

Dovers Green School

February 2026 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to believe that we are fast approaching the halfway point of the school year! It's great to see the Snowdrops and other spring bulbs starting to do their thing! I for one am looking forward to lighter mornings and evenings, a bit of warmth and a dry spell!

Parking

I feel that parking outside the school has got worse! I appreciate that it has been wet weather, but please park in a safe and considerate way. I am not alone in worrying that some people's selfish parking will result in an accident. I have had reports of people parking on pavements, over people's driveways, very dangerously on corners and perhaps most alarming is that some parents are leaving younger children in cars whilst they come in to school to drop off/collect older siblings.



We are emailing the Police to see if traffic control officers can provide us with some support with this. Please think before you park or better still walk or park your car a distance from the school.



The children's learning

In Key Stage One, we have been exploring the text, 'Begun' by Alexis Deacon. The children have worked hard to write news articles, letters and their own version of the story using their own alien. During Arts Week the children made amazing 3D artwork inspired by the artist, John Nash. The children learnt how to use carbon printing to add lots of detail to a picture and in the 'Creeping Toad' workshop they created 3D plant pots. We have loved learning lots of facts about space and we developed our team work and problem-solving skills to create a rocket using junk modelling.



In Ladybirds, so far this half term, we have been enjoying our new topic *The Magic Paintbrush* and learning all about China! We have loved trying Chinese food, including noodles with soy sauce and a hoisin-flavoured prawn cracker accompaniment.

We have listened to Chinese music and created drawings in response to it, exploring fast and slow, sharp and stilted sounds. In maths, we have been working on stamping patterns of 4 and 5.

During Creative Arts Week, we had a great time making our own versions of the painting *Window Plants* by John Nash. We used pictures of Reigate to create the background using collage, we then followed tutorials to draw a cat and a pot of flowers, which we then stuck onto our framed window artwork made using collage and finished with tissue paper curtains.

We have had a wonderful and creative half term so far! ✨



In Monarch Butterflies the children have immersed themselves in learning about Space. They have been interested in finding out some key facts about each of the planets. The children have also been busy creating stylish hairstyles in our new hairdressers. They were very excited when Ms Starling paid a visit and enjoyed giving her a cut, colour and perm!



In Emperor and Admirals Butterflies, the pupils' learning has been inspired by 2 delightful story books; Dear Zoo by Rod Campbell & Handa's Surprise by Eileen Browne. The children have enjoyed exploring the different animals and fruits from the story through a range of hands-on activities. The children wrote to the Zoo to asking them to send their favourite pet and together we made our Dear Zoo class book featuring each pupil. As we retold the story of Handa, the children practised carrying fruit in a basket and even had a go at balancing it on their heads, as in turn the animals took a piece of fruit. Everyone tasted the fruits featured in the book, with pineapple and orange proving to be a particular favourite. Using magnifying glasses, the pupils also examined the fruit closely, observing the colours, textures and smells.



Next Week in School

Next week is Children's Mental Health Week and the Theme for this week is, 'This is my Place.' To know our place and really feel part of our environment is a basic human need. It can have powerful and long-lasting impacts in lots of areas of our lives, including our physical and mental health, education, employment and relationships. The children will take part in daily activities to promote their mental health and wellbeing, happiness and their sense of belonging.



When we feel that we belong, it empowers us to contribute to the world and make a real difference. At Dovers Green, we work hard to make our environment inclusive and nurturing. Over the last two years, developing a nurturing environment based on the six principles of Nurture has been part of our School Development Plan and we are proud to have opened our Nurture Hub, The Nest, this year. Attached to this newsletter is more information about how we are developing as a Nurturing School and why it is so important and a leaflet for you to read and share with your children about ways that they can help to look after their own wellbeing and mental health.



Thank you to those parents who are coming in to school as part of our Cultural Celebration week. We are looking forward to tasting some yummy food and learning more about a variety of different countries.



Curriculum Information - Maths



It was lovely to see the small number of you who were available to join us to learn more about how we teach your children maths at school. There are videos on our website to support you further with helping your child at home: [Dovers Green School - Maths](#)

We hope you will find them informative and that you can support your child's understanding of maths at home, using the suggested strategies. If you have any questions, please speak to your child's class teacher.

Parents/teacher consultations

Our next parent/teacher consultations will take place on 16th and 18th March. These will be face-to-face appointments, however, if you are unable to attend in person, please contact the school office who can arrange either a telephone consultation. Should you need separate bookings and are unable to do this on Arbor again, please contact the office who can arrange this for you.



Online bookings for appointments will go live at 7.00pm on Friday 27th February. Please make sure you sign up for an appointment to discuss your child's progress with their teacher, below is the link on how to book your appointment on Arbor.

<https://support.arbor-education.com/hc/en-us/articles/203792102-Booking-Guardian-Consultations-Parent-s-Evenings-on-the-Parent-Portal-or-Parent-App>

For our Butterflies parents this will be arranged between you and the class teacher.

Internet Safety



On Tuesday 10th February we will be joining schools and youth organisations across the UK in celebrating Safer Internet Day.

Safer Internet Day is a global campaign to promote the safe and responsible use of technology, which calls on children and young people, parents, carers and teachers to help create a better internet.

Using the internet safely and positively is a key message that we promote at Dovers Green and celebrating Safer Internet Day is a great opportunity for us to re-emphasise the online safety messages we deliver throughout the year.

We would be delighted if you could join us in celebrating the day by continuing the conversation at home. The theme for Internet safety this year is, 'Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI.'

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2026/top-tips-for-parents-and-carers>

Recycling clothing



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If you're having a clear out of any clothing, please do remember our recycling facility! It is one of the ways we earn a bit of extra money for the school.

Dover's Got Talent

Please continue to send in or email photographs of your child and a short description if they have done or achieved something special out of school.



Red Nose Day



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Red Nose Day is on 20th March this year. The children can wear red on this day for a £1 donation which we will ask to be paid online. Details of how to do this will be sent nearer the time.

'A donation to Comic Relief this Red Nose Day could provide support for someone trying to get by in the face of poverty and injustice - being forced to make truly impossible choices, every single day.' Comic Relief.

We are happy for children to wear Comic Relief merchandise to school, but Red Noses in particular, will then be put in book bags for the children to wear on their way home from school.



Values



Our value this term has been **Respect** and which has been reinforced in lesson time and in assemblies.

Sustrans - Big Walk and Wheel event

During the week beginning 23rd March, we will be taking part in the 'Big Walk and Wheel Event.' This is run by the charity Sustrans and aims to engage as many children as possible in scooting, cycling and walking to school. Please put it in your diaries and aim to take part if you can, even if it is by parking the car slightly further away from school and then walking, cycling or scooting the rest of the way. More information will follow nearer the time.



Yours faithfully,

N Starling

Nicki Starling
Headteacher



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

Monday 9 th – Friday 13 th February	Cultural Celebration Week
Tuesday 10 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 09.00am - 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