

DORNEY SCHOOL

Harcourt Close, Dorney Reach
Maidenhead, SL6 0DY
Tel: 01628 620871
E-mail: office@dorneyschool.co.uk
Website: www.dorneyschool.co.uk



RESPECT * COLLABORATE * GROW

Headteacher: Mrs Lee

Newsletter 11th September 2026



Dear parents,

The children have completed their first full week of school! I must express my gratitude to you as they all look very smart, eager to learn, and have been happy and positive.

Thank you for **parking** off site and being considerate to other parents, our neighbours and commuters. Do check your speed especially on the roads around school as many children do walk to school. A reminder that parents are not permitted to park in the staff car park unless otherwise agreed.

Attendance

The Department of Education has made attendance a priority this year. They now use attendance statistics to compare school attendance between local schools and at a national level. Schools are set attendance targets and local authorities monitor the daily attendance of **all** pupils. Schools have been tasked to ensure that parents of pupils who are persistently or regularly absent know that penalties and sanctions may be used if discussions and reminders do not improve a pupil's attendance. Thank you for ensuring your child attends school promptly every day. The school is unable to authorise any absences unless it is for a medical emergency or exceptional circumstances such the death of a close member of the family. We ask that non-urgent medical, and other appointments are made outside of school hours, and that a copy of unavoidable appointment with healthcare are shared with the school. The information you share with us goes on our attendance system which helps us with monitoring and tracking.

Absence

It is really important that you ring or email the school promptly if your child is unable to attend school due to illness or other circumstances. The school has a duty of care to track all pupils who are not at school each day and a huge amount of time is used to ring parents and other certified contacts if a child is absent. We will make referrals to the police or social care if we are seriously concerned regarding a pupil's absence.

PTA

The PTA is an amazing group of parent volunteers who organise fundraising events at school. They also run a monthly uniform sale at the back gate of the school where you may purchase good as new school uniform at a fraction of the actual cost – life saver especially if your child keeps losing their school jumpers. It would be lovely to see many more parents join the team or offer to help over the academic year. Do check out their page on our school website <https://www.dorneyschool.co.uk/pta-2>





Children in Year 1 have been enjoying exploring the new resources in their classroom. The fabulous wooden blocks have been popular and the children have created some amazing models. The purchase of these blocks and other resources were **funded by the PTA** to support more learning through play. The **PTA** has also previously purchased new sets of musical instruments, helped to update playground markings, secure top of the range interactive whiteboards and many other projects across the school. Their role is vital in a landscape of cuts to public funding.



The children in **Year 1** also enjoyed a live author event today with Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler to introduce their new book Gruffalo Granny.



Super Scientists



Year 5 have been testing the resistance of different materials in their Science lessons. Pupils worked in groups to calculate the amount of time and the speed of a toy car travelling down ramps with different materials which creates friction. The pupils made sure it was a fair test by always using the same car and keeping the ramp at the same height. We tested each car three times to get as accurate a result as possible. Well done Year 5!

Safeguarding

The school and its staff take safeguarding all children seriously.



**DORNEY SCHOOL SAFEGUARDING AND
CHILD PROTECTION TEAM**





Mrs Lee
Headteacher



Mrs West
Deputy Headteacher / DSL



Mrs Whitford
Head of Year

All children have the right to grow up safe from harm.
No child should suffer harm, either at home or at school. Everyone who works at Dorney School has a responsibility to make sure that all our young people are safe.

Any safeguarding concerns regarding a child at this school should be brought to the notice of the above trained people.



GOOD TRAVEL PLAN 2025

Dates for Your Diary

Meet The Teacher as below, please refer to parentmail

14.09.26 – Y1 Meet the Teacher

15.09.26 – Y6 Meet the Teacher

16.09.26 – Y2/Y3 Meet the Teacher

17.09.26 – Y4 Meet the Teacher

18.09.26 – Y5 Meet the Teacher

Have a lovely weekend and enjoy the warm, slightly autumnal sunshine.

Best Wishes
Mrs Sharifah Lee
Headteacher

Play Sports Juniors and this September they are launching a brand-new Play Sports Juniors Netball Academy just a short distance from our school.

They would love to invite children from the school to come along, and offer every child a **FREE taster session**.

📍 **Braywick Leisure Centre, Braywick Rd, Maidenhead SL6 1BN**

Sundays

9:00–9:50 – Reception–Year 2

10:00–10:50 – Years 3–4

11:00–11:50 – Years 5–7

The Academy is designed to give children a fun, friendly and welcoming place to enjoy netball, whether they're completely new to the sport or already love playing.

- 🏐 All abilities welcome
- ★ Experienced coaches
- 👏 Fun, structured weekly sessions
- 🏐 All equipment provided
- 👥 Join on your own or with friends
- 📺 **First taster session FREE**
- 🏠 **PLUS – WIN NEW NETBALL EQUIPMENT FOR YOUR SCHOOL!**

They'd also like to give something back to the local schools that support their new Academy. Every parent who signs up and names the school name as their child's school will give their child's school one entry into our September prize draw.

And there's no limit to the number of entries our school can receive. So, the more children from our school who get involved, the more chances our school has to win!

The winning school will receive:



-  **A set of new netball posts**
-  **Two sets of netball bibs**
-  **A set of new netballs**

The academy will draw the winning school **at the end of September**.

Parents can find out more and register here:

<https://www.playsportsjuniors.co.uk/netball-academy/locations/berkshire/maidenhead/>

Thank you very much for supporting a new local sporting opportunity for children — and **good luck in the draw!** 🏆

Kind regards,

Play Sports Juniors Netball Academy

☎ 07775 448083

info@playsportsjuniors.co.uk

🌐 <https://www.playsportsjuniors.co.uk/netball-academy/>