



Autumn Term Week 28 – 2nd May 2025

Dear Parent/Carers,

Class Assembly Dates

We're excited to announce that class assemblies will be taking place throughout the summer term. These events are a wonderful opportunity for children to showcase their learning and talents. Specific dates for each class will be shared soon—please mark them in your calendar, as we'd love for you to join us in celebrating the children's hard work.

Curriculum Overviews

Curriculum overviews for the summer term will be sent home this week. These provide a helpful outline of the topics and themes your child will be exploring in class. We encourage you to take a look and talk with your child about what they're learning—it's a great way to stay involved and support their education at home.

Sun cream Reminder

As the weather gets warmer, please remember to apply sun cream to your child before they come to school each morning. This helps ensure they're protected during outdoor activities and allows them to get straight into playtime without delay. Sunhats and water bottles also help keep everyone cool and comfortable so please do send these in.

At Dartmouth Academy, we are always looking for ways to support our children not just academically, but emotionally and socially too. With this in mind, we are proud to be introducing a **Relational Behaviour Support Policy** across the primary phase. Please read more information about this within our newsletter

We hope you all have a wonderful long weekend!

Mrs J Tierney and the Primary Phase team

Our future successes are built on the work we do today.

Dates for the diary

May 2025

- 5th – Bank Holiday
- 12th – KS2 SATs
- 12th – EYFS Slapton Trip
- 16th – Music Festival
- 21st – Primary Open Morning
- 26th – Half Term

June 2025

- 2nd – Y6 Residential Mtg @ 3.20pm
- 9th – Reception Aquarium Trip
- 24th – Y7 Induction Evening
- 25th to 27th – Y6 Residential

July 2025

- 7th – EYFS Family beach day
- 9th Primary open classrooms @ 2.30pm
- 14th – Whole School Sports Day
- 18th – School closing at 1pm

Celebrations

Attendance Matters

This year's attendance by
Year Group:

Reception – 83.8%

Year 1 – 90.5%

Year 2 – 94.2%

Year 3 – 93.9%

Year 4 – 91.4%

Year 5 – 95.2%

Year 6 – 91.5%

Year 7 – 94.7%

Year 8 – 91.9%

Year 9 – 89.4%

Year 10 – 89.5%

Year 11 – 90.3%

School attendance for
the year so far is
currently

91.8 %

**Thank you for supporting
our target of 96%**

Primary celebrations

'Stars in our eyes'

Asma J & Sydney D – Nursery

Monika R & Jaden H – Reception

Asilah A & Bonnie B – Class 1

Mia MC & Jordan Y – Class 2/3

Buzz T & Ava B – Class 3/4

Nellie U & Alexis MC – Class 5

Millie W & Alfie B – Class 6



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Relational Behaviour Support Policy

This new approach puts **relationships, understanding, and emotional support** at the heart of how we help children make positive behaviour choices. Rather than focusing only on rules and consequences, our aim is to guide pupils through connection, consistency, and compassion.

Why are we making this change?

Research and best practice – including work from educational psychologists and behaviour experts – show that children respond best when they feel **safe, supported and understood**. We know that behaviour is a form of communication, and our role is to help children learn from mistakes and build self-regulation skills.

This doesn't mean there are no boundaries. We continue to have high expectations for all pupils and clear routines. The difference is **how we respond** – with curiosity, calmness, and restorative conversations that repair relationships and promote long-term learning.

What does this mean for your child?

- Stronger focus on **emotional regulation and wellbeing**
- Adults who are trained to respond in a calm, supportive way
- Clear routines, predictable responses, and fair boundaries
- More time spent on helping children **reflect, repair and move forward** after a mistake
- Consistent behaviour expectations across all areas of school life

How you can be involved

We believe the best outcomes happen when **home and school work together**. Over the coming term, we'll be offering more information and resources to explain our approach and how you can support it at home.

If you have any questions or would like to learn more about our Relational Behaviour Support Policy, you can read the DRAFT version on our website.

Thank you for your ongoing support as we work together to help every child thrive — emotionally, socially, and academically.

OUR SCHOOL RULES

Be safe

Be kind

Be ready

Dartmouth ACADEMY

unicef
UNITED KINGDOM
RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOLS

RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOLS

unicef
UNITED KINGDOM
SILVER – RIGHTS AWARE

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What have we been up to:

In early years, we have started our tooth brushing programme. The children brush their teeth for 2 minutes every day. They have been doing so well with this, we are proud of all of them.

This week we have been learning all about gardens and vegetables. The children have had a go at planting their own cress seeds and sunflower seeds. The cress has already started to grow, we can't wait to see how well the sunflowers do. The children have also been outside a lot, enjoying the sunshine!



Children in class 2/3 absolutely loved their first swimming lesson at Dartmouth Leisure Centre! Bryony and Chris made it all really fun and we can't wait to go again next week! Thank you as well to all the parents who walked to the Leisure Centre with us, these exciting events can't happen without your support so a massive thank you to you all. If you have a free Wednesday afternoon and could help us walk to and from our swimming lessons, do let me know.



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Year 3 and 4 have just started a new unit of work in science focussing on sound. The lessons so far have been mostly practical with the children exploring how sound is made and what different factors impact the way we hear sound. As always, the class have been asking some great questions and thinking deeply about their learning. This is complementing our music topic for the term where we are exploring 'Indian Classical Music'. So far, we have learnt about and practiced performing a raga and a tala which really tested our reflexes! Miss Duke and Mr Nute are massively impressed with the children's rhythm and enthusiasm. We are particularly looking forward to practicing Indian drumming in the coming weeks.



Head lice

Could we ask all parents to pay particular attention to your child's hair. Although many of you are regularly using the combing with conditioner method, we still have an outbreak of head lice in our school. Please see suggested routine below. If you are concerned and need advice, please contact your local chemist.

If your child has long hair, please ensure this is tied back at school.

How to get rid of head lice

Important:

You can treat head lice without seeing a GP.

Treat head lice as soon as you spot them.

You should check everyone in the house and start treating anyone who has head lice on the same day.

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There's no need to keep your child off school if they have head lice.

Wet combing

Lice and nits can be removed by wet combing. You should try this method first. You can buy a special fine-toothed comb (detection comb) online or from pharmacies to remove head lice and nits.

There may be instructions on the pack, but usually you:

- wash hair with ordinary shampoo
- apply lots of conditioner (any conditioner will do)
- comb the whole head of hair, from the roots to the ends

It usually takes about 10 minutes to comb short hair, and 20 to 30 minutes for long, frizzy or curly hair.

Do wet combing on days 1, 5, 9 and 13 to catch any newly hatched head lice. Check again that everyone's hair is free of lice on day 17.



Lost property can be located at reception, any items not collected will be disposed of at the end of each term.

**DARTMOUTH & DISTRICT
FOOD BANK**

Monday 5:30pm - 6pm
Friday 11am - 12:45pm

Townstal Community Hall, TQ6 9LJ

**Friday Hub
Cafe**

We know that if you work on min wage you may still need help, so we are open Monday tea time NOW

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Karate Club

Wednesday After School
3.30 - 4.30pm
Dartmouth Academy
Message Caroline to book

- ✓ fitness
- ✓ Discipline
- ✓ Respect
- ✓ Coordination
- ✓ Confidence

Children
from 6
years

07492681677

<https://www.chillingtonselfdefence.club/index.htm>

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