

DORNEY SCHOOL



RESPECT * COLLABORATE * GROW

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Newsletter 12th September 2025

Dear parents,

The first newsletter of the academic year starts with a reminder that Ofsted agrees with us – We are a GOOD school! This judgement validates all the hard work and commitment of staff, parents and the wider community to ensure we are forward looking and place children at the centre of what we do. Attached is the letter I sent and the Ofsted report in case you may have joined us latter, or missed the email.

Our prime focus now is adequate funding for all the things do, and would like to achieve for the school. We have just been informed that local authorities are planning to claw back a significant amount of funding from all schools to stem their own ever-increasing budget. This is bad news for all schools, including ours as annual school funding is calculated on the number of children enrolled at each school. The number of staff to child ratio and the costs remain the same, but small(er) schools will always bear the greater financial burden. We need your help! Tell your friends, neighbours and families about the ‘Good’ school your child attends, the care and nurture they receive and the wonderful community that surrounds this school. The more pupils that join our school, the more funding we receive. So, instead of having to think of cost-effective actions, we can plan for greater development and improvement. Attached is a copy of our new school poster with dates for upcoming open events. Please do share this widely.

I am always looking for other funding streams such as grants and donations. If anyone has any good suggestion or know of any applications that may be useful, do signpost the school. I will gladly look into this.

Reminders:

Communication

Please email your queries and questions to the office if you are unable to speak to class teachers at the end of the school day. Your emails will be forwarded to class teachers who will respond as soon as practicable. Thank you for waiting patiently at the end of the school day to pick up your child or speak to teachers – their priority is to dismiss pupils safely. Do request a private conversation if required.

Attendance

A reminder to inform the school on the morning of your child’s absence. Attendance is carefully tracked and monitored. The school will be unable to authorise absences unless they are for urgent circumstances. The school recommends that medical/dental appointments be made out of school hours. If during school hours, a medical note, or a copy of the appointment card/email/text is requested for our records.

Uniform

Please adhere to the uniform policy. Any reasonable adjustments must be agreed with the school.



Parking and Driving

In the interest of safety, please adhere to the speeding limits around school. Do NOT use the school car park unless authorised between 8.10 am and 3.30pm. Do not park on Harcourt Close especially in the Residents Only area. Please park next to the park at the back of the school or park safely away from the school site.

Safeguarding

There is a really good signpost at the end of this newsletter of how parents can help their children from being scammed online. Please take a look as misinformation and disinformation are a real threat and risk to all our children.

Tutoring

Based on parents' requests, we have agreed for a tutoring company to use site to support children after school hours. The tutors specialise in helping pupils practise for 11+ assessments and also in English and Maths. This is a private tutoring company and will be completely separate from the organisation of the school. They have two trial dates for anyone interested. Do take a look at the ad at the end of the newsletter.

Vacancy

The school is currently looking to appoint a part-time, one to one teaching assistant as soon as possible. If you know of anyone who may be interested, the details are on the school website <https://www.dorneyschool.co.uk/vacancies/>

PTA

All parents are warmly invited to the Annual General Meeting (see right)

Our PTA are a marvellous and diverse group of parents that raise money for the school through some exciting events. They also hold monthly 'as good as new' school uniform sales during drop off times.



Dorney School
The Little Village School with a Big Heart



ALL PARENTS, CARERS, TEACHERS, FRIENDS, FAMILY AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO COME TO THE PTA AGM, TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PTA, LEARN ABOUT HOW IT SERVES THE SCHOOL AND TO BRING ANY SUGGESTIONS MOVING INTO THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR.
WE ARE ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS AND LOOKING AT THOSE WHO COME, TO HELP VOTE IN THE NEW KEY ROLES OF THE PTA.
THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO GET INVOLVED AND MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD.

We Hope to See You There!



We are excited to share that Laura Henry - Allain, a previous visiting author, who has written books such as "Your Skin My Skin", "Your Family My Family" and is the creator of the TV series and books Jo Jo and Gran Gran has been to touch to let us know she is holding a children's event in Henley.

Please see details on the weblink for those who may be interested in attending this event.
<https://www.henleyliteraryfestival.co.uk/whats-on/laurahenryallain25/>

****The new term starts Tuesday the 16th of September****

We are now taking final bookings for Little Tanks after school drama club for the autumn term 2025.

There are currently now **only 3 spaces available!** Therefore, please see the attached flyer and details below to secure your child's space as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

- Application form, including term dates – [Click here to complete](#)
- Day – Tuesday
- Account Name: Little Tanks Ltd
- Account Number: 9949 3876
- Sort Code: 60-83-71
- Reference: DN followed by your child's name
- Amount: £85.00
- Both the form & fee via bank transfer are required to be submitted to secure your child's space

We look forward to welcoming your child to Little Tanks for the autumn term to work on developing their confidence skills. We will also be working on a new theme and plan to invite parents to the last session to share what the children have been learning.

If you have any queries, please contact me at: debi@littletanks.co.uk

We're **Simply Tutored**, a tuition company based in Old Windsor.

We run classes in Windsor, Datchet and Langley and we've kindly been offered the opportunity to also run them at Dorney School.

Over the past 10 years we've helped hundreds of students gain a place at their preferred grammar school, in Buckinghamshire or the Slough Consortium, or improve their maths and English.

We're running free trial classes at Dorney School later this month, in the Year 5 classroom, with a view to starting weekly classes from early October, after school on a Tuesday and Thursday.

Please refer to our flyer for the related dates, times and year groups.

If you'd like to book your son/daughter a place on one of our free trial classes please call us on 07717 424712 or email info@simplytutored.co.uk

We look forward to teaching them.

11+	Years 3-5	Tuesdays	3:30 - 5:30pm
Maths & English	Years 3-6	Thursdays	3:30 - 5:00pm

11+ (Years 3 - 5)	Tuesday 23/9	3:30 - 4:30pm
Maths & English (Years 3 - 6)	Thursday 25/9	3:30 - 4:30pm





There is a national Teaching Assistant Shortage

We're looking for learners who want to kickstart their classroom career with our **FREE** online courses.



FREE

Fully-funded



6-week courses during school hours



Post-course certificate

Kickstart your classroom career:

- Teaching Assistant
- Behaviour Support
- Cover Support
- Midday Supervisor
- Learning mentor

Make a difference to a child's life

School Support Programmes

Level 1

Level 2

Level 3

07707470845 | jamie.baguley@aspireeducationacademy.co.uk



There is a national shortage of classroom support staff

Step into the classroom with our online School Support Programmes



FREE

Fully-funded



6-week courses during school hours



Meet with Employers



Post-course certificate

With career progression routes such as:

Teaching Assistant	Midday Supervisor	Learning Mentor
Cover Supervisor	Lunchtime Supervisor	Pastoral Support
Behaviour Support	1:1 Support	Admin Support

Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 Courses Available

“ The teaching skills were second to none, I now feel confident that I can go into my new role as a TA knowing I have the knowledge and confidence to face anything I may come across. Thank you, Aspire. **”**

Enrol today:

07707470845 | jamie.baguley@aspireeducationacademy.co.uk



Scam Awareness Session

Weds 8th October

10:30-11:30am

Burnham Park Hall, Windsor Ln, Burnham, SL1 7HR

Bluebird Care, Thames Valley Police, and Buckinghamshire Council are hosting an informative event about the different types of scams that are circulating, and how to be aware of them - whether online, over the phone, or at your doorstep.

Join us for this free event to become more scam aware. Refreshments provided.





www.bluebirdcare.co.uk


