



DEVONSHIRE DISPATCH

www.devonshireprimary.org

18th December 2025

Devonshire Diary

Fri 19th Dec – Last day of term (school closes after lunch - 1.20pm Reception, Y1 and Y2/1.30pm Y3 – 6)

Tues 6th Jan – first day of term

Week beginning 12th Jan – Hazel class swimming

Fri 16th Jan – Y4 PSHE workshop

Tues 20th Jan - wellbeing coffee morning with a focus on coping with conflict

Thurs 22nd Jan – Y5 water safety workshops

Mon 16th – Fri 20th Feb – half term

Week beginning 23rd Feb – Maple class swimming

Thurs 26th Feb – Y4 VR Roman workshop

Week beginning 2nd March – Hawthorn class swimming

Tues 3rd March – World Book Day Panto

Week beginning 9th March – Birch class swimming

Christmas shows

We have had a wonderful couple of weeks of Christmas shows. Our children have done an amazing job performing and we are so proud of their efforts, learning all the songs and lines. A big thank you to all our parents/carers for your support – we hope that you enjoyed the shows!

Thank you also to the staff for their hard work in preparing the children and putting the shows together. It has been a successful and festive couple of weeks!

Maggie's at The Marsden

Maggie's at The Royal Marsden is a free, warm, and welcoming centre located on the hospital grounds. It offers practical, emotional, and social support to anyone affected by cancer, including patients and their families. Designed as a non-clinical 'home away from home,' it provides drop-in access to professionals for support, groups, and advice, helping people to live well with cancer alongside their medical treatment. A very worthwhile local charity, and one that we are proud to be supporting this school year. Thank you for your kind donations to 'Maggie's at the end of the Christmas shows – we have raised £496.

Christmas dinner day

Our team of caterers cooked an impressive 600 Christmas dinners for children and staff. Thank you to our caterers, who do an amazing job every day, but surpassed themselves on Christmas dinner day. Our lunchtime playworkers decorated the halls to add to the festive feel of the hall and Christmas dinner day – thank you!

Ambassadors for Devonshire

Two teams of mathematicians from Year 6 recently participated in a Primary Maths Challenge at The Beacon high school in Banstead. The children had a variety of challenges to solve as a team, using their mathematical skills and knowledge. The teams came in 2nd and 3rd place and were delighted to return to school with a certificate to celebrate their achievements.

Our Top of the Form team, participated in the first round of the competition. While they didn't progress to the next round, they demonstrated an amazing general knowledge and worked well as a team. Thank you to the team for their preparation for the event – the children played many games of Trivial Pursuit to enhance their general knowledge.

Our tag rugby, football and netball teams have been busy playing their final match of the term. The teams played really well and demonstrated excellent team spirit, working well together.

Royal British Legion

We raised £499 from our sales of poppies in the lead up to Remembrance Day. Thank you for your kind donations.

Governor news

We know that December has been a busy month of Christmas activities. We have thoroughly enjoyed visiting school in the last couple of weeks, joining the festivities and seeing how hard the children have worked with their shows and how much they have enjoyed other Christmas activities.

A reminder that we have a parent governor vacancy that we will be advertising in the spring term. Do look out for this information, if this is a role you are interested in learning more about.

PSA news

A huge thank you to everyone who has supported our PSA this term. We have piled clothes at the fieldhouse, danced at the discos and welcomed lots of families to our Jingle and Mingle event. Lots of raffle tickets were bought and prizes won at the Early Years and KS1 nativities and our Christmas jumper sale was a sell out!

We are always keen for fresh faces and ideas; so, if you have a little time to spare and would like to get involved, please get in touch via: psa@devonshireprimaryschool.co.uk

Look out for details of our AGM in the Spring Term – all welcome!

Your School Lottery

Our PSA raises vital funds for our school in a number of ways. One way to show your support is by buying a ticket for our school lottery online. Tickets for the school lottery cost just £1 per week. When you buy tickets to play the lottery and support our school, you'll automatically be entered into a guaranteed weekly cash prize for one supporter as well as a chance to win the top Jackpot prize of £25,000! Please take a look at our fundraising page, tell your friends and family, and buy your tickets via: -

https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/devonshire-primary-school-sutton?utm_campaign=tickets-share-panel&utm_source=cause-admin&utm_medium=social&utm_content=Hyperlink

Staying Safe Online This Christmas

We know the Christmas break is a time for relaxation, and many children will be thrilled to receive new electronic devices! While these are fun and educational, increased time at home means increased time online, which can bring risks.

Online Risks to Be Aware Of

Please be mindful that new devices (like tablets, phones, and gaming consoles) and extra time off school can expose children to:

- **Inappropriate Content:** Encountering content that is not suitable for their age.
- **Stranger Danger:** Contact from unknown adults or predators through games or social apps.
- **Cyberbullying:** Receiving unkind or threatening messages from peers.
- **Too much screen time,** which can impact sleep and well-being.

Simple Steps for Parents

We urge you to take the following steps to ensure a safe online Christmas for your child:

1. **Activate Parental Controls:** Set up the built-in parental controls and privacy settings on **all new devices** immediately (e.g., Apple, Android, Nintendo, PlayStation, Xbox). This helps filter inappropriate content and limit screen time.
2. **Keep Devices in Shared Spaces:** Encourage children to use devices in communal areas of the house (e.g., the living room or kitchen), not alone in their bedrooms.
3. **Discuss Online Friends:** Talk to your child about who they are talking to online and remind them never to share personal information or pictures with strangers.
4. **Agree on Age Limits:** Ensure that any games or apps downloaded are rated as age-appropriate for your child (look for PEGI ratings).

Our goal is for every child to have a safe, fun, and healthy holiday!

Family Support Worker news

The Education Wellbeing Service is offering a variety of lunchtime and evening parent Webinars across the year to help support your child's wellbeing and mental health. Details of the webinars that are coming up, and how to join them can be found on the links below.

Do take a minute to look at the webinars on offer, they are on a variety of topics, which are very useful for families and are always enjoyed by parents/carers who attend them.

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>

Gardening Club news

We hope that you have enjoyed our giant Christmas wreaths, that we have made out of evergreen foliage. We have hung them in places where everyone can see and enjoy them and added our own Happy Christmas message inside them. We had fun working together to create them!

Eco group news

Our eco group have been busy making wreaths for their classrooms. They have made them out of natural resources, proving that Christmas decorations can be made out of recycled materials and don't need to be added to landfill when they are no longer used.

Lost property

A reminder to check lost property before the term ends. It is still very full and in order to ensure that we start next term with an empty lost property container, anything still in it and unnamed will be recycled at the end of term. Please do make sure that all of your children's uniform is named, including any hats, scarves, gloves, lunchboxes and water bottles.

Spare uniform supplies

If a child has an accident in school and needs to have a change of clothes, we have a stock of spare uniform that we provide them with, so that they have clean clothes to wear for the rest of the day. We are currently running low on supplies and have a need for girl's knickers, boy's pants, socks and tights for all age groups. If you have any of these, that your child has grown out of, we would be very grateful if you could donate them to us.

If your child comes home in spare uniform, please do wash them and return them to us, so that our supplies remain topped up.

Happy Christmas!

We wish everyone in the Devonshire Community a very Happy Christmas and a healthy, peaceful New Year! We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 6th January.