

DORNEY SCHOOL



RESPECT * COLLABORATE * GROW
Headteacher: Mrs Lee

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Newsletter 24th April 2026



Dear parents,



The chicks have hatched! We have ten of the most fluffy and cute chicks that all pupils across school watched with excitement and anticipation as the eggs wobbled and cracked. The learning from this project is multi-dimensional as children observe in real time the life cycle of an animal when compared to other animals, including human reproduction and care. The pupils and staff are grateful to our PTA for funding this project. The cost of 'Living Eggs' is over £300 and the school would have been

unable to cover.



PTA fundraising is certainly helpful in funding extra resources, projects and fun activities for all children that the school cannot afford especially in this landscape of increased costs and lower funding. The PTA are looking for parents to join them, help in organising events, and also other forms of support. Do get in touch dorneyschoolpta@gmail.com

Their next event is the popular **Quiz Night on Friday 8th May:**

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/dorneypta/2171632>



As the sun continues to shine and the weather gets warmer, please remember sun safety. All pupils should bring a named refillable water bottle that can be re-filled at school. Unless there is a specific medical condition, bottles must contain water and not juice or other forms of drink.

All pupils should bring named sun hats, caps or visors to school. They can leave a small named bottle or tube of sunscreen that will be kept safe by class staff as these cannot be shared.

Children should apply sunscreen before they come to school, and they will be able to reapply before



playtime. Children may also bring sunglasses. Please do not send children in with battery operated fans or water sprays – these distract pupils, cause conflicts, and many of them do not comply with safety standards.



These are some of what the children get up to when the sun shines bright. Thank you, Mrs Hughes, for organising **Forest School and PE sessions**, and to Miss Ghori for coaching Years 3-6 in cricket. Miss Ghori is a teaching assistant who holds professional cricket coaching qualifications. She also plays for the women's team in Slough. Yesterday was **National Schools' Cricket Day** organised by the ECB. Starting next week, Miss Ghori will be leading more cricket sessions for the children.




Year 3 attended a skateboarding session at Farnham Common Junior School this week. We learnt impressive skills including jumping on the board and a pancake flip! All staff were really impressed with Year 3's super listening, resilience and enthusiasm, well done everyone!




Safeguarding


The Hidden Dangers of Pinterest to children
Pinterest tends to fly under the radar. Unlike Instagram or TikTok, it has never attracted the same level of public concern, it's older, it's built around image collections, and most parents consider it benign, if they think about it at all.

That perception is the problem. The White Hatter, a Canadian digital safety organisation, published a blog post recently after supporting two families whose children had shared intimate images via Pinterest's direct messaging feature. In both cases, the parents had no idea the platform had a messaging function.




DORNEY SCHOOL SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION TEAM






Mrs Lee
Headteacher



Mrs West
Deputy Headteacher/SENCO



Mrs 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 trained people.

It's a broader pattern worth raising with parents. Platforms that present as visual or creative tools like Pinterest, VSCO, Tumblr, Lemon8, Canva, Amino, often include messaging features that aren't obvious. The question worth putting to parents isn't "what app is my child using?" but "what can that app actually do?"

The article is a short, practical read:

<https://www.thewhitehatter.ca/post/what-parents-didn-t-know-about-pinterest-matters-for-all-caregivers>

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 this great weather and have a good weekend.

Mrs Sharifah Lee
Headteacher



Reception

Sehej for her independent writing skills – brilliant sounding out
Stirling for his brilliant sentence writing – neat handwriting and finger spaces

Year 1

Harry for always being kind, caring and helpful towards his peers
Noah for trying to do his best with all his written work across the curriculum

Year 2

Kayden for demonstrating a positive attitude towards his learning in every lesson

Year 3

Louie for showing fab independent learning last week when writing a newspaper report
Brettly for amazing focus and effort in his learning last week, especially in writing lessons

Year 4

Dylan for settling in so well in to our class and engaging in inputs
Navya for always trying her best and for being a good friend

Year 5

Amaiya for her editing writing for punctuation and up levelling her vocabulary
Haider for his excellent communication and skill in our PE lessons



Year 6

Amber for an excellent recount based on our new book
Belle for excellent work in Maths, particularly in our angles unit

Achievement

Sukaina in Year 6 won several fencing competitions in Manchester recently. She was entered into the children and also adult matches. Sukaina has been training to fence since she was five years old. She explained to the whole school on the equipment she has to use, some of the moves she has to practise and how to win a match. I am always amazed at the talent of all pupils at our school.

<h3>Child Car Seat Check Event</h3> <p>Tuesday 2 June 2026 10am - 3pm</p> <p>Smyths, Broadfields Retail Park, Bicester Road, Aylesbury HP19 8BU</p> <p>Pop along for FREE advice and an independent check!</p> <p> Buckinghamshire Council</p> <p> Child Seat Safety Ltd</p>	<h3>Child Car Seat Check Event</h3> <p>Wednesday 3 June 2026 10am - 3pm</p> <p>Asda Superstore, Holmers Farm Way, High Wycombe HP12 4NU</p> <p>Pop along for FREE advice and an independent check!</p> <p> Buckinghamshire Council</p> <p> Child Seat Safety Ltd</p>
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