



DEVONSHIRE DISPATCH

www.devonshireprimary.org

10th September 2025

Devonshire Diary

Weds 10th Sept– Y2 meet the teacher session

Thurs 11th Sept– Y6 meet the teacher session

Fri 12th Sept– Y3 meet the teacher session

Week beginning 15th Sept – clubs start

Mon 15th Sept– Y1 meet the teacher session

Weds 17th Sept– Y5 meet the teacher session

Week beginning 29th Sept - Aspen class swimming

Weds 1st/Thurs 2nd Oct – Y5 trip to Morden Hall (children will go on one day – details to be sent out)

Mon 6th Oct – INSET day (school closed for children)

Thurs 10th Oct – new parent coffee morning (9am)

Week beginning 13th Oct Birch class swimming

Week beginning 20th Oct Ash class swimming

Mon 27th - Fri 31st Oct - half term

Week beginning 3rd Nov – Y6 Bike-ability courses

Thurs 13th Nov - parents' evening (school closes after lunch)

Welcome back

It has been lovely to welcome the children back to school; they have all made a good start to their new year. A special welcome to families new to Devonshire and our Nursery and Reception children, who are starting their education journey.

The teachers are looking forward to meeting you at the upcoming meet the teacher sessions.

Staffing news

This term, we welcomed Miss Sumner and Mrs Moat back from their maternity leave. Miss Hudson has begun her maternity leave and during the summer holidays had a baby boy – congratulations! As well as the staff who left at the end of last term, we have some more goodbyes to say.

Mr Gordon, Mrs Underwood and Mrs Dorrell have left the Devonshire staff team, having worked here for a number of years.

Mr Gordon was a member of our site team. Mrs Underwood and Mrs Dorrell were members of our teaching assistant team. We wish them all the best for the future and are very grateful for their work, as part of the Devonshire staff team.

Summer works

The summer holidays are always a busy time, with many works planned for when the children are not on the site. There have been a variety of maintenance works taking place and you will have noticed the new astroturf which has been laid. It is a very popular part of the playground, so a very worthwhile investment getting it replaced.

Thank you to the site team and cleaning team for making sure that the necessary works took place and the school was ready for the children to return at the start of the Autumn term.

Communication

Partnership between school and home is so important. There are always members of the leadership team at the front of the school at the beginning of the school day and in the playground or front of the school at the end of the school day. If you need to speak to your child's class teacher, please either speak to them at the end of the school day, after they have dismissed the children, or send an email to the school's email address (office@devonshire.sutton.sch.uk) and they will contact you.

If you have changed your contact details (address, telephone number etc), please ensure that you let us know. It is essential that we have the correct details for your child on our system.

Our school website (www.devonshireprimary.org), particularly our parent portal ([Parent Portal](#)), has a wealth of information that you will find very useful and may answer questions that you have. Parents' evening is on Thursday 13th November, where you will have the opportunity to see some of your child's work and have a 10-minute appointment with their teacher. Please note school closes early on this day (1.20pm Reception, Y1 and Y2/1.30pm Y3 – 6).

School uniform

The children look very smart in their school uniform. Please remember to name all of it. This means if your child loses anything, it will be more easily found. Lost property already has many unnamed items in it!

Governor news

Jenny Brooks, one of our parent governors, has been a governor for 4 years and reached the end of her term of office. We are very grateful for her hard work as a governor, particularly in her capacity as the link governor for safeguarding and attendance. Thank you, Jenny!

We have 2 parent governor vacancies on our Governing Body and will shortly be sending out information about these. Please look out for this communication and consider whether you would like to join our team of governors. It is a very rewarding role.

Local police news

Our Sutton South Safer Neighbourhood Police Team have asked us to share details of the new Met Engage website -

<https://www.metengage.co.uk/Content/LocalArea/79796/Sutton%20South>

The website has lots of very useful information and advice. It includes details of local issues and actions that the police are taking to address these. It encourages you to engage with the police through this website, so that they take action on issues that residents raise with them. Obviously, continuing to call 999 in an emergency or 101 to report a crime.

The next Sutton South police ward meeting is taking place at Devonshire on Wednesday 8th October (7pm) - everyone is welcome to meet with the police officers who are part of the team, hear about their priorities for the local area and ask any questions that they may have. Do come along to the meeting.

Family Support Worker news

A reminder that Mrs Carter-Hodge, our family support worker, is available to provide support, advice and information to our families. She has a wealth of knowledge and is only too happy to answer questions that parents/carers may have. Families who have worked with Mrs Carter-Hodge have found her support to be very beneficial.

She organises termly well-being coffee mornings, which all parents/carers are invited to. Each one is about a specific area that we know will help our families, providing information and support from Mrs Carter-Hodge as well as professionals from local services. Look out for emails advertising these coffee mornings – everyone is welcome.

Mrs Carter-Hodge can be contacted through the school email (office@devonshire.sutton.sch.uk) or can be found at the front of the school each morning and in the playground, after school.

We also have an education well-being practitioner (Maddie West), who is attached to Devonshire and works alongside Mrs Carter-Hodge. If you are interested in 1:1 parent/carer sessions with Maddie, please speak to Mrs Carter-Hodge who will put you in touch with her. Maddie can help you with your child's worries/anxieties, or support you with challenging or tricky behaviour. Many parents/carers have worked with her, and found her help and advice very informative.

Clothes recycling

Our next 'Little Recyclers' clothing collection is on Wednesday 5th November. With the weather beginning to get a little fresher, 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 5th November.

Late collection of children

A reminder that the school day ends at the times below:

- ✓ 3.15pm for Reception, Y1 and Y2
- ✓ 3.20pm for Y3, 4, 5 and 6

Please ensure that you collect your children promptly. If your child is doing an after-school club, please note the time that this ends and collect them punctually from this. If for any reason, you are delayed in collecting your child, please do telephone the school office to let us know, so that we can reassure your child that you are on your way.

Once the school day has finished, our provision for children who are on site is our A-Z club. Therefore, children who are late being collected will be taken to our A-Z club and you will be charged for this service.

Parking Reminder

Please do not park in any residential parking areas or block driveways. Also, please be mindful when parking outside the school and do not park by the school entrances. This is for the safety of the children. Thank you.

