



St Denys Primary School

News Flash

9th October 2026

Dear Families,

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 was lovely to see so many of you at our Celebrations of Learning this week, and we are looking forward to sharing more about your children's progress with you at Parents' Evening next week. Over the past few weeks, the Leadership Team have been spending lots of time in classrooms looking at learning and we are very proud of how strong learning behaviour is consistently across the school. 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.

We are particularly impressed with our Year Sixes, who are taking their responsibilities as the oldest in the school very seriously and doing a great job of role-modelling behaviour as well as 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, or share your ideas in the parent survey which we will be sharing in the next couple of weeks. 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

HARVEST FESTIVAL

The whole school is busy practicing songs and rehearsing for our annual Harvest Festival, which will take place next week on Wednesday 14th October at 2pm, in St Denys Church. Everyone is welcome to join us – we hope to see lots of you there!

This year we are collecting donations for The Society of St James, who work to prevent, relieve and end homelessness in Southampton, Portsmouth and the wider Hampshire areas.

Please bring any donations to classes on the morning of the Harvest Festival, Wednesday 14th October. They are particularly asking for:

- **Tinned foods** – soup, fish, vegetables, ready meals
- **Dried foods** – pasta, rice, cereals, sugar, sauces and salad dressings
- **Drinks** – tea, coffee, hot chocolate, fruit squash, fruit juices, long-life milk
- Other food items that help people prepare a meal – cooking oils, herbs & spices, stock cubes, condiments
- **Snack meals** that can be made in a mug – such as cup-a-soups, mug-shots and pot noodles
 - New in packaging adult-sized socks, underwear, gloves and hats

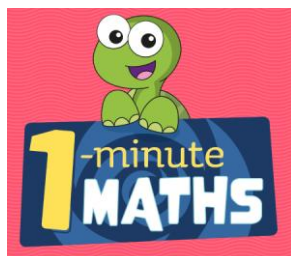
Thank you for your support.

IMPORTANT DATE REMINDERS

Y3 BUTSER FARM TRIP	Monday 12 th October
Y4 SWIMMING LESSONS	Start Monday 12 th October
PARENTS' EVENINGS	Tuesday 13 th and Wednesday 14 th October
HARVEST FESTIVAL – ALL WELCOME	2pm Wednesday 14 th October
INFORMATION EVENING FOR YR ADMISSION SEPTEMBER 2027	6pm Wednesday 21 st October
NON-UNIFORM DAY (Cash donations for SDSS)	Friday 23 rd October
END OF AUTUMN 1 TERM	Friday 23 rd October
INSET DAY	Monday 2 nd November
START OF AUTUMN 2 TERM FOR CHILDREN	Tuesday 3 rd November
RAINBOW PARENTS PHONICS SESSION	Thursday 5 th November, 2:45pm
INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL PHOTOS	Thursday 12 th November
SCHOOL DISCO	Thursday 12 th November
FLU IMMUNISATIONS	Wednesday 18 th November
Y5 SCIENCE CENTRE TRIP	Tuesday 24 th November
Y2 ART GALLERY TRIP	Friday 27 th November
RAINBOW AND KS1 PERFORMANCE 10am & 2pm	Thursday 10 th December
CHRISTMAS CONCERT – ALL WELCOME	2pm Wednesday 16 th December
END OF AUTUMN 2 TERM	Friday 18 th December
START OF SPRING 1 TERM	Monday 4 th January
KS2 ROMANS ASSEMBLY	Thursday 14 th January
RAINBOW PARENTS MATHS SESSION	Thursday 14 th January, 2:45pm
Y5 BIKEABILITY	w/c Monday 18 th January
NON UNIFORM FOR CHOCOLATE DONATIONS	Friday 12 th February
END OF SPRING 1 TERM	Friday 12 th February
START OF SPRING 2 TERM	Monday 22 nd February
WORLD BOOK DAY (comfy clothes or costumes)	Thursday 4 th March
SCHOOL DISCO	Thursday 4 th March
VR EXPERIENCE FOR KS2	Friday 5 th March
BABY SUSO ORCHESTRA VISIT	Tuesday 9 th March
SPRING PARENTS EVENINGS	Tuesday 23 rd & Wednesday 24 th March
END OF SPRING 2 TERM	Thursday 25 th March
START OF SUMMER 1 TERM	Monday 12 th April
YEAR 6 SATS WEEK	Starts Monday 10 th May
SPORTS DAY (Provisional date)	Friday 28 th May
NON UNIFORM DAY – bottle donations	Thursday 17 th June
SCHOOL DISCO	Thursday 17 th June
END OF SUMMER 1 TERM	Friday 28 th May
INSET DAY	Monday 7 th June
START OF SUMMER 2 TERM	Tuesday 8 th June
YEAR 6 RESIDENTIAL	Wednesday 9 th – Friday 11 th June
SUMMER CONCERT – ALL WELCOME	2pm Tuesday 29 th June
SUMMER PARENTS EVENING	Tuesday 6 th July
SUMMER FAIR	Friday 9 th July
END OF SUMMER 2 TERM FOR CHILDREN	Friday 16 th July

Helping your children at home – activity spotlight

Have you tried '1 minute maths'? This free app from White Rose is all about helping children build greater number confidence and fluency – all in 1 minute chunks. You can find a link to download the app here: <https://whiteroseeducation.com/1-minute-maths>



You can find links to lots of other resources to support with helping your children with their learning at home on the special page on our website: <https://www.stdenysprimary.co.uk/helpingathome>

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 each pupil. Our attendance for the year so far is currently very close to this target at 95.8%.

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).



GOVERNOR UPDATE

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 three new Governors – George Giles, Natasha Gregory and Emma Sutton.

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 of Governors who work hard to support and challenge the school. If you would like to contact the Governors, you can do so via the School Office.



HARVEST FESTIVAL



14th October

**There will be Tea/ Coffee and Cake after the Festival
in the School Hall**

**along with a
Second Hand School uniform giveaway**

**money donations will be taken for the refreshments
by cash or card to add to our SDSS funds towards
this years fundraising**

