

THE DRIVE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

FRIDAY LETTER

REMINDER



Upcoming Events - Week beginning 7th
September

There are no upcoming events for this week.
Please see page 3 for the organised events
for this half term so far.

4th September 2026



Welcome Back

We are delighted to have our school family back together after the summer break. It has been wonderful to see our amazing children return, full of enthusiasm and ready for a new year of learning. Although the first week back can be a little tiring as everyone settles back into the routines of school life, the children have been absolutely fantastic. They have approached the week with positivity, resilience and a real eagerness to learn, and we are incredibly proud of how well they have adapted. We are looking forward to a successful and exciting term ahead.

CLASS UPDATES



PLEASE WATCH THIS SPACE!



ATTENDANCE UPDATES

As we begin a new school year, we would like to thank families for their continued support in ensuring children attend school regularly and arrive on time each day. Good attendance is essential for children to make the most of their learning opportunities, build positive relationships and develop confidence in the classroom.

We want every child to have the very best start to the day. Children should arrive promptly so they are ready to begin learning with their classmates. Arriving late can be unsettling for children and means they miss important learning and information at the start of the day.

We would also like to remind parents and carers that holidays should not be taken during term time. The Department for Education is clear that leave of absence during term time should only be authorised in exceptional circumstances.

Family holidays and leisure trips will not normally be authorised.

Where a child has unauthorised absence for a holiday taken during term time, the Local Authority may issue a Fixed Penalty Notice. Currently, this is £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days, increasing to £160 if paid within 28 days. Repeated unauthorised absences may result in further legal action being considered by the Local Authority.

Every day in school matters, and even a small number of absences can have a significant impact on children's learning, progress and wellbeing. We look forward to working together to ensure all children achieve the best possible attendance this year.

Thank you for your support in making attendance and punctuality a priority for every child.

NO PHONE SCHOOL



As part of our commitment to safeguarding and in line with Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) guidance, we ask that children do not use mobile phones, smart watches or similar electronic devices while in school.

We have clear procedures in place for children who need to bring a mobile phone to school, for example if they walk to and from school independently. Any phone brought into school must be handed to a member of staff on arrival and will be stored securely in the school office until the end of the day.

Whilst this is rarely an issue, if a child is found to have a phone or smart device on their person during the school day, parents/carers will be contacted and asked to collect the device from school. Should this happen on more than one occasion, the child may no longer be permitted to bring a phone or device onto the school site.

All children are aware of these expectations, but we would be grateful if you could reinforce this message at home. By working together, we can ensure that all children remain safe and focused on their learning throughout the school day.

The safety and wellbeing of our children is always our highest priority. If you are ever worried about the wellbeing or safety of a child, please speak to one of our Designated Safeguarding Leads: Mrs Farren, Mrs Cuthbertson, Mrs Graham, Mrs Jackson

No concern is ever too small. By working together, we can ensure that every child feels safe, supported and able to thrive.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

AUTUMN TERM 1
8 WEEK HALF TERM

MONDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER
NURSERY RETURN

WEDNESDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER
INTO UNIVERSITY: CAREERS IN ACTION - YEAR 4
POLICE TALK - YEAR 5 AND 6

FRIDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER
FLU IMMUNISATIONS - REC - YEAR 6

WEDNESDAY 7TH OCTOBER
STEM FEST

FRIDAY 23RD OCTOBER
BREAK UP FOR HALF TERM