



Dover Park Primary School



Mr Kirby's Weekly News

18 July
2026

Dear Dover Park Family

As we approach the final week of the school year, I want to take a moment to reflect on what an incredible journey this term has been. It is hard to believe that next week is our last week of the academic year, with the final day for the children being Thursday 23rd July. This week has been a true testament to our core values: ensuring our children enjoy their learning, feel a deep sense of belonging within our community and believe in their own incredible potential.

Dover Park's Got Talent

The excitement does not stop as we head into our final days. Next week, we will be hosting the grand final of 'Dover Park's Got Talent'. For the past couple of weeks, children across the school have been auditioning in their classrooms, with pupils voting for their favourite acts to represent them. This is a great way for children to showcase their talents, but also to learn about the British Value of democracy. We are very much looking forward to the grand final on Wednesday morning, which promises to be a spectacular celebration of the diverse talents within our school.





Summer Fayre



Our Summer Fayre on Friday was an great success and it was lovely to see our entire school community come together. The weather was spectacular, if not a little warm, and the atmosphere was buzzing with fun. Most importantly, every penny raised from the event will go directly toward enriching the school experience for our children.

An event like this relies heavily on the kindness of others and we are incredibly grateful for your overwhelming generosity and donations.

We would like to extend a special thank you to the local businesses and parents who kindly supported us:

- Ryde Opticians
- The Duck
- KFC
- Yelfs
- Sleepie Teepees
- Tapnell Farm
- IOW Steam Railway
- McDonald's
- The Isle of Wight Cocktail Co.
- All parents who generously provided sweets, toys, bottles, and raffle prizes.



I must also say a massive thank you to our wonderful staff who gave up their afternoon to run the stalls. A very special mention goes to Mrs Cooper, who brilliantly co-ordinated the entire event and managed to amass a step count of almost 20,000 on Friday as she rushed around ensuring everything was ready for our families!





A Curriculum Built for Progress - Artwork



Behind the scenes, our teaching team works hard to ensure that our whole curriculum is carefully mapped to showcase clear, year-on-year progress for every single subject. While we fully meet all the requirements of the national curriculum, we deliberately develop the deep skills and knowledge our children hold over time.

A wonderful example of this can be seen in our Art curriculum. Every class undertakes a number of detailed artist studies, allowing our pupils to develop a rich knowledge of international artists and diverse cultural movements. Recently, Year 2 have been deeply inspired by the vibrant artwork of Tanzanian artist Edward Saidi Tingatinga. Using his distinctive style as a springboard, the children have created their own stunning, colorful animal paintings and collages, demonstrating just how much their artistic skills are flourishing.



Making Memories



It has been a week of adventure and discovery across the year groups, with our children making lifelong memories alongside their friends.

- Year 6 visited Network Ryde, Ryde Town Council's award-winning and inclusive youth service. This was a fantastic opportunity for them to look ahead, as the service supports young people from Year 7 onwards.
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- Year 1 had a magical time at The Wildheart Animal Sanctuary. The children were in absolute awe of the animals, with the magnificent bears being a particular highlight of the day.
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- Year 4 stepped back in time with a visit to Carisbrooke Castle, where they fully immersed themselves in the rich history of the Isle of Wight.
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Seeing the children return from these trips with beaming smiles and new knowledge is a great reminder of why we value experiential learning so highly.





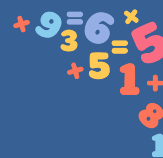
Young Sounds Musicians Take to the Stage



We were treated to a beautiful musical showcase this week courtesy of our talented Young Sounds Musicians. Performing in front of a live audience of proud parents, the children demonstrated incredible musical know-how and confidence. They have worked hard to master a range of instruments this year and their hard work paid off. Watching them perform embodied everything we want for our pupils: the courage to try new things and the belief that they can achieve wonderful things.



Mathematical Success



Travis and Leo have shown they BELIEVE by persevering to complete all the games on Numbots. This involves answering hundreds of questions over a long period of time. Super perseverance, well done!





Celebrations and Award



Writers of the Week

YR: Albie

Y1: Ezra

Y2: Flynn

Y3: Evie

Y4: Sophie

Y5: James

Y6: Emily WL

Hot Chocolate Friday Winners

YR: Frankie

Y1: Phoebe

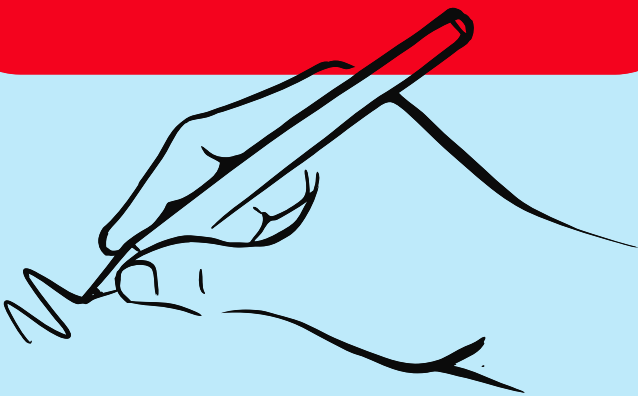
Y2: Raine

Y3: Sophia

Y4: Lisa

Y5: Izzy

Y6: Freddie



Cloakroom Award

Year 3



Dates for the Diary

21st July—Year 6 leavers assembly 5:30-6:30pm

22nd July—Year 6 Prom—Ryde Castle—6:00-8:00pm

23rd July—Last day of term for children

24th July—Inset day STAFF ONLY

27th July—Inset day STAFF ONLY

2nd September - First Day back for pupils



Community



**ISLE OF WIGHT
STEAM RAILWAY**

IWSO
ISLE OF WIGHT
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Steam Railway Prom

Saturday 25th July 2026, 3pm
Isle of Wight Steam Railway, Havenstreet

**kids go
free***
*SEE WIGHTLINK.CO.UK FOR DETAILS

Enjoy family film favourites with a live orchestra and a Last Night of the Proms finale.
Bring a picnic. Dogs welcome.

iwsteamrailway.co.uk/events

WIGHTLINK
Isle of Wight Council

Isle of Wight Symphony Orchestra Society is a registered charity, No. 283278

£3 per session
Refreshments are free

Every Wednesday
10:30am – 12:00pm
(Except the 3rd Wednesday of the month)



**For those with dementia
and their carers**

**No musical ability needed
Come along and have some fun**

All Saints Church - Ryde
Queens Rd
PO33 3BG
01983 716020



Beat the heat

Plan ahead



Check the weather
forecast and the news



Plan ahead to
avoid the heat



Schedule activities to
cooler times of the day

Keep yourself cool



Drink plenty of fluids and
avoid excess alcohol



Wear sunscreen, a
hat, and sunglasses



Cool your skin with water
and slow down

Find somewhere cool



Close blinds and curtains
during the day



Go indoors or outdoors,
whichever feels cooler



Avoid closed spaces
like stationary cars

Be safe



Be on the lookout
for signs of heat
related illness



Look after yourself
and check in with
others



Stay safe when
swimming



Get help. Call
NHS 111 or in an
emergency 999

For more information go to: gov.uk/ukhsa/beat-the-heat

A six-week celebration of
creativity and culture taking
place across the Isle of Wight.

**11 SEPTEMBER
to 24 OCTOBER**

CREATIVE
ISLAND
Presents

CAN YOU HEAR US?

Celebrating all
that the Island is

Find out more →

Join the creative island team from 11th September to 24th October 2026 for the Island's 6-week celebration of creativity and culture: CAN YOU HEAR US?

Between now until the end of October, we're building up to our 6-week celebration by collaborating with brilliant partners to host a vibrant range of FREE community-led activities to ensure that everyone has access to creative and cultural opportunities. We're talking theatre, carnival, music, food, nature, craft and stories. Reconnect with your community, try something new and join in the Island's biggest celebration.

Free activities are ready for you to book, visit canyouhearus.uk for more information.



HAF is back for Summer 2026!

The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme offers free activities and meals to eligible school-age children during the main school holidays. With summer approaching we have included details below of our summer programme.

- Activities run from Monday 27th July- Friday 28th August
- Bookings open Tuesday 23rd June at 12pm
- All activities include a healthy nutritious meal for children and young people attending
- Free spaces are available to children who receive income-related free school meals
- Varied activity programme including horse riding, music, football, fun at the farm, youth clubs, multi activity holiday clubs, bushcraft, water sports and family days.
- Please share with families you are working with and encourage them to book on to activities should they be eligible.

We can also offer a limited number of discretionary-funded places for children who do not meet the criteria above but would benefit from attending. This may include, for example:

- Children assessed by the Local Authority as being in need, at risk or vulnerable
- Looked-after children
- Children under Early Help
- Young carers
- Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)

For more information on the programme and details on who can access discretionary funded places, please visit our [webpages](#).

How to book:

All bookings can be made through our [HAF Booking System](#) (QR code below)



Full details on all our activities can also be found on the Isle of Wight [Family Information Hub webpage](#).

Please contact the HAF Team on holidayactivities@iow.gov.uk if you have any questions.