



# NEWSLETTER

27TH APRIL 2026

## Year 4 Residential

One of the highlights of my school year is visiting the Year 4 children on their residential trip. It is wonderful to see them trying something new, gaining new skills and building up some independence. It is an action packed couple of days fuelled by plenty of food, fun and encouragement. A huge thank you to the staff that went with the children as without their commitment, these trips would not be able to go ahead.



*DON'T miss it!*

**Year 4 presentation to parents on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May at 3pm where you will find out more about the trip and much more!**

## Forest School at DPA

At DPA we like to use every space we have for learning, or to inspire learning. Our Forest School area and pond are important parts of this. The whole school have Forest school sessions across the year on a Monday afternoon. These are carefully planned for progression and to link (where possible) to the children's curriculum - particularly when looking at seasonal changes or life cycles for example. The children will experience and learn about plants and animals, natural crafts, fire safety and much more - all finished with a hot chocolate at the end of the session!

## Sculpture at DPA

You may have noticed the workmen last week digging a hole at the front of the school. Around 6 years ago, I started a project with the county council as Great Western Park has designated areas for art work - with the school being one of them. The actual sculpture will be installed on 11<sup>th</sup> May and I am looking forward to celebrating this with you and the children.

The next two weeks...	
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	Swift course for parents (at Sires Hill Primary Academy) 9am
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> April	choir
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> April	Reception Trip to Beale Park
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	School closed Bank Holiday
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 1 Victorian experience Year 4 Parent presentation at 3pm
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> May	
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	



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## **Invitation to PSHE Curriculum Review meeting on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May at 5pm**

### **Please note this is a PARENT/CARER only meeting - no children to be present**

At DPA, we are committed to providing high quality Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education that supports your child's development and wellbeing throughout their time with us.



### **Reviewing our PSHE Provision**

We are currently reviewing our PSHE curriculum in line with the DFE's updated statutory guidance for Relationships, Sex and Health Education (published 2025, for implementation from September 2026). This is an positive opportunity to bring our curriculum content up to date in a changing world, whilst navigating our age-appropriate focus on the core knowledge and essential skills that children need to navigate different aspects of their lives with confidence, both in and beyond primary school.

At DPA we use Jigsaw, the mindful approach to PSHE, as our comprehensive scheme of work. The programme consists of six half term units (Puzzle pieces): Being Me in My World, Celebrating Difference, Dreams and Goals, Health Me, Relationships and Changing Me. Each Puzzle contains lessons that build progressively throughout the school, developing children's emotional literacy, self-esteem, resilience and understanding of how to build positive, healthy relationships.

The updated guidance enhances the Jigsaw programme that we already know and trust, rather than requiring radical changes. The strong foundations remain the same - we continue to focus on building the fundamental skills and knowledge children need - whilst ensuring our content reflects the world they are growing up in. As part of our review we are also considering how we adapt the programme content to best suit the needs and context of our school community.

### **Your views matter**

As part of our review process, we warmly invite you to attend a consultation sessions where you will have the opportunity to:

- Learn about the Jigsaw PHSE programme and how it is taught across all year groups
- See examples of the materials and resources we use
- Understand how our curriculum meets statutory requirements for Relationships and Health Education
- Ask questions about any aspect of our PSHE provision
- Share your views and feedback to help inform our curriculum decisions
- Understand you right to request withdrawal from specific non-statutory Sex Education lessons

### **Working in partnership**

We believe that PSHE education is most effective when schools and families work together. Your child's wellbeing, safety and personal development are at the heart of everything that we do, and we value your input. We look forward to sharing our provision with you and hearing your views. If you are not able to attend but have a question, please email the school office and we will get back to you.

**2026 Summer 1**

<b>When</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>What...</b>
27 <sup>th</sup> April	All interested parents	Swift course (held at Sires Hill Primary Academy) This is a training program designed for parents to foster a shared understanding of a child's autism -related needs, providing consistent practical strategies for home. 9am. Please sign in at the Sires Hill school office on arrival.
30 <sup>th</sup> April	Reception	Visit to Beale Park
30 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 4 and 5 girls selected team	Football - Koreen Davies Cup 2026 held at Harwell Primary School. Selected team.
4 <sup>th</sup> May	whole school	Bank holiday school closed
5 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 2	Geography - local area walk
5 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 1	Victorian school workshop at Oxfordshire Museum
5 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 4 parents	Year 4 parent presentation
7 <sup>th</sup> May	All parents welcome	Relationships and Sex Education Parent consultation meeting at 5pm No children to be present. DPA school hall

**2026 Summer 1 continued**

<b>When</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>What...</b>
11 <sup>th</sup> May to 14 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6	SAT's Week
11 <sup>th</sup> May	Interested parents	Swift course part 2 Sires Hill Primary Academy
15 <sup>th</sup> May	all school	Class photos
19 <sup>th</sup> May	pre-school and reception	Early Years sports afternoon at 2pm
20 <sup>th</sup> May	Reception children	Vision screening
21 <sup>st</sup> May	all school	Diversity Day Children are welcome to come to school in clothes that they wear to celebrate their culture (or in home clothes)
22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Year 1-6	Sports day and picnic Year 1-3am Year 4-6pm

**2026 Summer 2**

<b>When</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>What...</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Years 5-6 and parents	DGS and SBS presentation at school
4 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 5	Earth Trust visit (food and farming workshop)
8 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 3	Chedworth Roman Villa Visit
8 <sup>th</sup> June - 11 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 1	Phonics screening
9 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 4	Ashmolean Museum visit
11 <sup>th</sup> June	parents of children due to start Reception September 2026	Parents welcome meeting 2pm
10 <sup>th</sup> June	EYFS	Get Active Olympic Event
10 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6	London Theatre trip (Matilda)
12 <sup>th</sup> June	whole school	School closed to children. Inset Day
16 <sup>th</sup> June	Pre-school	Trip to Earth Trust
16 <sup>th</sup> June	Reception parents	Reception presentation to parents. This will start promptly at 3pm
17 <sup>th</sup> June	KS1	Olympic Event
18 <sup>th</sup> June	Selected team	Swimming Gala
18 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 2	trip to Hengistbury Head
19 <sup>th</sup> June	selected choir members	Dorchester Festival of Voices
19 <sup>th</sup> June	Parents/carers	Parents/carers informed of class structure for September 2026
20 <sup>th</sup> June	All children	PTA colour run (this replaces the school fete) More details to follow

**2026 Summer 2**

<b>When</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>What...</b>
23 <sup>rd</sup> June	current Year 3 parents	What to expect in Year 4 parent meeting 9am
23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Parents of Year 2 children	Year 2 parent presentation at 3pm promptly
24 <sup>th</sup> June	KS2	Olympic Event
29 <sup>th</sup> June -3 <sup>rd</sup> July	parents of children with SEND	Learning plan meetings with existing teachers and teachers for
29 <sup>th</sup> June	Current Year 2 parents	What to expect in year 3 parent meeting 9am
30 <sup>th</sup> June	parents of Year 1 children	Year 1 presentation to parents. This will start promptly
30 <sup>th</sup> July	current Year 5 parents	What to expect in Year 6 parent meeting
1 <sup>st</sup> July	selected teams Year 5 and 6	Omnia Cup (held at Didcot Primary Academy)
3 <sup>rd</sup> July	current reception parents	What to expect in Year 1 parents meeting 9am
6 <sup>th</sup> July	Parents of children in Year 3	Djembe concert. 11 am
6 <sup>th</sup> July	Parents of children in Year 5	ukulele concert 2:30pm
7 <sup>th</sup> July	current children reception to Year 5	Transition day 1
7 <sup>th</sup> July	new reception children	one to one parent meetings with new teacher for children new to school children)
8 <sup>th</sup> July	new reception children	first transition session in school 9:00-11 am or 1 - 3pm
8 <sup>th</sup> July	current children reception to Year 5	Transition day 2
9 <sup>th</sup> July	KS2 children	DPA's Got Talent - more info to come shortly
9 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6	Year 6 party 3:30 - 5:30pm (THIS DATE HAS BEEN CHANGED DUE TO AVAILABILITY OF INFLATION NEWSLETTERS DUE TO AVAILABILITY OF INFLATION)

**2026 Summer 2**

<b>When</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>What...</b>
10 <sup>th</sup> July	Whole school	End of year reports will be emailed out to all parents
14 <sup>th</sup> July	Pre-school	Pre school end of year presentation to parents 2:30pm
15 <sup>th</sup> July	Parents of children in Rocksteady	Rocksteady Concerts 10:30am and 2:30pm
16 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6	Year 6 performance at 2pm and 6pm
16 <sup>th</sup> July	pre school	last day of term for pre school children
17 <sup>th</sup> July	Parents of children in Year 6	Year 6 assembly 10:15am
17 <sup>th</sup> July	Whole school	school closes at 12 noon. Gates will open at 11:50am.

## Looking ahead.....Term dates 2026-27

First Day of term	Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2026
Half term	26 <sup>th</sup> October - 30 <sup>th</sup> October 2026
Last day of term	Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> December at 12 noon (nursery sessions finish on Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December)
Winter Holidays	18 <sup>th</sup> December - 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2027
Further information	Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2026 and Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2026 half days for Reception children, allocated as either morning or afternoon. 7 <sup>th</sup> September in full time. 9 <sup>th</sup> September Pre-school children start on allocated days INSET DAYS Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> September and Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> October 2026
Spring Term	
First day of term	4 <sup>th</sup> January 2027
Half term	15 <sup>th</sup> February - 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2027
Last day of term	Pre school 24 <sup>th</sup> March 2027 Rest of school 25 <sup>th</sup> March at 12 noon, gates will open at 11:50am
Easter/Spring holidays	26 <sup>th</sup> March - 9 <sup>th</sup> April 2027
Further information	
Summer term	
First day of term	12 <sup>th</sup> April 2027
Half term	31 <sup>st</sup> May - 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2027
Last day of term	Pre school: Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> July Rest of school: Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> July at 12 noon. Gates will open at 11:50am.
Further information	Inset day on Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> June and Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July

**2026 Autumn 1**

<b>When</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>What...</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> September	Whole school	INSET day - school closed to children
2 <sup>nd</sup> September	whole school	Inset day - school closed to children
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	Year 1 - year 6	First day of term at 8:40am
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	Reception	Reception transition 8:40am - 11-11:15am or 1 - 3:30pm
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	Reception	Reception transition 8:40am - 11-11:15am or 1 - 3:30pm
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> September	Reception children	Reception children in full time
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> September	Pre-school children	Pre-school starts
14 <sup>th</sup> - 18 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 6 children	Kilvrough Residential trip
2 <sup>nd</sup> October	All children	Individual photographs to be taken (no family photographs)
9 <sup>TH</sup> October	All children	INSET day - school closed to children
23 <sup>rd</sup> October	All children	End of term at 3:30pm

**2026 Autumn 2**

<b>When</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>What...</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> November	Whole school	Autumn 2 starts at 8:40am
15 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 1 children	Jack and the Beanstalk at Cornerstones Theatre Didcot (TBC)
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Whole school	End of term at 12 noon gates open at 11:50am

**2027 Spring 1**

<b>When</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>What...</b>
4 <sup>th</sup> January	Whole school	Term starts at 8:40am
22 <sup>nd</sup> January	Young Voices Choir	Choir to Young Voices at London O2 Arena leave school 9:30am back to school 12:30am
14 <sup>th</sup> February	whole school	End of term at 3:30pm