

Dovers Green School

January 2026 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very Happy New Year to you all. I am delighted to be back in school after having hip replacement surgery. Whilst not yet doing cartwheels, the pain has gone and I can walk without a stick!



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!



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. We have based our learning on the lithograph by John Nash called 'Window Plants' which has been very kindly loaned to us by Adam's Gallery in Reigate. This print depicts someone looking in to a room through a window. We have turned this round so that the children have been imagining themselves looking out through a window into our local community.



We received a grant from the Arts Society which has enabled us to have some visitors come in to school to lead some workshops with the children including The Magic Lantern, Bollywood dancing and art work with Gordon from 'The Creeping Toad'.

The children's work will be displayed along the corridor outside the offices, so please do pop in after school to have a look from Tuesday 20th January. Their work will also be displayed in a local care home. We would love to be able to share the wonderful work the children of Dovers Green have done and to celebrate their achievements as widely as possible. If you work in a local office, business or shop that would be willing to display some of their work, please get in touch.

Adam's Gallery have been a great supporter of this special week and they are currently showing an exhibition of prints and paintings just like the one we have used this week. They were created specifically to be used and enjoyed in school. The Gallery is open from 10:00 am - 5:00 pm on Saturday 10th January and Mrs Thomas, Mrs Thompson and myself will be there from 1.00 - 3.00 pm. It would be fabulous to see some of you there to enjoy the exhibition!



Values

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



Curriculum Information - Maths

Following the success of the reading parent workshops, we have decided to run maths workshops in the same way. The focus of these workshops will be on how we teach maths at Dovers Green.



These will be held at 9.00 - 9.30 & 2.30 - 3.00pm on the following days:

Tuesday 3rd February - Year One

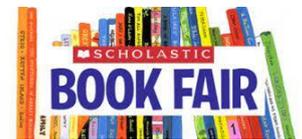
Wednesday 4th February - Reception and Butterflies

Friday 6th February - Year Two

We will video these sessions and they will be uploaded onto our website for you to watch.

Scholastic Book Fair

Thank you to all of you who bought books from the book fair we held before Christmas. We raised £245.80 which we will use to buy books for the library and to support the children's learning in the classroom.



Message from the Children's Commissioner

The Commissioner has written this guide to support parents and carers navigate the increasingly complex digital world:

[What I wish my parents or carers knew: A guide for parents on managing children's digital lives.](#)



'Supporting children's safety is a shared responsibility between families, schools and wider society. For parents and carers, this responsibility has become increasingly complex as children's lives are now deeply intertwined with the digital world. Many parents face difficult decisions about how to balance protecting children from online harm with enabling access to spaces that are now central to learning, socialising and play.'

This guide was written with the direct involvement of children in England. It is a reflection of their views. My office visited schools to speak to teenagers, and spoke to my Youth Ambassadors and Youth Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Panel to get their expertise on what works and what doesn't work between parents or carers and children in the 21st Century.

When I speak to children about what they would do differently when it comes to being online, with the benefit of hindsight, I ask them: would they give a smartphone to their own teenager? Almost unanimously, they tell me no. They want to be protected from it as long as possible.

As parents, carers, and educators, our job must begin and end with our children's care and safety. It's what they expect and what they want from you.

As one young person told me: "Don't be afraid to be firm... If you are worried [that] your child is seeing harmful content and you don't know what they're watching and it's affecting the behaviour, just take it that you know best - they don't."

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.

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 1 September 2021 and 31 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.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nicki Starling".

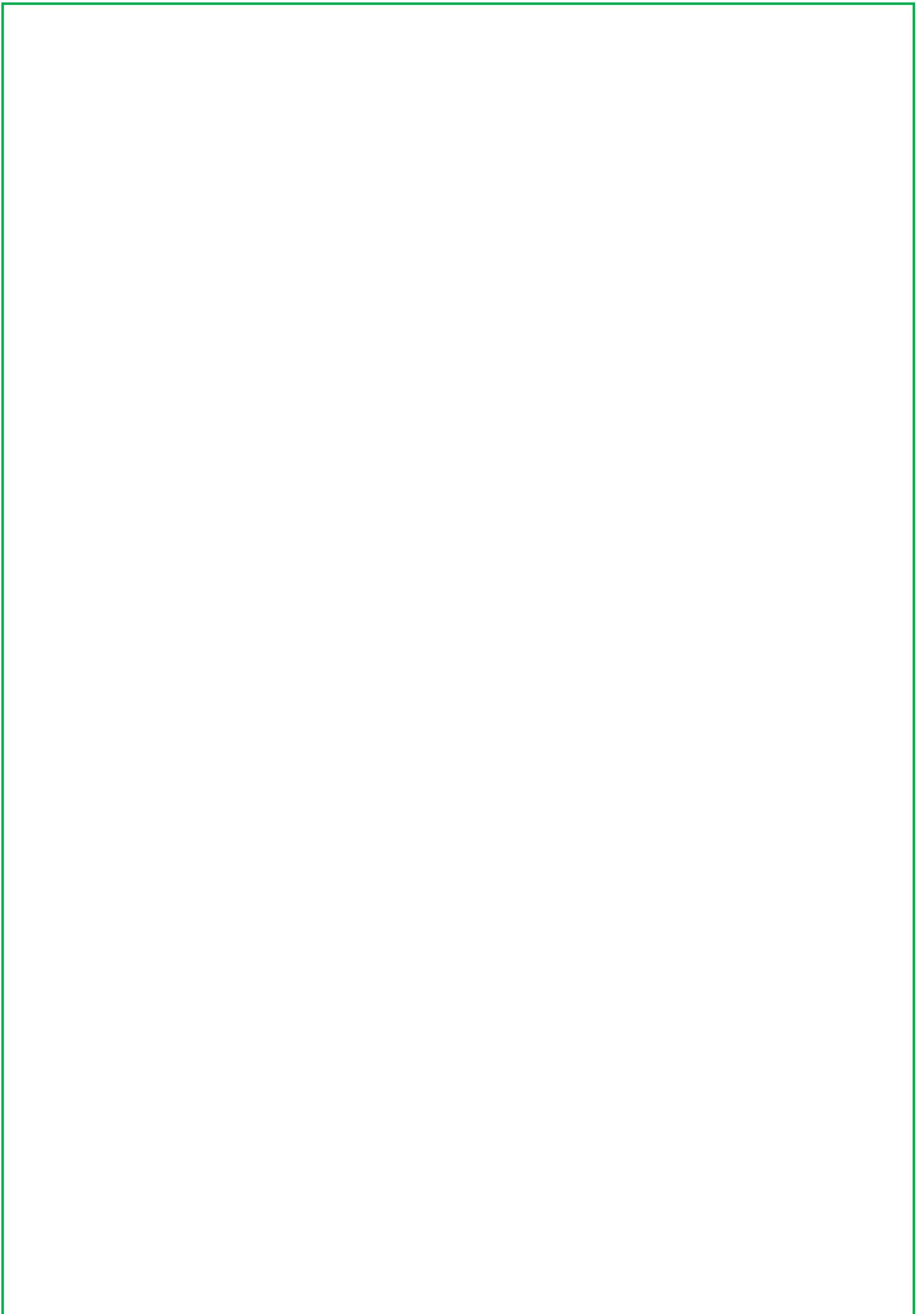
Nicki Starling
Headteacher





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
Tuesday 3 rd February	Year One Maths workshop- 9.00 - 9.30 & 2.30 - 3.00pm
Wednesday 4 th February	Reception and Butterflies Maths workshop 9.00 - 9.30 & 2.30 - 3.00pm
Thursday 5 th February	Fireflies Assembly - 2.30pm
Friday 6 th February	Year Two Maths workshop- 9.00 - 9.30 & 2.30 - 3.00pm
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