



Mr Kirby's Weekly News

Dear Parents and carers,

What a wonderful start to the new academic year we've had! It's been fantastic to see all the children return after the summer break, settling back into their learning with enthusiasm and energy. The transition back to school life has been remarkably smooth, and I'm delighted to see how quickly everyone has adapted to being back in the classroom. I think it's important to thank to all of our staff, who have worked tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure we provide a calm, well-organised environment for learning from day one. Their commitment and hard work have been instrumental in creating the positive atmosphere that welcomes our pupils each morning.

As always, if any members of our school community have any queries or concerns throughout the year, please do let me know. You can contact me via Class Dojo or on the school gates each morning and afternoon.

School Values

I'm excited to share that we've refreshed our school values following extensive consultation with our entire school community. After gathering valuable suggestions and contributions from parents, pupils, staff, and governors, we've adopted three new values that truly reflect who we are as a school: Enjoy, Belong, Believe. These values will guide everything we do at Dover Park, helping to shape the experiences and opportunities we provide for every member of our school family.



ENJOY
We find fun in our learning and engage.



BELONG
Together we belong: Our community is united in kindness.



BELIEVE
We keep trying and take on new challenges with courage and curiosity.

Diary Dates

Looking ahead, we're busy behind the scenes mapping out dates for all our upcoming events, activities, development days and parent evenings. We understand how important it is for families to plan ahead, and we'll be able to confirm these dates very shortly. Keep an eye out for further communication in the coming weeks. Thank you for your continued support as we embark on another exciting year together.

Staff Development Day

On Monday, our staff participated in a professional development day where we focused on a number of crucial areas. We reviewed timetables to ensure smooth transitions throughout the day and we studied the Department for Education's most recent safeguarding updates, ensuring we remain at the forefront of keeping our pupils safe and secure.

School Rules

We also took time to revisit our behaviour expectations, which remain consistently high across the school. These high standards create an exceptional learning environment where every pupil can thrive. Our approach remains beautifully simple with just three clear school rules that everyone can remember and follow: Be ready, be respectful, and be safe. These rules extend across our whole school community and apply to children, staff, parents, carers and visitors.



Welcome to the Dover Park Family

I'd like to extend a very warm welcome to our new reception class and their families, as well as our new starters across the school. It's been lovely to meet you all and we look forward to seeing you in the coming weeks.

I'm particularly pleased to welcome our new team members who have joined us this term. Ms Castle, Ms Smith, and Ms Jones have already settled wonderfully into life at Dover Park, and we're thrilled to have them as part of our team. Their fresh perspectives and enthusiasm are already making a positive impact across the school.

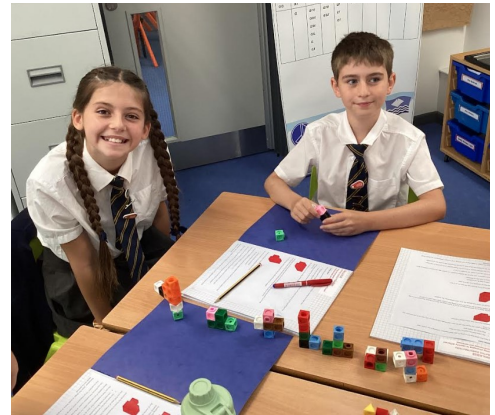


LEARNING

Year 6 have made a great start to the year, they are full of energy and motivated. They have already tackled a maths investigation. They were working as part of a team to find different ways in which five cubes could be combined.



Here is Isabelle looking in the box, but what's inside it?



After a lively 'Story Whoosh!' reenactment of *Man on the Moon (A Day in the Life of Bob)*, the children transformed into some of the story's most mischievous characters.

This week the children looked at our new values: Enjoy, Belong, Believe and acted out how we might show those values.



LEARNING

Year 3 have settled into school beautifully. In PSHE we looked at special people in our lives, especially our friends. We had some lovely discussions about how friendships work, and how to fix it when they don't.



Year 2 pupils have been very focussed on the school rule to 'Be Ready' at the beginning of this school year. It seemed sensible, therefore, to make some clocks that we will use regularly to help develop our skill in telling the time. WE talked about the range of vocabulary involved with telling the time so decided to cover our faces with the clock faces.



Year 1 are looking at structures in Design Technology this half term. The children have been very busy exploring different structures outside the classroom around the school, structures they might recognise locally and from around the world. They built their own structures and needed to make sure our structures were stable, free standing and sturdy. The children talked about the different ways the structures joined, curved and straight edges. This will contribute to their final product at the end of this half term!



Hot Chocolate Friday

Year 1— Ellie
Year 2— Lorenzo
Year 3— Issac
Year 4— Tommie
Year 5— Owen
Year 6— Prudence



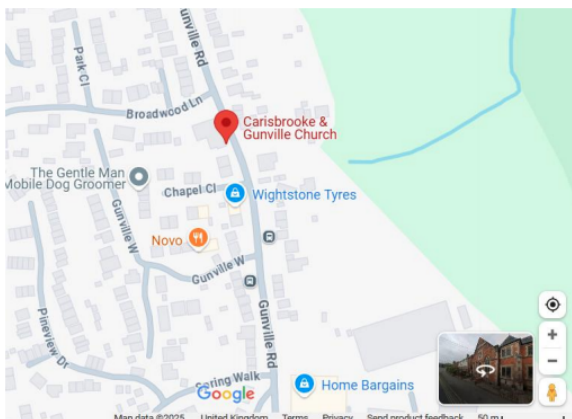
Well done to Phoebe who has completed the Summer Reading Challenge over the summer holidays.

Isle of Wight
Neurodiversity
Team



Parent and Caregiver Peer Support Sessions

Where: Gunville Methodist Church Hall



When:

11th September 2025 (10am - 12 noon)

6th November 2025 (10am - 12 noon)

15th January 2026 (10am - 11am)

5th March 2026 (10am - 12 noon)

7th May 2026 (10am - 12 noon)

Come along to meet with other parents / caregivers for an informal meet up and chat about your neurodiversity journey. Refreshments provided. No need to book, just turn up.

Free onsite parking.



Drop-in Sessions

For parents of Early years children with emerging



SEND

Please scan the QR code for more information and to book

Come and join us for a friendly and informal drop in session, designed to provide support, advice, and a chance to connect with other parents and carers.

We often have Occupational Therapists and Speech and Language Therapists available to offer specialist advice.

10th September- Newport Family Centre

17th October- Sandown Family Centre

7th November- Ryde Family Centre

9th December- Newport Family Centre

9.30am - 10.30am or

10.30am - 11.30am



Isle of Wight
Council

NHS
Hampshire and
Isle of Wight Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust



StoneCrabs
Theatre

FREE!

**RYDE LIBRARY
8-12 YEAR OLDS**

WEDNESDAYS, 5-6:30PM

STARTS 24 SEPTEMBER



OFF BOOK

DRAMA GROUP



**PLEASE
DON'T PARK**

**ON DOUBLE
YELLOW LINES**