Dingle Community Primary School

Friday 4th September 2026 Newsletter



A message from Ms Heather



Welcome Back!

I hope everyone had a wonderful summer break and enjoyed some well-deserved time with family and friends. It was certainly lovely to have a summer holiday where the weather was kind to us and the sun kept shining throughout!

It was so lovely to welcome all of our children back into school yesterday. They looked incredibly smart, and I would like to say a huge thank you to all of our parents and carers for your efforts in adhering to our school uniform expectations. It really does make a difference. Taking pride in their appearance encourages our children to take pride in themselves and helps to create that all-important sense of belonging and being part of our Dingle family.

Most importantly, we are very happy to have everyone back with us safe and sound, refreshed and ready for another exciting and jam-packed year at Dingle. We have lots to look forward to over the coming year and, as always, we are excited to work together with our children and families to make it a happy, successful and memorable one.

We would also like to extend a very warm welcome to several new members of staff who have joined our Dingle team this September. Miss Edwards joins us as our new Year 5 class teacher, while Miss Cole joins us as our new Year 4 class teacher. We are also delighted to welcome Mrs Baker, our new School Business Manager. Finally, Mrs Toogood has joined our Dingle Pre-School team and brings with her a wealth of experience working with our youngest children. I know that our children, families and existing staff will make them all feel very welcome, and we hope that they will be extremely happy as part of the Dingle family.

Welcome back, everyone – here's to a fantastic 2026/27!

An Update on Our School Site

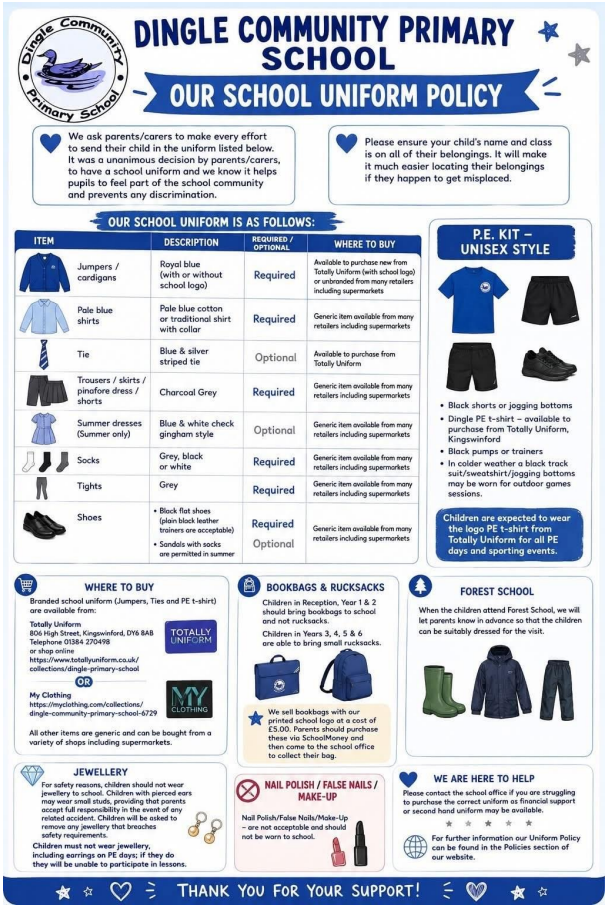
You may have heard through the local community that, unfortunately, we experienced a break-in to our boiler room during the summer holidays, during which the majority of the copper pipework was stolen. This caused significant damage to the school and initially left us without cold water, hot water or heating.

Thankfully, our cold water supply has now been fully restored. While we await the reinstatement of our permanent hot water system, we have temporary warm-water handwashing facilities in place throughout the school to ensure that we continue to meet all necessary health and safety and hygiene requirements.

It is incredibly disappointing that, for what is likely to have been relatively minimal financial gain, those responsible have caused a significant amount of damage, disruption and expense to our school. Nevertheless, our priority throughout has been to ensure that we could welcome our children back to school safely and with as little disruption to their education as possible.

We are now hopeful that the necessary building works will commence from 14th September, which will enable our hot water and heating services to be fully reinstated. This date is not yet confirmed, and I will update parents and carers as soon as I receive a confirmed start date.

In the meantime, I would like to reassure everyone that all necessary temporary measures are in place to enable the school to operate safely. Thank you to our families for your patience and understanding while the remaining repairs are completed. We are very pleased that, despite the considerable damage caused, we were still able to open our doors as planned and welcome all of our children back for the start of the new school year.



Can we remind you that polo shirts and shirts should be pale blue only. We also request that uniform is labelled (including coats) as items have already gone missing.

Healthy snacks and Healthy Hydration

Today your child will be coming home with a new Dingle water bottle. We have purchased these for all children as not only do they ensure we have storage space in our classrooms, but they promote healthy water drinking. Children will have opportunities to re-fill these throughout the day.

Mrs Richardson is looking forward to launching Snacktember with the children over the coming weeks, in the meantime, we are promoting healthy snacks at breaktime.





Medication and Contact Details

Please ensure that the school office are advised of any changes in collection arrangements, medical details or contact details. Please ensure any Epi-Pens and inhalers are given to the office as soon as possible.

Meet the Teacher Dates

Following the success of last year's Meet the Teacher evenings, we have decided to once again provide opportunities for parents to meet their child's teacher and gain an insight into the curriculum and expectations for the year ahead. Please enter school through your child's end of day door, as meetings will be hosted in classrooms. There will be a further opportunity to discuss your child and how they are settling in on an individual basis, during our Parent Evenings in October.

Monday 14th September -The Hub and Year 1

Tuesday 15th September Year 2 and Year 3

Wednesday 16th September Year 4 and Year 5

Thursday 17th September Year 6

Monday 28th September Reception

EYFS Visits

We are so incredibly proud of our school and are delighted to welcome our new families and children to Early Years. If you or anyone you know are looking for September 2027 Reception places or nursery places for 2026 or 2027, then please do share our details. Visits are warmly welcomed and can be arranged through contacting our main school office.

The following tours and times are available:

Wednesday 9th September 9:30am

Monday 14th September 3:30pm

Wednesday 16th September 9:30am

Thursday 8th October 9:30am

Tuesday 13th October 3:30pm

Correspondence this week

Lots of exciting opportunities are already being provided for our children. Correspondence (some which require consent) have been shared regarding:

Young Voices for Key Stage Two

Bikeability for Year 5 and 6

Swimming Year 5 and 6

Recorder lessons for Year 3

Walking home permission for Year 6

We thank you for responding to these so promptly.

Secondary School Applications

We don't want to wish our Year 6's final year away, but the application for secondary schools and the open morning and evenings arrive very quickly in the academic year.

Applications Open: 1st September

Deadline: 31st October

National Offer Day: 1st March 2027

More details can be found on the Dudley Authority website at

https://www.dudley.gov.uk/residents/learning-and-school/school-information/school-admissions/secondary-year-7-intake/

Secondary schools also post details of their sessions on their website.

We have been made aware of two of our local feeder schools and their dates which are as follows:

Crestwood

Open Evening Wednesday 16th September 6pm-8:30pm

Open mornings: Friday 18th September, Monday 21st September, Tuesday 22nd September, Wednesday 23rd September, Tuesday 13th October or Wednesday 14th October (9:30am-10:30am)

Kingswinford

Open Evening Tuesday 24th September 4:30pm-7:30pm

Open mornings Monday 28th September, Tuesday 29th September, Wednesday 30th September (9am-10am)

Check if you are entitled to Free School Meals

Some of our families may be missing out on Free School Meals without realising they are eligible. The thresholds and guidelines have changed this year which means you may not previously have been entitled but are now!

Registering could mean more than a free meal at lunchtime-it can also help our school access additional funding to provide extra support and opportunities for children.

To check if you qualify, contact Dudley's team on (01384) 814988

It's worth a quick call-you could be entitled to support you didn't know was available.



- **Wednesday 23rd September:** (Year 1/ Old Reception class) Little Owl Farm Park Trip
- **Monday 28th September 3:15pm-4:00pm: Meet the Teacher** Reception
- **Tuesday 2nd October:** Assembly for Black History Month
- **Wednesday 14th October 2:20pm-3:00pm:** Phonics Workshop for parents Year 1 and 2
- **Friday 16th October:** Book fair arrives, we will contact parent via text with dates and times to purchase books
- **Tuesday 20th October:** Parent's Evening 3:30pm-5:00pm
- **Wednesday 21st October:** Parent's Evening 3:30pm-5:00pm
- **Thursday 22nd October:** Parent's Evening 3:30pm-7:00pm

PE Days

PE Days for this half term are:

Reception: No PE

Year 1 - Monday's

Year 2 - Monday's

Year 3 - Tuesday's and Friday's

Year 4 - Tuesday's and Wednesday's

Year 5 - Monday's and Friday's

Year 6 - Thursday's

Children only need to wear their PE Kit on their PE Days.

Normal uniform is expected on any days that aren't PE days listed above.

Forest School Days

Reception - Thursday's - Please wear forest school clothes into school and bring a spare change of clothes and shoes

Year 1 - Friday's- Please wear uniform into school and bring forest school and shoes in a bag

Year 2 - Thursday's- Please wear uniform into school and bring forest school and shoes in a bag

Sensory Hub - Friday's- Please wear forest school clothes into school and bring uniform and shoes in a bag

A suggested kit list is as follows:

• Jogging bottoms/ comfortable trousers

• A long sleeved T-shirt (or two if it's super cold) with a jumper or sweatshirt on top

• Boots which are ideally waterproof walking boots (may need respraying with water proof spray from time to time) as these are better at insulating the feet when it's really cold but if not lots of socks and wellies will be fine.

• Two pairs of socks

• Waterproof trousers and a waterproof coat with a hood.

• Gloves and hats

• Thermal base layers (optional if your child gets cold quickly).

2026-2027 Academic Year Dates

Autumn Term 2026

Tuesday 1st September:	INSET DAY (School CLOSED for children)
Wednesday 2nd September:	INSET DAY (School CLOSED for children)
Thursday 3rd September:	Return to school
Friday 23rd October:	Last day of half term
Half Term:	Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October

Monday 2nd November:	Return to School
Friday 18th December:	Last Day of Term
Christmas Holidays:	Monday 21st December 2026 to Friday 1st January 2027

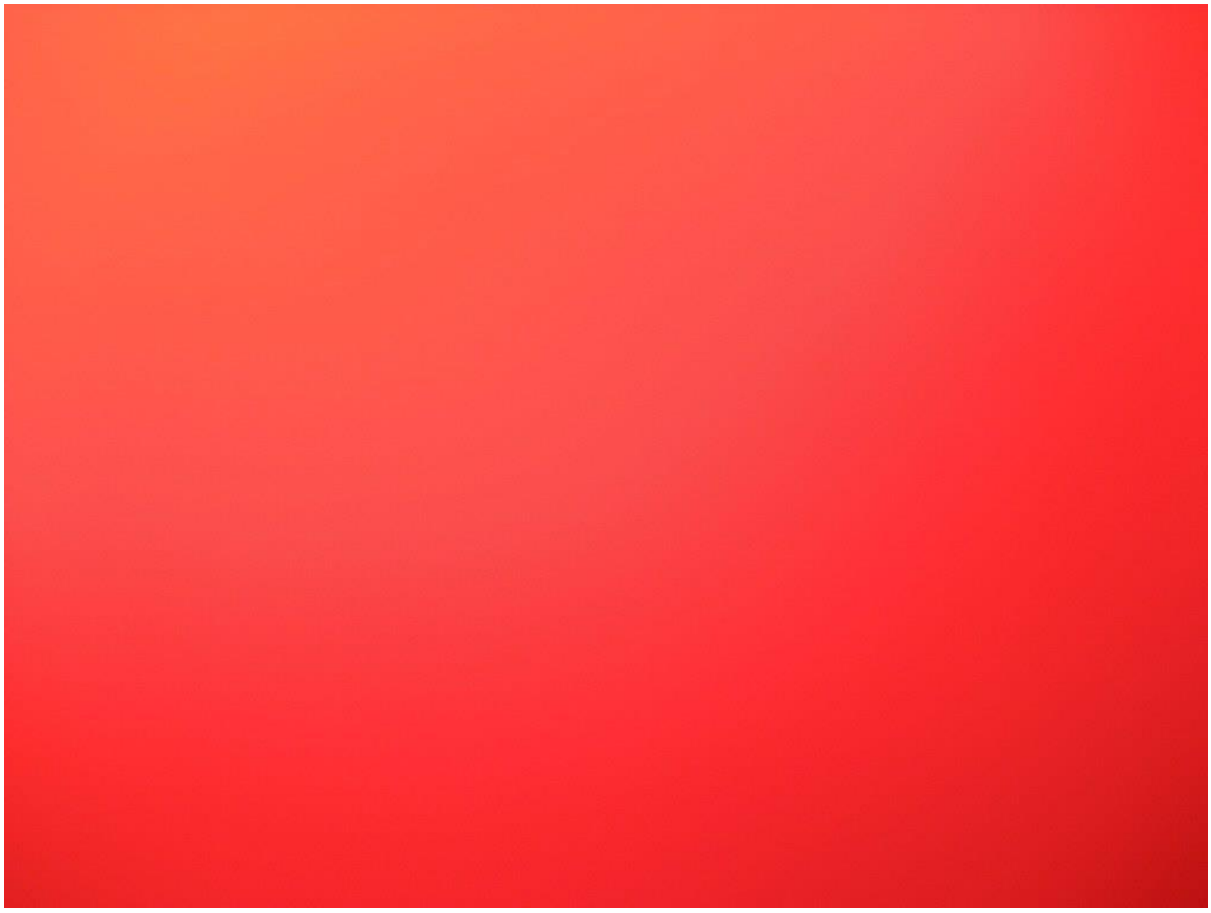
Spring Term 2027

Monday 4th January:	INSET DAY (School CLOSED for children)
Tuesday 5th January:	Return to School
Friday 12th February:	Last day of half term
Half Term:	Monday 15th February to Friday 19th February
Monday 22nd February:	INSET DAY (School CLOSED for children)
Tuesday 23rd February:	Return to School
Thursday 25th March:	Last Day of Term
Friday 26th March:	Good Friday – School Closed
Easter Holidays:	Monday 29th March to Friday 9th April

Summer Term 2027

Monday 12th April:	INSET DAY (School CLOSED for children)
Tuesday 13th April:	Return to School
Monday 3rd May:	May Bank Holiday (School CLOSED)
Friday 28th May:	Last day of Half Term
Half Term:	Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June
Monday 7th June:	Return to School
Wednesday 21st July:	Last Day of Term

Safeguarding



At Dingle Community Primary, safeguarding is of the upmost importance. If you have any concerns regarding the safety of a child, please contact Ms Heather or Mrs Richardson for advice or support. As a member of the community, you can report safeguarding concerns by contacting: **0300 555 0050** (9:00 am -5:00pm) **0300 555 8754** (out of hours) If you believe a child is in immediate danger phone **999**.

Contact Information

Click here to Visit our website

Tel: 01384 283699

Email: info@dingle.dudley.sch.uk