



Derwentwater Primary School | Friday 10th September 2021

Message from Mrs Gardner

This week, we enjoyed a successful start to the term and year. It was a real pleasure to see the children return with such eagerness and enthusiasm. Children settled in well to their new year groups, including our youngest children in reception and nursery. Attendance has been excellent which is a great start to ensuring our children receive the education they are entitled to. Punctuality is important in order to give the children the best start to the day so please arrive between 8.40am and 8.55am. Well done to all of our wonderful children for transitioning so well.

As we build upon the excellent educational offer at Derwentwater, we are introducing some exciting new initiatives. This year, a music specialist from Sing Education <https://www.singeducation.co.uk/> will teach each class over a 2 week cycle along with the class teacher. The Sing Education approach builds learning around the voice. Lessons are active, fun and high energy and will take place in the new music room for years 1-6 and in classrooms for reception and nursery. We look to expand on the school's musical offer with the addition of clubs and music tuition.

School launched Cornerstones Curriculum <https://cornerstoneseducation.co.uk/> which is a creative and thematic approach to learning that links science, history, geography, art and DT. It is delivered through imaginative and knowledge rich projects, which provide exciting and motivating activities that make creative links between all aspects of children's learning. The curriculum provides many learning challenges that require children to solve problems, apply themselves creatively and express their knowledge and understanding effectively. More information will be shared in a separate email about Derwentwater's new initiatives along with the school priorities this year. We look forward to inviting parents to workshops again so we can share the school vision and work in partnership with parents to achieve the very best for the children. Thank you for your continued support.

Year 1

It has been a wonderful start to the new school year in year 1, with lots of smiles and enthusiasm! The children have been spending the week easing into the school routine, and having lots of fun with old friends and new.

Just to remind you that PE is on Monday and Wednesday this year, and children should come to school in their PE clothes. We encourage you to read every day at home, and reading books will be sent home on Monday and Fridays, please record when you have read with them and keep these books in their bags always.

Year 2

We were delighted to welcome all the children back to school after our summer break and see the classrooms filled with enthusiastic, happy learners. The children have all settled into their new classes well and have enjoyed a positive start.



The children have shared their summer experiences with us and have set challenging goals for themselves this term. Although the children have been away, the vegetable seeds they planted in the Infant playground beds have flourished!

Website:



www.derwentwaterschool.com

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020 8992 9196

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parentcomms@derwentwater.ealing.sch.uk

To date, we have picked juicy cucumbers and ripe tomatoes to share with the new Year 1 children in the canteen. Our previous Year 1 budding gardeners have done an exceptional job as they tasted delicious! During our PE lessons on Tuesday, the children will be taught by a coach.

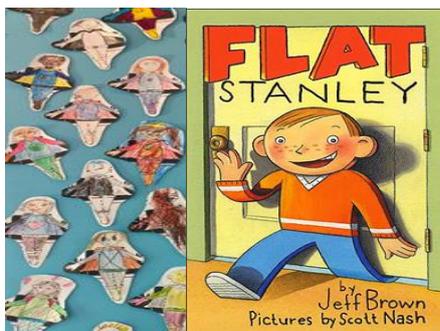


On Monday, the children will have an additional PE lesson with their class teachers. Could parents please send their children to school in full PE kit on these days. We will also send reading books home with the children next week. Books will be changed on

Mondays and Fridays. However, we would like parents and carers to continue to read other reading material beyond their child's reading book on the days when books aren't being changed. Thank you for supporting us as reading is a joint responsibility.

Year 3

This week in year 3, we have been working really hard to understand what is expected of us as well as getting to know our teachers and classmates. To ensure that this was possible, we did lots of fun activities such as; using our imaginations to create ourselves as superheroes as well as writing ourselves letters that included targets for us to achieve over the course of this year. We will open these letters on the last day of term to see how far we have come.



We have also begun our new Maths topic which is place value and we have all been working really hard to persist and understand how to use base ten. In English, we have begun to look at our new book which is called Flat Stanley. We all cannot wait to start reading and getting to know Flat Stanley a little more. Overall, this first week at school has been really fun and we are all looking forward to the rest of year 3.

Year 4

Welcome back to our wonderful Year 4. It is great to see you all looking so smart. We have really enjoyed jumping straight back into our learning and the children have a great, positive attitude to all the subjects we have introduced.

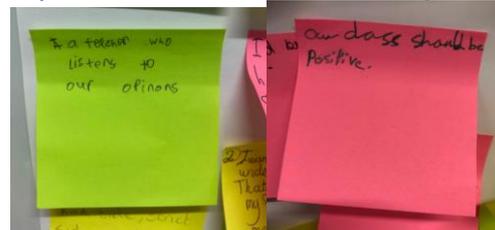
We would like to encourage all of the pupils to use their Reading Records on a daily basis as a form of communication between home and school. Any queries please don't hesitate to contact us by email or on the playground.

Remember Year 4.....

When you enter this classroom...
 You are *scientists*.
 You are *explorers*.
 You are *important*.
 You are *loved*.
 You are *respected*.
 You are *a friend*.
 You are *the reason we are here!*

Year 5

Year 5 has had a wonderful start to the year. We have spent a lot of time discussing the expectations in the classroom and they also had the opportunity to tell us what they expected from their teachers this year.



Students really enjoyed their first lesson with the sport coaches. Just a reminder that students in year 5 and 6 are allowed to walk home alone once they have returned home the permission note. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mr Best and Mrs James using the year 5 email address: year5@derwentwater.ealing.sch.uk.



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Year 6

It has been great to see everybody back following the holidays and it's been a busy first



week in Year Six. We've discussed what being in Year Six means and how it's a vital final year of primary school. We've also introduced our first book of the year, *Holes* by *Louis Sachar*. To explore the themes of the text, we have created 'Holes'-inspired artwork where children utilised their shading skills and the use of value to add depth.

Reading Recommendations

Lola in 1 Ruby recommended

The squirrels who squabbled by Rachel Bright. She chose it because the squirrels had nothing to eat. Later, they gathered



food for the winter and had a party at the end.

Farrah chose the Sleep



sheep by Anna McQuinn because she found it funny when the boat reached the moon with the sheep in it. Class teachers have been busy creating welcoming book corners to inspire our younger readers. Just look at the beautiful reading spaces that they have to enjoy!



Next week, the children will receive a reading book to share with you at home. Every child will have a reading record which can be filled in by themselves or by the adult who reads with them. This will enable us to see how much reading is being done at home.



Each entry will need the date, the book being read, how much was read and any comments about how they got on. These are to be brought in daily and teachers will check and sign reading records on a daily basis to ensure children are reading for at least 15 minutes. The more your child reads or listens to stories the more confident and enthusiastic reader they will become and the wider their vocabulary will get - this will really help with their writing too! Encourage your child to read other books alongside their School Reading Scheme book and look for opportunities to enjoy books together.

Maths

After a successful first year using the Maths Mastery approach in numeracy lessons, this year our school will be continuing to embed these principles and will be exploring additional ways concrete and visual representations can be used in lessons to help students develop conceptual understanding. During the inset days, all teachers took part in training on how to use concrete materials in lessons and how to link this to abstract calculations. Here is an example of students using place value counters as a way to develop their understanding of place value.



PE

We have specialist PE coaches leading the majority of PE lessons this year. We ask that all children have the correct PE kit on their designated day and they may wear this kit to school and throughout the day. Children have PE on the following days:

Year 1: Monday and Wednesday

Year 2: Tuesday (coaches)

Year 3: Wednesday (coaches)

Year 4: Wednesday (swimming) PE tbc

Year 5: Tuesday (coaches)

Year 6: Wednesday (coaches)

Website:



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Uniform



You can order uniform online to be delivered to the school office free of charge or delivered to your home for a standard postage fee.

Website:

www.schoolbellsuniforms.co.uk
Contact Number: 0208 577 6656

A reminder to please put your child's name and class on jumpers and cardigans as children take them off around the building and we can get them back to the right person if they are labelled.

Office Communication

Please continue to use parentcomms or to call the school with queries. We will be setting up a postbox system so parents can deliver correspondence such as slips without needing to come into the office. We hope this will save parents time and avoid congestion in the foyer. Details will be shared in next week's newsletter about the location of the postbox.

School Dinners



ISS Education has replaced Harrisons Catering. If you think your child might be eligible for free school meals, please get in touch.

Please see previous emails

for:

- Lunch menu
- How to pay guide (Years 3-6)

Website: Feeding Hungry Minds: Home

Contact number: 01924 792334

Support email:

feedinghungryminds@ukissworld.com

Clubs



Great news, everyone who applied for a club got a place. We still have a few spaces left so apply soon to avoid disappointment.

Please see the link below for information about after school clubs. Here you will find out what is on offer and how to book:

[https://www.derwentwaterschool.com/ckfinder/userfiles/files/After%20School%20Clubs%20-%20Autumn%202021\(1\).pdf](https://www.derwentwaterschool.com/ckfinder/userfiles/files/After%20School%20Clubs%20-%20Autumn%202021(1).pdf)

Laptop Return



Most laptops have been returned. If you still have a school laptop at home, can you please return it as soon as possible. The laptops will be put to good use at school

and will be available for remote learning when necessary.

Counselling support The Space



Sometimes we could all do with someone to talk to. If you would like to meet with Helen for a confidential and non-judgemental chat about you, your child, or any other worries, she is available on Tuesdays 9 - 10am.

All meetings with adults will currently take place online or over the phone due to COVID19. Call, text or email Helen on 07429 654584 or email hthorp4.307@lgflmail.org.uk

INCLUSION

WHAT IS THE LOCAL OFFER?

The name 'Local Offer' is used to describe all the services and provisions available to children, young people and families 'locally' who are living with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND).

The Local Offer website is a resource to help you understand what is available and how to access services and support.

<https://tinyurl.com/y4f6rnjj>

Childline

<https://www.childline.org.uk/>

Childline are there for you all day and all night. You can talk to them about anything. No problem is too big or too small.



Covid Test Site

Michael Flanders

Church Lane

Acton, W3 8PP

7 days a week

8am-8pm

Call 119 to book a test if you have symptoms.

Website:



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Dates for your diary

2021 to 2022

AUTUMN 1

Monday 6th September to Friday 22nd
October

HALF TERM Monday 25th to Friday 29th
October

AUTUMN 2

Tuesday 2nd November to Friday 17th
December (school closes at 2pm)

SPRING 1

Wednesday 5th January to Friday 11th
February

HALF TERM Monday 14th February to Friday
18th February

SPRING 2

Monday 21st February to Friday 1st April
(school closes at 2pm)

SUMMER 1

Tuesday 19th April to Friday 27th MAY

HALF TERM Monday 30th May to Friday 3rd
June

SUMMER 2

Monday 6th June to Friday 22nd July (school
closes at 2pm)

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