



NEWSLETTER

2nd May 2025

YEAR 4 RESIDENTIAL



Most of Year 4 took part in the residential trip this week - and what an amazing few days they have had. This was certainly the warmest residential trip that I have experienced! It was a pleasure to be with

the children for the day on Thursday - even if joining them for breakfast meant a very early start for me as breakfast was at 7am! For many children this is their first experience of being away from home and it helps them to develop their organisational skills and independence - there were very frequent reminders for application of sunscreen, ensuring water bottles were full and hats were on throughout their time away. There have been many personal achievements for every individual during the trip. A huge thank you to all the staff for accompanying the children and being away from their own families. Without willingness to do this, these valuable experiences for children would not happen.

The next two weeks	
5 th May	Bank holiday School closed
6 th May	6pm in the school hall - PTA relaunch
7 th May	Cedar Class Forest school
8 th May	Reception maths workshop
9 th May	Year 3 and 4 skills festival - selected team
12 th May	Sats begin Year 6 Year 4 presentation to parents at 3p
13 th May	SAT's continue Year 6 Year 5 at Earth Trust - Farming workshop Year 1 mastering number at home parent workshop 2:30pm
14 th May	SATs continue Year 6 Oak Class Forest school
15 th May	SATs continue Year 6 Year 1 Victorian Workshop trip Year 2 mastering number at home workshop at 2:30pm
16 th May	Year 5/6 Dynamos Cricket Tournament (selected team)



SPORTS DAYS 19TH MAY EYFS AND 23RD MAY REST OF SCHOOL

You should have received a detailed letter explaining the timings and arrangements for the sports days in May. This is in the last week of this very short term. Please make sure that you have read this carefully so that you are able to attend on the correct day at the right time! Do remember that this event is weather dependent and it may be postponed at the last minute. We apologise in advance for any inconvenience this might cause.



01235 606012



www.didcotprimaryacademy.org



office@didcotprimaryacademy.org

YEAR 6

Year 6 is a very special year and we have got a phenomenal cohort of Year 6 children who really set the tone of behaviour both in and out of the classroom. They are a credit to yourselves and to the school. With SAT's coming up, nerves will, in some instances, come to the surface. Try to keep routines the same and keep your child well rested so that they have every opportunity to do their best. Whatever the results, the children have much to be extremely proud of and have already achieved so much. As a school team we are incredibly proud of this fantastic group of children and it has been a privilege for all the members of staff that have been involved in their time in school to see them grow and progress. Once the last assessment has finished, they will be given their school hoodie to wear (thank you to the Friends of DPA for subsidising this again) which can be worn instead of their school jumper or PE top until the end of term. They will, of course, continue to receive a rich and inspiring school curriculum until the end of the year - their work is definitely not over!

In addition to this they have so much to look forward to: auditioning and rehearsing the end of Year musical - Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies, going to see The Lion King in London, transition days to their secondary schools, skateboard workshop, Year 6 party with inflatables and pizza before finishing with their final assembly on the last day of term.



STUDENT TEACHERS

This term we have welcomed into DPA two student teachers Mr Crook (working in Rowan Class) and Miss Lewis (working in Birch Class). They are in their last year of their teaching degree and will be supported by the expert class teachers that we have here at DPA.

BEING SUN SMART



Hopefully we are going to continue to have more sunny weather so do please make sure that your child can stay safe in the sun. Please apply sunscreen to your child prior to arriving at school. If you would like your child to reapply this, please provide them with sunscreen (labelled) in their book bag. The school staff are not able to do this for your child, so do make sure that you have shown your child what to do.

Bucket hats are the best for keeping sun off from a wide area, but any hat with a large peak will help - again, please name these items. Sunglasses can also be worn. Your child will be responsible for looking after their items. We will of course, continue to encourage your child to stay hydrated. Summer uniform can now be worn - lilac gingham dress/cullottes etc

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL

Your child remains your responsibility until you have handed them over and they have entered the classroom in the morning. At the end of the day, when your child has been handed to you - or they have permission to walk home, they are also then under your care. The members of staff on the gate will not have always seen who has walked past them!

JEWELLERY AND HAIR STYLES!

Jewellery is not to be worn in school. Earrings should be small and not be worn at all on PE days.

Long hair - below the shoulders (for both boys and girls) must be tied back each day.

Any hair accessories must be small and black or purple (or house colours on PE days).

2025 Summer 1

When	Who	What...
5th May	whole school	Bank holiday
8th May	Sycamore	Sycamore Class starts swimming
8 th May	Reception parents/carers	Reception maths workshop @2.30pm
9 th May	selected children from Year 4	Skills festival Boundary Park
12th May - 15th May	Year 6	SAT's Week
12 th May	Year 4 parents	Year 4 presentation to parents - this will start promptly at 3pm
13th May	Year 5	Earth Trust visit
13 th May	Year 1 parents	Maths parent workshop with children @2.30pm
14 th May	Oak Class	Forest School
15th May	Year 1	Victorian Sit Up Straight workshop Oxfordshire Museum
15 th May	Year 2 parents	Maths workshops @2.30pm
16 th May	Selected team from Year 5 and 6	Dynamos Cricket Tournament
19 th May	Parents of pre school and reception children	EYFS sports afternoon 2:30pm
19 th May	All parents/carers invited	Relationships and Sex Education information session 2:15pm School hall
19 th May	Selected year 4 and 5 girls	Girls Football

2025 Summer 1 continued

When	Who	What...
20th May	Whole school	Group photos
21st May	Year 4	Lego workshop
21 st May	Cedar Class	Forest School
22nd May	Year 6	Lego workshop
22nd May	Reception	Beale Park trip
23rd May	Years 1-6	Sports Day more information has been sent out - please refer to the email

2025 Summer 2

When	Who	What...
2nd June	Whole school	INSET DAY school closed to children
3 rd June	Parent/care rs of children going to St Birinus and DGS	Parent information morning - to be held at DPA 9am
3rd - 13th June	Year 4	Multiplication Tables Check (National test)
6th June	Year 3	Chedworth Roman Villa
10 th June	parents of children due to start Reception in September 2025	New starters information meeting 2pm
9th June - 13th June	Year 1 (and some Year 2)	Phonics Screening (national check)
11th June	Pre-school	Trip to Sutton Courtney TBC
19th June	Selected team	Swimming gala
20th June	Selected Year 5 and 6 choir members	Dorchester Festival of Voices
25th June	Year 6	London Theatre trip - The Lion King

2025 Summer 2

When	Who	What...
30th June	parents of children with SEND	Learning Plan reviews this week
1 st July	Parent/carers Year 3 children	Violin Assembly at 10:30am (please note change of time)
4th July	Year 2	Hengistbury Head
7 th July	parent/carers of Year 5 children	Ukulele assembly at 230pm
8th and 9th July	Year 6	Transition days at Aureus School, Didcot Girls School and St Birinus
8th and 9th July	Reception to Year 5	New class days moving into their new classrooms and an opportunity to meet their new teaching teams.
10th July	Year 5 and 6	Skateboarding Workshop
15 th July	parent/carers of children in Years 3-6	Summer concert 9:30am amphitheatre (weather permitting)
15th July	Year 6	Year 6 party 3 - 5:30pm
15 th July	parent/carers of children in Pre-school - Acorn Class	End of Year Assembly at 2:30pm (please note change of date to the 15 th due to number of events!)
16 th July	parent/carers of children in Rocksteady	End of term concert at 10:30am and 2:30pm
17th July	Year 6	Year 6 performance 2:30pm and 6pm
18th July	Acorn Class	No pre-school session
18th July	Year 6	Last Assembly and presentation to parents 10:15am to be held in the amphitheatre, weather permitting. School will close at 12 noon. Gates will open at 11:50am

2025 Autumn Term

When	Who	What...
3rd September	Years 1-6	Term starts - Welcome to a new school year
3rd September	Reception	half day transition 8:40 - 11:10. or 1 -3:30pm
3rd - 5 September	Pre -school	Pre school meetings
4th September	Reception	half day transition 8:40 - 11:10. or 1 -3:30pm
5th September	Reception	Reception children in full time
8th September	Pre school	Pre school sessions will start
10th September	Year 5 and 6 parents	Aureus School presentation at DPA - chance to ask questions and find out more about the school. 3:30pm in the hall
15th -19th September	Year 6	Year 6 Residential
22nd September- 3rd October	Year 6	Bikeability
23rd September	Year 4	River and Rowing Museum
10th October	Whole school	School closed to children - Inset Day

Term Dates for School Year September 2025 - 2026

Autumn 1	3rd September - 24th October (INSET DAYS 1st and 2nd September, 10th October school closed to children) <i>Reception children will have half days on the 3rd and 4th September 2025 and then start full time on Friday 5th September.</i> Pre school sessions will start on Monday 8th September.
Autumn 2	3rd November - 18th December 2025
Spring 1	6th January - 13th February 2026
Spring 2	23rd February - 27th March
Summer 1	13th April - 22nd May
Summer 2	1st June - 17th July 2026 (Inset day 12th June) There will be no pre-school sessions on 17th July

Term Dates for School Year September 2024-25 (The CURRENT academic Year)

Autumn 1	Wednesday 4th September 2024 - 25th October 2024 (Inset days 2nd and 3rd September and 11th October).
Autumn 2	4th November - 19th December at 12 noon (gates open at 11:50am) No pre-school sessions (Acorn Class) on 19th December.
Spring 1	6th January - 14th February 2025
Spring 2	24th February 2025 - 4th April at 12 noon (gates open at 11:50am) No pre-school sessions (Acorn Class) on 18th July
Summer 1	22nd April (Tuesday) - 23rd May
Summer 2	3rd June (Tuesday) - 18th July at 12 noon No pre school sessions (Acorn Class) on 18th July