



Derwent Primary School Newsletter

Our value for July is:
Happiness and Joy

Dear parents and carers,

We are racing towards the end of the academic year and there has been no sense of winding down in school this week. We have been as jam-packed as ever with the wonderful activities the staff are still leading to ensure the children have the best end to their year.

This week has been hot again and just as before, the staff and children have been fantastic. They have enjoyed water play and time in air conditioned rooms, as well as all of the usual fun. A massive thank you to the PTA who supplied more fans for those classrooms who do not have air conditioning in them.

A huge thank you to all of the staff this week for making four separate sports days a success. Every event went off without a hitch and even though it was incredibly hot on some of the days, they were still well attended and the children were as competitive and enthusiastic as ever. We were lucky enough to be hosting four students from local secondary schools for their year 10 work experience, these students have been a fantastic help this week with all of the sports mornings and activities in class.

We have seen year 4's sharing assembly, year 6 J Sax performance, Matilda from the after school music club and the drama club's showcase. We also enjoyed watching the Derwent's Got Talent finalists perform.

The staff are working extremely hard to keep the children happy, safe and secure in school and we really appreciate the words of thanks that have been received. As always, if you do have concerns, please do raise these with the school in the correct forum so they can be dealt with. Class teachers are usually the best place to start as they spend the most amount of time with your child and I am sure, they will have the answers you are looking for. If this is not the case, there are phase leads who can be contacted next – Miss Fisher (EYFS), Mrs Bavington (KS 1), Mr Masterson (LKS2), Miss Bell / Mrs Rimmer (UKS2). There are also other members of the Senior Leadership Team who can support you, such as Miss Kell (FEW) and Miss Faulkner (School Business Manager). We want to help and work together to support you and your children.

Photos below for you to enjoy. I have attached some from the summer fair. Miss Peek kindly implemented her photography hobby and took some wonderful shots – all alongside being soaked in the stocks as usual.



Issue No 38:

Friday 10th July 2026



Word of the Week for the week:

For EYFS:

Beanstalk

Lucent (adjective) that means glowing with or giving off light; radiant. It can also describe something that is clear, lucid, or translucent.

For KS 1 and KS 2:



Sign of the Week:

Issue No 38:

Friday 10th July 2026



COMPUTER

Both open hands held next to each other in front of body with palms facing down. Fingers wiggle.

School Uniform Reminders:

Please remember you can order from the new website for school uniform: <https://derwent-school-uniform.sumupstore.com/>

Orders made now can be collected from the school office on 3rd or 4th September.

As always, if you have any concerns, questions or issues, please do contact the office or SLT.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Rimmer

Mrs Rimmer Head of School and the leadership team.



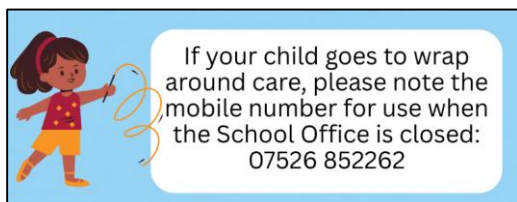
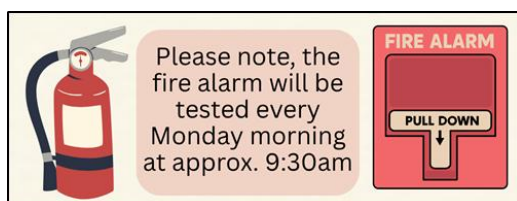
Star Awards

Ladybirds: Marley
Caterpillars: Margot
Hedgehogs: Riley
Squirrels: Parker
Rabbits: Anoene
Hares: Harry
Owls: Jade
Ravens: Klaudia
Mice: Isla
Voles: Asma
Foxes: Nevaeh-Faye
Wildcats: Matteo
Harriers: Blake
Kestrels: Emmie
Eagles: Sienna
Hawks: Phoebe

Certificates will go home with the children today

Issue No 38:

Friday 10th July 2026



Derwent and Southhill Academic Calendar 2025/2026

School Holiday Bank Holiday Pupil Day Training Day

September 2025	October 2025	November 2025	December 2025
Mon 1 8 15 22 29	Mon 16 13 20 27	Mon 19 10 17 24	Mon 1 8 15 22 29
Tue 2 9 16 23 30	Tue 7 14 21 28	Tue 4 11 18 25	Tue 2 9 16 23 30
Wed 3 10 17 24	Wed 8 15 22 29	Wed 5 12 19 26	Wed 3 10 17 24 31
Thu 4 11 18 25	Thu 9 16 23 30	Thu 6 13 20 27	Thu 4 11 18 25
Fri 5 12 19 26	Fri 10 17 24 31	Fri 7 14 21 28	Fri 5 12 19 26
Sat 6 13 20 27	Sat 11 18 25	Sat 1 8 15 22 29	Sat 6 13 20 27
Sun 7 14 21 28	Sun 12 19 26	Sun 2 9 16 23 30	Sun 7 14 21 28

January 2026	February 2026	March 2026	April 2026
Mon 1 8 15 22 29	Mon 2 9 16 23	Mon 2 9 16 23 30	Mon 6 13 20 27
Tue 6 13 20 27	Tue 3 10 17 24	Tue 3 10 17 24 31	Tue 7 14 21 28
Wed 7 14 21 28	Wed 4 11 18 25	Wed 4 11 18 25	Wed 8 15 22 29
Thu 8 15 22 29	Thu 5 12 19 26	Thu 5 12 19 26	Thu 9 16 23 30
Fri 9 16 23 30	Fri 6 13 20 27	Fri 6 13 20 27	Fri 10 17 24
Sat 10 17 24 31	Sat 7 14 21 28	Sat 7 14 21 28	Sat 11 18 25
Sun 11 18 25	Sun 8 15 22 29	Sun 8 15 22 29	Sun 12 19 26

May 2026	June 2026	July 2026	August 2026
Mon 4 11 18 25	Mon 1 8 15 22 29	Mon 6 13 20 27	Mon 3 10 17 24 31
Tue 5 12 19 26	Tue 2 9 16 23 30	Tue 7 14 21 28	Tue 4 11 18 25
Wed 6 13 20 27	Wed 3 10 17 24	Wed 1 8 15 22 29	Wed 5 12 19 26
Thu 7 14 21 28	Thu 4 11 18 25	Thu 2 9 16 23 30	Thu 6 13 20 27
Fri 8 15 22 29	Fri 5 12 19 26	Fri 3 10 17 24 31	Fri 7 14 21 28
Sat 9 16 23 30	Sat 6 13 20 27	Sat 4 11 18 25	Sat 8 15 22 29
Sun 10 17 24 31	Sun 7 14 21 28	Sun 5 12 19 26	Sun 9 16 23 30

Term 1 - 75 days, Term 2 - 55 days, Term 3 - 65 days, = 195.
Pupil contact will amount to 180 of the 195 days. Schools will be closed on 5 of the 195 days. In accordance with Teachers' Conditions of Service, five days will be used to enable teacher training to take place.
Training days set out as follows: 1st September 2025, 2nd September 2025, 5th January 2026 and 13th April 2026. Training day 5 will be made up of several twilight sessions determined by individual schools.



Derwent Primary School Safeguarding

safeguarding@derwentschool.co.uk

Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Samantha Barlow

Deputy Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Tenille Rimmer, Mrs Chloe Bell, Mrs Sonya Read, Miss Hayley Kell and Mr Callum Masterson

Safeguarding Governor: W.O. Sarah Tuckwell

Do you have any safeguarding concerns regarding a child? If so, please feel free to contact any of the above in confidence via the email address at the top. This email is accessible by the above members of staff only.



**STRICTLY NO SMOKING
OR VAPING ON
SCHOOL GROUNDS
THIS INCLUDES THE
CAR PARK**



Lunchtime Clubs.



Day	Club	Staff member and room.
Monday		
Tuesday	Games club/ Homework 12:15 - 12: 45pm	Miss Kell/ Miss Manaher - Ravens room.
Wednesday	Games/ Homework Club 12:15 - 12:45pm School Council 12:35 - 12:55pm KS2 Gardening Club - 12:30 - 1:00pm. TT Rockstars club- LKS2 12:50 - 1:15pm	Miss Kell/Mr Summers- Ravens room. Mrs Kumar - Rabbits Classroom. Mrs Amner. Mr Masterson - Mice Classroom.
Thursday	Purple fun club - invite only (Open at breaktime) Games club/ Homework 12:15 - 12:45pm LKS2 Dance Club 12:45-1:10pm UKS2 Origami Club from 12:15pm	Miss Kell & Mrs Jassova - In the Library. Miss Kell/ Miss Randall - Ravens room. Miss Teale - Studio. Mrs Goward, Kestrels Classroom.
Friday	TT Rockstars club- UKS2 12:15 - 12:30pm KS1 Gardening club - 10:15 - 10:35am.	Mr Masterson - Hawks Classroom. Mrs Amner.



Dates for your diary **Please check here regularly for added dates throughout the year**

Dates for your 2025/26 diary

July

15th July – Yr6 Bowling Trip

15th July – Rocksteady Summer concert

16th July – Leavers Production Hawks & Eagles

17th July – Last day of School (Optional collection from 2pm)

September

3rd September – Inset Day

4th September – Inset Day

7th September – All Children back to school

Why not look at the full calendar on the school website (<https://www.derwentschool.co.uk/Calendar/>). Here you will find what we have planned for the 2025/2026 Academic Year.

Please read

Break time Snacks

A gentle reminder that any snacks brought to school for break time need to be a healthy choice as per our food policy and nut free. Please see below the snack section from the policy:

Snacks:

- Children from Pre-School to year 2 are supplied with a healthy snack at break time, free of charge.
- All pupils are welcome to bring a healthy snack from home for their break, for example a piece of fruit, vegetable portion or healthy bar.

Issue No 38:

Friday 10th July 2026

Please note that crisps, chocolate bars etc, are not to be consumed at break time. **Also a reminder to all parents that we are a nut free school. This means no nuts or nut products are allowed in school.** We respectfully ask for all parents' co-operation with this.

Morning drop off and afternoon pick up – reminder of times

Just a gentle reminder to please ensure that you are dropping your children at school on time.

Pre-school drop off is 8.50am and for children in Reception to Year 6 it is 8.40am.

We are seeing an increase in the number of children being dropped off much later than these times and on many occasions past 9am. We understand if there can sometimes be road closures, or traffic but this isn't the case every day.

8:30am	Gates open
8:40am	Bell on main playground rung and Reception - Year 6 children go to class. Reception - Year 6 wrap around care children go to class
8:50am	Pre-School children go to class Pre-School wrap around care children go to class
8:50am onwards	Late arrivals are to report to the main office to be signed in and taken to class
9:00am	Gates locked. Late arrivals are to report to the main office to be signed in and taken to class.

The office team is often disrupted from important tasks such as completing the school registers when they are having to take children who arrive late to their classroom.

We also request prompt collection at the end of the day at 3.20pm for pre-school and 3.30pm for children in Reception to Year 6.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Wrap Around Care and Pre-school sessions 2026/27

Please note that bookings will go live for you to book any wrap around care sessions and pre-school lunch/chargeable sessions from midnight on the 1st September 2026.

Any existing bookings for 2025/26 **will NOT** roll over from September so please ensure that you have booked your child in for their sessions.

If you are going to be paying with childcare vouchers, please let Mrs Fowler know (wac@derwentschool.co.uk) ASAP so that she is able to set your account to 'pay with vouchers'.

If you have any difficulty in booking your sessions or logging in to Arbor, please email wac@derwentschool.co.uk and we will respond to your email upon our return to the office on the 3rd and 4th September.

Please see attached to this dojo a reminder of the WAC terms and conditions for your information along with the Arbor quick guide to booking sessions which you might find useful. This information can also be found on our school website <https://www.derwentlower.org.uk/Parents/After-School-Club/>

Please can we also reiterate that your Arbor account should always be in credit and not in arrears. If your account is in arrears, you may risk your sessions being cancelled.

There have also been improvements made to card payments in Arbor. You will now be able to enter and save your card details and pay by Apple or Google Pay on your desktop.

Vacancies at Derwent

We are advertising for a Clerk to join our team from September 2026. Please see link below to the vacancy should you or anyone you know be interested in applying for the position.

Clerk link – <https://mynewterm.com/jobs/109457/EDV-2026-DPS-71793>



Summer 2026 Football Camps

By 4 Corner Coaching







FUN

FRIENDS

FOOTBALL

Venue: Sandy Sports Centre (Astro) SG19 1BL

Week 1 Tues 21st & Thurs 23rd July
Week 2 Tues 28th & Thurs 30th July
Week 3 Tues 4th & Thurs 6th Aug
Week 4 Tues 11th & Thurs 13th Aug

Costs £20 per person per session. Ages 5 - 14

UEFA B coaches – Youth Award Level 3 - Enhanced DBS
 Safeguarding – BFAS (Basic First Aid for Sport)
 Contact: **Mark** - 07419764033 mark@4cornercoaching.co.uk
Natasha - 07957980492 natasha@4cornercoaching.co.uk

www.4cornercoaching.co.uk





music Summer Camp

Only
£6.50
p/h

20-24
JULY

For Ages 5+

Exciting Activities Include
 Musical Theatre, Percussion, Songwriting, band practice, dance and many more!





REGISTER NOW:
 Email: admin@barnwellmusic.co.uk
 Phone: 07736 901549

SHOWSTOPPERS PRESENTS

MUSICAL THEATRE CLUB



SEPTEMBER –
DECEMBER 2026



THURSDAYS



3:30PM –
4:30PM



ALL AGES
WELCOME

Join us for a fun-filled term of singing, dancing, acting and musical theatre magic!



BUILD
CONFIDENCE



LEARN SONGS
FROM YOUR
FAVOURITE
MUSICALS



EXPLORE
CHOREOGRAPHY
AND PERFORMANCE
SKILLS



MAKE NEW
FRIENDS



AND HAVE
LOTS OF FUN!

⇒ **HOW TO BOOK:** ⇒
<https://www.dinisshowstoppers.com/>
 Spaces are limited, so book early to secure your place! ✓



MULTISPORT 4 DAY CAMP



JOIN US FOR SUMMER ACTIVITIES & SPORTS!

Dates & Locations:
 Flitwick Football Club
 • Monday 10th August - Thursday 13th August
 • Monday 17th August - Thursday 20th August
 • Monday 24th August - Thursday 27th August
 The Sports Hall Sandy
 • Monday 17th August - Thursday 20th August
 • Monday 24th August - Thursday 27th August

Drop off time: 10am
Pick up time: 3pm
Ages: 6 - 12 years old
Cost: £15 per day, or **FREE** if you qualify for Free School Meals.
FREE child's ticket to watch Bedford Blues for all participants!
Hot food options for attendees (pre book only)

SCAN TO BOOK



Book now: www.bluesfoundation.org.uk/holiday-provision



READ to the BEAT



Summer Reading Challenge 2026 Newsletter

The Summer Reading Challenge is an annual challenge run jointly by The Reading Agency and public libraries. This year the challenge is Read to the Beat, all about being musical and ties in with the National Year of Reading 2026. It runs Friday 17th July to Saturday 5th September 2026.

Children are encouraged to read whatever they choose for the challenge, recognising the importance of reading for pleasure in increasing empathy and improving well-being, as well as in children's educational success. The theme this year is all about music! Children will be able to find books linked to their favourite creative arts, and access activities at the library.

The Challenge

- Children must be members of the library service. Join the library [here](#) or go to your local library.
- The challenge invites children to read six library books or more during the summer holidays.
- Children can borrow books or read our e-books, magazines and audiobooks available on our Borrowbox and PressReaders app. [More about e-resources](#)
- Families can sign up for the challenge at any library, at any stage in the summer from Friday 17th July.
- Children are awarded a certificate and a medal for reading 6 books.
- Children completing the challenge (6 books) will be entered into a lucky dip at their library for the chance to win a £40 voucher for The Works to buy arts, crafts and books.

Struggle with reading? We can help!

- For dyslexia, we have collections of shorter books, with special fonts and paper – and great stories.
- The Borrowbox app has special accessibility features, which allow customers to select font, background and fontsize.
- Picture books aren't just for toddlers! Libraries have collections of older picture books for young readers.
- Get hooked on graphic novels (comic style books).
- Learning to read? Select from beginning to read or short chapter books.
- Booklets with lots of ideas available on our [Virtual Library](#).
- Some children (especially boys) prefer non-fiction. Dinosaurs, transport and space are particularly popular.
- Enjoy stories through audiobooks. Free to borrow on CD or download with Borrowbox.

All libraries will have activities for children available throughout the summer. All libraries offer a Treasure Hunt to children when they complete the reading challenge. Read to the Beat illustrations by Emily Woodside. Illustrations and logo © The Reading Agency 2026.