Sires Hill Primary Academy

NEWSLETTER

28TH SEPTEMBER 2026

We are in full swing in our autumn term now. Choir has started for Year 3 - some of whom will be joining the DPA choir at the O2 Arena in January for the Young Voices concert. There is a lot to learn and they are working really hard. Children have settled really well into their classes and are really trying their best.

Arriving on time - Registration starts at 8:50am!

It is really important to ensure that your child arrives at school on time. We have a packed timetable and it is really distracting for both the late child and the rest of the class when a child arrives after registration.

The gates open at 8:40am and close at 8:50am - this means that you should not be walking through the gates at 8:50am as registration has already begun. **Please help us to have a smooth start to the day by ensuring your child arrives on time ready to start in class at 8:50am.**

Scooters and bikes

It is great to see so many children on scooters and bikes and we have a large scooter and bike park to keep them safe during the day. However, please ensure that your child dismounts from the scooter or bike at the school gates and pushes this to the scooter park. This is to avoid accidents thank you for your support with this.

Coming up.... Show Racism the Red Card Day - Friday 16th October

Racism has no place in our school or society and as a school we recognise Show Racism the Red Card Day by wearing red items of clothing. This initiative was started by a footballer, Shaka Hislop who was confronted by people shouting abuse at him. When they got closer and realised who he was their attitude went from abuse to admiration and they began to ask for an autograph...

The next two weeks Please check the diary at the end of the newsletter for future dates to keep ahead.	
5th October	**Author visit for years Reception to Year 3**
7th October	**Individual photographs**
9th October	**Inset Day - school closed to all children**

Learning Reviews - Monday 19th October and Wednesday 21st October

You should soon receive an email explaining how to book your learning review with your child's teacher. You will be able to book a 10 minute appointment to talk about how your child has settled into their new class and any areas where your child may need a little help with also be discussed. You will also be able to view their books. Please take note of the date and time that you book so that you arrive on time on the right day! All appointments (including those in pre-school and reception will take place in our main hall. You will enter this through the hall doors. Your child does not need to come to the meeting, but if you need to bring them with you they will need to stay with you for the duration of the meeting.

Illness and managing medical conditions

Is my child too ill for school?
It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school or nursery when they are unwell. As a school we follow government guidelines for health protection and managing specific diseases when we send children home. The information below is taken from NHS guidance. We want children to attend school as much as possible, so please help us and your child by following these guidelines.

High temperature
If your child has a high temperature (38 degrees or more), you need to keep them off school until it goes away. Please do not disguise the temperature with calpol or other medication. The temperature could be a symptom of a contagious virus and we need to try and keep everyone healthy! Staff and children. If your child develops a temperature at school you will be called to pick them up.

Feeling anxious or worried
It is normal for children to feel a little anxious sometimes. They may get a tummy ache or headache, or have problems eating or sleeping.

Avoiding school can make a child's anxiety about going to school worse. It is very important to talk about any worries they have - please talk to your child's teacher as they can usually be easily solved.

Coughs and colds
It is find to send your child to school with a slight cough or common cold symptoms such as runny nose, sore throat or headache, as long as they are otherwise well and do not have a high temperature.

Encourage your child to blow their own nose and throw away their tissues!

Chickenpox
If your child has chickenpox, they **must** stay away from school until **all** the spots have crusted over. This is usually about 5 days after the spots first appeared.

Cold sores
There is no need to keep your child off school if they have a cold sore.

Conjunctivitus
You do not need to keep your child away from school if they have conjunctivitis unless they are feeling very unwell. However, you need to seek advice from your pharmacist.

Ear Infection
If your child has an ear infection and a high temperature or severe earache, keep them off school until they are feeling better or their temperature has returned to normal.

Headlice and nits
There is no need to keep your child off school if they have headlice. Please treat their head/hair when you have spotted this.

Vomiting and diarrhoea
Children with vomiting or diarrhoea should stay away from school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea for at least 2 days (48 hours).

My child is well enough to return to school but needs antibiotics three times a day...

Please work out the adminsitering of the medicine around school times - first thing in the morning, straight after school and before bed time for example. **School staff are not able to administer antibiotics or any other medicines for short term medical conditions.**

My child has a long term medical condition and requires medication given through the school day to maintain their quality of life.....

If your child has a long term medical condition, it is vital that you have made school aware of this. For some children, it may be necessary to draw up an Individual Health Care Plan and we will work alongside you to produce this and review it.

If your child has been prescribed an inhaler or epipen.....

Please make sure that you have informed school and and that you have provided school with inhalers with the asthma plan from the surgery or two epipens (or similar) with allergy management plan to the office. These are kept in the children's classrooms. It is vital that they kept are in date.

If your child has been prescribed an epipen the pens must be in school for your child to attend.

What if my child becomes ill or have an accident at school...

Illness

There are times when children become ill at school. Sometimes if they children feel just about well enough they are able to get through the day and the member of staff will inform you when you pick your child up.

If your child is displaying symptoms where it is clear that they are not coping - they are in pain, falling asleep, out of character for them or have a high temperature; we will contact you and ask that you pick them up as soon as possible. Please do make arrangements to do so as quickly as possible- we do not have sufficient staff to care for poorly children as well as manage the classrooms.

It is essential that we have an up to date phone number where you can be contacted during the day. Keep your other contacts up to date too as all numbers will be contacted in case of emergency.

If your child displayed very worrying symptoms we will, of course contact the emergency services.

Accidents

From time to time, children will have an accident at school. Usually they are very minor - scraped knee or elbow for example. In these incidents, unless there is a specific reason, we will treat your child and send you information via Medical tracker. If your child has a head injury, or suspected head injury we will contact you directly to let you know -even if we think they are okay. If we are concerned about concussion or another serious injury we will ask you to collect your child as soon as possible to seek medical attention. The Medical tracker form will be emailed to you as soon as possible.

Again for serious incidents where specialist medical intervention is needed, we would have no hesitation in contacting emergency services. **These incidents are extremely rare but we would want to be able to get hold of you should this happen. Please ensure contact details are kept up to date on Arbor.**

Autumn 1 2026-27

Dates and events are subject to changes. Correct at time of writing.
This calendar will be updated with every news letter

Date	Who	What
15th September	Reception parents	Phonics workshop at 9am
16th September	Year 3 families	Choir starts 3:30-4:30pm
23rd September	Year 1	School Workshop: Toys and games, a visit from the Oxford Museum Service.
7th October	Whole school	Individual Photographs taken (no family groups)
9th October	Whole school	Inset Day- school closed to children
16th October	Whole school	Wear red - Show Racism the Red Card day
19th October and 21st October	Whole school	Learning reviews: Make an appointment via Arbor to meet your child's teacher and find out how your child has settled into their new class.
21st October	Whole school	Trip to Didcot Railway Centre
22nd October	Reception - Year 2	Flu Vaccination programme
26th October-30th October	Whole school	Half term holidays. School Closed.

Autumn 2 2026-27

Dates and events are subject to changes. Correct at time of writing.
This calendar will be updated with every news letter

Date	Who	What
2nd November	Whole school	Autumn Term 2 Starts
16th November	Whole school	Wear odd socks for Anti-bullying day
7th December	Pre-School	Christmas Craft afternoon and sing along 2:15pm. Come and join your child to make some Christmas decorations.
9th December	Reception	Christmas Nativity Play 2:30pm Please note that children under 5 will not be admitted into the audience
11th December	Year 2	Christmas play 2:30pm Please note that children under 5 will not be admitted into the audience.
14th December	Year 1	Christmas Craft afternoon and sing along 2:15pm. Come and join your child to make some Christmas decorations.
17th December	Reception to Year 3	Christmas Concert 9:15am. Come and join us for a musical festive celebration - be prepared to join in!
17th December	Whole school	End of term at 12 noon. Gates will open at 11:50am.

Spring 1 2026-27

Dates and events are subject to changes. Correct at time of writing.
This calendar will be updated with every news letter

Date	Who	What
4th January 2027	Whole school	Term starts 8:40am (Reception to Year 3) 9:30am (Nursery and pre-school)
22nd January	Young Voices Choir	Opportunity to join a choir of 7000 children to sing at the O2 Arena. Open to Year 3 children only (10 places)
8th February and 10th February	whole school	Learning reviews. Make sure you make an appointment via Arbor to meet your child's teacher and find out how your child is progressing academically.
15th - 19th February	Whole school	Half term - school closed to children .

Spring 2 2026-27

Dates and events are subject to changes. Correct at time of writing.
This calendar will be updated with every news letter

Date	Who	What
22nd February	Whole school	Term starts 8:40am (Reception to Year 3) 9:30am (Nursery and pre-school)
24th March	Nursery and pre - school	End of term for Nursery and pre-school (usual time)
25th March	Whole school	End of term at 12 noon (gates will open at 11:50am)

Summer 1 2026-27

Dates and events are subject to changes. Correct at time of writing.
This calendar will be updated with every news letter

Date	Who	What
12th April	Whole school	Term starts 8:40am (Reception to Year 3) 9:30am (Nursery and pre-school)
26th May	Whole school	Sports Day and family picnic- timings will be sent out nearer the time
28th May	Whole school	End of Summer 1
31st May - 4th June	Whole school	Half term

Summer 2 2026-27

Dates and events are subject to changes. Correct at time of writing.
This calendar will be updated with every news letter

Date	Who	What
7th June	Whole school	Term starts 8:40am (Reception to Year 3) 9:30am (Nursery and pre-school)
11th June	Whole school	Inset Day - school closed to children
19th July	nursery and pre-school	End of term (usual session times 12:30 or 3:30pm)
20th July	Whole school	End of term at 12 noon (gates will open at 11:50am)