

Newsletter for September and October 2018



Welcome back to the new academic year, and I would like to extend a warm welcome to all of our new parents. I hope you all had an enjoyable summer and are feeling refreshed and ready for the year ahead. The children are all settling well into their new classes and the new Reception children are quickly learning about school routines.

At the beginning of the new school year we ask for your support with the following 2 things:

If your child is having a packed lunch, please ensure that they bring it with them at the start of the day. Increasingly parents are delivering them to the school office later in the morning which causes confusion when dinner registers are taken at 9am.

Also, please ensure dogs and cats are not brought onto the school playground at any time. Thank you for your support with this.

Uniform

Thank you for your support with school uniform - the children are all looking very smart. Please ensure when you are buying new shoes that footwear is appropriate. Trainers should be kept for PE lessons and not worn routinely at other times. Please remember that hair ornaments should be small and in school colours. Jewellery should not be worn, other than watches and stud earrings, which must be removed for PE.

Parent Consultation Evenings

Later this term, there will be an opportunity to discuss your child's progress at Parent Consultation Evenings, dates for which are at the end of the newsletter. For those parents new to the school, the system is that a list of available times is displayed in school in advance of the evenings. Parents are then asked to sign the time they would like against the teacher's name. This term the list will be available from Tuesday 2nd October. Anyone unable to get into school on that day will be able to make an appointment by telephoning the school office **after 9.30am**.

It is always possible to speak to your child's teacher at other times if you need to. The end of the school day is normally the best time to do this as they are busy preparing for lessons before school. If you are worried about something, please do not wait until Consultation Evenings.

Staff News

As you may be aware, Mrs Free left the school at the beginning of the new term. She is relocating to Wales to be close to her family. She was extremely sad to leave us and we were very sorry to see her go.

I am, however, pleased to inform you that we have appointed Mrs Jo Collins as the new Teaching Assistant in Class 3. Jo has a long history with the school and has been a volunteer for many years. We look forward to welcoming her to the team.

PE News

We were thrilled to receive the Sainsbury's School Games Gold Award at the end of the summer term. This award recognises our commitment to delivering high quality PE across the school and is actually very difficult to achieve in a school of our size. Thank you to all the staff who have worked very hard to achieve this award, particularly Mrs Henden.

Once again we would like to recognise sporting success outside of school on our Sporting Stars display board. If your child has an achievement they would like us to recognise, please send an appropriate photograph to Mrs Henden.

This year we will be taking part in the Golden Mile initiative where children can clock up distances over time to receive awards at different milestones. The aim is to encourage physical activity.

Absence from school

If your child is ill, please contact the school as early as possible on the first day of absence so that their class teacher can be informed. Also, please keep the school informed about any medical or dental appointments taking place in school time, with written proof where possible. Absence for other reasons must be requested on a Leave of Absence form available from the office. Please remember that holidays in term time will not be authorised.

Website

Please remember that all newsletters, as well as other useful information, is published on the school website at www.denverschool.co.uk. We are a small school with no-one solely responsible for the website but we do our very best to keep it up to date. Any urgent news will be published on the front page as 'Breaking News'.

Pre-school age children

For their own safety, please ensure that all pre-school age children are fully supervised before and after school. Children are not allowed on the play equipment in the Foundation Stage area during these times, to avoid any accidents. We also ask that parents/children wait until the whistle blows in the morning before entering the Foundation Stage area. Thank you for your co-operation.

Ball games should also not be played on the field at the end of the school day.

Dates for your diary

Please keep these dates for future reference. They will be added to in each newsletter as other events are confirmed.

Autumn Term

- Monday 24th September: First week of clubs.
- Monday 1st October: Friends AGM at 3.30pm.
- Tuesday 2nd October: Lists up for Parent Consultations.
- Monday 8th October: Eaton Vale meeting for parents of children in Class 4 at 3.30pm.
- Wednesday 10th October: Parent Consultations from 3.30pm - 5.30pm.
- Wednesday 17th October: Parent Consultations from 3.45pm - 6.45pm.
- Thursday 18th October: School closed for staff Professional Development Day.
- Friday 19th October: School closed for staff Professional Development Day.
- Monday 22nd October to Friday 26th October: School closed for half term.
- Monday 29th October: Children return to school.
- Wednesday 31st October: School Photographs. **Please notify the school office by Monday 29th October if you do not want your child to have a school photograph taken.**
- Friday 2nd November: Pamper Evening organised by the Friends. Details to follow.
- Monday 19th November: Flu immunisation for YR-Y5.
- Monday 26th November: last week of clubs.
- Friday 7th December: Christmas Coffee Morning. Details to follow from the *Friends*.
- Friday 14th December: Christmas lunch.
- Tuesday 18th December: Pantomime for Y1-6.
- Tuesday 18th December: Last day of term.
- Monday 17th December at 6pm: Annual Carol Service at St Mary's Church at 6pm. Dress rehearsal in the church at 9.30am.
- Wednesday 19th December: School closed for staff Professional Development Day.

Spring Term

- Thursday 3rd January: Children return to school.
- Monday 18th to Friday 22nd February: Half Term break.
- Monday 25th February: Children return to school.
- Friday 5th April: Last day of spring term.

Summer Term

- Tuesday 23rd April: Children return to school.
- Monday 6th May: School closed for Bank Holiday.
- Week beginning 13th May: Key Stage 2 SATs.
- Monday 27th - Friday 31st May: Half Term break.
- Monday 3rd June: Children return to school.
- Monday 3rd - Wednesday 5th June: Class 4 Residential to Eaton Vale.
- Week beginning Monday 10th June: Statutory Phonics Screening check for all children in Year 1 and those who did not meet standard in Year 2.
- Wednesday 24th July: Last day of summer term.