



NEWSLETTER

22nd April 2025

WELCOME BACK TO THE SUMMER TERM

I hope that you were all able to enjoy the good weather over the Easter break. This half term is short - only five weeks- but is packed full. By the end of this half term, Year 4 will have been on a residential trip, we have author visits planned, maths workshops with parents for some year groups, sports days/afternoons for all and various other trips and experiences. Please check the school diary, calendar and emails to keep up to date!

In addition to all of the above, year 6 will have also completed their SAT's.

SAT'S (STANDARD ASSESSMENT TESTS) YEAR 6

The week beginning 12th May children in year six will be looking forward to coming in to school early each morning to have their pre-SAT's breakfast! This is provided free of charge to the children and is a great way to come in, meet their friends in a social gathering and have various things to eat. Thank you to the kitchen staff for supporting us with this yet again. This early start allows nerves to be calmed so that the children are able to show what they are truly capable of. They have been working extremely hard and are ready for this part of Year 6 to be completed!

The children will sit a range of tests:

Monday, May 12th:

English Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (short answer questions - 45 minutes)

Spelling test - 15 minutes

Tuesday, May 13th:

English Reading (60 minutes)

Wednesday, May 14th:

Mathematics (arithmetic - 30 minutes)

Mathematics (reasoning - 40 minutes)

Thursday, May 15th:

Mathematics (reasoning - 40 minutes)

Once all the tests have been completed, they will be presented with their Leaver's Hoody

Thank you to Friends of DPA for subsidising this yet again.

They will be able to wear this instead of their school sweatshirt until the end of the year.

The next two weeks	
21 st April	Bank holiday
22 nd April	Year 4 PGL parent meeting at 3:30pm Orchestra starts today
23 rd April	
24 th April	
25 th April	
28 th April	Choir starts
29 th April	Year 5 to Aureus for Humantopia experience
30 th April	Year 4 to PGL Cedar Class Forest school
1 st May	Year 4 at PGL Author visit: Siobhan McDermot
2 nd May	Year 4 at PGL

RESIDENTIAL - YEAR 4

Year 4 are getting ready for their residential experience next week. As you can see from the diary above, there is a meeting today after school for parents.

We have been using the PGL site at Liddington since the school opened and have had success each year. I am looking forward to visiting Year 4 at Liddington to see them on this great adventure.



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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/cullotes etc

RECEPTION APPLICATIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2025

Over the holidays, the reception places were allocated nationally. There are a number of families within our nursery class who did not get a space allocated. This is because we were, once again, heavily over subscribed and all 60 places are now full. Please make sure that you accept the place as soon as possible.

If you did not get a space at DPA, it is important that you do accept the place that has been offered elsewhere so that you are assured that your child has a primary school allocation.

By law, reception classes have a maximum of 30 pupils (unless the local authority places an additional child). This is usually only for very exceptional circumstances. It is highly unlikely that any appeals will be successful and they do cost the school money.

We are always disappointed when a child is unable to continue their journey at DPA, but will of course, support your child with their transition to whichever primary school they are going to attend.

YOUNG VOICES JANUARY 2026

We will, once again, be taking the choir to the O2 Arena to participate in the Young Voices concert. Next year, Young Voices will be celebrating its 30th Anniversary so is likely to be even more special. We have also been able to secure a Friday evening again - so Friday 23rd January 2026 is our date to look forward to

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...
Tuesday 22nd April	Whole school	Summer 1 starts at 8:40am
22 nd April	Year 4 parents	PGL parent meeting
24th April	Reception	Vision Screening
29th April	Year 5	Aureus School Humantopia event
30th April - 2nd May	Year 4	Year 4 Residential to PGL Liddington
30 th April	Cedar Class	Cedar Class Forest School
1 st May	years 3-6	Author Visit
5th May	whole school	Bank holiday
8th May	Sycamore	Sycamore Class starts swimming
8 th May	Reception parents/carers	Reception maths workshop
9 th May	selected children from Year 3 and 4	Skills festival Boundary Park
12th May - 15th May	Year 6	SAT's Week
13th May	Year 5	Earth Trust visit
13 th May	Year 1 parents	Maths parent workshop with children
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

2025 Summer 1 continued

When	Who	What...
16 th May	Selected team from Year 5 and 6	Dynamos Cricket Tournament
20 th May	Whole school	Group photos
21 st May	Year 4	Lego workshop
21 st May	Cedar Class	Forest School
22 nd May	Year 6	Lego workshop
22 nd May	Reception	Beale Park trip
23 rd May	Years 1-6	Sports Day more information to follow

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 9:30am
7 th July	parent/carers of Year 5 children	Ukulele assembly at 230pm
4th July	Year 2	Hengistbury Head
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
16 th July	parent/carers of children in Pre-school - Acorn Class	End of Year Assembly at 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