Didcot Primary Academy

NEWSLETTER

29TH JUNE 2026

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to all parents, carers and families for your understanding, support and patience during the recent period of early school closures caused by the exceptionally warm weather.

We truly appreciate that changes to the school day can be challenging for families and may require adjustments to childcare and other commitments. Decisions to close early are never taken lightly. Whenever we consider any changes to the school day, our priority is always the safety, wellbeing and welfare of our pupils and staff.

SEN Parent meetings with existing and new staff

This week, learning plan meetings for children with SEND have been sent to all relevant parents. Due to the complexity of arranging meetings with both existing and new teaching staff, we are unable to offer alternative appointments. These are important meetings so that there is a smooth handover to your child's new teacher ready for September.

Transition arrangements : Tuesday 7th July and Wednesday 8th July

The majority of our Year 6 children will be on their two day transition to secondary schools on 7th and 8th July and so, we use these dates to have our transition activities in school making the most of using both days.

Pre-school: Those children transferring to our reception class will have their session, either morning or afternoon, within their new reception class on Wednesday. Please just bring them to pre-school as usual and our staff will sort the transition slots!

Reception to Year 5 children:
Tuesday: Children will need to be dropped off at their usual classroom. They will then be registered and go to their new classroom where they will remain for the rest of the day. Please pick up your child from their new class.
Wednesday: Your child will need to be dropped off and picked up from their new class.
Year 6 children not going to St Birinus or DGS: Please come to school as usual. You will be based in the studio.

The next two weeks...
Please make sure you have checked the calendar at the end of the newsletter for forthcoming dates, many of which are set months in advance.

Monday 29th June	What to expect in year 3 parent meeting 9am Forest school Maple
Tuesday 30th June	What to expect in Year 6 parent meeting 9am Year 1 Presentation to parents 3pm Cricket friendly against Stephen Freeman - selected team
Wednesday 1st July	
Thursday 2nd July	Home, Fire and Road Safety Talk Year 6 Year 2 presentation to parents
Friday 3rd July	Orienteering House competition What to expect in year 1 parent meeting 9am
Monday 6th July	Djembe concert for Year 3 parents at 11am Ukulele concert for Year 5 parents at 2:15pm
Tuesday 7th July	Transition Day 1 please bring your child to their usual class and pick them up from new class
Wednesday 8th July	Transition Day 2 - please bring your child to their new class
Thursday 9th July	DPA's Got Talent KS2 Year 6 party 3:30 - 5:30pm
Friday 10th July	What to expect in Year 2 parent meeting at 2:45pm



Colour run fun!
A huge thank you to all the PTA for the fantastic colour run. I have heard that fun was had by all and that it needs to be run again!

Calendar

I have organised the calendar differently this term. Please find whole school events listed first, followed by Key Stage specific event. I hope that you will find this more useful.

Whole school or multiple Key Stage Events Summer 2		
29th June - 3rd July	Parents of children with SEND	Transition meetings with current and new teachers
7th July	Reception to Year 5	Transition Day 1 - drop off your child to their current classroom and pick up from their new classroom
8th July	Reception to Year 5	Transition Day 2 - drop off and pick up will be at the new classrooms
9th July	Key Stage 2	DPA's Got Talent
10th July	Whole school	Your child's end of year report will be emailed to you today
13th July	selected musicians and choir	Summer concert. Parents of selected children invited.
15th July	Families of Wednesday RockSteady Bands	Concert at 10:30am and 2:30pm
17th July	Whole school	End of term at 12 noon. Gates will open at 11:50am.

Calendar

Reception and Pre-School Summer 2		
3rd July	current reception families	What to expect in Year 1 parent meeting 9am school hall
8th July	Pre-school children moving to Reception at DPA	Pre- School children will have a 2 hour session in reception either morning or afternoon. Please bring them to their Pre-school session as usual and collect them from pre-school as usual.
14th July	Pre-school parents	Pre-school celebration assembly. This will start promptly at 2:30pm
16th July	Pre-School	Last pre-school sessions today

Year 1 and 2 (Key Stage 1) Summer 2		
29th June	Maple class	Forest School
29th June	current Year 2 families	What to expect in Year 3 parent meeting 9am School hall
30th June	Year 1 families	Year 1 presentation to parents. This will start promptly at 3pm.
2nd July	Year 2 Parents	Year 2 parent presentation (moved from 23rd June)
6th July	Beech Class	Forest school
10th July	Year 1 families	What to expect in year 2 workshop 2:45pm School hall

Year 3 and 4 (Lower Key Stage 2) Summer 2		
23rd June	Current Year 3 Families	What to expect in year 4 parent meeting 9 am (school hall)
25th June	current Year 4 families	What to expect in year 5 parent meeting 9 am (school hall)
24th June	Years 3 and 4	KS2 Olympic Style event run by Get Active. Please wear PE Kits.
6th July	year 3 parents	Djembe Concert at 11 am

Year 5 and 6 (Upper Key Stage 2) Summer 2

30th June	Current Year 5 families	What to expect in Year 6 parent meeting. 9am School hall
1st July	Selected year 5 and 6	Omnia Sports Cup
2nd July	Year 5 and 6	Home, fire and Road Safety Talk
6th July	Year 5	Ukulele concert at 2:30pm
7th and 8th July	children transitioning to the mentioned schools	transition days at Aureus, DGS and St Birinus
9th July	Year 6 children	Year 6 party 3:30pm - 5:30pm. Please note that **all** children will need to be picked up from this event.
16th July	Year 6 Families	Year 6 proudly presents: Shakespeare Rocks at 2pm and 6pm.
17th July	Year 6 families	Final Year 6 assembly. Amphitheatre (weather permitting) 10:15am

Looking ahead.....Term dates 2026-27	
First Day of term	Thursday 3rd September 2026
Half term	26th October – 30th October 2026
Last day of term	Thursday 17th December at 12 noon (pre-school sessions finish on Wednesday 16th December)
Winter Holidays	18th December - 1st January 2027
Further information	Thursday 3rd September 2026 and Friday 4th September 2026 half days for Reception children, allocated as either morning or afternoon. 7 th September in full time. 9th September Pre-school children start on allocated days INSET DAYS Tuesday 1st September and Wednesday 2nd September Friday 9th October 2026
Spring Term	
First day of term	4th January 2027
Half term	15th February - 19th February 2027
Last day of term	Pre school 24th March 2027 Rest of school 25th March at 12 noon, gates will open at 11:50am
Easter/Spring holidays	26th March - 9th April 2027
Further information	
Summer term	
First day of term	12th April 2027
Half term	31st May - 4th June 2027
Last day of term	Pre school: Monday 19th July Rest of school: Tuesday 20th July at 12 noon. Gates will open at 11:50am.
Further information	Inset day on Friday 11th June and Wednesday 21st July

Whole school or multiple Key Stage Events
Autumn 2026 1

3rd September	Year 1-6	School term starts at 8:40am
2nd October	whole school	Individual photographs
9th October	whole school	Inset Day -school closed for all children
22nd October	Reception - Year 6	Flu Vaccination programme

Pre-School and Reception Events Autumn 1		
3rd September	Reception children	Children will be allocated either the 8:40 - 11:10am session or the 1-3:30pm session
4th September	Reception Children	Children will be allocated either the 8:40 - 11:10am session or the 1-3:30pm session
7th September	Reception children	children start full time
9th September	Pre-School	Pre-School starts. Please note new starting time of 9:30am. 30 hours: 9:30am - 3:30pm (please provide a packed lunch) 15 hours: 9:30am - 12:30pm (please provide a packed lunch) 15 hours 12:30pm-3:30pm Extended hours 8:40am - 9:30am available to book and pay for in advance £8 per session.

Year 1 and 2 (Key Stage 1) Autumn 1		
15th December	Year 1	Jack and the Beanstalk theatre trip Cornerstone Theatre Didcot

Year 3 and 4 (Lower KS2) Autumn 1		

Year 5 and 6 (Upper KS2) Autumn 1		
14th - 18th September	Year 6	Kilrvough Residential Trip