



DEVONSHIRE DISPATCH

www.devonshireprimary.org

30th April 2026

Devonshire Diary

Mon 4th May – Bank Holiday
(school closed)

Tues 5th May - Phonics
meeting for Y1 parents/carers

Weds 6th May – Y3 trip –
Natural History Museum

Thurs 7th May - Y4 trip –
Horniman Museum

**Week beginning Mon 11th
May** – Ash class swimming

**Week beginning Mon 11th
May** - Y6 SATS week

**Week beginning Mon 18th
May** – Chestnut class
swimming

Fri 22nd May – PSA Sweet Day
– children can wear their own
clothes

Mon 25th May to Fri 29th May
– Half Term

Mon 1st June – Cedar class
swimming

Fri 5th June – PSA Bottle Day –
children can wear their own
clothes

Fri 12th June – Y6 Careers
event

Mon 15th June – Y1 & Y2
sports Morning

Tues 16th June – Reception
sports morning

Weds 17th June – Y5 & Y6
sports morning

Thurs 18th June – Y3 & Y4
sports morning

April

April has been a shorter school month as we returned from the school holidays part way through April, but lots has happened.

- The PSA summer term discos took place and were enjoyed by all.
- Summer term clubs started last week.
- Year 1 have been on a school trip to Morden Hall Park to support their work in science.
- Ash and Aspen class have been swimming.
- We welcomed Year 4 parents/carers into school to join their child's class for a Design and Technology session.
- Year 5 have had a Viking workshop.

Many things are planned for May, which promises to be just as busy!

Careers event

Dr Reddy is organising a careers event for our Year 6 children on the afternoon of 12th June. There are such a range of jobs within the Devonshire community and it would be good to share these with the children as they approach the next stage in their education and begin to think about life beyond primary school.

We are looking for people who would be happy to talk to small groups of children about the job that they do, and answer any questions that the children may have.

Your help with this event will support the children to see how every part of their education is an important building block in getting a job and how many career options there are.

If this is something that you would be able to help with, please email the school (office@devonshire.sutton.sch.uk) and mark your email for the attention of Dr Reddy.

Curriculum event – 20th May

We are opening the school at 2pm on Wednesday 20th May for all parents to come and see their child's classroom and for children to share some of their work that they are particularly proud of. Once parents/carers have visited their children's classroom they are able to take their child home but must let the class teacher know that they are taking them home. All parents who have come to the event must have left school by 2.45pm so that we are able to carry out our end of the day dismissal procedures.

If you have more than one child, please make sure that you leave sufficient time, whilst in school, to visit each of your children's classrooms.

Chestnut class's event will take place on Wednesday 3rd June, 2.15pm – 2.45pm, as they are swimming on this day.

VR digital headsets

We have purchased 8 VR headsets for the children to use to enhance their learning. All children will have the chance to use them in small groups. Last week Year 3 used them to see what it was like to climb Mount Everest. This week, Year 4 are using them to explore what is inside the internet. They are a fabulous resource which are available for all year groups to use to enhance the children's learning experiences.

Sports mornings

The date and time of sports mornings are:

- Years 1 and 2 - Monday 15th June - 8.55am – 10am
- Reception - Tuesday 16th June - 8.55am – 10am
- Years 5 and 6 - Wednesday 17th June - 8.55am – 11am
- Years 3 and 4 - Thursday 18th June - 8.55am – 11am

The children will be taken to the field as soon as the register has been taken. Parents/carers will come on to the field using the gate closest to the PSA field house.

Family Support Worker news

Our next coffee morning is taking place on 2nd June, 9 – 10am. Mrs Carter -Hodge will be joined by members of the Education Wellbeing service – Maddie, our Wellbeing Practitioner and Dr Danielle Shbero, a Clinical Psychologist. The topic of the coffee morning is managing transition – offering parents/carers strategies to support their child to manage transitions that they will encounter, whether that be transitions linked to school, or areas in their life outside of school.

Governor News

This month our premises committee met and part of their meeting included a tour of key areas of the school. This included specific projects in the playground.

- The new nurture cabin, which is now being used and is soon to have a few finishing touches made to its exterior.
- The water play area and mud kitchen, both of which are very popular with the children at lunchtime, have been extended over the last few years. We have plans to further enhance the water play area.

They also visited areas of the school which we are keen to revamp over the next few years – 2 sets of toilets, as part of our ongoing programme of toilet refurbishment.

Sustainability remains a focus and we were delighted when we received our annual Display Energy certificate which showed that our carbon footprint (energy usage) has reduced from 74 to 58 CO2 emissions, over the course of the year.

PSA news

Little Recyclers - Our clothes collection weighed in at a magnificent 495kg, raising £222. Thank you to everyone who donated their preloved clothes and shoes to be reused and recycled.

Discos - The school discos were an absolute blast and we even learnt how to sealion dance! Thank you to the parents and staff who volunteered their time so that these could take place; Asha, Caroline, Angela, Ewa, Diana, Katy, Oksana, Emma, Laura, Sam, Kate, Miss Furnell, Miss Chadwick, Mr Gardner-Cliff, Mrs Elsey, Miss Oastler, Mrs Scrivens, Mrs Love, Mrs Rose, Mrs Moat, Mrs Porter, Miss Dourado, Miss Martin, Mrs Memon, Miss Wright, Miss Sumner, and the office team for providing admin and first aid support; Mrs Mackinlay, Mrs Hadland, Miss Campkin, Ms Gibson, Miss Norman, Miss Henthorn, Mrs Setter, Mrs Ignatova and Miss Phillips.

Summer Fayre - We're getting excited about our upcoming Summer Fayre on Saturday 13th June and would really appreciate any support you can offer on the day. If you're able to volunteer, even just 1 hour on a stall would make a big difference. We know everyone is busy, so if an hour feels like too much, even 30 minutes would be hugely helpful. Every bit of time helps us keep things running smoothly and makes the day a success for the children.

Please get in touch via psa@devonshireprimaryschool.co.uk

Thank you so much in advance.

The PSA team

Smart watches

A reminder that children are not permitted to wear smart watches in school. Our uniform policy states that Children in Key Stage 2 may wear a simple analogue or digital watch (not smart watches).

Summer uniform

Summer uniform can now be worn.

Shirts and ties can be replaced with white polo shorts (no tie is needed), grey shorts can be worn instead of grey skirts and trousers and girls can wear summer dresses (light blue and white checked). It is great to see some of the children already wearing their summer uniform.

If your child has grown out of any of their uniform, we would be very grateful if you could donate it to school so that it can be added to our pre-loved uniform stock as our supplies, particularly of pre loved uniform for older children, are running low.

Milk in Year 1 and Year 2

As part of our sustainability plan to reduce waste, next school year we will be removing the option of milk for Year 1 and 2. We are increasingly finding that the children are not drinking the milk that their parents/carers have paid for, and we are throwing away many cartons of milk at the end of the school week. This is despite staff giving the milk cartons to the children and reminding them to drink them. Children will still have their fruit snack provided by school, and will have the opportunity to have access to their water bottle throughout the day. Where possible, milk that is not drunk will be sent home at the end of the school day.

Lost property

Now that the weather has warmed up (and will hopefully stay warm!), children are taking off their school jumpers/cardigans part way through the day, often at playtime and lunchtime, and not remembering to collect them. Unnamed, unclaimed items make their way to lost property and we currently have lots of jumpers/cardigans. Please do take a look in the lost property box, if your child has lost anything.

When it is dry, we will move lost property outside the front entrance to make it easier for parents/carers to look through.

Collection times

The gates that parents enter and exit through at the end of the school day, do get busy because of the number of children being collected in a short space of time.

A few reminders to help ease the congestion:

- Please be mindful of others when using the entrance and exit gates.
- When you have collected your child/children, please ensure that they remain with you and do not re-enter the school building.
- After school we have clubs that take place in the playground, and cannot start until the playground is empty. To help these clubs start as soon as possible at the end of the school day, please do leave the playground as soon as you have collected your child/children.

Many thanks for your support with this – the efficient and safe dismissal of the children is our priority.

Warm weather

As the weather is starting to get warmer, please remember to:

- Send your child in with a sun hat (ones that provide shade for the face and neck are best).
- Ensure your child brings a bottle of water, they can refill these as often as they like.
- Apply a high factor, once a day, sun cream to your child before school. If you feel your child will need further sun protection applied, please send this in a named bottle/tube, which must be given to the class teacher for safe storage. Your child will be responsible for applying their own sun cream and may not share this with anyone else.