

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2024

Dear Parents and/or Carers,

This week has been wonderfully busy, filled with a variety of activities across the school. Our Year 2 children have completed their violin lessons and had the opportunity to showcase their progress in a delightful performance for family members. It was heartwarming to see so many visitors in school, sharing in the joy of watching our pupils shine brightly.

Meanwhile, Key Stage 1 and Reception classes have begun rehearsals for their Christmas performance, while Key Stage 2 students are busy learning festive songs in Praise Worship in preparation for our Christmas worship. The excitement for the season is building, and we have a host of Christmas activities planned, including a whole-school Christmas craft afternoon, our festive Christmas lunch, and the eagerly anticipated Christmas pantomime. Yesterday, I had the pleasure of meeting with several local headteachers, and they were impressed by how we've managed to incorporate so many festive events into our already packed schedules.

On a different note, I also met with the Finance team this week, who brought to light the significant portion of our curriculum budget currently being used to cover outstanding debts from school lunches. To address this, and in line with other schools within our trust, we have made the decision to implement a £20 debt limit for school lunches. If this limit is exceeded, your child will unfortunately be unable to place further lunch orders until the balance is cleared.

We deeply regret having to take such measures, but it is vital to ensure that curriculum resources—so essential for our children's learning—are not compromised. Thank you for your support with this.

From Mrs Gregory and Team Dursley

Together we shine brightly because together we make a difference

### POPPY APPEAL

Thank you very much for supporting this year's Poppy Appeal, you raised an amazing £117.72

Your support has made a real difference to those in the Armed Forces Community. Without your efforts we couldn't do the work we do.

To find out more about how your donation helps, please visit

[www.rbl.org.uk/poppyappeal](http://www.rbl.org.uk/poppyappeal)



**NEURODIVERSE  
SKILLS BUILDING  
WORKSHOP**

ENHANCE YOUR SKILLS TO GAIN A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF YOURSELF, YOUR FRIENDS AND YOUR FAMILY. THIS FREE WORKSHOP FOR 11-24 YEAR OLDS IS LED BY THE ADHD FOUNDATION AND WILL BE DELIVERED OVER FOUR AFTERNOONS AND COVER TOPICS INCLUDING RELATIONSHIPS, SLEEP AND NUTRITION.

**21, 22, 28, 29 NOVEMBER  
4 - 6PM**

GL11 COMMUNITY HUB, FAIRMEAD, CAM, GL11 5JS  
BOOK BY CALLING 01453 548530 OR EMAILING  
OFFICE@GL11.ORG.UK

 

**Dates for your diaries 2024/2025**

<b>Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Coffee morning with our SENCO
<b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Open day for children starting Reception in September 2025 @930am Christmas Bazaar
<b>Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December</b>	KSI and EYFS Christmas Play (2pm)
<b>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Copper Beech class starts swimming lessons KSI and EYFS Christmas Play (930am)
<b>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day – all children invited to wear a Christmas jumper or T shirt
<b>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Christmas craft afternoon
<b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Whole School Panto- gift to the children from the School Association
<b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Coffee morning with our SENCO
<b>Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Sequoia class starts swimming lessons
<b>Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February</b>	School Disco
<b>Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Coffee morning with our SENCO
<b>Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Maple class starts swimming lessons
<b>Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Easter Egg Hunt
<b>Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May- Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May</b>	End of KS2 SATS week Breakfast club
<b>Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Coffee morning with our SENCO
<b>Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May</b>	KSI and Reception Sports Day (PM)
<b>Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May</b>	KS2 Sports Day (PM)
<b>Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May- Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May</b>	Y6 Residential (more information to follow)
<b>Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May</b>	Magnolia class starts swimming lessons
<b>Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Summer Fayre- from 6pm
<b>MORE DATES TO BE ADDED FIND THE TERM DATES <a href="#">HERE</a></b>	

**CAKE SALES**

**Thank you so much for the wonderful cakes donated by Willow and Copper Beech class. This helped raise £81 for the school. Thank you.**

The dates for the cake sales are as follows:

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December (Cherry and Oak)

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January (Elm and Palm)

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March (Sequoia)

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April (Cedar and Maple)



We ask that each class brings in some cakes and other tasty treats for our School Association to sell at the end of the day.

**Values Leaves Awards**

<b>Respect</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Thankfulness</b>
<b>Olivia L, Copper Beech Class, Jay R, Harvey B, Gwen B,</b>	<b>Astrid P, Abe M-B, Erin G,</b>	<b>Harry N, Emilia Z</b>
<b>Forgiveness</b>	<b>Kindness</b>	<b>Perseverance</b>
<b>Ted H</b>	<b>Betsy B, Bella-Rae W, Benito M, James C, Ella V,</b>	<b>Daniel M, Lacey-Mae M,</b>

**READING  
EXPECTATIONS**

Reading outside of school is essential for primary-aged children as it nurtures a love for learning, strengthens literacy skills, and deepens the bond between parent and child. At our school, we believe *"together we shine brightly because together we make a difference"*.

By reading at least three times a week with a parent, families and children work hand in hand to create a brighter future, empowering every child to succeed and make a meaningful impact. Please try to build in time during your day to listen to your child read and record in their reading record.

Headteacher: Mrs Heather Gregory

As you already know, we are a Nut-Free school... This means that the following items should not be brought into school:

- Packs of nuts
- Peanut butter or Nutella sandwiches
- Fruit and cereal bars that contain nuts
- Chocolate bars or sweets that contain nuts
- Sesame seed rolls (children allergic to nuts may also have a severe reaction to sesame)
- Cakes made with nuts
- Any home cooked meals for packed lunches that are made from nuts
- Pesto sauce



### ABSENCE REPORTING

If your child is absent due to illness, please contact the school office on 01453 542304 before 9.30am. Please do this for everyday of the absence, unless the office have confirmed they do not need daily updates. Please do not use Class Dojo to report absence. If you do not contact us to inform of an absence, and we cannot get hold of you, the school will consider contacting the police to carry out a welfare check on the child.

If your child has an appointment, please let the office know as soon as possible, and provide evidence of the appointment. A reminder that appointments where possible should be booked outside of school time, but we realise that this is not always possible. If your child does have an appointment in the morning, please can you let the office know your child's meal preference for the day.

### CLASS FUNDRAISING

We have extended the deadline for placing orders. If you would like to order some Christmas cards or other items with your child's unique Christmas design please visit the website:

<https://shop.classfundraising.co.uk>

They make fantastic, treasurable gifts for all your family and friends.



## Dursley C of E Primary Academy Could you be our next parent governor?

### What does it mean to be a parent governor?

Being a parent governor means that you will:

- Develop a greater role in pupils' education.
- Become a key player in monitoring the progress of the school.
- Be part of the local leadership team.
- Be asked to dedicate time to the development of the school to ensure the best possible outcomes for all pupils.
- Learn new skills or develop as a strategic leader with an opportunity to make a real difference to the school and its pupils.
- Secure an active role in all aspects of school life – from policy development to recruitment!

### What would the parent governor do?

As the elected parent governor, you would:

- Make decisions in collaboration with the rest of the local governing board.
- Bring a parental viewpoint and perspective to discussion and debate—remembering the role is not to represent individual parents' views (including your own).
- Support the local governing board in its strategic monitoring of the school's improvement priorities.
- Ask questions and provide challenge to support the local governing board's monitoring activities.

### Who is the school looking for?

We are looking for a dedicated and motivated parent who is keen to learn more about the school and contribute to school life. You will learn more about the governance of the school and DGAT and work with the rest of the local governors and school community. This is a great opportunity to develop skills in leadership, strategic planning and monitoring and teamwork. We welcome a diverse range of views and roles on the local governing board.

We are looking for someone who is able to ask questions and is curious. You don't need to have been a governor before, the governing board will support you with an induction and relevant training.

### Becoming the parent governor

If you would like more information on time commitments or specific duties please email Carole O'Donnell, Chair of governors, on [chair@dursley.dgat.org.uk](mailto:chair@dursley.dgat.org.uk) who will answer any questions that you may have.

The position of parent governor is an elected role, and all parents of children registered at the school are entitled to stand for election and vote in an election. You are welcome to self-nominate or be nominated. Please see the attached letter for further information about how to stand for election as parent governor.



DURSLEY CofE  
PRIMARY ACADEMY 

Together we shine brightly  
because together we make a  
difference.



Give your child the best start  
at Dursley CofE Primary  
Academy!

With a nurturing  
environment, dedicated  
teachers, and a focus on both  
academic outcomes and  
personal growth, we inspire  
young minds to thrive. Join  
our welcoming school  
community and watch your  
child shine!

# New Reception Open Days

Wednesday 9th  
October  
@930am

Tuesday 5th  
November  
@930am

Tuesday 19th  
November  
@930am

Friday 6th  
December @  
930am

Wednesday 8th  
January @  
930am

Contact us for more information  
[www.dursleycofeprimary-dgat.org](http://www.dursleycofeprimary-dgat.org)  
01453 542304

# GOOD ATTENDANCE

MEANS BEING IN SCHOOL AT LEAST 94% OF THE TIME... OR HAVING NO MORE THAN 8 DAYS OFF!



0  
DAYS  
ABSENCE  
100% ATTENDANCE



MORE TIME  
IN SCHOOL  
MEANS MORE  
TIME TO  
LEARN,  
DEVELOP  
& GROW!

8  
DAYS  
ABSENCE  
96% ATTENDANCE

19  
DAYS  
ABSENCE  
90% ATTENDANCE



LESS TIME  
IN SCHOOL  
MEANS LESS  
TIME TO  
BECOME  
THE VERY  
BEST YOU!

29  
DAYS  
ABSENCE  
85% ATTENDANCE



DON'T BOOK  
APPOINTMENTS  
DURING SCHOOL  
TIME

EDUCATION +  
ATTENDANCE + EFFORT =  
ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES!

38  
DAYS  
ABSENCE  
80% ATTENDANCE



POOR  
ATTENDANCE  
MEANS  
DRASTICALLY  
REDUCED LIFE  
CHANCES!



47  
DAYS  
ABSENCE  
75% ATTENDANCE

www.doodle.cc  
02016