



DEVONSHIRE DISPATCH

www.devonshireprimary.org

16th July 2025

Devonshire Diary

Wednesday 16th July
(6.30pm) - Year 6 show

Thursday 17th July
(6.30pm) – Year 6 show

Tuesday 22nd July - last day of term (school closes early 1.20pm Reception, Year 1 - 2 and 1.30pm Years 3 – 6)

Tuesday 2nd September – first day of Autumn term

Monday 8th September
(3.30pm) – Year 4 meet the teacher

Wednesday 10th September (3.30pm) - Year 2 meet the teacher

Thursday 11th September
(3.30pm) - Year 6 meet the teacher

Friday 12th September
(3.30pm) - Year 3 meet the teacher

Monday 15th September
(3.30pm)- Year 1 meet the teacher

Wednesday 17th September (3.30pm) - Year 5 meet the teacher

Monday 6th October – INSET day (school closed for children)

New classes

In the last few weeks, we have been working on transition with the children as they prepare to move to the next year group. The teachers and teaching assistants enjoyed meeting their new classes, first of all in the children's current classroom and then in the classroom that they will be working in next year. This is an important part of our transition work that we do with the children to support their move between year groups. Parents/carers will have the opportunity to visit their child's new classroom and meet their new teacher at the start of next term.

Staffing news

At the end of term, we will be saying farewell to some staff. We are very grateful for all of their hard work and commitment to the Devonshire community and most importantly, to our children.

Mrs Rouse, one of our teachers and our PSHE lead is leaving after 27 years at Devonshire.

Mrs Wheeler one of our teaching assistants is leaving after 25 years at Devonshire.

Mrs Bartram, our office manager is leaving after 15 years at Devonshire.

Miss Paterson, who has been covering maternity leave in Nightingales since January is also leaving.

Between them they have been part of the Devonshire community for 68 years and have been involved in many elements of school life, over and above their official roles. We wish them all the very best for the future and hope, as they leave, that they take many fond memories of their time at Devonshire with them. Thank you, Mrs Rouse, Mrs Wheeler, Mrs Bartram and Ms Paterson!

In May, we welcomed Mrs Banerjee, a teaching assistant, and Ms Willoughby, a lunchtime playworker, to the Devonshire team.

Next term, Miss Sumner and Mrs Moat will be returning from their maternity leaves and Miss Hudson will begin her maternity leave.

Sporting news

June was a sporty month, with all children from Reception – Year 6 having a sports morning. If you joined us for your child's sports morning, we hope you enjoyed it as much as the children did.

Our Year 5 and 6 athletics team represented Devonshire in the borough's district sports, our Year 4 – 6 swimming team represented Devonshire in the borough's swimming gala and our netball team have played matches against other schools. All of the teams demonstrated amazing sportsmanship and were a credit to the school with their achievements and attitudes. Our Year 3 and 4 athletics team will be representing Devonshire in their district sports this week. Thank you to the staff who have organised and trained the teams - Miss Wright, Mrs Scrivens, Mrs Carter-Hodge and Miss Carter-Hodge. Last week was fitness week. The children had lots of fun trying new sports and learning new skills.

Clubs

A reminder that there are no clubs this week. We hope that your children have enjoyed the clubs that they have been part of.

Take One Picture

It was lovely to welcome so many families to our annual Take One Picture art gallery. All children displayed their art work based on 'A Regatta on The Grand Canal' by Canaletto. As well as displaying their work, the children all had the opportunity to visit the gallery to see each other's artwork. Thank you to our artists, Mr Reddy and Mrs Porter who co-ordinated Take One Picture week and the art gallery.

Eco news

We have achieved the Eco Schools Green Flag award, with distinction. This is in recognition of the work that we do to promote eco activities and the success of our work. Thank you to the children who are members of our eco group, Dr Reddy who leads the eco group and Miss Hudson who co-ordinated the school's application.

Last week, we had a clothes collection, where Devonshire families donated clothes, they no longer wore or had grown out of, to our PSA Little Recycler's Clothing collection. Together we donated 529kg of clothing. As well as reducing landfill, by recycling these clothes, we earn money for each kilogram of clothes that we donate.

Top of the Form news

A huge well done to our Top of the Form team (Ella, Saanvi, Arjun and Suryansh) who reached the final and narrowly lost their match, by 1 point. Not only did the team demonstrate an amazing and wide-ranging general knowledge, but they also demonstrated all of our school values in the matches and in their preparations for them. Well done to the team and Dr Reddy who organised the team.

Summer Fayre Thanks 2025

We wish to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped make our Summer Fayre such a success; an amazing £3700 was raised!

Thanks to our parent volunteers; Emma, Sufia, Laura, Rosie, Asha, Jenny, Luana, Kate, Regina, Katy, Christiane, Hajar, Diana, Oksana, Akanksha, Anamika, Ranjani, Caroline and Alex, as well as the volunteers from our governing body.

Thanks also to the staff for their support; Miss Oastler, Miss Byfield, Mrs Byfield, Joe, Josh, Mrs Sweeney, Mrs Lee, Mrs Carter-Hodge, Mrs Rose, Mrs Curtis, Mrs Attrill, Mrs Porter, Mrs Kuziola, Miss Massey, Mrs Tickner, Miss Donlan, Miss Cadman, Mrs Herd, Mrs Murase, Mrs Bark, Mrs Memon, Mrs King (and the school council), Miss Phillips, Dr Reddy, Mr Ramsay, Mrs Scrivens, Mrs Sargeant, Mrs Love and Miss Martin who helped run stalls on the day. Thanks also to the site team who helped set up and pack away the fayre and office team who helped with collections of raffle tickets, money and donations as well as answering fayre related queries. The fayre was a very good example of the Devonshire community spirit in action.

Despite the heat, your enthusiasm, time, and support were truly appreciated — from pre-fayre labelling and sorting, setting up stalls to running activities and helping with clear-up. Thanks to your efforts, the children had a fantastic time and made some wonderful summer memories.

Michelle - PSA Co-Chair

Governor news

We thoroughly enjoyed being part of the summer fayre. Thank you to everyone who visited and took part in our Coconut Shy stall. Each of our governors have a 'link governor' role where they focus on an area of the school's work. Many of our link governors have visited school this term. Visits have focused on the school's work on inclusion, behaviour, sustainability, personal development and parent communications. We really enjoy having the opportunity to see the school in action and see the school's work on the projects that they are working on and most importantly, the impact these projects have on the children's outcomes.

School meals

Caterlink, our school meals provider, would like your views. Please take 5 minutes to complete their parent/carer survey – it closes on 31st July. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SXMHL8D>

A big thank you to Bilyana (our school cook) and her team who cook between 500 - 525 meals a day. At a recent Caterlink awards ceremony, Bilyana was awarded with a 'Financial Performance' award – always working within the budget allocated and ensuring that good quality meals are provided within this.

School Council news

At the end of this newsletter, the School Councillors have written a summary of what they have been up to this year. Thank you to our dedicated team of School Councillors and Mrs King, who works with them. Your hard work is much appreciated.

Family Support Worker news

The Education Wellbeing service offers a variety of support to parents and carers, both on-line and in person. They have added an extra webinar for Early Years in July. They will be presenting 2 Parent Webinars on 'Finding your feet' and 'Getting ready for your child to start school' on the 23rd and 24th July 2025. The webinar is open to all parents/carers of children that will be starting Nursery or Reception this September. Attached to this newsletter is a poster for the webinar.

The SWLSTG Education Wellbeing Service is offering lunchtime and evening parent Webinars across the year to help support your child's wellbeing and mental health. You can sign up to any of their free webinars by copying this URL:

Early Years:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/early-years-parents-nhs-wellbeing-workshops-3573849?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=creatorshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=odclsxcollection&utm-source=cp&aff=escb>

Primary Years:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/primary-parents-nhs-wellbeing-workshops-682309?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=creatorshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=odclsxcollection&utm-source=cp&aff=escb>

If you are interested in 1:1 parent sessions with Maddie West, the wellbeing practitioner attached to Devonshire, please speak to Mrs Carter-Hodge who will put you in touch with her. Maddie can help you with your child's worries or anxieties, or support their challenging or tricky behaviour. Many parents/carers have worked with her and found her help and advice very useful.

Early Years request

The Nursery and Reception team are seeking donations of jigsaw puzzles and games to enhance our learning environment and provide enriching play experiences for our children. Puzzles and games are a fantastic way for children to develop important skills like problem-solving, fine motor control and cognitive thinking. We are particularly interested in puzzles and games suitable for children aged 3-5. We welcome both new and nearly new puzzles and games that are complete and in good condition. If you have any puzzles or games you would like to donate, please drop them off at the school office during our opening hours (8.35am – 3.45pm). Thank you for your support in helping us create a stimulating and engaging environment for our children.

Attendance news

Our overall attendance is 95.3%, very slightly below our whole school attendance target of 96%. Eagles class are our top attending class – well done!

A-Z club

If you are looking for before school or after school childcare, please do remember our A-Z club. With Year 6 leaving, there are some spaces available for September. It is a fantastic child care provision, providing fun, varied and engaging play opportunities for the children (Reception upwards), as well as a nutritious meal. If you are interested in knowing more, the A-Z club has its very own page on our website - [Devonshire Primary School A-Z club](#)

End of the day collection

Please ensure that you collect your child at the correct time, whether that be at the end of the school day (3.15pm Reception – Year 2 and 3.20pm Years 3 – 6) or at the end of an after-school club. A reminder that anyone picking up a child must be 14 years or older. 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 will be charged for the session.

Lost property

Please have a look in lost property if your child has lost anything - It is full of unnamed clothes! At the end of the term, all items in lost property will be disposed of. Please do name your child's clothing and belongings so that if lost it can be returned to them.

Smoking and Vaping

Our school is a no smoking or vaping site. We are grateful for your support with this. Whilst it is not on the school site, we would ask you to refrain from smoking or vaping in the areas immediately outside the school gates, where families have to walk through to get to school. Thank you in advance for your support.

Devonshire Avenue news

Please do not park in the car parks of the flats in Devonshire Avenue. The spaces in them, even if they are empty, are private property and belong to the residents so must not be parked in. Please be respectful to our neighbours.

Term dates for 2025/26 - a reminder

Please make a note of these dates, and take them into account when booking any holidays.

Autumn term

First day of term - Tuesday 2nd September 2025

INSET day (school closed for children)- Monday 6th October 2025

Half term – Monday 27th – Friday 31st October 2025

Last day of term – Friday 19th December 2025 (school closes after lunch)

Spring term

First day of term - Tuesday 6th January 2026

Half term – Monday 16th – Friday 20th February 2026

Last day of term – Friday 27th March 2026 (school closes after lunch)

Summer term

First day of term – Tuesday 14th April 2026

Half term – Monday 25th – Friday 29th May 2026

Last day of term – Friday 17th July 2026 (school closes after lunch)

With the exception of the INSET day on the 6th October, we have ensured that all other INSET days are either at the beginning or ends of terms, so the term dates above take account of INSET days.

Summer Tennis Camps at Sutton Tennis & Squash Club (Surrey Club of the Year 2023) for 3-16 year olds

Sutton Tennis and Squash Club are running summer tennis camps at their club. The camps are for all ability levels and will give the children the chance to have fun, be active, learn the game and make friends.

Camps are for 3–16-year-olds (but split into different groups and levels) and include half days, full days and 1-hour sessions for 3–4-year-olds.

They are run by a well-qualified and experienced team of coaches from Sutton Tennis & Squash Club, headed up by LTA level 5 qualified Head Coach, Karl Stowell.

To find out more and/or book your place visit their website - www.suttontenniscamps.com

Summer in Sutton Challenge

Get ready for an adventure across Sutton this summer! Take part in fun, flexible challenges, designed to keep minds and bodies active and support wellbeing – from reading books to getting outdoors, keeping active, exploring mindfulness and joining free creative and cultural events across the borough during the summer holidays.

Children who complete six or more activities as part of this challenge will receive a certificate and be entered into a prize draw. Two of the six activities must be reading (this can be a book or audio book) and the other four activities can be from categories of your choice. The four categories are reading, physical activity, mindfulness and attending one of the other free cultural activities over the summer holidays.

How to participate:

- 1 Pick up a map:** Get a challenge map from any Sutton Library or heritage house (Whitehall Historic House, Honeywood Museum or Little Holland House).
- 2 Complete the activities:** Choose and complete at least six activities, including two reading activities.
- 3. Submit your challenge:** Submit your completed map.

Have fun with the Summer Challenge!

Thank you!

As we approach the end of another busy year, we wanted to take the opportunity to thank everyone who makes up our very special school community – staff, governors, parents/carers and most importantly our wonderful children. Working in partnership is key to securing the best possible outcomes for our children, which is what we are all working towards. Thank you to every member of the Devonshire community; your hard work and support is very much appreciated. We hope that you all have a lovely summer.



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Devonshire Primary School



@DevonshireSM2



School Council News

What have we been doing this year?

There are 26 School Councillors, 2 from each class from Year 3 upwards. We have been elected by our class mates to represent our class on the School Council. Each year a new School Council is elected.

This year has been a busy year, we wanted to share with you what we have been doing.

- ✓ "We went to the Houses of Parliament. We took a train and a tube. They showed us where the Prime Minister works. They also showed us where important people come together and discuss the rules."

- ✓ "The School Council also met Luke Taylor (Sutton MP) to ask some questions about Sutton and how to make the community nicer and more eco-friendly."

- ✓ "At the Summer Fayre, some School Councillors got to run the football stall."

- ✓ "We raised money for Children in Need, also known as Pudsey Day. We dressed in spots or yellow ears and raised lots of money."

- ✓ "We did a class assembly about our trip with slides and pictures."

- ✓ "We raised money for the Royal Marsden with Crazy Hair Day. Everybody had really crazy hair."

- ✓ "Some of us took the money that we raised to the Royal Marsden."

- ✓ "On Wednesdays, the School Council has meetings about what we would like to focus on and how we want to do this."

We have really enjoyed our year and are very proud of our work.