



Summer Term – 13<sup>th</sup> May 2026

Dear Parent/Carers,

As we reach another busy and exciting point in the school year, I would like to take a moment to recognise our wonderful Year 6 pupils, who are sitting their SATs this week. We are incredibly proud of the maturity, resilience and determination they have shown throughout their preparation, and we know they will approach each day with confidence and positivity. I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to all of the staff, especially our year 6 teacher Mrs Gardner and Phase Leader, Mrs Bower, who have supported them along the way. Their dedication, encouragement and hard work over many months have helped ensure our children feel prepared, supported and ready to do their very best. Good luck, Year 6: we are all behind you!

### **Scooter success!**

I would also like to say a huge thank you to all parents and carers for supporting our request around pupils not riding scooters or bikes in the playground at the beginning and end of the school day. Your cooperation has made a massive difference to the safety and smooth running of these busy times, helping to ensure that all children and families can move around the site safely. We really appreciate the positive support from our school community and thank you for continuing to work with us to keep everyone safe.

**Mrs J Tierney and the Primary Phase team**

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

## Dates for the diary

### May 2026

- 15<sup>th</sup> – Music Festival
- 19<sup>th</sup> – Y6 Residential Parent Mtg
- 21<sup>st</sup> – House Cake Sale
- 25<sup>th</sup> – Half Term

### June 2026

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Back to school
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Nursery Rare Breeds Farm Trip
- 12<sup>th</sup> – Cross Country Event at Stoke Fleming
- 17<sup>th</sup> – Y6 Residential
- 22<sup>nd</sup> – Secondary Open Morning @ 9.30am
- 25<sup>th</sup> – Y7 Induction day/evening
- 29<sup>th</sup> – Y6 Sailing
- 30<sup>th</sup> – Y6 Sailing

### July 2026

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Y6 Sailing
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – House Cake Sale
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Primary Sports Day @ 1pm
- 6<sup>th</sup> – Secondary Open Morning @ 9.30am
- 6<sup>th</sup> – School Support & Snack
- 7<sup>th</sup> – Y6 Sailing
- 8<sup>th</sup> – Primary Open classrooms @ 3.10pm
- 9<sup>th</sup> – Reserve Sports Day

# Celebrations

## Attendance Matters

This year's attendance by Year Group:

**Reception** – 93.9%

**Year 1** – 94.3%

**Year 2** – 95.1%

**Year 3** – 95.3%

**Year 4** – 91.5%

**Year 5** – 89.8%

**Year 6** – 93.3%

**Year 7** – 90.3%

**Year 8** – 93.1%

**Year 9** – 90%

**Year 10** – 89.9%

**Year 11** – 91.5%

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'

Husna J – Nursery

Mika'il I – Reception/Y1

Come B – Class 1/2

Joury AN – Class 2/3

Jack WH – Class 4/5

Alex V – Class 6



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## Important information about school lunches

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to take this opportunity to remind families about the importance of providing healthy packed lunches for children in school.

A balanced lunch helps children maintain their energy levels, concentration, and overall wellbeing throughout the school day. Nutritious food supports learning, helps children stay focused in lessons, and encourages healthy habits that can last a lifetime.

To support this, we ask that packed lunches contain healthy options such as sandwiches, wraps or pasta, along with fruit, vegetables, yoghurt, or other nutritious snacks. A refillable water bottle or a still drink such as water or sugar free squash is also encouraged.

Please note that the following items should not be included in packed lunches:

- Share-size packets of crisps
- Large chocolate bars or any sweets
- Fizzy drinks
- Energy drinks, including Lucozade

These items are often high in sugar, salt and additives which can affect children's concentration and energy levels during the school day.

Any sweet treat items included should be limited to one and be small: e.g. one Penguin bar.

By working together, we can help promote healthier eating habits and ensure that all children have the fuel they need to learn, play and thrive.

There are lots of ideas for nutritious and healthy lunches here: [Lunchbox ideas and recipes – Healthier Families - NHS](#)

Thank you for your continued support.



### Cut down on crisps

If your child really likes their crisps try reducing the number of times you include them in their lunchbox, and swap for homemade plain popcorn or plain rice cakes instead.



### Switch the sweets

Swap cakes, chocolate, cereal bars and biscuits for fruited teacakes, fruit breads or fruit (fresh, dried or tinned – in juice not syrup).

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## Growing Together From the Very Beginning

At our nursery, children are welcomed into more than just an early years' setting: they become part of a caring, nurturing primary environment within our wider all-through school community.

From their very first days, children benefit from the warmth, familiarity and security of belonging to one educational family that can support them all the way from nursery through to secondary school. We believe in *planting the seed early* and watching every child grow, flourish and thrive throughout their entire educational journey.

Being part of a school-based nursery gives children a strong foundation for future learning. Daily experiences help develop confidence, independence, communication skills and positive routines, all of which contribute to improved school readiness when they move into Reception. Children become familiar with the school environment, staff, and expectations, making transitions feel natural and reassuring.

We are also pleased to offer flexible admissions, meaning children can start nursery immediately after their third birthday rather than waiting until the beginning of the next school term. This allows families to access high-quality early education at the right time for their child, supporting development from the earliest opportunity.

For families, continuity brings peace of mind. Remaining within one setting allows children to build lasting relationships, feel secure in familiar surroundings, and develop a strong sense of belonging over time. Staff are able to truly know each child as an individual, supporting their development at every stage of their journey.

We warmly invite prospective parents and carers to visit our nursery with their child to experience our welcoming environment, meet our staff, and see first-hand how children learn and grow within our school community.

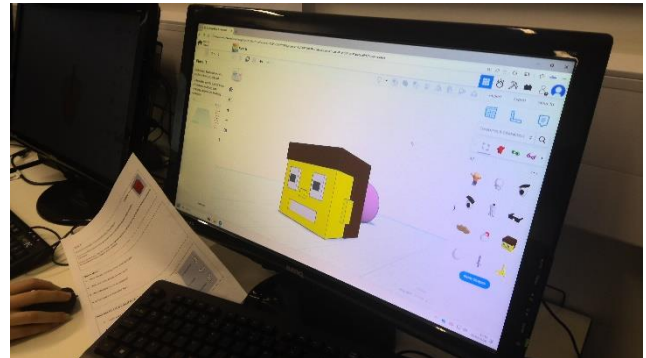
Our nursery is the beginning of something special: a place where curiosity is encouraged, confidence grows, and children are supported every step of the way as they progress through school life together. We are pleased to offer 30 hours funded childcare for eligible families. For families not accessing funded hours, our nursery fees are just £30 per day. We operate during term times.



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# What have we been up to:

Class 6 have been exploring 3D modelling in their computing lessons. They've been so creative with their designs!



Year 6 made periscopes as part of their science unit on light. They used them to explore how light is reflected off shiny surfaces like mirrors. They enjoyed the practical process of angling the mirrors to get the perfect view of things above them, like in a submarine.



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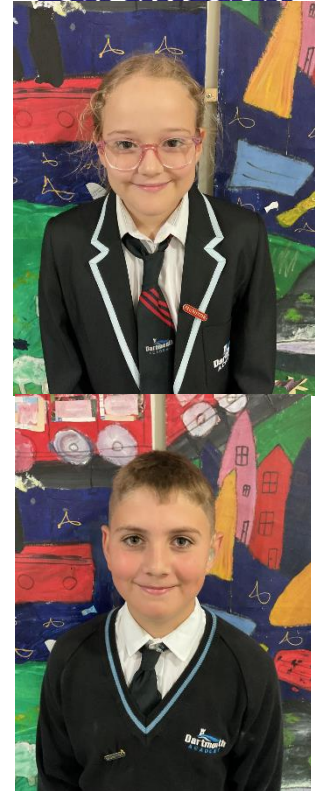
### Spotlight on Our Year 6 IT Leaders

This term, we would like to shine a spotlight on our fantastic Year 6 IT Leaders- Evan C and Thea C- who have been doing an amazing job supporting younger children during their computing lessons. The IT Leaders work alongside staff to help pupils log on to computers, find webpages and programmes and confidently use equipment such as keyboards and mice.

They have shown incredible patience, kindness and responsibility while helping younger children develop their confidence and independence with technology. It has been wonderful to see our Year 6 pupils acting as positive role models, encouraging others and sharing their skills so enthusiastically.

We are extremely proud of the maturity and leadership they demonstrate each week, and we would like to thank them for the valuable contribution they make to our school community.

Well done, Year 6 IT Leaders!



'Over the past couple of weeks Class 2/3 have been delving into the world of The Beasties (a book by Jenny Nimmo and Gwen Millward). They have designed, created and roleplayed as their own Beastie characters. Chosen special treasures from our treasure box for their Beastie to keep safe and used their treasure to inspire their story telling. This week they will be diving into their own story writing and using their imagination to help bring their character to life! At the end of the topic each story written will come together to make our very own class book in the style of The Beasties where the children will get a taste of what it would be like to be a published author.'



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Last week, the Nursery and Reception classes enjoyed a walk to the local allotments to learn a bit more about where our food comes from. We have loved reading the story 'Oliver's Vegetables' in class, and it was so exciting to see all the different foods from the story growing in the allotments, especially the rhubarb which was huge! There was also a small pond at the allotments where we tried to spot some tadpoles, but they were all hiding from us. We have been invited back in a few weeks' time so we can continue to watch the growth and change of the fruits and vegetables.



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# RIVERSCHOOL

Where nature is the teacher & the river is our guide



## HOLIDAY CLUB

**2026** Easter: April 13-15th  
Half-term: May 26-28th  
July 27-29th  
August 3-7th, 10-14th, 17-18th, 24-26th  
October 27-29th



£40/£45  
Tax Free Child Care  
-Free HAF-funded places-

- Travel by Canoe to our woodland basecamp
- Paddlesports
- Bushcraft
- Nature art and craft
- Raft building
- Wild swimming
- Fishing
- Campfire cooking
- Story telling
- Wildlife and river care
- Games + free play

Activities may include



Where are we? From the quayside Stoke Gabriel

### RIVERSCHOOL

Our provision is delivered by Canoe Adventures Ltd, operating since 1999 with a proven, accredited safety track record.

We are a registered child care provider with Ofsted (Reg. No. 2731749).

EMAIL:  
[hello@riverschool.org.uk](mailto:hello@riverschool.org.uk)

TEL:  
07706 343744

[www.canoeadventures.co.uk](http://www.canoeadventures.co.uk)



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