

DORNEY SCHOOL



RESPECT * COLLABORATE * GROW

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Newsletter 17th April 2026



Dear parents,

Welcome back to school after the Easter break. This season has always been a personal favourite as the days get lighter and longer, and the air is filled with the dawn chorus.

Thank you for your help in supporting your child with attendance, correct uniform and for adhering to parking reminders. I know what a challenge it can be getting your child to school with all the local roadworks and I must applaud your patience with all the temporary traffic lights everywhere.

It's the first week back, and although the children have engaged in so much learning activities, there will be many more news about the school next week.



Year 6 Local Geography Walk

Year 6 enjoyed a walk around the local area, thinking carefully about what is likely to change and what is likely to stay the same over the next 10 years. There were lots of interesting discussions around the park land and the style of housing for the future.

Staff Updates

Today is Mrs Parkash's last day at work before she goes on maternity leave. Mrs Parkash teaches in Year 6 and has supported teaching across school where needed. I am sure you join me in wishing her and her husband a safe and successful delivery, and may they enjoy early parenthood.

I would also like to extend my gratitude to Mrs Maguire, who is based in Year 5 but supports children across the school especially in Reading and Phonics. Today marks twenty years of work and service at our school. She explains that she started as a volunteer and never really left. I am sure they will be many families who remember the support and help she gave their children over the years. We marked this significant event with a whole school assembly this morning. On behalf of pupils and staff, thank you Mrs Maguire.

Miss Rolls (Year 4 class teacher) is leaving us on 1st May to take a career break. We wish her the very best for the future and hope that she feels able to continue her teacher development sometime soon. We are grateful for her time with us supporting the children's learning. Year 4 will be taught by Miss Hussain and Mrs Chaggar, two highly experienced teachers who are already part of the teaching team. Mrs Chaggar has



agreed to increase her teaching days for the rest of the academic year. Thank you to both member of staff for stepping up.

Governor Updates

Due to the end of Mr Stephen Baker's tenure as Chair of Governors this term, our Vice Chair of Governors, Mr David Gibbons, has kindly stepped into the role as we work to recruit and appoint another Chair. Our deepfelt gratitude to Mr Baker for his help and support over the years – his commitment to Dorney School has been unwavering and he is a highly respected member of the local community. Mr Gibbons has been a governor for the last two years - he is very much involved in governance, and in his professional capacity as the Head of English at Eton College.

Currently, Ms Magdalene Thomas is the only parent governor on the Board. We have vacancies for two more.

Become a School Governor

As a parent at Dorney School, you already play a vital role in your child's education - why not take that one step further?

We're looking for parent governors to join the school governing board. This is a fantastic opportunity to have a direct voice in how the school develops, helping to shape its future and ensure the very best for all our children.

You don't need any special qualifications - just your experience as a parent, a willingness to ask questions, and a commitment to supporting the school. As a governor, you'll work alongside staff and other governors to guide decision-making, support school improvement, and represent the parent community.

It's a rewarding way to make a real difference - not just for your child, but for every pupil at Dorney School.

If you're interested, we'd love to hear from you. Do get in touch with the school office for more information.

Safeguarding

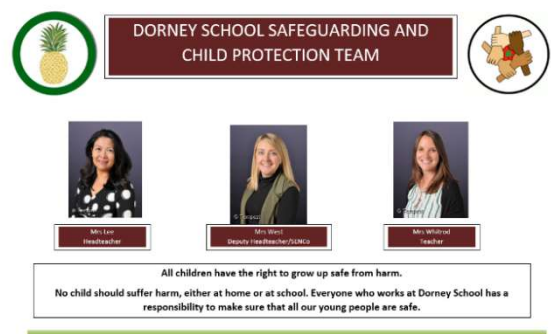
Towards a Digital Nation - Department for Education

Over the past decade, access to information has become increasingly complex and contested. What was once straightforward is now shaped by algorithms, misinformation and AI-generated content, making it harder to distinguish fact from fiction.

In response, DSIT and the Department for Education have published A Safe, Informed Digital Nation, setting out a national approach to media literacy. The paper highlights the role of schools and parents in helping children navigate online information safely and critically, please follow the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/a-safe-informed-digital-nation>

Hopefully, this strategy will go on to support not only children, but adults (including parents) themselves.



DORNEY SCHOOL SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION TEAM

Min Lee
Headteacher

Min West
Deputy Headteacher/SENCO

Min Whitford
Teacher

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 named people.



GOOD TRAVEL PLAN 2025

Dates for Your Diary

21.05.26 – School closes to all children for half term at 3.30pm

22.05.26 – Inset Day

25. to 29.05.26 – Half Term

01.06.26 – School opens to all children at 8.30am

18.06.26 – Grandparents/Families/Culture Day Morning – more information to follow

25.06.26 – Sports Day – more information to follow

26.06.26 – Back Up Sports Day

Enjoy the weekend, whatever you are up to.

Mrs Sharifah Lee
Headteacher

Special Shout Outs!



Sahib (Year 6) competed in a Judo competition in East London and won gold medal, 700 competitors in total. She explained that she will be entered into further competitions soon. Pupils and staff were well impressed with Sahib's achievement.



Ava (Year 5) also achieved well in a boxing competition during the Easter break. It is not possible at the moment to share stills of the video of her match but believe you me, when I say that Ava is a strong fighter!

Final Bookings - Little Tanks Drama Club

****The new term starts Tuesday the 21st of April****

We are now taking final bookings for Little Tanks after school drama club for the summer term 2026.

There are currently now **only 14 spaces left** therefore, please see the attached flyer and details below to secure your child's space as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. We'd love to welcome some new members to join the drama fun.

- 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: £83.00
- 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 summer 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

Many Thanks

Kindest Regards

Little Tanks Drama Team

Health for Kids! Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust

Parent and Carers

Our School Nursing Team can help with things like:

- Behaviour management
- Development
- Toileting
- Wellbeing
- Healthy eating
- Sleep
- Emotional health

Find advice on supporting your child's health and wellbeing.

www.healthforkids.co.uk/buckinghamshire

Message your local school nursing team:
07312 263 175

Or scan the QR code to start a chat.

AITC ACTIVE IN THE COMMUNITY

£5 PAYG

INCLUSIVE CYCLING

With a wide range of adapted cycles from; Trikes, quads, wheelchair carriers, hand bikes and tandems, there is something for everyone!

Marlow Saturdays 12:30 – 2:30pm Little Marlow Athletics Track	Aylesbury Sundays 11am – 1pm Stoke Mandeville Stadium Track
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To find out more and to book, please visit our website:
<https://www.activeinthecommunity.org.uk/inclusive-cycling/>
or contact Amelia: Amelia.Evans@aitc.org.uk, 07399748803

St George's Day

WOMEN IN HISTORY FAYRE

Sunday 26 April

UNIFORMED PARADE
Market Square
4-5pm

FAMILY FUN
Friars Square
12-4pm

QUIZ, TALKS & DEMOS
King's Head
12-4pm

Florence Nightingale

FREE EVENT

AYLESBURY TOWN COUNCIL

The Croft Clinic

Coffee Morning Event

Making Sense of Neurodiversity

Friday 5 June 2026 | 11:30am – 1:00pm

Wellness Suite, The Odney Club
Odney Lane, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 9SR

Guest Speaker: Masie Cass
Founder of Diversity Does
ADHD Speaker & Neurodiversity Consultant

Join us for a relaxed and welcoming morning of **coffee, connection, and conversation.**

This insightful session will explore ADHD and autism through a compassionate, real-life lens—helping you better understand experiences beyond labels and build greater clarity & confidence.

Open to individuals, families, and those in local schools, whether already part of our clinic community or joining us for the first time.

