



DEVONSHIRE DISPATCH

www.devonshireprimary.org

23rd January 2026

Devonshire Diary

Weds 28th Jan (11.30am) – Year 5 parent/carer virtual meeting (repeat of meeting on 19th January)

Mon 2nd Feb (3.30 – 4pm) – Take One Picture Week art gallery in the infant hall

Tuesday 3rd February (8.15 – 8.30am) – Take One Picture Week art gallery in the infant hall

Tues 3rd Feb - Swans local walk

4th Feb – Robins local walk

Thurs 5th Feb – Sparrows local walk

Fri 6th Feb – NSPCC number day (Mufti Day)

Fri 6th Feb – School Council trip

Week beginning 9th Feb – Children’s mental health week

Tues 10th Feb – safer internet day

Fri 13th Feb – Mental health day (wear something yellow to school)

Fri 13th PSA Cake Sale

Mon 16th – Fri 20th Feb - half term

Parent partnership

Parent partnership is so important to us.

So far this term, we have invited

- ✓ Reception parents/carers to a phonics lesson.
- ✓ Year 5 parents/carers to a meeting about our use of technology to enhance teaching and learning.
- ✓ Year 3 parents/carers to participate in an art lesson with their child.
- ✓ All parents/carers to our wellbeing coffee morning.

It has been lovely to see you all!

And still to come:

- ✓ All parents/carers are invited to our Take One Picture Week art gallery - Monday 2nd February (3.30 – 4pm) and Tuesday 3rd February (8.15 – 8.30am).

Governor news

We currently have a parent governor vacancy. If you are interested in this role, applications are being accepted. Please refer to the email sent to all parent/carers on 15th January for how to apply. The deadline for applications is Friday 30th January at 12pm (midday).

PSA news

The PSA AGM is taking place on 24th February. All parents/carers are invited. After the AGM, there will be a PSA meeting. All parents/carers are members of the PSA and the money raised is used to enrich children’s experiences in school. Please do get in touch if you would like to join the team who organise events or if you have a good idea for an event (psa@devonshire.sutton.sch.uk). Most importantly, come and support the events, meet other families, have fun and help raise money for the school.

Take One Picture Week

This week, our children are busy working on a whole school art project and creating their own piece of artwork, linked to the painting ‘A Muse’ by Cosimo Tura. Every child will have their work displayed in our art gallery, which is open for parents/carers on Monday 2nd February (3.30 – 4pm) and Tuesday 3rd February (8.15 – 8.30am).

Sports leaders

Our sports leaders are a group of Year 6 children who lead playground games for children in the playground, at lunchtime. Last week, they delivered an assembly to all children reminding them what they do and how to join in. Any child is welcome to join the fun! Thank you to our sports leaders who give up their time to help other children.

Sustainability news

This week, our eco-group organised an after school eco-awareness activity for children in Years 3 – 6, to promote awareness of sustainability, the impact of climate change and the importance of taking care of the climate. It was a very popular activity with 60 children attending. Children who attended the session left with a green paper heart to record their pledge to take care of the climate.

Maggie's at the Marsden

A group of 3 children recently visited Maggie's at the Marsden, to deliver the money that we raised through your kind donations at the end of our Christmas shows. As well as delivering the money that we had raised which had been transferred into a giant-sized cheque, the children had a tour of Maggie's and got to see the amazing work that this charity does. We donated £500!

Sports news

Well done to our panathlon team who participated in the borough's primary schools panathlon challenge this week. The team were a credit to the school and came back proudly wearing the medals that they had been awarded.

Our football team have made a good start to 2026, demonstrating amazing resilience and sportsmanship, securing 3 – 3 draw in their first match of 2026.

Lunchtime news and requests

At lunchtime, as part of our OPAL (outdoor play and learning) provision, we have a range of equipment that the children can use to play with. If you have any Lego or suitcases that you no longer use/need, we will happily take them off your hands and use them to add to our OPAL supplies. Lego and suitcases are both very popular with, and well used by, the children. If you have any of these items, please bring them to the school office who will pass them on to our team of lunchtime playworkers.

Parking news

Please do not park in the car parks belonging to the flats in Devonshire Avenue and the surrounding roads. Residents of the flats have contacted the school, telling us that they are often unable to access their parking spaces because they are being used by our parents/carers and when they ask the owners of the cars to move, they have been spoken to in a disrespectful way, which has understandably caused upset. Damage is also being caused by cars belonging to our parents/carers parking on the verges in the car parks which has led to costs to repair the damage being incurred by the residents. Currently, parking at drop off and collection times is negatively affecting our relationship with the neighbours. We work really hard to develop positive relationships with our neighbours, please help us to maintain these.

Lost property

If your child has a packed lunch, please ensure that it is named. We often have to remind children to collect their lunchboxes at the end of lunchtime. If they are not collected and not named, they get taken to lost property. Very often, they don't get collected from lost property and at the end of term, end up getting recycled. If your child has a packed lunch, please check that they have come out of school with their packed lunch box. If they do come back home without it, do look in lost property as it will very likely be there. Most importantly, please name the lunchboxes!

Term Dates for next school year

Please make a note of the term dates for next school year and put them in your diary.

Autumn term

Thursday 3rd September 2026 – Friday 18th December 2026

INSET day (school closed) Monday 5th October 2026

Half Term – Monday 26th October 2026 - Friday 30th October 2026

Spring term

Tuesday 5th January 2027 – Thursday 25th March 2027

Half term – Monday 15th February 2027 – Friday 19th February 2027

Summer term

Tuesday 13th April 2027 – Wednesday 21st July 2027

Half Term – Monday 31st May 2027 - Friday 4th June 2027

With the exception of the INSET day on 5th October 2026, we have ensured that all other INSET days are either at the beginning or end of terms, so the term dates above take account of INSET days.

Collection at the end of the school day

When collecting your child at the end of the school day, it really helps us if you are actively looking at where your child will be waiting so that the member of staff dismissing can easily see you and knows that you are ready for your child to be dismissed to you.

Sometimes, it can delay children being dismissed, if parents/carers are busy chatting to others or on their phone, whether that be on a call or looking at the screen. We aim to dismiss the children as swiftly as possible and need your help with this. We ask that mobile phones are not used whilst you are on the school site. Thank you for your cooperation.