



Dovers Green School November 2025 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that everyone had a lovely half-term.

As I mentioned before we broke up for the half term, I will not be in school now until after Christmas (although I may not be able to resist coming in to see the nativity plays!) as I am having hip replacement surgery. Caroline McHugh will be Acting Headteacher in my absence and will be supported by the Senior Leadership Team at Dovers and members of the Greensand Central Team.



As you read through this newsletter you will see that there are a few requests for donations towards certain events. I try really hard to keep requests to a minimum but with budgets becoming ever tighter I hope you understand and I appreciate your support. We will never exclude a child from an activity if there is genuine hardship and if things are tight for you, especially at this time of year, please get in touch with us. The reality is however that if too many parents do not contribute, it may mean that we have to cancel an event.

In summary we are asking donations for:

Pantomime - £3.00 per child.

Creative Arts Week - £3.00 per child. After Christmas we are holding our annual Creative Arts week, which links with 'We are Confident Communicators.' We are thankful to The Arts Society for a grant of £1500 to cover some of the costs but we need a bit more to fund and provide the materials needed for all the exciting activities we have got planned which include dance, art and educational workshops. If you can, please take a picture of a local landmark, preferably without any people in it, and print it out on A4 in black and white as the children will be using these as a basis for their art work over the week. Please see Mrs Thomas' letter for more detail.

Optional activities:

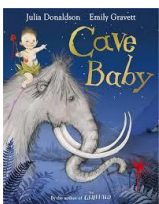
Bike it Breakfast - £1.00 per attendee having breakfast

School disco - £5.00 per attendee (no charge for parents/guardians)

Also attached is how to pay for these items under school shop. Please note Bike it Breakfast, Pantomime & Creative Arts week will be set up at a later date and you will be informed via email when this is done.

The children's learning

In Key Stage One, we have been exploring the delightful story *Cave Baby* by Julia Donaldson. As developing writers, we have been building resilience, as there are many different skills to master. We have focused on composing well-structured sentences, using accurate punctuation, including descriptive noun phrases, and applying Fred Talk to sound out and spell words correctly. As scientists, we have identified different animals and classified animals into different groups. We have also identified and grouped animals according to what they eat - carnivores, herbivores or omnivores.

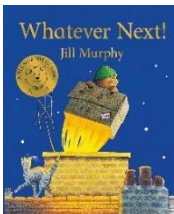




This half term Ladybirds are going to be learning from a story called Little Red, which is an adaptation of the traditional tale; Little Red Riding Hood. In Ladybirds we aim to match our role play areas with the children's interests so this half term Yellow Ladybirds we have set up a building site and Police Station. We are looking forward to learning more about how we are good friends and unique, linked with anti bullying week, as well as Children in Need and Remembrance Day. Later this term we will start learning some Christmassy songs for our Wriggly Nativity show and just before Christmas we will take a walk to the local postbox to post some Christmas cards.



The children in Butterflies have started the term by basing some of their learning on the story 'Whatever Next!' by Jill Murphy. The pupils in Emperor Butterflies enjoyed a Write Dance session, using black paper and chalks to create fireworks pictures, which are now proudly displayed in the classroom. In Admirals class we have explored printing using paint and glitter to create fireworks and enjoyed sensory play with glitter recreating shapes and rockets! In Monarch Butterflies the children learnt about why Bonfire night is celebrated. Some of the children then went on to sequence the events of the Gunpowder Plot. All of the children took part in creating their own firework pictures, using a variety of materials for printing with paint and glitter.



Our New Nurture Hub

We're delighted to share that we're opening a new Nurture Hub called *The Nest*—a special space for children who are finding school a bit overwhelming at times. *The Nest* will be a warm, welcoming environment where children can take time to feel calm, build friendships, and grow in confidence. It's a place where they'll be gently supported to understand and manage their feelings, helping them feel happy, safe, secure and ready to learn.



The Nest will run from the building that used to be home for some of our children in Butterflies and will operate for four afternoons a week and will provide a learning space for up to eight children.

Wearing PE kit on PE days



Please, please can children wear trainers/plimsols which are fastened by Velcro, unless your child is able to tie their shoe laces independently on PE days.

Sponsored Walk

The children were brilliant during our Sponsored Walk on the last day of the half term. If you haven't yet paid in your Sponsor money, please can you do so by **Monday 17th November**. Thank you for your support. Monies raised will go towards some new tablets and IT equipment.



Parking



Last year, we achieved the Bronze award for our Travel Plan and the work we do with the children on Active Travel and sustainability. The one area of our travel plan that continues to be a massive problem is parking. Please, please **park considerately**. Parking on the double yellow lines along Rushetts Road is not only illegal, but I worry that it is only a matter of time before an accident happens. Please also be respectful to our neighbours and **DO NOT** block their drives when stopping to either drop-off or pick up your child.



Parents Evenings

These will be held on **17th and 19th November between 3.30pm and 6.00 p.m.** These meetings will all be face to face. If, however, you can't make an appointment on either of these days, please let your child's teacher know and we will make every effort to arrange a mutually convenient time. These are really important meetings, so please make every effort to come along.



One comment that we often receive is that some parents feel that the 10-minute appointment is not long enough. The teachers will be holding these meetings for six hours in total and working until 6.10 pm on these evenings. It is therefore not possible to extend the length of appointments. We do however have an open-door policy at Dovers Green and the teachers are available to talk to you at the end of the school day. If you feel that there are areas of your child's development that you do not feel were discussed at your meeting, you can contact the school office and request a follow-up appointment.

Please also remember that you are very welcome to drop-in to the classrooms on a Friday so that your child can share their learning with you.

Book Fair

We will be holding a book fair in school from **Monday 17th November to Thursday 20th November**. This will give you an opportunity to buy children's books at a reduced price, a great idea with Christmas around the corner! Payments can be made through a QR code, which can be scanned through your phone as we are trying to be a cashless school card payment is also acceptable.



The fair will be open every day after school during the week beginning 17th November and it will be open on the evenings of the parent teacher consultations.

Every book purchased will help fill our library and classrooms with free books from Scholastic so please do visit the fair if you can.

Inclusive Individuals Week incorporating Anti-bullying week

The theme for this year's Anti-Bullying Week, starting on the 10th November, is 'Power for Good' and will form the basis of our 'Inclusive Individuals week.'



On **Monday 10th November** it is **Odd Socks Day** which is an opportunity to encourage our children to celebrate how we are all special and unique. Please send your child to school with odd socks in celebration of such an important topic.



More information can be found at: [Anti-Bullying Week 2025: Power for Good](#)

Every year, bullying impacts the lives of countless young people and silence helps it grow.

That's why, this Anti-Bullying Week, we're empowering young people to use their Power for Good to safely speak up and raise awareness when they see bullying, face to face or online.

Lasting change needs all of us. From playgrounds to parliament, our homes to our phones — we all have a part to play.

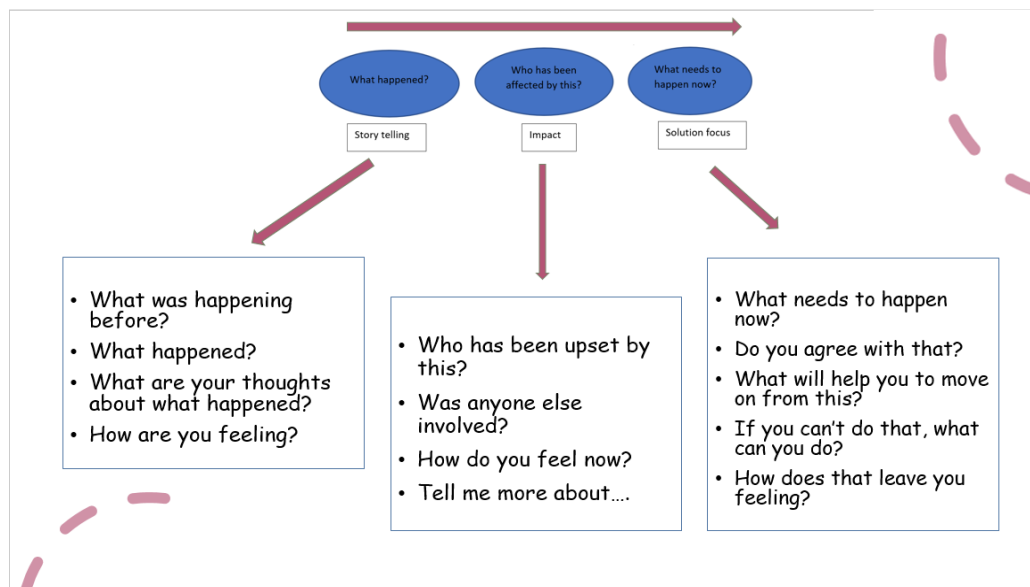
Together, we can use our Power for Good to end bullying — for good.

Whether it is verbal, physical, online or in-person, bullying can have a significant impact on a child's well-being. Throughout the week the children will be learning; What bullying is, the different types of bullying and most importantly, what to do if they feel that they are being bullied. All children in Reception will be coming home with a child friendly Anti-Bullying leaflet which discusses these topics. Please can you take the time to read this to your child. Children in years 1 and 2 received this leaflet last year. If you would like another copy, please contact the School Office.

Dovers Green is proactive in creating a safe nurturing environment for your child and uses different strategies to maintain this such as: School Council, Playground Friends, Pupil Voice and the 'Buddy Bench' which is a place where the children can go and sit if they have a problem or are having difficulties in finding someone to play with. An adult or one of our 'Playground Friends' will go and talk to them. The Playground Friends are a group of year 2 children who have been trained by Mrs Moxley. They even have their own job description!



The 'Three Bubbles' is our tool to help children and adults sort out problems that may have occurred between children and are part of our Restorative approach to solving conflict. The children are taught to use this approach, facilitated by an adult when necessary. We hope that this is something that you can use at home as well to solve any issues that arise. We are trying to avoid 'sorry' as an acceptable resolution but encouraging the children to say what needs to happen now or next time a situation occurs.



For example, 'I need you to stop using unkind words.' We use this approach to resolve 'minor' issues and whilst we would use this to help the children involved in more serious incidents understand the impact of their actions, there would be appropriate sanctions applied and parents spoken to in these situations.



Harvest Festival



A huge thank you to everyone who donated food for our Harvest Festival, as we mentioned previously we supported LoveWorks again this year.



Children in Need



Children in Need Day is on **Friday 14th November** and they are asking everyone to challenge themselves to make a difference when it's needed most.

To support this event, the children are invited to wear their own clothes and if possible, something **yellow**. To donate for CIN please use the link below, thank you we are moving to a cashless school.

[Jessica Gigena is fundraising for BBC Children in Need](#)

Open Morning Wanders

If you know of anyone who is looking for a place for their child from September 2026, please let them know that we are holding an 'Open Morning Wander' on Monday 17th November 10.00 - 11.30 am. It will begin with a short welcome presentation to provide some key information, after which visitors will have the opportunity to look around the school, ask any questions and see what life is like at Dovers Green.



Important dates for your diary

Christmas Show - Reception



This year, the Reception children will be presenting their very own Christmas production, which is called 'The Wriggly Nativity!' There will be two performances and these will be taking place on Monday 8th December @ 2.30pm and Tuesday 9th December @ 9am.

Christmas Show - Year One and Year Two

The year one and year two children will be sharing their own unique Christmas Nativity, which is always a very special event! It is called 'Baarmy Bethlehem.' There will be three performances and these will be taking place on Wednesday 10th December @ 2pm, Thursday 11th December @ 2pm and Friday 12th December @ 2pm.



If your child is in Butterflies, the class teachers will contact you individually to discuss their role in the Christmas productions.

More details about tickets and costumes will follow shortly.

Friday 5th December



'Bling your bike for Christmas.' Please scoot or bike to school in the morning and join us from breakfast from 8.00 am. Why not 'bling' up your bike or scooter to make it as festive as you can! You will be sent details separately as to how to book for this event and there will be a charge of £1.00 per person having a breakfast to cover some of the costs.

Thursday 18th December - Pantomime for the children (there will be a small charge of £3.00 per child for this.) The children will have their party in the afternoon with hopefully a visit from a special person!



Wednesday 17th December - Christmas lunch. Please could we ask that you make a Christmas hat at home for your child to wear to lunch. If your child usually has packed lunch but would like to have a Christmas lunch and haven't already requested one, please contact Jess Gigena in the school office via info@dovers-green.surrey.sch.uk.



Friday 19th December - School finishes at 1.15 p.m.

Yours faithfully,

N Starling

Ms Nicki Starling
Headteacher



Dates for the Diary

Monday 10 th November - Friday 14 th November	'Inclusive Individuals' Week
Thursday 13 th November	Grasshoppers Assembly 2.30 p.m.
Monday 17 th November	Open Morning for Prospective Parents - 10.00am -11.30am Parents Evening - 3.30pm - 6.00pm
Wednesday 19 th November	Parents Evening - 3.30pm - 6.00pm
Thursday 20 th November	Dragonflies Assembly 2.30 pm
Friday 28 th November	PTA Non-Uniform Day
Friday 5 th December	Bike its Breakfast - Bling your bike for Christmas 08.00am - 08.45am
Monday 8 th - Tuesday 9 th December	Reception Christmas production times in Newsletter
Wednesday 10 th - Friday 12 th December	KS1 Christmas production at 2.00pm
Friday 12 th December	Rocksteady concert - 09.30am
Wednesday 17 th December	Christmas school lunch
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 finish 4.15pm



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

Monday 5 th - 9 th January	Confident Communicators Week
Monday 5 th January	Start of Spring Term
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 - 1.15 p.m. finish Tea Time Tigers finish 4.15pm



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 - Friday 5 th June	Environmental Explorers Week
Monday 1 st June	Children return to school
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 - 09.00 - 10.00am
Friday 17 th July	PTA Non-Uniform Day End of Term - 1.15 pm finish Tea Time Tiger - 4.15pm finish
Monday 20 th July	INSET Day - School closed for children