



Denton West End School

Newsletter

September 2026

Welcome Back

Welcome to the start of a new academic year at Denton West End Primary School. We would like to welcome all of our new nursery and reception children to school as well as Arwa, Jenson, Isla and Oakley who have joined us in other year groups. This is always a very exciting time in school as we begin the new academic year.



The children have made a fantastic start to the new year remembering routines and expectations. We have had a really positive joint assembly with children remembering the importance of smiling and using our names to make us feel secure and happy.

This newsletter will contain reminders for the new school year so please read carefully. The final July newsletter is on the website and can also be used for reference.

Congratulations



Miss Schofield had her baby in the holidays. She is called Gia. She was a little early but obviously in a great rush to meet the world. We pass on our best wishes to the family and we look forward to meeting her.

New Staff

We welcome Miss Patani, Mrs Begum, Mr Williams and Mrs Dakin to our school this term. We are really pleased that they are part of the Denton West End team.

Awards at the End of the School Year

At the end of the school year children are given awards for especially good work across the year. The reading awards went to:

Class	2026
Reception	Ayra and Daniel
Year One	Lewis and Myla
Year Two	Evie and Radmehr
Year Three	Kit and Ronan
Year Four	Leandro and Jacob
Year Five	Anton and Ellison
Year Six	Lily and Victory

The maths awards went to:

Class	2026
Reception	Lorenzo and Milla
Year One	Bowie and Sidney
Year Two	Teddy and Amaya
Year Three	Phoebe and Isabella
Year Four	George and Isabella
Year Five	Thomas and Salahadeen
Year Six	Zayyan and Mason

Award for excellent effort all year went to:

Class	2026
Reception	Evie and Emma
Year One	Elsie and Luqman
Year Two	Prince and Matilda
Year Three	Albie and Chloe
Year Four	Charlotte and Teddy
Year Five	Alice and Lydia
Year Six	Joshua and Neve

All of the children work really hard throughout the year and we are very proud of their achievements.

Investors in Pupils

We continue to work on our Investors in Pupils which is part of the culture of our school. The children have been busy making their class booklets, setting their targets for this term and organising their class jobs.



INVESTORS IN PUPILS

Milk and Snacks

Children in Early Years and Key Stage One are provided with free fruit through the Government Scheme. Milk is also free in nursery and reception but has to be paid for in KS1 and KS2. You will receive a text asking if your child wants milk.

Children in Key Stage Two are provided with toast, and fruit on request. This is free of charge.

Children on pupil premium and extended entitlement will receive milk free of charge. Again, you will be asked about this shortly.

School Lunches

I would urge all parents to let their child try a school meal as they are good value, well balanced and save your time preparing packed lunches. Our school cook can accommodate different dietary requirements and there are always sandwiches and jacket potato options. We also hold special menu days during the year. We will be holding more Come Dine with Me events so parents can come and sample a meal. Please look out for the ParentPay messages. Costs are £13.50 per week. For children in Reception and KS1 school lunches are free. Dinner money should be paid in advance of meals being taken through ParentPay.



If your child is on packed lunches please ensure these are healthy and don't contain more than one treat item. Chocolate bars/jam/sweets/chocolate spread sandwiches should not be sent. We also ask that you do not send hot food or nuts into school for health and safety. We have a number of children with severe nut allergies.

Children on packed lunches will also need a separate drink from the water bottles that are kept in the classrooms, to go with their lunch. Children will also need to bring cutlery. All waste now goes home due to changes in waste management collection.



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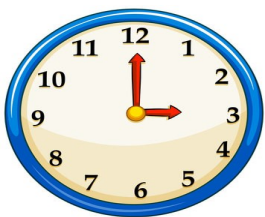
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Attendance and Punctuality

Attendance last year was excellent at 96.3% across school. This is well above national and local levels. We are ambitious with our attendance though and aim for 97%. Good attendance and punctuality equates with good progress and attainment and helps your child to feel safe and secure. Thank you to all parents who support us in ensuring your child is in school and only stays off when really poorly.

As you may know, we monitor attendance and lateness as part of our safeguarding procedures. The school day starts at 8.55am although gates and doors are open before this time so that there can be a prompt start to the day. Please ensure your child is in the playground ready to come into school.



If your child is going to be absent could you please inform school by 9.30am? This can be done by leaving a voice message on the answering service saying why your child is absent. This is to ensure absence is accurately recorded.

We may make phone calls to check where your child is as part of our safeguarding procedures. We work closely with our Education Welfare and Safeguarding Officer with those children whose attendance and lateness is causing concern. Any unexplained absences will be marked as unauthorised.

On wet days the doors will open early so that your child isn't late into school and you are not waiting in the rain. Please bear in mind that staff have a briefing meeting each morning so are unable to speak with you. A note in the reading record for messages is preferred.

You should also be receiving a letter about holidays in term time. These will not be granted unless there are exceptional circumstances. It is likely that a penalty notice from the Local Authority will be issued unless there are exceptional circumstances.

End of the school day

The staff are very careful to check who is picking your child up at the end of the school day. They soon get to know faces. However, if there are changes to arrangements please will you let us know? If we are not certain of who is picking your child up we will check and make the necessary phone calls. I hope you appreciate that this is for the safety of your child.

Parents of KS2 children can stand at the back of the playground to meet their child from 3.15pm. Please don't allow younger children to come further into the playground or play on the equipment as they are not supervised by school staff. Also, at this time of the day children are often having a story and this can be distracting. Younger children need to stand with you to keep safe. The KS2 gate will open at 8.50am and 3.10pm.

Water in School

We encourage children to drink water throughout the school day. Please use a **small** water bottle with a sports cap to avoid spillages. Bottles will be kept in a central place in the classroom and children will have access to them through the day. Please ensure your child brings **water only**. These can then be taken home and refilled each day. Children will not be allowed to drink juice, fizzy water or flavoured water during the day.



Car Parks

May I remind parents that the car parks should not be used by parents?



Please also bear in mind our neighbours and do not park across drives or on the yellow zig zag markings. Pavements should be accessible for parents with prams and buggies. This is for the safety of our school community.

Friday afternoons are particularly congested as the Y4 children are returning from their swimming lessons. Please ensure the road is clear so that the coach can drop the children off safely at the school gate.

Medicines

Medication should be administered at home. Where this is not possible parents must complete a form giving school written permission to administer the medicine. Do not send a child into school with their own medication. We will not administer medicine if it has not been prescribed by a doctor, dentist or nurse prescriber. If a child has a long term medical need a health care plan will be put in place. An adult will also need to collect the medicine at the end of the day. Throat lozenges/eye drops are also medicine and must not be sent in with your child.



Dogs on the Premises

Under no circumstances should dogs be brought onto school premises; this includes carrying dogs. School premises include the playgrounds, waiting areas near the KS2 playground or near the gates. This is to ensure that we do not have any accidents involving children. **Dogs should be on the pavement only** and not close to gates.



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Large Bags and School Folders

Every child in school will need a reading book bag to take books and homework to and from school. Thank you to all of those parents who have not sent their child with a large backpack; this is making a difference already in classrooms and on corridors.



Additionally, schools now need to follow new legislation, Martyn's Law, which became statutory following the MEN attack in 2017. This means schools will need to look at their security procedures. We do not want large bags in school so that we can check easily that children are not bringing inappropriate items to school. E.g. mobile phones.

Children **must not bring a back pack.**

Children will be provided with a plastic folder for books to protect them.

Safeguarding and Child Protection

School has a comprehensive policy that ensures children are kept safe. This is available on the School website. Staff are very vigilant and take great care over the children's well being and safety. In most cases, if we have a concern, we will contact you to discuss any issues. Please don't be alarmed if a member of staff contacts you about a disclosure that your child has made as this is our standard procedure in order to keep children safe.

Likewise, if you have any concerns, we prefer parents to be in touch before an issue escalates.

School Uniform

Children have come back to school looking really smart in their new uniforms. This is important as it gives the children a sense of belonging in school and adds to their feelings of safety and security.

Our Uniform

- Grey trousers, skirts or pinafores.
- White or blue polo shirts. These may be purchased with the school logo.
- Royal blue sweatshirt or cardigan with the school logo.
- Sensible black school shoes. **Trainers are not permitted.**
- Hair styles should be neat and tidy. Long hair should be tied back for health and safety reasons. There should be no extremes of style or colour and no shaved lines or patterns. Hair accessories should be discreet.
- A small analogue watch only (not a smart watch or any other devices) can be worn but must be removed for PE.



School Uniform

-Mobile phones are not permitted on school premises. If found, they will be confiscated and need to be collected by an adult.

-Small stud, not hooped, earrings can be worn but must be removed for swimming and PE. This is for health and safety reasons. If children cannot yet remove earrings they can be covered with a plaster or tape provided by home as a temporary measure.

-Nail varnish should not be worn.

-Make up is not permitted.

-Transfer tattoos should be removed or covered for school.

-Some children choose to wear shorts under their skirt or dress for modesty. These should be plain black or white, if worn under a summer dress.

-Headscarves worn for religious reasons should be plain and blue, white or black in colour.

Please ensure PE bags come into school as soon as possible and these are kept in school for the half term.

Could we remind you that all items should be **named**. We have a lot of lost property at the end of every half term.

Reading Records

These are used to record the reading that is done at home and in school. Please complete the record regularly when you have read with your child.

You can also use the record to write a message to your child's teacher. Please note we will **NOT** check the reading records every day. The time it takes to do this means we are not supporting the children. If you have written a note for your child's teacher, please tell your child so they can show it to staff.

Contact Forms

To reduce paperwork, we will not send out emergency contact forms again. It is important that if there is **any changes** to any of your details or your child's medical details that you **inform school** immediately. Often parents will say they haven't received communications but that is because they have not updated us with new numbers etc.

Permissions Form

This will go out again shortly. You will receive our privacy notice and then a link to a form that needs to be completed as soon as possible please. This will come through ParentPay.

We will also send out asthma and health care plans. Please return these promptly to school if your child has asthma or needs a health care plan.

Finally...

Please remember we operate an open door policy at school. If you have any concerns or queries then contact school. It is much better to contact school and chat with a member of staff than having to worry about your child.

All staff are looking forward to an exciting year at school!