



Doddiscombsleigh Primary School

OUR VALUES: Respect ~ Resilience ~ Kindness ~ Aspiration

September 2023 Newsletter

Dear Parents,

Welcome Back!

It has been wonderful to see all the children this week and be welcomed by smiles in the morning. I hope you all had a lovely summer and enjoyed break. The children have settled in well this week and we are particularly proud of our new reception children who have come to school each day and greeted me with a smile. All the children have demonstrated wonderful manners and their attitude to learning has been brilliant.

It is great to see the children so happy and settled, but if you or your child has any worries or concerns then please speak to your child's class teacher. Our staff are available to speak to at the end of the day or you can leave a message in the office and somebody will get back to you.

School Value:

This half term, our focus value will be kindness and we will explore what this means and what it looks like within school and in the wider world. The children have already shown immense kindness to the new children who have started with us this week, as they always do.

Mental health:

As we begin a new school year, this can bring a range of emotions for our children and for us too, as parents. A new year group, classroom and new routines can be really exciting but also daunting and can cause feelings of anxiety and overwhelm for some children.

When this happens, our children need to stop and regroup – grounding techniques can be very useful for this.

Please follow the link below to find 15 great ideas for grounding your child in moments of difficulty.

<https://www.theyarethefuture.co.uk/grounding-exercises-for-kids/>

Clubs:

Monday 11th September – Dartmoor 3 ball (all children)

Monday 18th September – no clubs

Monday 25th September – Dartmoor 3 ball event which parents are invited to attend (details to follow)

Monday 2nd/9th/30th October Mountain bike club (details to follow)

Thursday 3.30-4.30 – Oak class sports club with Achieve for All (please sign up for this club online if your child wishes to attend and you haven't already).

Friday 3.30-4.30 – Acorn class sports club with Achieve for All (please sign up for this club online if your child wishes to attend and you haven't already).

School Day:

Please remember that the school gates open at 8:50 and close at 9:00 each morning. It is really important that your child is in class for the start of the school day as activities and registers are taken at this time. Just 10 minutes lateness a day is equivalent to 50 minutes a week and a full day's lost education across an average half term. It is also very unsettling for children who have to walk into classrooms where work is already underway.

As always, please remember to call the school before 9.30am if your child is going to be absent.

Curriculum information:

The curriculum information including timetables will be coming home via Parent Pay week beginning 11th September and this information can also be found on the website, in the 'Pupils' tab. If you have any questions about the learning that your child will be doing then please speak to their class teacher who will be able to help you. There will be a parent drop in on

UNCRC Article 28: [Every child has the right to an education](#)



Wednesday 20th September to meet your child's teacher and ask any questions. Please note that this will not be via appointment but an informal drop in.

School Menu

The lunch menu for the Autumn term is on the website along with the allergen information and will be sent home via Parent Pay. Please check the dates carefully as to which week it is.

W/C 4th September 2022 – Week 2

W/C 11th September 2022 – Week 3 and then working through the weeks in order.

School Uniform

It is lovely to see the children looking so smart in their new uniforms. Please could I remind everyone to check the uniform policy on the website and ensure that children have the correct uniform and PE kit and that all uniform is named.

On the days that children have forest school or PE, please send them in the appropriate clothes for these activities – school PE kit information can be found on our website.

Tuesday – Oak class forest school

Wednesday – Acorn class forest school

Friday – both classes PE

Travelling to school:

If your child cycles or scoots to school, could you please make sure they are wearing a helmet.

Important Dates:

These are the dates that are currently in the diary but we will add to them throughout the term and let you know of any changes.

September:	
Tuesday 12 th	Vision screening for Reception
Monday 18 th	School trip to Paignton Zoo (details to follow)
Wednesday 20 th	Parent drop ins – meet the teacher @3.30pm
Wednesday 27 th	Tiny Travels in school for a multi-cultural morning.
October:	
Friday 13 th	Last day of the half term
Monday 16 th – Friday – 27 th	Half term
Tuesday 31 st	School photos – portraits and siblings
November:	
Wednesday 1 st	Flu vaccinations
Friday 17 th	Children in need

December:	
Monday 4 th and Wednesday 6 th	Parents' evenings (details to follow)

Weather:

I'm sure the weather will keep us on our toes as always, but for the next few days it is forecast to be very hot so could you please ensure that children have a water bottle, a hat and sun cream in school so that we are able to enjoy the weather whilst it lasts. We try to get the children outside as much as possible and will still go out in light rain so a waterproof coat is a good item to have in school (just in case).

Permissions

We already have a number of events planned for the new school year and we would like to share these moments with you. Please could we ask that you go to the following link to complete all the permissions ready for September with your child's new school year.

<https://forms.office.com/r/PFkXvWUiyW>

The cohort for your child is the year that they leave:

Reception – 2030

Year 1 – 2029

Year 2 – 2028

Year 3 – 2027

Year 4 – 2026

Year 5 – 2025

Year 6 – 2024

Doddi Pre-School:

Doddi Pre-School are looking for new trustees to join their team. Becoming a trustee can be a great opportunity to make new friends, learn new skills, share ideas, and support the community. You don't have to have a child at the PS to apply, and it can be a very rewarding experience. All trustees are required to complete standard safeguarding checks. If you are interested, please contact Morwenna via email: morwenna.redwood@doddi.devon.sch.uk

UNCRC Article 28: **Every child has the right to an education**

