



St Denys Primary School

News Flash

Friday 3rd
October 2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, we would like to say a big WELCOME to our Rainbow children and families, who have joined us over the last few weeks. All the children are settling into school life beautifully and we are so glad to have all of you joining our St Denys' community.

It has been a really exciting start to the school year already with lots of things happening, including the launch of our new Forest School. Happening every Monday, at the moment we are running sessions for two year groups and two mixed-age groups, but over the year all children from Year 1—Year 6 will have the chance to join in with Forest School sessions—we'll keep you posted via Dojo when your child's class are having their turn.

All the children continue to think carefully about using their Learning Powers and we see and hear about many examples of respect, reciprocity, resilience, reflection and resourcefulness every day at St Denys. Our Year Sixes are really growing into their new responsibilities and are doing a great job of leading and co-ordinating playground activities for all our children at lunchtimes.

We have lots planned for the year ahead of us and will be continuing to focus on making St Denys the very best it can be, while working in partnership with our whole school community. As always, if there are things we can do to help your child or you have any suggestions to improve the school, please do chat to us. Thank you so much for the support you already provide and for helping to make the start of the school year such a positive one.

Best Wishes,

Mr. Davies and Mrs. Andrews

SAVE THE DATE - HARVEST FESTIVAL

The whole school is busy practising songs and rehearsing for our annual Harvest Festival, which will take place on Wednesday 22nd October at 2pm, in St Denys Church. Everyone is welcome to join us—we hope to see lots of you there!

We will also be collecting donations of food and toiletries for Basics Bank—look out for more information about this on Class Dojo soon.

GOVERNOR NEWS

The role of Governors is one of the most important in schools to ensure that children receive the best education possible. We have had our first meeting of the year and are pleased to announce that Jo Gaul remains our Chair of Governors and Sergio Mota our Vice Chair. We have also been joined by two new Governors—Hannah Joyce who joins us as a Parent Governor and Susan Fishlock who works in Education at the University of Southampton.

Details of all the responsibilities and the way our Governing Body is structured can be found on the website. We are very fortunate to have a committed group who work hard to support and challenge the school.

SAVE THE DATE - **Celebrations of Learning**

You are invited to visit school to see your child's books and hear about their learning, in advance of our Autumn Parents' Evenings which are on Tuesday 18th and Wednesday 19th November.

Celebrations of Learning will be held on the following dates:

Monday 10th November Y6 (9-9:30am), Y1 (2:30-3pm)

Tuesday 11th November Y4 (9-9:30am), Y3 (2:30—3pm)

Wednesday 12th November Rainbow (2:30-3pm)

Monday 17th November Y5 (9-9:30am), Y2 (2:30-3pm)

ST DENYS SCHOOL SUPPORTERS (SDSS) NEWS

This year, we're aiming to organise some fantastic events the whole school community can enjoy, including a repeat of the fabulous Summer Fair we all enjoyed so much last year, while raising money to support the school to offer extra experiences to our children at the same time. But we will need your help!

We will be holding our AGM in the school hall at 2:30pm on Monday 20th October. If you can, please pop along to join us for a cup of tea and a biscuit and to hear about our plans for the year. It's also a great chance to get to know some more families in the school.

If you have any questions, please see Mrs. Andrews who can direct you towards members of the SDSS committee. We look forward to seeing lots of you at the AGM on 20th October and at the events we organise through the year.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Improving attendance continues to be a key priority at St Denys. If you have any questions about, or would like support with your child's attendance, please talk to us—we are here to help.

Our target is at least 96% attendance for all pupils. Our current whole school attendance for the year is 96.17% and it was 95.4% over the last 5 days. Well done to Classes 5, 4 and 2 who won the attendance race this week with attendances of 97.7%

Please remember that we are unable to authorise any term-time holiday requests and be mindful of this when booking any family holidays, ensuring that they take place within school holiday periods. Thank you for your support in ensuring your child attends school on time every day they should (190 days over the school year).



HOME LEARNING

We were so pleased to have fantastic return levels for our first weeks of home learning this year! We set activities which help children practice, consolidate or rehearse key skills they need and have or will be using in class, as well as helping them to develop independent study habits. We also know it helps our families to know more about what your children are learning in school. Home learning is given out on Fridays and should be returned by the following Thursday. Thank you for the support you give your children to complete their home learning activities each week. In KS2, we also offer a weekly home learning club so children can choose to complete their work in school with a teacher's help if they prefer. If you have any questions or need help with home learning, please talk to your child's class teacher.



IMPORTANT DATE REMINDERS



PROSPECTIVE PARENT VISITS (for entry to Reception September 2026)	Monday 6th October 9:30—10:30am, 6.15—7.15 pm
Y6 NEW FOREST TRIP	Friday 10th October
HARVEST FESTIVAL	Wednesday 22nd October, 2pm
Y6 TUDOR HOUSE TRIP	Thursday 23rd October
SDSS NON-UNIFORM DAY	Friday 24th October
LAST DAY OF AUTUMN 1 TERM	Friday 24th October
SCHOOL CLOSED FOR STAFF TRAINING	Monday 3rd November
FIRST DAY OF AUTUMN 2 TERM	Tuesday 4th November
Y3 BUTSER FARM TRIP	Monday 10th November
CELEBRATIONS OF LEARNING	From Monday 10th November—see newsletter
INDIVIDUAL AND SIBLING PHOTOGRAPHS	Thursday 13th November
SCHOOL DISCO	Thursday 13th November 5—6pm
CHILDREN IN NEED—Non uniform	Friday 14th November
PARENT / TEACHER MEETINGS	Tuesday 18th and Wednesday 19th November
Y5 SCIENCE MUSEUM TRIP	Thursday 20th November
RAINBOW & KS1 CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE	Wednesday 10th December
CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT	Wednesday 17th December, 2pm
LAST DAY OF AUTUMN 2 TERM	Friday 19th December
FIRST DAY OF SPRING TERM	Monday 5th January
Y4 SWIMMING	Monday 5th—Friday 16th January
LAST DAY OF SPRING 1 TERM	Friday 13th February
FIRST DAY OF SPRING 2 TERM	Monday 23rd February
SCHOOL DISCO	Wednesday 18th March
PARENT / TEACHER MEETINGS	Tuesday 24th and Wednesday 25th March
M&M THEATRE PRODUCTION	Thursday 26th March
EASTER BONNET PARADE	Friday 27th March
LAST DAY OF SPRING 2 TERM	Friday 27th March
FIRST DAY OF SUMMER 1 TERM	Monday 13th April
LAST DAY OF SUMMER 1 TERM	Friday 22nd May
FIRST DAY OF SUMMER 2 TERM	Tuesday 2nd June
CHILDREN FINISH FOR THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS	Friday 17th July
SCHOOL CLOSED FOR STAFF TRAINING	Monday 3rd November, Monday 1st June, Monday 20th July, Tuesday 21st July, Wednesday 22nd July