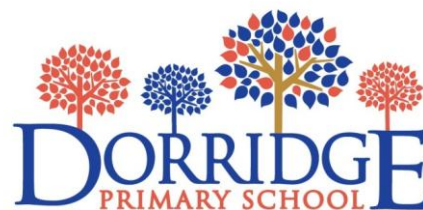


Easter Weeklies



Charity Fortnight **STATS**

Thanks go to parents for supporting
Charity Fortnight –
we couldn't do it without you!

During Charity Fortnight the children ran
6930.5 miles. That's the distance from
Dorridge to Singapore!

Children raised nearly £1500 during
KS1 and KS2 cake sales and £170 at the
10p Fair. That's lot of 10ps! Thank you.

Charity Fortnight Entrepreneurs

During the last couple of weeks we have
seen some entrepreneurial children selling
their creations to raise money for charity.

Tamara from Year 5 set up a homemade
lemonade stall at break time and raised
£16.

Samuel and Emily from Year 4 sold their
decorated stones and raised over
£47.

The Marathon and the Dancethon were a great finale to Charity Fortnight

It was wonderful to see our families lining the playgrounds and
the children's enthusiasm for running and dancing
to fundraise for our chosen charity PAPAYA.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO DONATE!

Please pay all sponsorship money raised into your Parentpay
account. Don't forget to tick the Gift Aid box on the sponsorship
form and complete your FULL NAME and POSTCODE if you
are a taxpayer. Then return to the school office for us to claim
that bit extra. **Thanks again!**

Thank you to Mrs Guevara and her team for
organising such a fantastic event!



Parents' Evenings

Online Parents' Evenings were a
great success this term. It was
good to catch up with you all.
Let the children be your guide in
the Summer Term for Walkabout
on **Thursday 2nd July** after school.

Thanks go to the PTA, Admin Team and Y6
who have worked together to provide each
class with an **Easter Egg Hunt** and a sweet
treat to go home with every child for Easter.
Enjoy your Easter break – we look forward to
hearing all about it on **Monday 13th April**
when we return for the Summer Term.



Summer Term After School Clubs start w/b Monday 13th April – please see website for the timetable

SUMMER UNIFORM

Children can return to school after Easter in their
Summer uniform. Uniform specification is attached.

PRELOVED UNIFORM SALES

We are grateful to the new Preloved Uniform parent
volunteers for sorting and selling your preloved
donations. So far this year they have raised over £300
which will go back into school for resources and treats.

The next whole school sale is planned for
Thursday 2nd July during Walkabout after school.

Endeavour

Reception: Jacob, Max, Amelia
Year 1: Maddie, Thomas, Maeve
Year 2: Amelia, Charlotte, Eugenie
Year 3: Sydelle, Arthur, Archie
Year 4: Neevah, Mila, Max
Year 5: Alice, Elliot, Jack
Year 6: Classes 6D, 6P, 6S, 6+

Weekly Celebration

Families keep themselves and others safe

Summer 1 Diary Dates

A complete list will follow in the Summer Term Newsletter

APRIL		
13.04.26		SUMMER TERM STARTS
16.04.26		Reception Offer Day
17.04.26		Year 3 Benchball Training at DPS
20.04.26	9.30am-12pm	Girl Power Inspire Festival at Tudor Grange
23.04.26		PAPAYA – Claire Lunham returns for Donation Assembly
28.04.26		Year 5 and Year 6 Golf Engagement Day – more info to follow
29.04.26	1.30pm The Hub	Parent Council Meeting
MAY		
01.05.26		INSET Day – school closed to pupils – Darby's OPEN
04.05.26	School closed	MAY BANK HOLIDAY Deaf Awareness Week
08.05.26		Year 3 Benchball Festival at Arden
11.05.26		Mental Health Awareness Week
11.05.26		National Walk to School Week
11.05.26		Year 6 SATs Week
11.05.26		Book Fair Week – 3for2 offer
14.05.26	11am	Year 6 Picnic in the Park – End of SATs – Parents Welcome
16.05.26		PTA May Ball at Nuthurst Grange
22.05.26		INSET Day – school closed to pupils - Darby's OPEN
25 th -29 th .05.26		HALF TERM – Darby's Holiday Club OPEN
31.05.26	St. Andrews BCFC	Vertu Primary School Cup Finals Day Year 6 Boys and Girls

PE AND FOREST SCHOOL TIMETABLE commences w/b 13th April 2026

Summer 1 2026

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
PE	Year 2	Reception & Year 6	Year 4	5D & 5S	Reception Year 1, 3S & 3D
Forest School				RS & 5P	3P

Summer 2 2026

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
PE	Year 2	Year 6	Year 4	5D & 5P	Reception Year 1, 3D & 3P
Forest School				RD & 5S	3S

Years 1-6 must come to school dressed in their **PE Kit on their PE day**.

Please see Uniform Specification for more information about uniform and PE kit requirements.

Children doing **Forest School** must come to school dressed in their Forest School Kit, with their waterproofs and wellies. See DOJO for more information.

Reception children will keep their PE Kits on their pegs in school to change into when they do PE.

Summer Term 2026

Term Starts: Monday 13th April

INSET: Friday 1st May

MAY DAY: Monday 4th May

INSET: Friday 22nd May

Half Term: Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May

Term Ends: Monday 20th July

PTA Summer Term Events – see you there!

16.05.26 – May Ball at Nuthurst Grange

26.06.26 – Non Uniform Day and Funfest Friday 3.15-5pm



Uniform

NURSERY UNIFORM

Royal blue sweatshirt

White short-sleeved polo shirt with embroidered school logo* (plain white polo shirt optional)

A pair of black pumps with velcro fastening, kept in school in a navy/red drawstring pump bag*

A change of clothes also to be kept in Nursery in their drawstring pump bag* on their peg

Children are permitted to wear grey skirt, pinafore, trousers, shorts or culottes

Alternatively, they can wear jeans, chinos, leggings, joggers, skirts or shorts

Book bag with school logo*

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Winter

EYFS & KS1 White short-sleeved polo shirt with embroidered school logo* (plain white polo shirt optional) Grey skirt, pinafore, trousers, shorts or culottes. Grey, navy or black tights or grey knee length or ankle socks

KS2 White shirt and school tie*

Grey skirt, pinafore, trousers, shorts or culottes

Grey, navy or black tights or grey knee length or ankle socks

Summer

KS1 & KS2 to be worn during Summer Term and Autumn Term until October Half Term

White short-sleeved polo shirt with embroidered school logo* (plain white polo shirt optional)

Red and white gingham check, short sleeved dress or playsuit and white ankle socks

or white short-sleeved plain blouse and grey skirt, pinafore, trousers, shorts or culottes

To be worn with:

Navy jumper or cardigan with a red stripe* (compulsory item)

Black shoes

Rain jacket with school logo* (optional) or coat

PE KIT

Reception - To be kept in school in a navy/red drawstring pump bag*

KS1 & KS2 - Years 1-6 must come to school dressed in their PE Kit on their PE day (see timetable)

Reception, KS1 & KS2 To be worn to school on timetabled PE days

Navy PE shorts or skort and navy/red PE T-shirt* (compulsory item)

A pair of black pumps with a velcro fastening and a pair of trainers

Navy long sleeve games shirt* or navy hoodie with school logo* or plain navy hoodie

Navy PE joggers/navy leggings (optional)

KS2 A pair of trainers to be kept in school for the 'Daily Mile'

No jewellery may be worn in School. However, a watch and one small plain stud in each ear is permitted.

Hair art, zig zags, tramlines or coloured dye are not permitted. Red, navy or white hair accessories.

*These items can be purchased from **Palmers, Knowle and Monkhouse Schoolwear, Solihull.**

Please assist us by naming ALL your child's clothes and personal items.



Nursery

After half term, we will be continuing with our story The Lion Hunt, alongside lots of exciting activities linked to it.

In phonics, we will be learning the phoneme 'k' with the rhyme 'Keiran is a kind kid!'

ND will be starting Footiebugs again on Tuesdays please ensure your child has their pumps or trainers in school. NP will be back doing PE on Thursday mornings. Our Welly Walk will continue on Wednesday mornings please send your child in suitable clothing for the weather. You do not need to send book bags on Wednesdays, as the children already have plenty to carry with their Welly Wednesday kits.

We will be sending PE kits and wellies home over the Easter holidays. Please make sure that spare clothing is replenished in PE bags, Pumps/trainers fit and wellies still fit comfortably too.

We hope you all have a really lovely Easter holiday. The children have done amazingly well this half term we are so proud of them, and they truly deserve a good rest. Enjoy plenty of chocolate and hopefully some sunshine too!

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Year 1

What an end to Charity Fortnight! The children really did us proud with their amazing performance of the 'Waka Waka' dance and we hope you enjoyed watching it as much as we enjoyed doing it!

In English we have been completing a range of Easter themed writing challenges. The children have enjoyed exploring a range of Spring and Easter poems and looking at rhyming words. They were able to discuss what they liked and didn't like about each poem and shared their opinions with their peers.

In maths, the children have been consolidating their understanding of numbers up to 50. After the Easter break we will be moving on to some measuring units, looking at length and height as well as mass and weight.

We also had some animal fun this week as we were lucky enough to have a visit from Becky the 'Animal Lady' who brought a variety of exotic animals for

Reception

Wow—we made it! We can't believe we've reached the end of the Spring Term. The children have worked incredibly hard and truly deserve a well-earned Easter break.

When we return for the Summer Term, we'll have one more week on our current topics. In RS, the children will be exploring Somebody Swallowed Stanley. RP will be reading The Very Hungry Caterpillar, and RD will be learning through The Gingerbread Man.

In maths, we will revisit the concept of cardinality—the idea that the last number in a count tells us how many items there are altogether. The children will practise continuing counting sequences, identifying missing numbers, and counting on from different starting points. We'll also explore strategies for counting larger groups of objects, including those that can't be moved. Additionally, we will look at the differences in number names, such as between "teen" and "-ty" numbers.

In Phonics, our focus will be on reading longer words, such as *t-oa-s-t*, and adding -ed endings, for example *t-oa-s-t-ed*, while continuing to revise all Phase 3 sounds.

Looking ahead to next term, RS will begin their Forest School sessions on Thursdays. Although the weather is improving, please ensure your child wears long sleeves and trousers for protection. If it's sunny, sun cream and insect repellent are also recommended.

RP will begin their FootieBug sessions and RD will start PE sessions every Friday. Please ensure PE kits are returned to school after the Easter break.

Lunch Choices Reminder: Please make sure your child's lunch option is selected in advance, as choosing in the morning is taking up valuable learning time.

Thank you for your continued support this term. Have a wonderful and restful break!

Year 2

Happy Easter!

Year 2 have had a fantastic last week of term filled with lots of exciting events!

On Monday we had 4 exciting visitors...lamb! I'm sure the children have come and told you all about it but Mrs Cotterill very kindly asked her friend who owns a farm to bring in some lambs for the children to see and feed. On Tuesday we had a visit from the animal lady who brought in an owl, a snake, a tenrec, a lizard, a skunk and cockroaches for the children to learn about and hold.

In maths we have finished off our work on fractions and after half term we will be moving on to time. This is notoriously a hard topic for the children so any extra practise at home will be very beneficial. To begin with we will be looking at o'clock, quarter past, half past and quarter to.

The children had a fantastic time doing their danceathon, we're sure you can agree they were fantastic!

It was lovely to speak to you all at parents evening, thank you for all your hard work with the children this term!

the children to learn about and stroke. We met a Tenrec, a python, a hissing cockroach, a spectacled owl, a blue tongued lizard and a baby skunk.

Have a wonderful Easter break and we will see you in a couple of weeks!

Year 3

And with that, the Spring term is over—where has the time gone!

It was lovely to share your child's progress so far in Year 3 and discuss what they can focus on during the final push of the Summer term. We hope you found the meetings informative.

This week, we have been busy developing our cutting skills as part of our Design and Technology cooking and nutrition unit. After learning about the impact of food miles on our climate, the children investigated and tasted a range of seasonal fruits and vegetables. We suspect they may have been more adventurous in school than at home!

Working in teams, they then designed their own seasonal tart before preparing and cooking their creations. Thank you for your support in sourcing ingredients so quickly. We hope you enjoyed tasting and evaluating the final products with them. We have now completed our unit on money. While confidence in adding and subtracting with money has developed well, continued practice and application of these skills will really help to boost confidence further.

Thank you for your continued efforts in building positive homework habits using our new CenturyTech platform. It's wonderful to see so many children engaging with it, developing their learning and enjoying the process. The more they use the platform, the better it gets to know them as learners, allowing it to provide more personalised challenges and support. TTRS continues as our main maths homework to continually build that important accurate recall speed of all times tables. Have a wonderful Easter break, and we look forward to seeing everyone for the final term of Year 3! The Year 3 Team.

Sadly, we have said goodbye to Mrs Stajka this week, but we wish her the best of luck in her new job. Excitingly we welcome back Mrs Melville, who has come back off maternity leave, and is excited to be in 2S after the holiday. Have a lovely Easter break!

The Year 2 Team

Year 4

What a fabulous end to the half term it has been!

The children loved seeing you all at the run this morning, and it made the event feel really special. Thank you so much for coming along to support them.

It was also lovely to meet with you all during parents' evening.

We always value the opportunity to share how hard the children are working and the progress they are making.

After the Easter holidays, all Year 4 children will be allowed to write in **pen** (with the exception of maths, where we will continue to use pencil). We would love the children to bring their own pen into school; however, please can we remind you that we use **blue handwriting pens**, and **biros are not permitted**.

We hope you all have a wonderful and restful Easter break and look forward to seeing you in the Summer Term.

Kind regards,

The Year 4 Team



Sports News

Following our recent success at the Primary Gymnastics Competition, placing 1st, we were delighted to participate in the County Finals event this week. The team were taken by Mrs Biddlecombe and Mrs Doyle, who drove the AMAT minibus! They didn't disappoint when they arrived back at school wearing gold medals, winning the competition against 13 other teams. Go Dorridge!



Year 5

This week has been another busy and exciting one in school, with lots of fantastic learning taking place across the curriculum.

In maths, we have been focusing on our new statistics unit. The children have been learning how to interpret and present data using line graphs and tables. We have been learning how to record data on a line graph.

In English, the children have been working hard on writing their own newspaper reports based on the incredible story of Philippe Petit, the high-wire artist who walked between the Twin Towers. They have explored the features of newspaper writing, including headlines, eyewitness quotes and formal language. We have been very impressed with their creativity and their ability to write in a clear and engaging style.

In history, we have been learning about Tudor inventories. The children have explored what these historical documents can tell us about people's lives in the past. They have shown great curiosity when examining sources and discussing how wealth and status were represented during the Tudor period.

Mrs Hales has spoken to KS2 pupils this week about uniform expectations, including permitted jewellery and PE kit. After the holiday, pupils may wear summer uniform. We are looking forward to seeing high uniform standards among our Year 5 pupils.

We would also like to say a huge thank you for your continued support during our Charity Fortnight. The cake sales were a great success, and we are very grateful for your generous contributions. It was also fantastic to see so many of you cheering on our runners at the marathon final this morning—your encouragement made a real difference.

We hope you all have a restful and enjoyable holiday. Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support. Charity Fortnight is always incredibly busy, but one that the children thoroughly enjoy and truly benefit from. We look forward to welcoming everyone back for the summer term.

Year 6

It was lovely to meet with you all this week and share your child's progress. We have had such a busy half term and everyone has been working hard.

This week we have been immersed in the world of Macbeth, plotting dastardly deeds with his wife based on the prophecies he has heard. Your child has been writing a conversation between Macbeth and Lady Macbeth, using a full range of punctuation and applying all their writing skills. After the holiday, we will be spending our English lessons revising for SATs and writing several pieces.

On Wednesday after the holiday, English will be taking place in the Forest School area for an exciting new project - please send your child to school with appropriate Forest School clothing and footwear.

In maths this week we have been learning about bar charts, area, perimeter and volume. We just have work on graphs and shape to complete before SATs.

Through our 'who should go on the £10 note' topic, we have learnt about Ellen Wilkinson and Betty Boothroyd, discussing the hardships they overcame and their legacies. We hope you have a relaxing Easter and take time to recharge batteries, ready for a busy forthcoming half term. Happy Easter to you all.

KS2 Pencil Case Kit List

Please check and replenish your child's pencil case during the Easter break ready for the Summer Term (nothing fancy!)

Blue Handwriting Pen
Pencil
Rubber
Pencil Sharpener
Ruler
Glue stick
Coloured pencil crayons
Highlighter

Many thanks
Mrs Hales.

