belongings. Lost property already has a number of unnamed items in it. As a reminder, lost property can be found in the front entrance and will be put outside of the front of school, weather permitting. Whether it be inside or outside of the school building, do have a look in it, if your child has lost anything.

**Does your child have big feelings? Is it hard to get to them out of the door in the morning? Is bedtime taking longer and longer?
Does it feel like your child doesn't seem to listen to you?**

If the answer is yes to any of these questions, we can help! We are able to offer a 4-week parenting course to help you and other parents/carers with challenges that you may be facing with your child's behaviour. We know that dealing with everyday tricky behaviour is a tough job and the aim of this course is to share skills, tips and strategies to make it feel a little easier.

Maddie West, our attached educational wellbeing practitioner, will be running the course. Further details can be found using the QR code below.



If you have any questions about the course, please speak to Mrs Carter-Hodge, our family support worker.

Family Support Worker news

Are you living in temporary or emergency accommodation and do you have children? If the answer is yes, then Home Start (Sutton) have a facility that could be of benefit. Each week (Friday, 10 – 1pm), they run a POD which is held at the Dolphin, 316 Sutton High Street. This is a safe and welcoming place for families with children living in temporary or emergency accommodation to meet, relax and play. Parents can unwind with a cuppa and get support from a range of services as well as other parents/carers who are living in similar situations, while their children play with a playworker. It is a drop-in service, with no need to book. A flyer with more information is attached to this newsletter.

Plant pots

Our gardening club are busy planning and preparing for their plant stall at the summer fayre. They are in need of small and medium plant pots for the plants that they will be selling. If you have any spare small or medium plant pots that you no longer need, our gardening club would be delighted to receive them. Please give them to your child to take to Mrs Rose, our lunchtime gardening club leader, who can be found either in Eagles class or in the playground running gardening club.

Sun cream

With the days becoming sunnier, we have had enquiries about sun cream. We encourage you to apply sun cream at home, before the children come to school. If you feel that your child needs it to be topped up before going out at lunchtime, please provide your child with sun cream (labelling it with their name) that they are able to apply themselves and let them know that this is what you would like them to do. We are not able to apply sun cream to children but will certainly ensure that they have the opportunity to do so themselves, if you have provided them with sun cream. Children cannot share or use another child's sun cream.

Late collections

Please ensure that you collect your child on time, at the end of the school day. Similarly, if your child attends an after-school club, please ensure that you make note of the time that the club ends and are at school ready to collect your child at that time. Since the start of term, there have been a number of children collected late, which is unsettling for them. A reminder that once the children should have been collected (at the end of their school day or end of a club), our provision for children still on site is the A-Z club. Children who are collected late will be taken to the A-Z club and parents/carers charged for the session.

Devonshire Avenue news

Now that we are having sunnier and warmer weather, the ice cream van that tends to be based in Devonshire Avenue, at the end of the school day, is increasingly popular. Please help us to make sure that the queue for the ice cream van does not block the pavement and lead to other users of the pavement having to go into the road, to get past the queue. The area where the queue is, is a busy part of the pavement.



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