

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope everyone had a lovely half term. It is hard to believe that we are in our last half term of the school year!



This week has been our Environmental Explorers Week and the children have been learning about different environmental issues with a focus on saving energy, learning about renewable energy and ways of looking after our planet.

We hope that those of you who were able to visit us for Forest School had an enjoyable and worthwhile session. It was also lovely to see so many of you at our 'Bike it breakfast' this morning.



The children's learning

EYFS

In Ladybirds, we have started our new topic 'On the Move' and have linked this into Go Green week, by thinking about the best ways to travel to keep our planet safe! We have started by learning about aeroplanes and other vehicles which move in the sky, and have had great fun flying off to different destinations in our role play aeroplane! We have been thinking about places that are similar and different to where we live. We have loved making paper aeroplanes this week, and have been measuring how far they fly in our outside areas! We have also learnt about recycling, using the story, 'Charlie and Lola Save the Planet', and have discussed why it's important to save energy, turn off the taps and turn off the lights.



Year 1

During Go-Green Week the children in Year 1 have been learning all about water. They have created fabulous posters describing all the different ways we can help the planet by saving water. In Forest School the children learnt how to whittle a stick and how to use a Japanese Square lashing to join two sticks together to make the body of their eco superhero. The children also enjoyed some time in Woodpeckers, our lovely outdoor classroom exploring different ways to care for our environment





Year 2



Just before half term the children in year 2 visited St. Pauls Cathedral! This is one of the many landmarks they have been learning about for their London topic during the summer term. There was lots of steps to climb but it was worth it for the wonderful view at the top.

During Go Green Week the children are learning about renewable energy and how it can be used. They will have a better understanding of how the solar panels and wind turbine on our outdoor classroom works!

Badgers

During 'Go Green Week,' the pupils in Badgers learnt about the different seasons and explored books illustrating how trees change throughout the year. They enjoyed demonstrating to their parents some of the activities they do in Forest School. This included taking their parents on a summer hunt, where they searched for different colours in the environment and observed plant growth. The pupils have also been monitoring the construction progress of their new classrooms, replicating what they have seen in the outdoor area, where they have been playing with diggers in the sand and building structures using the big foam bricks.



Breaking news!

The eggs that were laid in the hood of a Forest School coat have hatched! We are all very excited!



Values

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



Follow us on social media!

Dovers Green is now on social media!
Facebook @DoversGreenInfantSchool
Instagram @doversgreenschool



We are posting weekly on Instagram, including a summary of events that will be happening in school which we hope will help you keep abreast of all the exciting things going on!

Sports Day



As you are aware, the building works that are going on for the expansion of Badgers is currently taking up a lot of the school field. This will obviously have an impact on Sports Day.

We have thought about a lot of different ways of organising Sports Day in light of this. In order that we can have the whole school together, we will be holding it at Reigate school during the afternoon of 4th July (weather permitting!) We are still fine tuning the details, but it is our aim to walk the children down to Reigate School with a view to starting races at 1.15 pm. Parents will be invited to attend and to meet us there, but we will not be able to hold our traditional pre-race picnic this year.

I will be in contact once we have finalised full details, but wanted to let you know that Sports Day will be going ahead! Unfortunately, if we are unable to go ahead due to weather, we will not be able to re-arrange for another date.

Staffing information and classes for September 2024

I know that at this point of the year, thoughts start turning to September and wondering which classes the children in Reception and Year 1 will be moving on to and who the teachers will be. I am still in the process of confirming the final class and staffing structure for September but I can confirm that the Ladybirds Team in September will be:



Blue Ladybirds - Miss Hill
Red Ladybirds - Mrs Richens
Yellow Ladybirds - Mrs Thomas.

Current Reception and Year 1 children will have two opportunities to visit their new classrooms and meet their new teachers on Tuesday 2nd July and Monday 8th July and if we feel it is appropriate for some children, more visits will be planned. I will let you have information on your child's new class and who their teacher will be on **Friday 28th June**. Year 2 children will be visiting their new schools on Tuesday 2nd July and I am sure that if you haven't already done so, you will be receiving information about the day very soon directly from the Junior Schools.

Rocksteady Music School



On Tuesday 11th June, we will be visited by representatives from The Rocksteady Music School. They provide peripatetic music lessons and give children the opportunity for children to learn an instrument and play in a band. They will be doing an assembly for the whole school and then offering some workshop sessions for children in Ladybirds and year 1. From September, they will be offering lessons at Dovers Green which you will be able to arrange with them directly. Further information about the booking procedure will follow at a later date. More information

about them can be found at:

[Information for Primary Schools | Rocksteady Music School](#)

Knowledge Organisers

Attached to this newsletter is a 'Knowledge Organiser' which sets out the key knowledge your child will be learning in the main 'topic' aspect of their work in class. These will be used with the children in class to help reinforce and revisit their learning across the course of the unit of work. Research tells us that children (and adults!) need to retrieve information from their short term memories multiple times so that it is then transferred to their long-term memories and hopefully then sticks! You will see that the organisers also detail the vocabulary that we expect the children to know and be able to use. Please do use these at home with your children to talk to them about their learning in school.



For further information about what your child will be learning in other curriculum areas please visit our website www.dovers-green.surrey.sch.uk. Select Our learning and then click on the appropriate class. You will see the teacher's overview for the half term. Please note however, that sometimes things change and the teachers are responsive to the children's needs so sometimes learning and teaching speeds up or slows down accordingly.

Attendance



At Dovers Green we expect children to attend school every day, so long as they are fit and healthy enough to do so. Everyday attendance at school and good punctuality are vital for children to get the most out of their education. We aim to support children and their parents and carers as best we can to make this happen. Please get in touch with either myself, your child's teacher or our Home School Link Worker, Lisa Brewis, if you need support with your child's attendance at school.

Did you know.....

- If your child misses 1 day of school every two weeks, this will add up to 20 days of schooling lost each year. Over thirteen years at Primary and Secondary School, this would be the same as them missing 1.5 years of school!
- Being just 10 minutes late each day is the same as missing 50 minutes a week. That is almost 1.5 weeks in a year. Over a child's 13 years at Primary and Secondary School, this would be the same as missing almost half a year of schooling.

Summer Fair

On Saturday 22nd June, the PTA are holding our summer picnic. I do hope that lots of you will be able to attend because it promises to be a lot of fun and will provide the opportunity for the school community to get together and socialise.



These events are so lovely to hold and always much enjoyed by everyone who attends. They do of course raise some much needed funds for the school, but more importantly bring the school community together. The PTA are really struggling to get volunteers to help with the running of the day. Please, if you can spare some time either on the day or beforehand, get in touch with them. Without your support, these events will not be able to take place.

Textile bank



Please remember that we have got a fund raising textile bank by the front gate if you have got any pre-loved clothes and shoes that you no longer need.

One-way system

Feedback from parents to the class representatives on the Parent's Forum is that the one-way system that we adopted during the pandemic is actually a really positive thing and helps to relieve bottle necks at pinch points around the school. Therefore, please can you continue to follow this around the school when you drop-off and collect your child. Thank you.



A couple of pleas!



Please can all parents and children make sure they have left the school site by 3.20 p.m. As the days are getting longer, children who attend some after-school clubs and Tea-Time Tigers need to be able to come out and use the grounds and equipment.

Please can you also make sure that children, including younger siblings, are carefully supervised in the mornings and afternoons on the playground and a reminder that children must not be on bikes or scooters.

One of the things that is really important to us at Dovers Green is that the children are encouraged to be as independent as possible so it would really help if you could say 'Goodbye' to your child on the playground and encourage them to walk into the classroom by themselves. It also helps us to get the children in to school, settled and ready to learn if there aren't lots of parents standing at the classroom doors.



Marvellous Makers - Summer Reading Challenge 2024



Surrey libraries are running a reading challenge over the summer holidays. We know that the long summer break can impact on children's reading fluency and accuracy so it is important to keep reading as much as possible. This is fun way to help keep children interested in books. More information can be found at:

[Marvellous Makers - Summer Reading Challenge 2024 | Surrey Education Services \(surreycc.gov.uk\)](https://surreycc.gov.uk)

Thank you.

Nicki Starling



Summer Term: Monday 15th April - Tuesday 23rd July

Monday 10 th June - Friday 14 th June	Phonics Screening Week Parent Forum Meeting - 9.00 a.m.
Thursday 13 th June	Badgers Assembly - 2.30 p.m.
Thursday 20 th June	Owls Assembly - 2.30 p.m.
Friday 28 th June	PTA Non Uniform Day
Tuesday 2 nd July	Surrey Transition Day
Thursday 4 th July	Sports Day - At Reigate School
Friday 5 th July	INSET day for staff
Wednesday 17 th July	Leavers Assembly 9.00 a.m. - 10.00 a.m.
Friday 19 th July	PTA Non Uniform Day End of Term - 1.15 p.m. finish Tea Tigers finish at 4.15pm
Monday 22 nd July	INSET Day
Tuesday 23 rd July	INSET Day

