



# DEVONSHIRE DISPATCH

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

16<sup>th</sup> October 2025

## Devonshire Diary

### Week beginning 13<sup>th</sup> Oct

Birch class swimming

### Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> Oct - Y6 Junior

Citizenship event

### Week beginning 20<sup>th</sup>

October – Ash class

swimming

### Weds 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct – Y6 Junior

Citizenship event

### Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct (4pm)– Y6

parents/carers' virtual meeting for children going on the residential

Mon 27<sup>th</sup> – Fri 31<sup>st</sup> Oct - half term

### Week beginning 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov –

Y6 Bike-ability courses and Cherry class swimming

### Week beginning 10<sup>th</sup> Nov –

anti bullying week

### Tues 11<sup>th</sup>/Weds 12<sup>th</sup> Nov –

Individual/sibling photos

### Tues 11<sup>th</sup>/Weds 12<sup>th</sup> Nov –

Y5 trip to the British Museum

Thurs 13<sup>th</sup> Nov - parents' evening (school closes after lunch)

### Week beginning 17<sup>th</sup> Nov -

Chestnut swimming and Y6 Bike ability course

### Week beginning 24<sup>th</sup> Nov –

Cedar class swimming

### Mon 1<sup>st</sup> December -

Flu Vaccinations (Rec – Y6)

## Coffee morning

It was lovely to welcome so many parents/carers to our coffee morning for families new to Devonshire. If you joined us, we hope that you enjoyed it – meeting other families and some of the external agencies who we work with. We are already planning our next wellbeing coffee morning – date to be confirmed!

## Staffing news

Miss Henthorn has joined the office team; we know that she will be made to feel very welcome by everyone in the Devonshire community. Welcome to the team Miss Henthorn!

## Learning outside of the classroom

To support and enhance children's learning in class, trips and workshops are organised. So far this term, Year 2 have been on a local walk, Year 3 have participated in a bible workshop, Year 5 have visited Morden Hall Park and a group of Year 6 have participated in a drama workshop at Overton Grange High School. You have been sent a letter with a summary of the trips and workshops planned for your child's class this school year. If your child is in Reception your letter is to follow shortly.

## Sporting news

Our football team played their first match of the season last week. They played well as a team and despite not winning, should be very proud of the way that they played and the fact that they are part of our school team. We are very proud of them!

Our netball, tag rugby and cross-country teams will shortly be starting their matches.

## Online safety

Many children enjoy games and apps like Roblox, YouTube and TikTok. These can be lots of fun, but it is important to remember that they are designed for ages 13 years and over. The content and nature of these games reflect this age restriction.

Please help your child stay safe online by:

- Turning on parental controls and privacy settings
- Check what they are playing, watching and sharing
- Talk together about how to stay safe online

Regular chats about staying safe online will help to remind children that if they feel uncomfortable about anything on line, they must talk to an adult who can help them.

In school we include e-safety as part of the computing curriculum and refer to it throughout the year. Further advice for parents/carers can be found on these websites [www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk) or [www.childnet.com](http://www.childnet.com)

Our digital leaders have had their first meeting with Miss Byfield, our computing lead. Part of their role is to talk to their class in class assemblies about the importance of staying safe on line.

## Spy Dog, Spy Pups and Spy Cat books

The Spy Dog, Spy Pups and Spy Dog books by Andrew Cope are a popular series of books aimed at primary aged children. Until recently, a website link inside the books directed keen readers to a companion website featuring bonus content but the link has since been taken over by a third party which has posted inappropriate material. The content is not linked to the author Andrew Cope or the publisher, Puffin books. They have advised that children do not visit the website link, advertised in the books. Please do check if you have any of these books at home. We have removed any copies from the book shelves in school.

### **Governor news**

We currently have 2 parent governor vacancies on our Governing Body. We have recently sent information to parents/carers about these vacancies. Please look out for this communication and consider whether you would like to join our team of governors. It is a very rewarding role.

### **School uniform**

A reminder that after half term, we expect all children to be wearing their winter uniform. For children in Year 3 upwards, this includes children wearing a white shirt and tie, with either a grey skirt, grey trousers or grey pinafore dress and their school jumper or cardigan. In Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, children are expected to wear a white shirt or polo shirt with either a grey skirt, grey trousers or grey pinafore and their school jumper or cardigan.

Please make sure that all items of your child's school uniform are named so that if they lose them, they can be reunited with them more easily. Lost property is very full at the moment – please do look in it, if your child has lost something. Any unclaimed lost property will be disposed of each half term.

### **Clothes recycling**

Our next 'Little Recyclers' clothing collection is on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> November. With the weather beginning to get a little colder, it may be that you are using the opportunity to sort through any clothes that no longer fit and can donate them to our collection. Remember, we raise money for every kilogram of clothes that we donate and recycling clothes gives them a second home and saves them going to landfill. Please do not bring in your clothes before 5<sup>th</sup> November.

### **Harvest**

Thank you for your donations to our harvest collection. Together, we donated 14 large crates of food to Sutton Foodbank, a very worthwhile local charity.

### **Packed lunches**

It is important that packed lunches do not contain any nuts, or any products containing nuts, e.g. Nutella, - we are a nut free school because we have children in school who have severe allergies to nuts. Attached to this newsletter is information about packed lunches, helping to ensure that they are providing the children with a balanced and healthy meal at lunchtime. Remember all primary children (except Nursery) are entitled to a hot meal at no charge. Please check out the menu on our website.

### **End of the day**

Once you have collected your child/children at the end of the school day, please ensure that they stay with you and you know where they are. After school, children should not be playing on the climbing equipment, playing on the astroturf or running in amongst adults waiting to collect children. The playground is a busy place after school and to ensure that the dismissal is swift and safe, it is important that children remain with their parents/carers. Many thanks for your support with this.

### **Parking**

Please remember that the car parks attached to the flats opposite the school must not be parked in by parents/carers. We have recently received reports of cars belonging to our parents/carers being parked in parking spaces and other areas of the car park, including grass verges and the road ways leading into the car parks which blocks access for residents. This understandably causes frustration to the residents. Please support us to retain good neighbourly relations with the flats opposite the school.

### **Girl Guides**

Is your child looking for fun, friendship and adventure? Guides offers girls aged 10 – 14 the chance to learn new skills and take part in a variety of fun activities including team challenges, craft projects and community events. Most importantly, it is lots of fun! 2<sup>nd</sup> Belmont guides currently have spaces. They meet each Tuesday (6 – 8pm) at Avenue Primary Academy in Belmont. For more information, please email Penny, their guide leader - 2belmontguides@gmail.com

Primary Times Magazine - <https://www.primarytimes.co.uk/>

Families Magazine - <https://familiesonline.co.uk/>



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