



Dear Parents and Carers, what a brilliant start to the new school year. The School has been buzzing with excitement as pupils dive into new topics, meet new teachers, and reconnect with friends both old and new. The first week has already showcased the positivity and resilience of our school community. We can't wait to see what the rest of the year brings.

This weeks newsletter contains lots of important information for the year ahead, I encourage you to check the newsletter each week so you don't miss anything important. Especially our meet the teacher sessions next week!

As always, please contact the school office if you have any questions or concerns.

Have a wonderful weekend.

School dinner eligibility has changed. Please see:
<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals> for more info!



PE

PE DAYS	
Reception	Monday
Class 2 (Year 1 & 2)	Monday and Friday
Class 3 (Year 3)	Monday and Wednesday
Class 4 (Year 4 & 5)	Monday and Friday
Class 5 (year 6)	Monday and Wednesday
Please ensure your child comes to school in their PE kit on a Monday ONLY . On all other PE days, please bring PE kit in a bag to change into.	

Clubs

Day	Club	Club Lead	Group	Time
Monday	A4A Sport Club	A4A	Year 6 Only KS1 & KS2	15.30 -16.30
	SATS Club	Miss Priest		15.30-16.15
	Colouring Club	Mrs Shuttleworth		12.30-13.00
Tuesday	No Clubs			
Wednesday	Tag Rugby	Miss Dodds	KS2	15.30-16.15
	Lego Club	Mrs Freeman	KS1/KS2	15.30-16.15
Thursday	Art Club	Miss Treeby	KS1/KS2	15.30-16.15
	Reading Club	Mrs Dunton	KS2	15.30-16.00
Friday	No Clubs			

New Club?

Ayse, from The Paint Box has very kindly offered to Run an after school club on a Monday, 15.30-16.30pm for the price of £10 per child. Before we can secure this booking, we need to know if

there will be enough interest. Please could you email the school office by Monday 14th September if your child would like to attend. If there is enough interest, we would aim to get this booked in for the following week. Please see their website for more info: <https://thepaintbox.sumupstore.com/> Please note this is for Years 1 to Years 6 only. Thank you.

The Paint Box

Preschool info

Welcome back everybody, It has been so lovely to welcome our children back and hear all about their summers. This half term we are looking at "Magnificent me" and celebrating all our wonderful children. We look forward to welcoming our new children next week.

Lisa, Jess, Kelly and Tanya

Class info

Class 1 – Reception. PE day: Monday

We've had such a wonderful first week in Reception! The class have settled in so well! We've read stories, performed on our stage (there are definitely budding thespians amongst us!) and sung songs all about numbers. We have had great fun exploring the classroom; drawing, painting and building and love creating potions in our outdoor kitchen. Some children even wanted to show they could already write their name so are starring on our writing wall! Look out for pictures of the fun we are having on Tapestry in the next couple of weeks! Next week we are looking at our families, so please can we ask you to provide a family photo for your child to discuss (Baby photos kindly welcome!). ****If you have any spare pants/socks and age 4/5 uniform please bring them in for our spares! Thank you***

Class 2 – Year 1 & Year 2. PE Days: Monday and Friday

We've had a wonderful first week in Year One and Two. The children have amazed us with their positive attitudes, growing independence and all-round fabulousness — I feel very lucky to have such a brilliant bunch of children to share the next year with. We've spent time settling into routines, getting to know one another and exploring our new classroom, and the children have embraced everything with enthusiasm. This week we also began our work on place value, and to our great excitement, we discovered a mysterious surprise left in the classroom by *The Bear Under the Stairs!* The children were delighted, and it added a little extra magic to our learning. Wishing you all a restful weekend.

Class 3 – Year 3. PE Days: Monday and Wednesday

Class 3 have settled in brilliantly this week and we are already very proud of them. We began our new English unit all about *the wilderness*, taking our learning outside to explore what we could find "in the wild". The children collected natural objects and used these as inspiration for some careful observational drawing in art. It's been a fantastic start to our learning journey and we can't wait to see where it takes us next.

Class 4 – Year 4 & Year 5. PE Days: Monday and Friday. Forest school: Thursday PM.

Class 4 have had a great week settling into their new class. It has been lovely to welcome some new students into the class and seeing new friendships blossom. We had forest school on Thursday, which everyone really enjoyed.

Class 5 – Year 6. PE Days: Monday and Wednesday

Wow- what a fantastic first week back for our new Year 6s!! I have been blown away by their manners, kindness and willingness to have a go. In English we have begun exploring our new book The Arrival all about migration and journeys. The children have written some fantastic diary entries in character of the little girl and her dad who moves away. In maths, the children have been revisiting their knowledge of Place Value and are ready to move on to their first new unit of Year 6. It has been a wonderful week, Well done Year 6!

Celebration

Stars of the Week:

Reception – Everyone

Year 1 – Luke

Year 2 – Grayson

Year 3 – Everyone

Year 4 – Wren

Year 5 – Ruby

Year 6 - DeeDee



Reader of the week...

Class 1 – Everyone

Class 2 – Freya

Class 3 – Harry B

Class 4 – George S

Class 5 – Annabel



Yours sincerely,

T. Coulthard

Tess Coulthard

Executive Head Teacher

L. Kirkham

Lucinda Kirkham
Head of School

Diary Dates – New events in **RED**



Monday 14 th September	Year 3	Meet the Teacher @ 15.35pm
Wednesday 16 th September	Year 1 and 2	Meet the Teacher @15.35pm
Thursday 17 th September	Year 4, 5 & 6	Meet the Teacher @15.35pm
Friday 2 nd October	Everyone	Harvest Festival @ 3pm in the school Hall. Tinned and dry donations welcome, please give to the school office asap.
Saturday 3rd October	Everyone	PTFA Big breakfast
Friday 9 th October	Year 6	Junior Lifeskills (More info to follow)
Friday 16 th October	Year 4 – Year 6	Rotary Swimathon (More info to follow)
W/C 19 th October	Everyone	Parents Evening Week (More info to follow)
Wednesday 21 st October	Parents	SEND Coffee afternoon in the hall 14.30-15.30pm with Mrs French
Friday 2 nd July 2027	Everyone	Sports Day

PTFA info

A message from the PTFA:

The Big Breakfast is back!

We hope you've all had a lovely summer and that you're settling back into school! We're already looking ahead to our fantastic **Big Breakfast on Saturday 3rd October**.

We'd love for as many of you to join us as possible. The money raised from this event goes directly towards supporting all the children at our school and pre-school, so every contribution really does make a difference.

Please keep an eye out for the **food donation sheets** going up around reception next week. If you're able to sign up and donate an item, we'd be incredibly grateful.



We hope to see you there for a delicious breakfast, a chance to catch up and, most importantly, a brilliant fundraiser for our children!

Thank you for your continued support.



After-School Green Learning Activity For Year 4 to Year 6

Woodland Horticulture 4 Kids

at the Deer Wood Native Tree Nursery

Deer Wood, Loddiswell, TQ7 4EE

For all sessions please can students bring the following items to change into at school:

- Clothes suitable for outdoors, changeable weather conditions, that they don't mind getting

dirty (please note - full length trousers are essential)

- Sensible footwear or wellingtons
- Plus a bottle of water to stay hydrated

To qualify for the certificate at the end, full attendance & completion the course for this funded project is a requirement. So please ensure that your child is able to commit and attend all 4 of the sessions, which will be one per season:

1. **SEED COLLECTING** late Sept/ Oct 26
2. **SOWING & GROWING** Feb/March 27
3. **ROOTS & POTS** April/May 27
4. **TREES & EARTH** June/July 27

(Exact dates tbc and will be running after school on Tuesdays/Weds/Thurs.)

Please can you confirm your commitment for your child to attend all 4 sessions over the school year from Sept - July, and your ability to drop off /pick up from Deer Wood.

PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL OFFICE FOR A CONSENT FORM. ALL FORMS MUST BE SENT BACK TO THE OFFICE BY WEDNESDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER – THANK YOU.



Woodland Horticulture 4 Kids
A Great Green After-School Activity
At the Deer Wood Native Tree Nursery

We believe Nature knows best.
The Deer Wood Trust CIC is committed to teaching the younger generation a natural, holistic approach to understanding how to grow and care for their own native trees from seed.

**It's fun, practical, hands-on learning
All set in a native woodland**

- Discover how to become a 'Tree Champion'!
- Enjoy making clean, natural compost and growing medium
- Learn about chemical-free Native Tree growing
- Sow your own tree seeds to plant at school, home or in the community

4 x 90 min Fully Funded Sessions:

- Seed and nut hunting
- Basic Tree ID
- Making natural Organic potting compost
- Sowing and growing
- Potting up seedlings
- After care of the young trees

Deer Wood, Loddiswell, South Hams, Devon TQ7 4EE Contact: thedeerwoodtrust@gmail.com

COMMUNITY FUND

DEER WOOD TRUST

A message from our Clerk to Governors;

We need you to help make our schools AMAZING places for our children to grow and to learn. Without volunteers, our schools simply cannot run and we urgently need enthusiastic people to join our governing body. Absolutely no education experience needed! You do not need to be an education expert. We welcome diverse perspectives from all walks of life. If you have a passion for your community, you have everything it takes to make a real difference. Governors work behind the scenes to support our four primary schools. You will focus on the big picture by planning long-term goals for our schools, checking how they are progressing, and ensuring school budgets are spent wisely to give children the best possible education. Time commitment: Just 5–10 hours a month (around 6 meetings a year, with online options available). Who Do You Know? If this isn't right for you, please pass this on! Do you know a grandparent, a retiree, a

friend or a neighbour who wants to give back to the community? We need people like them to keep our village schools thriving.

Get in Touch Today

To find out more please email clerk@southhamsfederation.org.uk. The governors next meet on Monday 21st September, if you would like to come along and observe the meeting please let us know.

Data Collection Information Reminder

As we begin the new school year, please take a few moments to check and update your child's information via MyChildAtSchool (MCAS). It is essential that we hold accurate contact details, emergency contacts, medical information, dietary requirements and parental permissions for every child. Up-to-date information helps us keep your child safe and ensures we can contact you quickly if needed. Please log into MCAS and review your child's details as soon as possible, even if you believe no changes are required. Accurate records are particularly important as we prepare for the annual School Census later this term. Thank you for your support in helping us maintain current and accurate pupil information.

Privacy Notices and Data Protection

As part of our commitment to protecting the personal information we hold about our pupils, parents and staff, our Privacy Notices are available to view on the school website. These notices explain what information we collect, why we collect it, how it is used, and who it may be shared with. We encourage all parents and carers to take a few moments to read these documents. We would also like to remind families that consent for the use of photographs, videos and certain types of information sharing can be reviewed and updated at any time. Parents can amend their preferences through MyChildAtSchool (MCAS) or by contacting the school office. Please ensure your contact details and your child's information are kept up to date so that we can communicate with you effectively and respond quickly in the event of an emergency. Thank you for your continued support in helping us keep our records accurate and our school community safe.

Emergency Consent

As part of our ongoing commitment to keeping every child safe, we would like to remind parents and carers about Benedict's Law, which strengthens allergy safety measures in schools. Named in memory of Benedict Blythe, this legislation aims to ensure that all schools have clear allergy policies, appropriate staff training, individual healthcare plans where needed, and access to emergency adrenaline auto-injectors for severe allergic reactions. We also ask families to complete and return emergency consent and medical information forms promptly, as up-to-date consent enables us to act quickly and appropriately in the event of a medical emergency. By working together and ensuring that all health information is accurate and current, we can help provide a safe and inclusive environment for every child.