Sires Hill Primary Academy

NEWSLETTER

6TH NOVEMBER 2026

Welcome back to Autumn 2...

Welcome back to the second half of our Autumn term. This is a really busy term - especially towards the end when we do start to get festive. To try to aid communication I have detailed all the currently booked events for this half term rather than having the fortnightly calendar. As usual, you will find the long term calendar at the end of this newsletter. Please note that additional events may be added and we will endeavour to give you plenty of notice.

In this issue....

- Trips and events this half term
- Uniform reminder
- Allergies and packed lunch/snack guidance
- Forest school guidance and arrangements
- Applying for a school place in Reception
- New Parent Governor announcement
- Updated calendar (at end of the newsletter)

Trips and Events this half term

16th November 2026 - start of anti bullying week - wear odd socks!

In the week beginning 16th November 2026, alongside schools nationwide, we will be taking part in anti bullying week- this year the theme is Break the Silence. We will be exploring how to keep our school a place where everyone can feel safe and exploring what bullying is and is not. We will start the week by wearing odd socks to express individuality.



26th November 2026
Mental Health Support Team coffee morning - DPA 9am

Are you concerned about your child's emotional wellbeing, anxiety or friendship issues? Come along to a supportive coffee morning at DPA to find out more about how you can support your child and find out where to seek out additional help.



7th December Christmas craft afternoon for pre-school 2:15pm

Come and join your child to help them make some Christmas crafts for you to take home and keep. A festive afternoon to share alongside your child.

11th December Year 2 (Dolphin Class) Christmas Play: Lights, Camel, Action! 2:30pm



Dolphin Class will be soon working on their Christmas play - Lights, Camel, Action! Tickets will be sold nearer the time. Please note that children under 5 will not be admitted into the audience so that you can fully enjoy the play.

9th December Reception Christmas Play: A Wriggly Nativity 2:30pm

Dragonfly Class will be soon working on their Christmas play - A Wriggly Nativity. Tickets will be sold nearer the time. Please note that children under 5 will not be admitted into the audience so that you can fully enjoy the play.

14th December - Year 1 Christmas Craft afternoon -parents and younger siblings welcome - 2:15pm start

Come and join your child to help them make some Christmas crafts for you to take home and keep. A festive afternoon to share alongside your child.

15th December -Rocksteady Concert 9:30am

If your child is in Rocksteady, you are invited to come and support them at their Christmas gig!

16th December Christmas Lunch

Make sure you have booked your child's Christmas lunch on the Fresh Start website!

17th Christmas Concert Reception to Year 3 10:30am

New for this year - come and join us for a festive Christmas concert. All children from Reception to Year 3 will be taking part. Our new choir will be singing, there will be a djembe performance and you will get to join in too!

Uniform Reminders

We are proud of how smart the children look for school so do make sure that you follow our policy which can also be found on our website.

- **White polo shirt with or without logo**
- **purple jumper/cardigan with Omnia logo**
- **dark grey shorts/skirt/ pinafore/trousers**
- **white/grey/purple socks or tights**
- **Black shoes or black trainers**
- **Long hair must be tied back every day.**
- **No animal headbands**
- **No jewellery.**

Please

MAKE SURE EVERYTHING IS NAMED!



PE kit

- **House colour T shirt with logo**
- **Black Omnia hoody or plain black tracksuit top or purple school sweatshirt**
- **black shorts, leggings, tracksuit bottoms**
- **trainers**

Allergies and packed lunch/snacks reminders

We do have a number of children in the school with serious allergies. We ask that you **DO NOT** provide your child with **ANY** food products that have nuts contained within them. This includes actual nuts as well as items like pesto, curries that contain nuts or nut oil or nutella. (This is not an exhaustive list). This includes snacks for after school club. Please help us to keep all our children as safe as possible. If nut products are found, they will be removed from your child and you will be contacted by the school office.

Forest School Arrangements for this half term



This half term, children in Years 1-3 will be taking part in Forest School sessions, led by our trained Forest School leader Miss Dean.

Date	Year Group
12th November	Year 3
19th November	Year 1
26th November	Year 2
3rd December	Year 3

What to wear for Forest School

- Your child can wear PE kit for Forest school - but this must cover their legs and arms - so not just shorts or T shirts.
- They will be outside in all weathers, so make sure that they have a warm coat, and, as the weather gets colder, hats and gloves.
- Waterproof trousers and coats are also very useful.
- Children should have wellies available in school to wear for Forest School.
- If, for whatever reason, Miss Dean is not available, Forest School will not take place.

Applying for a place in Reception- current pre-school parents/carers

P**arents of children born between 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023 need to apply for a primary school place for September 2027.**

- Applications can be submitted from 3rd November 2026 through the Oxfordshire online portal.
- The deadline for applications is 15th January 2027 - **do not miss the deadline!**
- We hope that the children currently in pre-school will move into our reception class or classes.
- Last year we were over subscribed - but not sufficiently to open two classes.
- Make sure you have visited other schools - if you live on Great Western Park, you may want to consider Didcot Primary Academy. You may also want to consider Valley Park Academy which will be opening in September 2027 all with the same vision and ethos.
- Please look out for a leaflet over the next few weeks

New Parent Governor

Thank you to Mr Aaron Blessing, father of two children in the school, who has been appointed as Parent Governor. There were no other nominations, so Mr Blessing has been automatically appointed.

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
12th November	YEAR 3	Forest School
16th November	Whole school	Wear odd socks for Anti-bullying day
19th November	Year 1	Forest school
26th November	All parents	Mental Health Support Team coffee morning at Didcot Primary Academy 9am
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 play 2:30pm Please note that children under 5 will not be admitted into the audience.
11th December	Year 2	Christmas Nativity 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.
16th December	Reception to Year 3	Christmas lunch - please make sure that this is booked on Fresh Start website as soon as possible.
17th December	Pre -school and nursery	no sessions today
17th December	Reception to Year 3	Christmas Concert 10:30am. 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

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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

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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

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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

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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)

Didcot Primary Academy, Sires Hill Primary Academy and Valley Park Academy

TERM DATES 2027-2028

Autumn Term	
First day of term for children	Tuesday 7th September 2027
Half term	25th October -29th October 2027
Last day of term	Friday 17th December at 12 noon (Nursery and pre-school will close on Thursday 16th December at the usual session times.
Further information	Pre school and nursery will start on Thursday 9th September 2027 Staff training days Friday 3rd September 2027 Monday 6th September 2027 Friday 8th October 2027

Spring Term	
First day of term for children	Tuesday 4th January 2028
Half term	14th Feb 28 - 18th Feb 2028
Last day of term	Friday 7th April at 12 noon (Nursery and pre-school will close on Thursday 6th April at the usual session times)
Further information	

Summer Term	
First day of term for children	24th April 2028
Half term	29th May - 2nd June 2028
Last day of term	Thursday 20th July at 12 noon (Nursery and pre school will close on Wednesday 19th July at the usual session times.)
Further informtion	Staff training days: Friday 16th June (school closed to children) Friday 21st July