DURRINGTON NEWSLETTER

Kindness Aspiration Perseverance Pride

23 May 2024 edition

Exam season is now well and truly underway and we would like to say a big well done to Y11 on how they have conducted themselves so far. They have been working incredibly hard in lessons, revision sessions and at home too. As a result it's been lovely to talk to them after their exams and hear how confident they feel about the exams they have sat so far. By staying in school, attending lessons and taking full advantage of their brilliant teachers, they will put themselves in the best possible position for their exams.

It's also an important time for Y10 as they prepare for their end of year exams next month. This is a really important time for them as it gives them a really good indication of how they are doing, at the midpoint of their courses.

This idea of making the most of every minute of every lesson is something we are also talking to all other year groups about. Success at school is not

difficult if you arrive at lessons on time; follow the instructions of adults at all times; give the teacher and the lesson your full attention; think hard and work hard every lesson. It's a simple formula and we are lucky that the vast majority of students get this absolutely spot on. We would be really grateful if you could discuss the importance of this at home too. Coming equipped with the right equipment is also important and the half term holiday is always a good opportunity to stock up on pens, rulers, pencils and calculators.

Thank you so much for your ongoing support this half term. Hopefully the sun decides to make an appearance soon and we will all be able to enjoy some time outside this week.

Shaun Allison & Chris Woodcock Co-Headteachers Inside this edition

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Sign up to the newsletter

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Durrington High School Anti-Bullying Ambassadors

We are really excited to inform you about our work with regards to Anti-Bullying at Durrington. Over the past 6 months we have been developing our approach towards Anti-Bullying, as part of this approach we have completed whole staff training which is in line with the 'Anti-Bullying Alliance' a company which has been supporting schools by providing expertise on Bullying since 2002. We have also updated our whole school behaviour policy and created a whole school anti-bullying policy. In addition to this all staff have completed an online training course on Anti-Bullying. Assemblies have then been delivered to all students from Y7-Y10 explaining the seriousness of Bullying, as well as giving students the opportunity to become Anti-Bullying Ambassadors (ABA's).

DHS Anti-Bullying Ambassadors

Anti-Bullying Ambassadors

Students that wanted to become ABA's had to complete an online application then attend an interview after school. After this process we are extremely proud to have over 70 students as ABA's at Durrington. In addition to this we have a specialist team of 16 staff who have completed extra training and are also Anti-Bullying Ambassadors, wearing the badge as well as the students.

These staff and students will now be the representatives for Anti-Bullying at Durrington, supporting students who feel uncomfortable and reporting any issues they see. These staff and students will act as role models for all others across the school every day.

As well as appointing ABA's we have developed the ways in which students can report any bullying incidents that they see or experience. Students can tell a trusted adult at school, report to their year or house team, tell an antibullying ambassador or senior student, tell a friend who will then report. In addition to speaking to someone students can also email ABC@durring.com or put a note in the postbox outside the LRA and one of our specialist staff team will pick this up. On top of this there are also QR codes at every House and year group office which can direct students towards specialist agencies that can support outside of school.

Mr Poole - Anti-Bullying Ambassador Lead & House Leader of Angelou



Our new Anti-Bullying Ambassador badges

The Durrington Journey



What our Ambassadors have to say ...



"I want to make sure everyone is treated equally no matter who they are, or where they are from, and help prevent racism, homophobia, transphobia, discrimination etc." Poppy in year 7



"I want to be kind and helpful to others and make them feel safe." Dominic in year 7

Kindness, Aspiration, Perseverance, Pride



"In this role I would like to achieve the knowledge that I made a difference". Kye in year 10

"I want to make sure people can express who they are." Lily in year 7

"I applied for this role as I want to be a voice for those who feel like they can't speak out." Isla in year 10

"I love helping people and making sure they are okay which is why I am delighted to have this role. I am looking forward to helping out and I aspire to make a difference. Thank you to all the teachers and students that have helped us get to this point." Olivia in year 7

"I am very much looking forward to this role, I love to help out, being on the team and making a difference is very important, thank you for choosing me for this opportunity. I can't wait to get started!" James in year 7

Going beyond our best



Anti-Bullying Ambassadors



"I am thrilled to be involved with the anti-bullying program at Durrington because it allows me to make a positive impact on the lives of others. By promoting kindness and respect, I can help create a safer, more inclusive environment for everyone.

Seeing individuals gain confidence and self-worth through our efforts is incredibly rewarding. Additionally, working with like-minded people fosters a sense of community and shared purpose.

Together, we can combat bullying and inspire a culture of empathy and understanding, making a tangible difference in our schools and communities.

Being part of this change is both empowering and deeply fulfilling."

Tom in year 10

#DHSStudentLeadership

Student Leaders



"I am excited about working with our new ambassadors as one of the leading roles of the scheme and launching our campaigns.

This is a perfect opportunity to take action for everyone in our school, and it's an achievement that everyone should take pride in.

I believe that through our collective efforts, we can make a positive impact, raise awareness, and bring about meaningful change in our community.

I am looking forward to working together with such a dedicated team, and I am confident that we will achieve great things."

Siaana in year 10

#TheDurringtonJourney



Sporting success @DHS

Huge congratulations to the year 7 girls rugby team who came 3rd in the Sussex Cup! Well done to you all, a brilliant achievement.



Congratulations also go to our year 7 rounders team who beat Worthing 17 to 7 1/2 in the first league match of the year. Brilliant team playing girls, well done!



Our year 10 girls played against
Oscar Romero in their first league
game of the year and came away
with a winning score of 21 1/2 to 8
1/2. Congratulations girls, a fantastic
start to the season!



Personal achievements

East Grinstead Music and Arts Festival

Congratulations to Lauren in year 9 who recently competed in the East Grinstead Dance Festival and placed first in the 13-14 choreography section. This was the first time dancing her own choreography on stage and she was also awarded the Dance Section Trophy for the most promising performer in the music and arts. Well done Lauren we are extremely proud of you.



Sussex County Football



George in year 8 completed his final fixture for Sussex School County Under 13s football team and will now be moving into the Under 14s where he will play in the National Cup League. The photo is from Sussex FA where his team played against Kent. Kent won 3-1 with

George scoring the goal for Sussex. George's DHS House team Malala are extremely proud of George and the commitment he has demonstrated, as are the rest of the school. A fantastic season George, well done.

Sussex Schools National Cup

Durrington students Rio and Harry were team players in the Sussex Schools National Cup and Regional Cup Finals. The U16s Sussex schools boys team were crowned SEESFA Champions on Saturday. Their youth football journey concludes with an impressive record, having won 4 out of 5 of the competitions they have competed in. They beat Suffolk on Saturday 4-0 with Rio as Captain and this was their last game together in youth football.



Next steps ...

Durrington Careers Week

We are excited to update you on our plans for careers week. We believe that connecting our young people with employers and vocational providers is the best way for them to be curious about careers and find out what's possible. For 4 days starting on June 10th a wide range of organisations will be setting up stands at lunchtimes to meet their employees of the future. Over 20 industries are being represented with employers including Rolls-Royce, The NHS, Bacon & Co and HMRC Digital taking part. The days exhibitors will be publicised each morning and the careers passport system will be returning where Y7 & Y8 students can collect stamps for completing activities. We are also hosting some career talks in our new performing arts theatre and we are hoping to take some employers into classrooms too. We are very excited for the week to unfold.







Careers Support

Mr Henry is available to speak to students in all year groups who would like advice or guidance about their future. Students should visit the careers library at break times or after school. This includes any Y11 students who have started their GCSE's but feel they still have some choices to make that they would like help with. Students and parents / carers can also e-mail questions to careers@durring.com

Careers





Any year 11 students who missed the open days for Chichester or Brinsbury Colleges still have an opportunity to visit. Private tours can be booked for either college over the half term break on the link <u>here.</u>



Opportunity for year 11 with Concordia Youth Action

Are you looking for an experience where you can make a real difference in your local community, learn new skills that boost your CV and take part in exciting adventures? This is an amazing opportunity to develop new skills, meet friends and gain confidence to help you in the next stage of your life and beyond. Places are going quickly so sign up today! Follow the link <u>here.</u>



The British Army have a free webinar for anyone interested in finding out more about apprenticeships with the Royal Signals. Full information here.

#DHSWorkingTogether

C

Duke of Edinburgh Award

Well done to our 51 year 10 students who successfully completed their qualifying expedition over a hot and sunny weekend.

The students were in 9 teams, all self-sufficient for the weekend - carrying everything they would need. The teams walked different routes of approximately 12km (8 miles) each day - although some wandered a bit further, and camped overnight on the Saturday.

Most teams were eager to walk early on the Sunday and were out of their tents by 06:00. After breakfast, and repacking tents and rucksacks, they were on their way before 08:00hrs. This helped to avoid the rising heat of the afternoon, with most teams reaching their finishing points by 14:00hrs.



Bronze Qualifying Expedition



This expedition couldn't have taken place without the support of our volunteers, who ensured the students were safe at main road crossings and topped up with water - so a big thank you to Mrs Chester, Mr Evans, Ms Gemel, Ms Leney, Ms McDonald, Ms Potton and Mrs Steele.

Mr Davis & Mr Briscoe
DofE Leaders



#DHSEnrichment



Durrington High School Student Council

The school council has been established at DHS to make sure that students feel like their voices are heard. We have a strong team of student leaders in our senior student leadership team and now it is time to expand this further down the school.

Our form reps have been selected by their peers through a democratic and representative process. This is designed to highlight the importance of democracy in the society that we all live and share.

One of the key tasks of the form representatives will be to pass on important information to the SSLT from their peers, this will ensure that all students understand their importance in making our school as successful and safe as possible for all.

Mr Frost - Assistant Headteacher Culture and Curriculum

"I wanted to become a form rep because I believe I am a good candidate and I have interest in helping the school and making it a better place. I love to share my ideas with people in the Durrington community and hear people's problems and how to fix them. I want to achieve a happy and safe community not only in Durrington High but out of the school. I believe everybody has the chance to get involved. Everybody has an opportunity at Durrington!" Lily in year 7

#StudentCouncil









"Durrington High School has a wonderful community and I want to help maintain that." Grace in year 7

"I think the school council is good as together different people can share ideas and help the school." Charlie in year 8



"I really love this role and I love to make everyone's ideas heard." Jasmine in year 7

"I think the school council is a great addition to the school." Adam in year 8



"I think this opportunity will show what we as a school can achieve when we persevere." Alex in year 8

"I wanted to be the voice of my form and I am proud to be a form rep." Awen in year 10

#TeamDurrington



Whole School Team Building Day

Whole school team building day - going beyond our best through kindness, aspiration, perseverance and pride

Our whole school team building day will take place on Friday 14th June. The aim is to promote our core KAPP values while working together as form groups.

This is a non-school uniform day and students should arrive in school wearing sporting attire, which must include trainers, and are requested to bring a £1 donation in cash.

Students will work together within their form groups and take part in four different activities:

- 1. **Team Building** Students will complete several challenges including the team ski challenge, tug-of-war and crossing the river!
- 2. **Problem solving** Students will be split into groups of 6 and complete time challenges including riddles, elastic band and string team cup stacking, plus many more!
- 3. **Inflatable Assault Course** tutor groups will work together navigating the obstacles as a team, showing our KAPP values and overcoming the obstacles together.
- 4. **Inspirational Speaker** Alexander Slabinsky, a former professional tennis player who ranked as British no: 4 will give an inspirational talk to students in our new Performing Arts Centre.

#TeamDurrington



Going beyond our best through Kindness, Aspiration, Perseverance & Pride

There will be rewards for those students who go beyond their best through kindness, aspiration, perseverance and pride.



Together Everyone Achieves More

#GoingBeyondOurBest



Transition @Durrington High

Thank you to all of you who have attended our Year 6 coffee mornings; it has been fantastic to meet so many of you, answer your questions and introduce you to some of our current students. We have been working hard to make our transition to secondary school a positive and memorable experience. We are therefore delighted to offer a range of activities and events across the school for both Year 6 students (already joining us in September) and those in Year 5 (who want to know a little more about us). The activities are list below and to sign up please visit our website here.

Week 1

Monday 3rd June

<u>Design technology - Acrylic phone holders</u>

Come and meet our DT department and make acrylic phone holders that you can take away with you!

Computing - Lego spike

Spike Club is a chance to learn how lego robots are built and programmed. Love lego, you will love this club! Challenges are set weekly where students have to build a lego model to solve a problem. We use a scratch based block programming language on the iPads to move the robots. We are not expecting students to have any prior experience for this club.

Computing - Minecraft

Minecraft Club aims to provide a safe and friendly place for people who love the video games to come together as a community and have fun. This is open to all students from those wanting to learn more about the game to the experts.

Computing - Coding

Want to learn more about coding? Then this club is for you. You will be looking at how to program a robot using a micro:bit. Your robot should be able to play music, have lights and travel around a set course at the end of the club. This is open to all students regardless of your coding ability.

Tuesday 4rd June

Maths - maths relay

Learn to work as a team, whilst also solving a range of different maths questions whilst meeting our mathematics team! Work together as a team and get that brain working to be in with a chance of winning!

Food technology - Making cookies

Come and bake some delicious cookies with our food tech teacher. We will learn about basic cooking skills and produce a yummy treat at the end.

** Please note: any SEND/accessibility/allergy issues will need to be disclosed before attending this event to ensure we can fully complete our risk assessment for this event**



Wednesday 5th June Music - Steel pans

A taste of world music, learn simple rhythms on the steel pans and put it together for a performance.

French - Ordering food and drink

Want to experience languages at secondary school? Learn to order food and drink with our wonderful language department. You'll be ready to order in a cafe in no time!



Come and work with us on our feelings about starting secondary school.



Drama - Musical Theatre workshop

Get a taste of what it's like to be in a production at Durrington - you will learn a song and routine from our musical next year

Thursday 6th June

Art - Mixed media portraits

Students will develop their observational drawing skills by drawing each other in a creative way using continuous line. They will explore wax resist methods when adding tone and other mark making techniques.



Science - Taster into science at DHS

Students will be introduced to the wonder of the microscopic world, studying cells, tissues and organisms using the science of microscopy.

<u>Textiles - Recycled weaving</u>

Students will explore the textile technique of weaving using a range of recycled materials. They will learn how to set up a weaving loom as well as learning how to create a textural structured piece of weaving that they can take home.







Transition events continued

Week 2

Monday 10th June

Computing - Lego spike

Spike Club is a chance to learn how lego robots are built and programmed. Love lego, you will love this club! Challenges are set weekly where students have to build a lego model to solve a problem. We use a scratch based block programming language on the iPads to move the robots. We are not expecting students to have any prior experience for this club.

Computing - Minecraft

Minecraft Club aims to provide a safe and friendly place for people who love the video games to come together as a community and have fun. This is open to all students from those wanting to learn more about the game to the experts.

Computing - Coding

Want to learn more about coding? Then this club is for you. You will be looking at how to program a robot using a micro:bit. Your robot should be able to play music, have lights and travel around a set course at the end of the club. This is open to all students regardless of your coding ability.

History - **Medieval Knights and chivalry**

A short lesson on the day to day life of a knight in the Medieval period. Students will be looking at their role in defence, jousting, their armour and codes of chivalry. Students will then create their own coat of arms.

English - Creative writing

Explore creative writing techniques in a typical English classroom. We will look at different types of writing and your child will leave having created something that is unique to them which we know they will be proud of.

#DHSTransition



Tuesday 11th June

Science - Taster into science at DHS

Students will be introduced to the wonder of the microscopic world, studying cells, tissues and organisms using the science of microscopy.

PE - Options of sporting activities

Students participate in a Summer term sporting activity that we offer at Durrington - this could include Softball, Tennis, Athletics, Rounders, Badminton and Cricket. Students will be led in a short warm up by our fantastic year 9 sports captains then taught by one of the DHS PE staff.

Wednesday 12th June

English - Creative writing

Explore creative writing techniques in a typical English classroom. We will look at different types of writing and your child will leave having created something that is unique to them which we know they will be proud of.

Thursday 13th June

PE - Options of sporting activities

Students participate in a Summer term sporting activity that we offer at Durrington - this could include Softball, Tennis, Athletics, Rounders, Badminton and Cricket. Students will be led in a short warm up by our fantastic year 9 sports captains then taught by one of the DHS PE staff.

Spanish - Ordering food and drink in a cafe

Want to experience languages at secondary school? Learn to order food and drink with our wonderful language department. You'll be ready to order in a cafe in no time!

#TheDurringtonJourney





Pride of Durrington 2024

Based on the huge success of last year's Pride of Durrington awards evening, we are delighted to announce that it will be returning on Thursday 11th July 2024

We continue to be inspired by so many of our amazing students and having the opportunity to recognise and celebrate their outstanding achievements (both within school and the wider community) more formally.

How can you help?

We are asking for your help to make the celebration evening a resounding success. Specifically, we are seeking either individuals or local businesses to help us showcase how valued our young people are. Individuals and/or businesses could help by sponsoring a specific award and/or by contributing to the evening itself: decorations, catering or certificate printing, to name a few examples.



We intend to recognise students in a wide range of categories and are therefore seeking donations of £25 to support each award as well as helping us to cover the cost of running the evening. If you feel your business is aligned with our key values of Kindness, Aspiration, Perseverance and Pride, we would love to hear from you.

In return for your donation, we can offer:

- Your business name and details published in the event programme
- Recognition of your support shared on our social media pages
- Coverage of the night in the local newspaper
- The opportunity for you to attend the evening as a VIP
 If you, or your business can help please do not hesitate to get in contact with us:

Email <u>ledwards@durring.com</u>, <u>jfrost@durring.com</u> to find out more information.

Kindness | Aspiration | Perseverance | Pride

Announcing Pride of Durrington 2024





Award categories

Kindness in the community awards

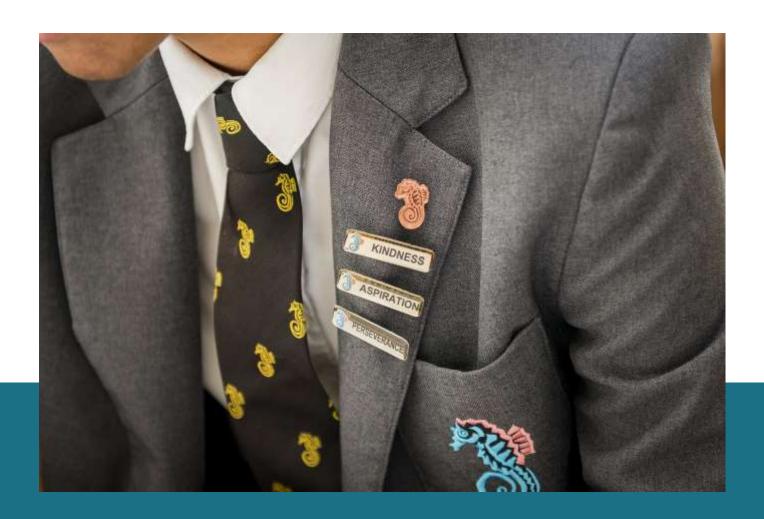
- Volunteer of the year
- Charity fundraiser of the year
- Unsung community hero award
- Peer support award

Aspiration awards

- Outstanding contribution to extracurricular activities
- Commitment to sport award
- The spirit of adventure award







Perseverance awards

- Student of courage award
- Young achiever award
- Environmental champion award
- Overcoming adversity award
- The Sally Baker reading award
- Outstanding contribution to performing arts award

- Outstanding contribution to careers award
- Diversity Champion award

Pride awards

- Pride of company (special recognition/contribution) awards
- Headteachers special recognition award





Lunchtime Clubs Summer 2024

Day	Club	Year	Staff	Venue
Monday	Dance	All Years	Miss Johnson	Bistro
	Basketball	10-11	Mr Crane	Sports Hall
	Basketball	7-9	Mr Pickford	New Sports Hall
	Careers Club	All Years	Mr Henry	Careers Library
	Football	All Years	Mr De Gruchy	Astro
	LGBTQ+ Club	All Years	Sawyer	G31E
	Computing Club	All Years	Mr Burgess	F24
Tuesday	Dance	All Years	Miss Johnson	Bistro
	Basketball	10-11	Mr Crane	Sports Hall
	Basketball	7-9	Mr Pickford	New Sports Hall
	Football	All Years	Mr De Gruchy	Astro
	Careers Club	All Years	Mr Henry	Careers Library
	Computing Club	All Years	Mr Burgess	F24
Wednesday	Nordic Club	All Years	Mr Chambers	G27M
	Chess Club	All Years	Mr Borrett & Mr Venness	G21M
	Computing Club	All Years	Mr Burgess	F24
	Dance	All Years	Miss Johnson	Bistro
	Careers Club	All Years	Mr Henry	Careers Library
	Basketball	10-11	Mr Crane	Sports Hall
	Basketball	7-9	Mr Pickford	New Sports Hall
	Football	All Years	Mr De Gruchy	Astro
Thursday	Book Club	All Years	Mrs Baker & Mrs Dacosta	LRA
	Computing Club	All Years	Mr Burgess	F24
	Dance	All Years	Miss Johnson	Bistro
	Basketball	10-11	Mr Crane	Sports Hall
	Careers Club	All Years	Mr Henry	Careers Library
	Basketball	7-9	Mr Pickford	New Sports Hall
	Football	All Years	Mr De Gruchy	Astro
Friday	Fashion/Textiles	9	Mr Bloomer	FO3T
	Computing Club	All Years	Mr Burgess	F24
	Dance	All Years	Miss Johnson	Bistro
	Careers Club	All Years	Mr Henry	Careers Library
	Basketball	10-11	Mr Crane	Sports Hall
	Basketball	7-9	Mr Pickford	New Sports Hall
	LGBTQ+ Club	All Years	Sawyer	G31E
	Football	All Years	Mr De Gruchy	Astro

#GetInvolved



After-School Clubs Summer 2024

Day	Club	Year	Staff	Venue
Monday	Film Club	All Years	Mrs Baker	LRA
	Minecraft Club	7	Mrs Aston	F24T
	Lego Spike Club	8	Mrs Taylor	F26T
	Y7 Cricket Fixtures	7	Mr De Gruchy	PE Office
	Code Club	9	Mr Scott	F27T
Tuesday	Choir	All Years	Mr Gasson & Miss Maughan	F20T
	Drama Club	7-9	Miss Cross	Performing Arts
	KS4 Art Portfolio	10-11	All Art Staff	Art Rooms
	Eco Club	All Years	Mrs Steele	F29H
	MFL Film Club	7	Mr Gilbert	UO6L
	French Club	8	Mrs Cooper	UO3L
	Spanish Club	8	Ms Smith	UOSL
	Y7 + Y8 Rounders Fixtures	7	Mrs Wallis-Tayler	PE Office
	Y9 Cricket Fixtures	9	Mr Brombley	Pe Office
Wednesday	Science Club	Y7.	Mr Finch Miss Laming	G095
	Science Club	Y8	Mr Morrice & Mr Gatenby	G115 & G13S
	KS4 Art Portfolio	10-11	All Art Staff	Art Rooms
	E-Sports Club	10	Mr Jackson, Mr Burgess & Mr Scott	F26T
	Rounders Club	All Years	Miss Johnson + Mrs Fuller	PE Office
	Y10 Cricket Fixtures	10	Mr Mott	PE Office
	Athletics Club	All Years	Mr Pickford & Mr Brombley	PE Office
Thursday	School Magazine	All Years	Miss Foster & Ms Stone	G32E
	Whole School Musical	All Years	Mrs Isham	Main Hall
	Gifted & Talented Art	Invite	Mrs Gray	Art Rooms
	Dodgeball Club	All Years	Mr De Gruchy & Mr Mott	PE Office
	Y9 + Y10 Rounders Fixtures	9-10	Miss Johnson & Mrs Wallis- Tayler	
	Y8 Cricket Fixtures	8	Mr Pickford	PE Office
Friday	School Band	All Years	Mr Gasson	F20T
	Dance Club	All Years	Miss Lamper & Miss Connolly	Main Hall
	Cricket Club	All Years	Mr Poole & Mr Burnett	Sports Hall

#DHSEnrichment



Term dates 2024/2025 updates

Please find below a few updates in advance of the new school year. These updates relate to scheduled INSET days and a small change to the timing of the school day.

Timing of the school day from September 2024 onwards

The updated timing of the school day will be as follows.

- Arrival: All students expected on site by 8.40am each morning
- **Fridays:** The Friday timetable will become standardised with the other days of the week. This means that students will now finish school on Fridays at 3.10pm (the same as every other day of the week)

Dates of the 2024-25 academic year

Autumn Term 2024

Monday 2 September – Friday 20 December

Half Term

•Monday 28 October – Friday 1 November

INSET Days

- Monday 2 September
- Tuesday 3 September
- •Friday 22 November

Spring Term 2025

Monday 6 January – Friday 4 April

Half Term

Monday 17 February – Friday 21February

INSET Days:

- Thursday 23 January
- Friday 24 January
- Monday 10 March
- Tuesday 11 March

Summer term 2025

Tuesday 22 April – Tuesday 22 July

Half Term

•Monday 26 May to Friday 30 May

INSET Days:

• Friday 27 June

Bank holidays

- Monday 21 April
- Monday 5 May

The Durrington Journey



Sign up to our newsletter

 Our newsletter is sent out fortnightly to parents & carers and we aim to cover as much as possible from across the school. If your family and friends would like to receive our fortnightly editions they can sign up here: <u>Newsletter</u>

Social media

Don't forget you can follow all the latest news on our social media pages:

- <u>Facebook</u>
- <u>Twitter</u>
- <u>Instagram</u>



Going beyond our best through Kindness, Aspiration, Perseverance and Pride



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