



Dover Park Primary School



Mr Kirby's Weekly News

26th Sept
2026

Dear Dover Park Family

Welcome to this week's newsletter. I hope you have all had a productive and pleasant week. As we settle further into the term, it is wonderful to see the vibrant learning taking place right across the school. Below are a few key updates, reminders and responses to your recent feedback. Warm regards,

Mr Kirby

Prospective Families for September 2027

Believe it or not, I have already begun showing prospective families around the school for admission in September 2027. Time certainly flies in education!

If you have younger children due to start then, or if you would be willing to recommend our school to friends and neighbours, we would be immensely grateful. We currently have an advertisement live on Facebook, so if you happen to spot it on your feed, please give it a share to help spread the word. Each child joining our school adds valuable funds to support the education and facilities we can provide.



Parent Questionnaire

A sincere thank you to everyone who has taken the time to complete our recent parent questionnaire. Gaining your insights on our school's strengths, as well as areas where we can develop, is invaluable in helping us shape our next steps.

If you have not yet had the chance to fill it in, please do so by clicking the link: <https://forms.gle/ZrD47GRu3LntrC5o7>

Your feedback truly matters to us and I will continue to address the key points raised in these weekly newsletters.

Through the recent questionnaire, a couple of specific issues came to light that we were previously unaware of. We are so glad these were brought to our attention so we can work on resolving them, but it serves as a helpful reminder that our door is always open. We want to work closely in partnership with you and we can only resolve matters or make positive changes when we know about them.

If you ever have a concern, a question or something on your mind, please catch us at the gate, send us a message, or pop into the school office. By sharing things with us as soon as they arise, we can work together straight away to support your children and make their school experience as wonderful as possible.



THANK
YOU





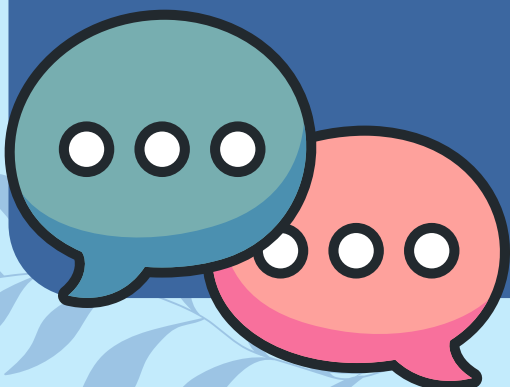
Class Learning and Communication

In the recent questionnaire, a few parents mentioned that it isn't always easy to know what their children are learning in class. From personal experience, I'm aware children aren't always forthcoming with the events of the day!

In response to this, you should have now received a half-termly overview detailing the specific topics your child's year group will be covering over the coming weeks. We will continue to send these out at the start of every half term.

As always, this newsletter highlights key class activities each week and I've asked teachers to continue sharing updates on Class Dojo to give you a window into daily school life. Please note that while teachers love capturing these moments, we aren't able to send individual photo updates for every child, due to the time this would take.

In addition to these regular updates, termly parent evenings provide a dedicated opportunity to discuss your child's progress and ask any further questions. However, you don't need to wait until these meetings if something comes up. If you ever have specific queries regarding your child's learning, please feel free to message their class teacher, who will be more than happy to help.



Individual School Photos – Wednesday, 7th October

Our annual individual photo day is fast approaching on Wednesday, 7th October. Please ensure your child comes to school wearing their school jumper or cardigan.

While we can't guarantee every child will retain their beautifully groomed hair and tidy appearance until the camera clicks, having the full uniform on hand makes all the difference for a classic portrait!



In the Classrooms

Reception Class

Reception developed their independence in the art area this week by learning how to use the watercolours correctly, wash out water pots when needed, put their finished paper on the drier, always wearing an apron and knowing where to hang it up without needing an adult.



Year 1

This week Year 1 went on a walk around the local area as part of Geography. We were looking at human and physical features. The children were able to spot lots of features. They decided Ryde Harbour was both a human and physical feature – the sea is a physical feature but the harbour, where the boats dock, was put there by humans



Year 2

In PSHE the children have been thinking about feelings, the children were all given a picture of either a person or an action and had to decide how the person was feeling or how the action made them feel! Some children were then chosen to hold the bags (and create the emotion using their own face!) and the rest of the class posted their picture and explained their reasons. Great discussion!



Year 3

Year 3 spent their PSHE lesson this week working on teamwork using tangrams to try and make a range of different pictures.



Year 4

Year 4 enjoyed comparing, grouping and classifying different animals based on their observable characteristics and other information that we knew about the animals. We chose 'odd-ones-out' according to their appearance, how their young are born, how they receive oxygen and where they live most of their lives.



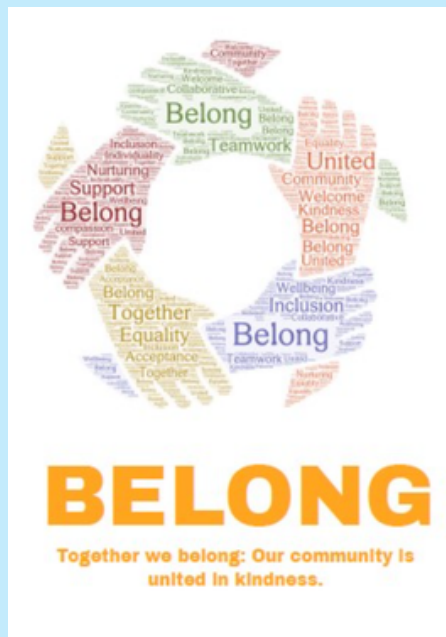
Year 5

This week we have been building models to show the Earth and Moon's orbits and Earth's rotation, as well as exploring the impact of coastal erosion on our island. In music, we have been developing our keyboard skills and practising using individual fingers, while in maths we have been using mental addition strategies and shortcuts alongside the formal written method.



Year 6

Year 6 have had a fantastic day. Two artists called Jo and Spike came in to work on some clay sculptures, which will eventually go on display. They began by producing some wildlife based pictures using a range of different materials. These were then used to produce their final clay models. Great work Year 6.



Celebrations

Awards from Home



Well done to our swimmers and sports star!

Readers of the week and Hot Cholocate Friday Awards will be celebrated on Class Dojo this week

Attendance

During our weekly celebration assembly, we announce and applaud the class with the highest attendance for that week.

This week, our attendance trophy was won by Year 4 with 98.33% attendance!

Following a brilliant suggestion from our School Council last year, we are now celebrating overall half-termly attendance as well. The class with the best attendance over the half term will win a special reward of their choice!

Last year, winning classes chose treats such as a 'crafternoon', bringing a favourite toy in from home, or spending some special reward time in the cabin. Each class is currently having discussions to decide what their class prize will be for this term, should they have the best attendance.



Dates for the Diary

Whole School Dates

5th, 6th, 7th October - Parents Evening

7th October - Individual Photos

Tuesday 13th October - School Disco – reception within the school
day no cost

Tuesday 15th December - Christmas Movie Night – PJ's and
Popcorn

Reception

Wednesday 7th October – Phonics

Workshop 2:30pm

Wednesday 16th December –

Christmas crafts

Friday 21st May – Music workshop

Thursday 15th July – Class Assembly

Year 1

Tuesday 15th December – Art

Workshop

Thursday 18th March – Class

Assembly

Tuesday 18th May – Music Workshop

Year 2

Wednesday 9th December – Music

Workshop

Wednesday 17th March – DT

Workshop

Friday 28th May – Class Assembly

Year 3

Thursday 11th February – Class

Assembly

Monday 15th March – Music

Workshop

Monday 17th May – Art Workshop



Dates for the Diary

Year 4

Thursday 10th December – Class Assembly

Thursday 20th May – Music Workshop

Thursday 1st July – Art Workshop

Year 5

Thursday 12th November – DT Workshop

Thursday 25th March – Class Assembly

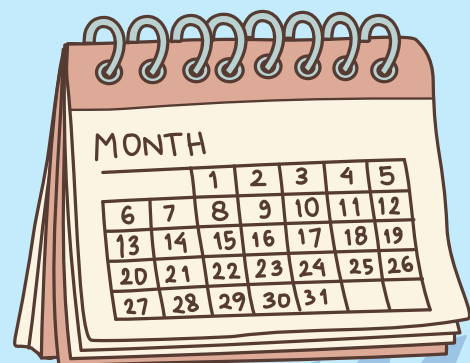
Thursday 13th May – Music Workshop

Year 6

Wednesday 11th November – DT Workshop

Monday 1st March – Music Workshop

TBC – Leavers Assembly



Parent and caregivers peer support sessions

A welcoming space to connect, share experiences and access support



Join us for a relaxed and friendly session where you can:

- meet other parents and caregivers;
- share experiences in a supportive environment;
- explore ideas and strategies that may help at home and school;
- connect with the Isle of Wight neurodiversity team;
- enjoy tea, coffee and informal conversation.

Upcoming sessions

Wednesday 16 September 2026
9 to 11am

Ventnor Family Centre, Albert Street,
Ventnor PO38 1EZ

Tuesday 3 November 2026
9 to 11am

Newport Family Hub, Furrilongs,
Newport PO30 2AX

2027 session dates will be announced in December 2026

Booking required

To book your place, please email iowneurodiversityteam@iow.gov.uk



Supporting families of neurodivergent children and young people across the Isle of Wight



Medina College



YEAR 6 OPEN EVENING

TUESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2026
5.00 – 8.00 PM

- ✓ Explore our facilities
- ✓ Meet staff and students
- ✓ See our curriculum in action
- ✓ Discover extra-curricular and enrichment opportunities

Every young person
deserves a path.
Come and discover yours...

 medina.iow.sch.uk  01983 526523



Carisbrooke College

Year 6 Open Evening

Tuesday 29 September 2026 | 5:00 - 8:00 pm

Please join us for:

- A presentation from the Headteacher (repeated at 5:15, 6:00 & 6:45 pm)
- Tours of the school and our facilities
- Opportunities to meet staff (including SEND) and current students
- Interactive subject demonstrations

All welcome - no need to book!

 carisbrooke.iow.sch.uk



Lift
Ryde

Lift Ryde Open Evening

October 7th 4:00pm - 7:00pm

Parent Presentations 4:30pm and 5:30pm





Does your
child have
ADHD or
ADHD
traits?

FREE ONLINE SEMINAR
**"An Introduction to Parenting
Children with ADHD"**

Insights and strategies for families

Thursday 8th October 2026, 7.30 – 9.00 pm

No booking required!

Simply join the seminar by scanning the QR
code or use the Zoom details below:

Meeting ID: 850 8579 5122
Passcode: 492249

If you prefer, feel free to email us at
info@sfrust.org.uk for the Zoom link.



www.sfrust.org.uk



Scan the QR code for the Zoom link



Does your
child have
or might
have
autism?

FREE ONLINE SEMINAR
**"An Introduction to Parenting
Children with Autism"**

Insights and strategies for families

Thursday 22nd October 2026, 7.30 – 9.00 pm

No booking required!

Simply join the seminar by scanning the QR
code or use the Zoom details below:

Meeting ID: 837 3346 5621
Passcode: 160704

If you prefer, feel free to email us at
info@sfrust.org.uk for the Zoom link.



www.sfrust.org.uk



Scan the QR code for the Zoom link



Does it
sometimes feel
like everything
is a battle
with your
child or teen?

FREE ONLINE SEMINAR
**Understanding Demand Avoidance in
Neurodivergent Children
(diagnosed or suspected)**

Insights and strategies for families

Thursday 12th November 2026, 7.30 – 9.00 pm

No booking required!

Simply join the seminar by scanning the QR
code or use the Zoom details below:

Meeting ID: 857 2711 9710
Passcode: 701137

If you prefer, feel free to email us at
info@sfrust.org.uk for the Zoom link.



www.sfrust.org.uk



Scan the QR code for the Zoom link



Is your child
masking at
school and
crashing at
home?

FREE ONLINE SEMINAR
**"Understanding
Masking and Burnout in
Neurodivergent Children"**

Insights and strategies for families

Thursday 26th November 2026, 7.30 – 9.00 pm

No booking required!

Simply join the seminar by scanning the QR
code or use the Zoom details below:

Meeting ID: 864 1384 1446
Passcode: 303701

If you prefer, feel free to email us at
info@sfrust.org.uk for the Zoom link.



www.sfrust.org.uk



Scan the QR code for the Zoom link

You're Invited
REOPENING OF
COWES
FAMILY CENTRE

**SUPPORTING FAMILIES and
STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES**

Come and celebrate with us!



VENUE

Cowes Family Centre, Love Lane, Cowes



DATE

Tuesday, October 20, 2026 at 10:00 AM



PROGRAMME



Session one (Families)

10:00am to 12:00pm



Ribbon cutting ceremony

hosted by Councillor Freeman

10:30am



Session two (Professionals)

1:00pm to 3:00pm



Find out more on the
Isle of Wight Family Information Hub What's On
<https://tinyurl.com/2c964zbz>

