

# Dovers Green School

## January 2024 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very Happy New Year to you all.

It has been lovely to see the children and listen to them talking about their adventures over the Christmas holidays. As always however, routines set in very quickly and the holidays already feel like a distant memory!

I am excited to say that we have updated our website. Please visit [www.dovers-green.surrey.sch.uk](http://www.dovers-green.surrey.sch.uk) to have a look. I'd welcome any feedback!

### Creative Arts Week

We have started this term with our Creative Arts and Confident Communicators Week. These 'special' weeks give us the opportunity for more in depth learning about a particular area of the curriculum and for the whole school to learn together. All of the children will be taking part in a workshop run facilitated by The Magic Lantern charity to help them explore the themes and their feelings about the painting. More information about the work of this charity can be found here: [Magic Lantern | Art Education Charity | Visual Learning in Schools \(magiclanternart.org.uk\)](http://MagicLantern.org.uk). A huge thank you to one of our Governors, Veronica Readman, and The Reigate Arts Society for organising this for us.



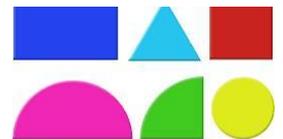
The children's work will be displayed along the corridor outside the offices, so please do pop in to have a look!

We are basing the children's learning around the painting, 'The Umbrellas' by Renoir of the pictures chosen by The National Gallery for their 'Take One Picture' programme which aims to inspire a lifelong love of art and learning. Every year they take one picture from the collection to inspire cross-curricular work in primary classrooms.

In **Ladybirds**, we will be linking the painting to learning about different types of weather, especially the rain! Each class is going to learn a different poem about the rain and after lots of practise, will be performing their poem in front of others, showing that we can all be Confident Communicators! We are going to use the expressions 'It's raining cats and dogs!' and 'It's lovely weather for ducks!' to learn about these different animals and write facts about them. We are also going to be practising using an efficient pencil grip, to draw with accuracy and care, when learning to draw and decorate our own umbrellas.



In **year 1** the children will start the week by looking closely at the shapes and textures that they can observe in the painting, 'The Umbrellas' by Renoir. They will practise re-creating these shapes using different media and contribute to a class umbrella. As 'Confident Communicators', the children will learn to work together over several sessions to create a Renoir inspired umbrella using a range of tools and materials.



In **year 2** we will be comparing different art work featuring umbrellas, as well as discussing the similarities and differences seen. We will be choosing appropriate tools, equipment and techniques to make our own little umbrellas while learning how rigid and flexible materials differ. We are excited to be working alongside the artist Gordon Maclellan who will be running his 'Creeping Toad' workshops with us. These workshops are being funded by the PTA. Each year 2 class will be creating different art work including pop-up umbrella cards, stained glass windows and shadow puppets!



**We are**  
**confident communicators**

When we talk and share ideas,  
we're confident and clear!  
We listen well and understand  
when others need our ear.

In **Badgers** class we will all be taking part in 'The Magic Lantern' workshop. We will be looking at Renoir's 'Umbrellas' painting and recreating part of the painting using different media such as ball point pens and using the computer. We will also be decorating a small paper umbrella using different painting techniques such as splatter painting and marbling. The Year 2 children will join story telling sessions where they will be making shadow puppets or pop up cards.



### Values

Our value this term is Respect and this will be reinforced in lesson time and in assemblies.



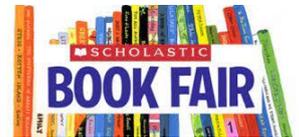
### Curriculum Information - Maths



On 24 January we will be holding a curriculum evening for parents (7pm - 8pm) with a focus on how you can support your child with maths at home. More details will follow nearer the time, but in the meantime make a note of this date in your diaries!

### Scholastic Book Fair

Thank you to all of you who bought books from the book fair we held before Christmas. We raised £527 which we will use books for the library and to support the children's learning in the classroom.



### Parking issues



A repeated plea! Please, please park considerately when you are dropping off and picking your children up. I have had a number of complaints from local residents and also reports from parents and staff about parking that could result in a serious accident. Therefore, please obey the road markings, in particular the ones outside the school and the double yellow lines on the corners of Lonesome Lane and Weald Way. Can I also remind you that our school carpark is **not** to be used to park your car when picking up or dropping off your child between 8.15-4.15 unless you have been given permission to do so.



A huge thank you for all those who donated at our Christmas Production for the above charity you raised a huge £570.

## REMEMBER - School Admissions - Applying for a Place in Reception and Year Three

If your child is due to start school or transfer to a Junior school, please do remember that the closing date for applications is **15 January 2024**.

Children who were born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020 will be able to start school in September 2024 and those currently in Year two will transfer to Junior school at the same time. You can [apply online](#) for a September 2024 school place by visiting:



<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions/primary-junior-and-infant/apply> or you can obtain a paper parental preference form by emailing [schoolbooklets@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:schoolbooklets@surreycc.gov.uk) or telephoning 0300 200 1015. Please state that you require a primary form.

If your application is submitted after the closing date you will be treated as a late applicant and therefore you are unlikely to receive an offer of a school place until the end of June 2024, or even later.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nicki Starling". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'N'.

Nicki Starling  
**Headteacher**



### Dates for the Diary

**Spring Term: Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January - Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March**

Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January	<b>INSET DAY</b> / Start of Spring Term
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January	Children return for Spring Term
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> - Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> January	'Confident Communicators' week.
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January	Parent Forum Meeting - 9.00 a.m.
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> January	Foxes Assembly - 2.30 p.m.
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> January	Maths Curriculum Evening 7.00 p.m. - 8.00 p.m.
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> January	Rabbits Assembly - 2.30 p.m.
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> February	Squirrels Assembly - 2.30 p.m.
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	Safer Internet Day
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> February	Otters Assembly - 2.30 p.m.
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	End of Half Term - 3.05 p.m. finish
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February	Children return to school
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	PTA Non Uniform Day
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> February	Parent Forum Meeting - 9.00 a.m.
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> February	Hedgehogs Assembly - 2.30 p.m.
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> March - Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	Book Week
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day Badgers Assembly 2.30 p.m.
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	Reception children only Mother's Day Assembly - 2.30 p.m.
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	Owls Assembly 2.30 p.m.
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents Evening - 3.30pm - 6.30 p.m.
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents Evening - 3.30pm - 6.30 p.m.
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	PTA Non Uniform Day
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	End of Spring Term - 1.15 p.m. finish

**Summer Term: Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April - Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July**

Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April	Children return for Summer Term
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	PTA Non-Uniform Day
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Parent Forum Meeting - 9.00 a.m.
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> April	Blue Ladybirds Assembly 2.30 p.m.
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	School Group Photos
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Red Ladybirds Assembly 2.30 p.m.
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank Holiday
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	Yellow Ladybirds Assembly - 2.30 p.m.
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> May	School Reports Home
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	Summer Celebration Event - 3.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m.
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	Otters Assembly - 2.30 p.m.
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Hedgehogs Assembly - 2.30 p.m.
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	PTA Non Uniform Day Ladybirds School Trip End of Half Term - 3.05 p.m. finish
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Children return to school
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June - Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Go Green/ Science Week
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Bike it Breakfast
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> June - Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Phonics Screening Week Parent Forum Meeting - 9.00 a.m.
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	Badgers Assembly - 2.30 p.m.
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> June	Owls Assembly - 2.30 p.m.
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	PTA Non Uniform Day
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports Day Parents are invited to join for a picnic lunch at 12.00 p.m. followed by races
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	INSET day for staff
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Leavers Assembly 9.00 a.m. - 10.00 a.m.
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	PTA Non Uniform Day End of Term - 1.15 p.m. finish
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	INSET Day
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	INSET Day