

Dovers Green School December 2025 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,



The tree is decorated, the lights are twinkling, children are singing songs on the stage and the classrooms are filled with the sound of excited chatter – it's beginning to look a lot like Christmas at Dovers Green! This is the last newsletter of the year, and my thanks go to the entire school community – the children, teachers, teaching assistants, the office team, our premises manager and the cleaning team, our governors, the catering team and you – for making this such a successful term.

The Big Sing!

We are so proud of our amazing Dovers Green choir, who recently performed with the rest of the Greensand schools at an event called 'The Big Sing!' They performed a number of songs and were so brave to stand and sing in front of such a big audience! Well done the choir and thank you to Mrs Thompson for all her hard work and preparation for such a big event!



Creative Arts Week: 5th - 9th January 2025



After Christmas we are holding our annual Creative Arts week, which links with 'We are Confident Communicators.' The children will be learning about the artwork 'Window Plants' by John Nash and creating their own piece using this as inspiration. We are extremely grateful to The Arts Society for a grant of £1500, which we are using to provide dance, art and educational workshops for the children during this week!

Winter Disco and plea for PTA members!

I am delighted to share that our Winter Disco was a huge success! The children had a wonderful time dancing and celebrating together, and thanks to your support we raised over **£1,000** for the school.



The event was organised and run entirely by our dedicated staff, and while we are thrilled to have been able to host such a fun afternoon for the children, we are not able to manage more than one event of this scale ourselves.

That's why we would love to encourage more parents to join our **PTA (Parent Teacher Association)**. With your help, we can run lots of exciting events throughout the year that benefit both the children and the school community.

If you are interested in getting involved, please come and speak to us — we'd be delighted to welcome you!

Attendance

Just to remind parents/carers that if they take their children out of school without authority for 5 or more days (which do not have to be consecutive), then the following will apply:



1. If you have not incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children in a rolling 3 year period since 19 August 2024, then the penalty notice will be charged at the rate of £160.00, **per parent/carers per child**, if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80.00 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.
2. If you have incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children since 19 August 2024, the rolling 3 year period will be activated from the date of the first penalty notice and the second penalty notice will be charged at the flat rate of £160.00, **per parent/carers per child**, if paid within 28 days. There will be no reduction for payment within 21 days. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.
3. If you have incurred 2 penalty notices relating to this child/children in the rolling 3 year period since the first penalty notice was issued, then you will NOT receive a third penalty notice - Surrey County Council will have no option but to consider a prosecution, **per parent/carers per child**, in the Magistrates Court under s 444 Education Act 1996.

Surrey County Council is not responsible for authorising pupil absence and therefore cannot withdraw any Penalty Notice requests without the written permission of the Headteacher.

You can find our attendance policy on the website. This sets out our procedures for tackling low attendance because there is a wealth of research that shows that poor school attendance is associated with:

- lower academic achievement including literacy and numeracy
- early school leaving
- leaving school with fewer qualifications
- reduced opportunities for students to learn and access educational resources, further limiting achievement

- further absenteeism in higher year levels
- increased alcohol, tobacco, and substance use in adolescents

If you are struggling with your child's attendance, please do get in touch so that we can work on improving it together.

Internet Safety

It is so important that our very young children are kept safe when using the internet and should not be left unsupervised when doing so.

Internet Safety Tips for Kids



Internet Matters have some useful guides for parents on settings for WhatsApp and Roblox of which as we know are being used by children under the age of 13. They include how to restrict children being added to random

Whatsapp groups and other useful settings: <https://www.internetmatters.org/>

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. Please 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 a.m. - 4.15 p.m. unless you have been given permission to do so.



Monies raised

Thank you for being so generous over the last term!



- ❖ £1847.00 raised from our Sponsored Walk
- ❖ £219.00 for the Poppy appeal
- ❖ £255.00 for Children In Need

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

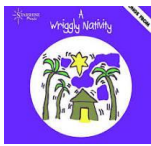
If your child is due to start school or transfer to a Junior school, please do remember that the closing date for applications is **15th January 2026**.

Children who were born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022 will be able to start school in September 2026 and those currently in Year two will transfer to Junior school at the same time. You can apply online for a September 2026 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 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 2026, or even later.

Christmas Activities

The tickets for our Christmas productions 'The Wiggly Nativity' (Reception) and 'Baarmy Bethlehem' (KS1) seem to be the hottest in town! A reminder of the dates:



The Wiggly Nativity (Reception) - Monday 8th December @ 2.30pm
- Tuesday 9th December @ 9.00am



Baarmy Bethlehem (KS1) - Wednesday 10th December @ 2.00pm
- Thursday 11th December @ 2.00pm
- Friday 12th December @ 2.00pm

All tickets will be sent out electronically and need to be shown on your device on the day of the productions. If you have ordered extra tickets and have not yet received them, please email the office. Due to capacity, pushchairs and prams are not permitted unless the child/ren are asleep. Thank you for your understanding on this matter.

Christmas Lunch - Wednesday 17th December



Our excellent cook will be preparing Christmas lunch on **Wednesday 17th December**. Please could we ask that you make a Christmas hat at home with your child to wear to lunch!



Pantomime and Party - Thursday 18th December

On Thursday 18th December, it is 'Panto and Party' day! On this day, we would like to invite the children to wear their own party clothes and/or Christmas jumper to school.



We have organised for a company to come into school to perform 'Beauty and the Beast' for the children on the morning of Thursday 18th December. We are asking for a voluntary donation of £3.70 to cover the cost of this please. No child will be excluded from this show if you are unable to pay, but unfortunately, our budget is such that we will be unable to provide experiences

like these in the future without your continuing support. Please use Arbor to make your payment, under 'School Shop'. Follow this link: <https://support.arbor-education.com/hc/en-us/articles/5068444710813-Purchasing-School-Shop-items-on-the-Parent-Portal-or-Parent-App> for guidance to help you with this. Thank you!

The children will have their Christmas party in the afternoon with hopefully a visit from a special person! Please could your child bring in a small contribution of food to share at the party. The class reps are kindly organising a food list, so please speak to them if you are unsure what to bring. Please remember that the children will have had their lunch so just a small contribution is all that is needed! We are a nut free school so no nuts of any sort please! Thank you!



Please see the attached poster for a handy reminder of upcoming Christmas events!

Christmas Cards



Please can children not bring Christmas cards into school. It can be a very time consuming task for teachers to hand them out! We made a decision a few years ago to encourage children to send one Christmas card to the whole class rather than individual ones as part of our commitment to sustainability and reducing waste. If you would like to send individual cards, please can you organise this between yourselves.

Follow us on social media!

Dovers Green is on social media!
Instagram @doversgreenschool



End of term



The last day of term is **Friday 19th December** and school finishes at **1.15pm**.
Tea-Time Tigers will be open until **4.15pm**.



All that remains is for me to wish you all a very Merry Christmas!



We look forward to seeing the children back in school on **Monday 5th January 2026**.

Yours faithfully,

Caroline McHugh
Acting Headteacher



Dates for the Diary

Monday 8 th December Tuesday 9 th December	Reception Christmas productions Monday 8 th December @ 2.30pm Tuesday 9 th December @ 9.00am
Wednesday 10 th December Thursday 11 th December Friday 12 th December	KS1 Christmas productions at 2.00pm everyday
Friday 12 th December	Rocksteady Concert - 9.30am (only for parents of children in the Rocksteady bands)
Wednesday 17 th December	School Christmas Lunch (party hats please!)
Thursday 18 th December	Christmas Panto - Beauty & Beast (am) Christmas Party (pm)
Friday 19 th December	Non-Uniform Day End of Autumn Term - 1.15pm finish Tea Time Tigers - 4.15pm finish





Spring Term: Monday 5th January - Friday 27th March

Monday 5 th January	Start of Spring Term
Monday 5 th - 9 th January	Creative Arts Week
Monday 12 th January	Parents Forum Meeting - 9.00am
Thursday 22 nd January	Bumblebees Assembly - 2.30pm
Thursday 29 th January	Caterpillars Assembly - 2.30pm
Friday 30 th January	PTA Non-Uniform Day
Thursday 5 th February	Fireflies Assembly - 2.30pm
Monday 9 th - Friday 13 th February	Cultural Celebration Week
Wednesday 11 th February	Safer Internet Day
Thursday 12 th February	Grasshoppers Assembly - 2.30pm
Friday 13 th February	End of Term - 3.05pm finish
Monday 23 rd February	INSET DAY - School closed for all children
Tuesday 24 th February	Children return to school
Friday 27 th February	PTA Non-Uniform Day
Monday 2 nd - Friday 6 th March	World Book Week
Monday 2 nd March	Parents Forum Meeting - 9.00am
Thursday 5 ^h March	World Book Day
Wednesday 11 th March	Whole School Group Photos
Thursday 12 th March	Reception Parents only - Mothers Days Assembly 9.30am
Monday 16 th March	Parents Evening - 3.30pm - 6.00pm
Wednesday 18 th March	Parents Evening - 3.30pm - 6.00pm
Thursday 19 th March	Dragonflies Assembly
Thursday 26 th March	Butterflies Assembly
Friday 27 th March	Non-Uniform Day End of Autumn Term - 1.15pm finish Tea Time Tigers - 4.15pm finish



Summer Term: Monday 13th April – Friday 17th July

Monday 13 th April	Children return for Summer Term
Monday 20 th April	Parent Forum Meeting - 9.00 a.m.
Friday 24 th April	PTA Non-Uniform Day
Monday 4 th May	May Bank Holiday
Monday 11 th May	Parents Forum 9.00am
Thursday 14 th May	Red Ladybirds Assembly
Thursday 21 st May	Yellow Ladybirds Assembly
Friday 22 nd May	Non Uniform Day End of Half Term - 3.05 p.m. finish
Monday 1 st June	Children return to school
Monday 1 st June - Friday 5 th June	Environmental Explorers Week
Friday 5 th June	Bike it Breakfast 08.00am - 08.45am
Monday 8 th June - Friday 12 th June	Phonics Screening Week for Year 1 and some Year 2 children
Monday 8 th June	Parent Forum Meeting - 9.00 a.m.
Friday 26 th June	Non-Uniform Day
Thursday 2 nd July	Sports Day
Friday 3 rd July	INSET day for staff. School closed for children.
Wednesday 8 th July	Summer Celebration 3.00 - 6.00pm
Tuesday 14 th July	Year 2 Leavers Assembly - 9.00 - 10.00am
Friday 17 th July	PTA Non-Uniform Day End of Term - 1.15pm finish Tea Time Tigers - 4.15pm finish
Monday 20 th July	INSET Day - School closed for children