



Dovedale Primary School

'Imagine, Believe, Achieve'

Diary Dates—you will have received a calendar of events for the whole academic year. Below are some key dates:

September

Friday 15th

Swimming starts for Year 3 and 6

Thursday 28th

MacMillan coffee morning—letter to follow

October

Tuesday 3rd

Y6 parents SATs meeting at 9.10am or 5.30pm

Saturday 7th

Open morning for prospective parents and children—10am to 12 noon

Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th

Individual and family photographs

Thursday 12th

Year 4 assembly to parents

Wednesday 18th

Y2 parents SATs meeting at 9.10am or 5.30pm

Friday 20th

School closes at normal time for half term

Welcome

Welcome back to another year at Dovedale. Welcome to all our new Reception children and parents and the many other children who have joined us through the school. I hope that you all had a lovely holiday and had a good break.

It is lovely to see the children returning to school so smartly kitted out in their uniform and new school shoes. We appreciate that this is a costly time of year so we would really like your help to ensure your child keeps all their clothing and equipment with them by clearly labelling it. Staff are trying to remind children to take home everything they have brought to school and we would ask that you give your child/ren the same message. It is really important that children learn to look after all their belongings from an early age.

We look forward to another good year.

Staff News

It is a pleasure to welcome Miss Rachael Davies in Y1, Mr Thomas Burton in Y3, Miss Emma Wylie in Y3 and Mr Lee Hamlett in Y4. We welcome back Mrs Milton in Reception, Mrs Hughson and Mrs Jones Deputy Head Teacher all from maternity leave.

Safe and Courteous parking

Please help us to keep our children safe, and to maintain our good relationships with our neighbours by parking legally and courteously around the school. Even better is to park a little further away and enjoy a walk!

Thank you for your support.

Swimming

Swimming begins for Year 3 and 6 this week. All classes will be swimming on a Friday afternoon at Garston pool. The children will be transported by coach to and from the pool. The school funds this as we feel it is a vital life skill. Boys need tight trunks and girls a swimsuit, no bikinis. Swim caps can be bought from Reception.

Saturday 7th October—Open Morning

We will be opening our doors from 10am to 12 noon for prospective parents and children who are trying to decide which school to choose for their child. If you know anyone with pre-school children please let them know the above date and time. We will be asking children from each class to help on the day.

Staffing Structure

Below is the structure of our school:

Head Teacher—Mr Nik Smith

Deputy Head Teachers—Mrs Diane Cannon and Mrs Joanne Jones

Assistant Head Teacher for Inclusion —Mrs Issy Edain

Assistant Head Teacher for Key Stage 2 and Year Group Leader for Year 6 —Mr Matthew O’Toole

Assistant Head Teacher for EYFS and Key Stage 1 —Mrs Holly Dwan

Year Group Leader for Year 1 — Mrs Dee Newby

Year Group Leader for Year 2 —Miss Kate Graham

Year Group Leader for Year 3 —Mr Thomas Burton

Year Group Leader for Year 4—Miss Claire Turner

Year Group Leader for Year 5—Mr Andrew McLaren

Mentors—Ms Nicola Gwilym (KS2) and Mrs Michelle Fox (EYFS and KS1)

At the beginning of a school year it is a good time to remind parents that we operate an open door policy and actively encourage you to come in and share any concerns or worries that you may have. We do have a procedure for this which we would ask that you follow. In the first instance please see your child’s teacher as they spend all day with your child and know what happens throughout the day. If you are not happy after seeing your child’s teacher you will be referred to the Year Group Leader who is responsible for overseeing the year group. Following this it will then be escalated to the Senior Leadership Team. At the beginning of the school day there will always be a member of the schools’ senior leadership team around the school if you need to speak to them.

PPA Afternoons

Teachers are all entitled to planning, preparation and assessment time within the school day. This is vital as it enables our team of teachers to meet weekly to plan together. Each year group will have an afternoon of a variety of activities during this time which are lead by qualified teachers and coaches. In the junior department the children will be participating in Music, Mandarin and P.E. In years 1 and 2 children will participate in Music, P.E and another creative activity. Reception children will participate in Music and P.E. Children in Y1-6 need to leave their P.E kit in school as they will have P.E every week.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Year 6	Year 3	Year 2 and Year 4	Year 1 and Year 5	Reception

Reception children—on **Fridays** please come to school in your P.E kit—T shirt, jogging bottoms, trainers , jumper/cardigan and outside coat. Children will stay in their kit all day . This will be the routine every Friday.

Keeping Healthy

Please encourage your child to bring in their named water bottle each day. EYFS and KS1 children get a piece of fruit under the government scheme but junior children do not. Junior children can bring in a healthy snack—fruit, dried fruit, vegetables or a cereal bar are acceptable, but NO sweets, crisps or chocolate.

Attendance and Punctuality

Attendance and punctuality are essential for children to make progress. As a school we encourage children to be in school as much as possible and to be punctual. The school doors open at 8.45am each morning in both the infant and junior department and will close at 9am. If your child is late you need to report to the main reception with your child. Children arriving after the register has closed will be recorded as an unauthorised absence. This means that if your child starts to have a pattern of 'unauthorised' absences due to lateness they will be referred to the Education Welfare Officer which could result in a fixed penalty notice.

If your child is just a bit under the weather please send them into school—we will always contact you if they need to come home. If your child has vomited or has diarrhoea we need to ask you to keep them off school for a full 48 hours after the symptoms have ceased so that the bug is not passed on.

Term dates for the rest of this academic year are below. Dates for 2018-19 will be agreed in the coming weeks and will be shared with you.

Please note that we do not authorise any holidays in term time.

Mobile Phone Policy

Children are not allowed mobile phones in school. However, if you feel your child needs to have a phone, for example they walk to or from school on their own this needs to be put in writing to your child's teacher. The phone needs to be handed to the teacher at the start of the day and returned at home time.

Other reminders

Please can you ensure that children have their hair tied up if it is longer than shoulder length.

Gold or silver studs are the only earrings which can be worn.

Please remove any nail varnish from children ready for the school week.

Term dates 2017– 2018

Autumn Term 2017

Term – Tuesday 5th September – Thursday 21st December

Half Term - Monday 23rd October – Friday 27th October

INSET days (school closed) – Monday 4th September

Spring Term 2018

Term – Tuesday 9th January – Friday 23rd March

Half Term – Monday 12th February – Friday 16th February

INSET day (school closed) – Monday 8th January

Summer Term 2018

Term - Monday 9th April – Friday 20th July

School Closed

Monday 7th May – Bank Holiday

Half Term – Friday 25th May – Friday 1st June

INSET Days (school closed) - Friday 25th May, Monday 23rd July and Tuesday 24th July

Telephone—733 4232 **e mail**—admin@dovedaleprimary.co.uk **website**— www.dovedaleprimary.co.uk