



Dingle Community Primary School
Friday 5TH September 2025 Newsletter

It was lovely to welcome the children back to Dingle this week. So many of them have grown over the holidays and it was a pleasure to see happy faces on their return to school. The children looked super smart and are a credit to yourselves and the school. Thank you for working with us to uphold our uniform expectations. The new academic year has started as usual with a burst of positivity and energy.

We are so lucky to have three new members of staff who have joined the Dingle team.

Mrs Richardson , our new Deputy Headteacher, will be an amazing addition to our senior leadership team. Having had the pleasure of working with Mrs Richardson several years ago, I know that she will work tirelessly to improve opportunities and experiences for the children at Dingle. Please see a welcome message from Mrs Richardson below.

Mrs Round is our new Year 1 teacher. She has made an excellent start to her time at Dingle, and her enthusiasm is obvious for all to see. She has a wealth of experience and knowledge in Key stage 1 and has already made a difference.

Miss Bull joins us as a part time member of staff working with Mrs Miller in Year 3. She is an experienced teacher who is passionate about teaching and learning. I have no doubt that they will make a great team.

There will be many opportunities this term for parents to join us and participate in their child's learning journey. We are dedicated to working in partnership to ensure our pupils have the best school experience. Thank you again for all of your support.

Yours sincerely,

Ms N. Heather

To the Parents and Carers of Dingle Community,

Allow me to introduce myself I'm Jodie Richardson and am both excited and privileged to have joined the team here at Dingle as Deputy Headteacher and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead.

I have twenty years of experience as a teacher and leader, working in a nearby local Dudley school. I am incredibly passionate about every child receiving an exciting, engaging and personalised curriculum and my particular passions are reading and the arts.

In my spare time, I enjoy being outside visiting many parks and exciting places with my two children, who are both primary school age. I enjoy theatre trips, reading when I can and holidaying in England and abroad.

I am really looking forward to my new role here and am incredibly enthusiastic about each of our children having the best possible primary school experience that they can- days filled with excitement, challenge and memorable learning experiences. As well as teaching across key stage 2, I am excited about driving our curriculum forwards, as well as forging links with

neighbouring schools and our local community. Finally, I am incredibly keen to work in partnership with yourselves.

I would like to thank the staff and pupils for making me so welcome during my first week and if I haven't introduced myself yet, then I look forward to meeting you over the coming weeks.

Wishing you a wonderful weekend in this glorious sunshine.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Richardson

Important Information and upcoming dates for the diary:



- Year 6: The deadline to apply for secondary schools is Friday 31st October 2025. The website to apply for secondary schools is [Secondary Year 7 Intake | Dudley Council](#)

- Year 1-6: Our annual update forms will be sent home with children shortly, a text message will be sent on the day to notify parents that the children will be coming home with them
- We would like to apologise for any inconvenience caused in regards to School Money and Teachers2Parents, our IT upgrades have impacted many areas in school
- We would like to let parents of KS2 parents know that skorts and cycling shorts under skirts are allowed to be worn as part of our uniform
- Please can all parents be aware that only 1 pair of studded earrings are allowed to be worn in school. They **MUST** be removed for PE days, alternatively your child will have to sit out of PE if their earrings are not removed.
- We do not encourage clip on toys to be worn on bags in school as we cannot guarantee the safekeeping of these
- We have changed the timings of lunch time slightly for all year groups to help manage the flow of children in the lunch hall. At the moment, this has been a really positive change.
- Our family picnic afternoon on Friday 11th July raised £318.80 for Mary Steven's Hospice, thank you to all that purchased ice creams for this
- We kindly ask that if we have missed your call, **please leave a voicemail** as we cannot see the contact numbers of who our missed calls are from. ***Our new contact number is now 01384 283699***
- We like to encourage children to ride their bikes/scooters to school, however we strongly recommend that a lock is provided when leaving them on school site. We also politely request that EYFS and KS1 children, park/lock their bikes/scooters on the KS2 playground as the current storage area is now used as playground and we cannot ensure that personal equipment will not be used by the children.
- **Monday 8th September:** Dingle Ducks return to Pre-School
- **Monday 6th October:** Photographer in school for Individual and sibling photographs
- **Thursday 16th October:** Phonics workshop in school, parents invited for Reception Class, Year 1 and Year 2 2.30pm
- **Monday 20th October:** Book fair opens at 3:20pm everyday until Thursday 23rd October
- **Wednesday 22nd October:** Parents year group meetings. Parents will be invited into school to meet their child's new class teacher and provided with information about the curriculum, engagement activities and timetables for the year group. Further details to come.

- **Friday 31st October: Year 6;** This is the deadline for secondary school applications. Please apply via this website <https://www.dudley.gov.uk/residents/learning-and-school/school-information/school-admissions/secondary-year-7-intake/>
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- Just a reminder that any children in years 1, 2 and 3 who would like to come into school early for **sensory circuits** are welcome to do so. It runs from 8:20 until 8:40 and takes place in the hall. There are fun activities set up designed to improve the children's core strength which will support them with fine motor skills including handwriting.
- **Maths club** is also open at 8:20am to children in year 3,4 and 5 every morning. The children can practice their times tables on TT Rockstars and basic number skills.
- **Soft Start** is still available from 8:20 in the Nurture room for any children who are finding it difficult to transition into school at the start of the day.

Reminders:

- We ask that dogs are not brought onto the school grounds, even if they are carried.
- **We are a nut free school and ask that parents do not send in items that contain nuts, especially chocolate spread, in children's lunchboxes. If it is necessary for your child to have chocolate spread, please ensure that it is nut-free and that you provide a note in their lunch box stating so, otherwise we will have to call to confirm. We have several children with severe nut allergies in school.**
- All children should be entering school through either KS1 entrance or KS2 entrance unless special arrangements have been made with school.

If you have any concerns about your child in school, please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance.

The Dingle Parent Partnership is parents working together with Dingle Community Primary to organise fun events for our children and also raise funds to support school. **We are always in need of parental support as without this we cannot organise and run events which raise vital funds for the children to enjoy enrichment activities.** If this is something you are interested in or able to do, please contact school via phone or email.



Sent on behalf of Children & Young Peoples Public Health

[Dudley Healthy Lunchbox Resources](#)

Smart Lunches for Every Stage

For more information about planning family meals, please visit [Healthy Dudley](#).

Our new library is now complete! This has been paid for via our school fund, from all of your contributions at previous events the past few years.

Please tap through the photos below to see different angles!









Parking

A reminder that the car park is for **staff and official visitor use only, unless prior arrangements have been made with myself or Mrs Hall**. If you do need to drive onto the car park outside of official school hours, for example when dropping children off for breakfast club, please drive slowly and with due care and attention as there may be children in the vicinity.

Uniform

School uniform helps to promote a sense of belonging and pride which we are committed to upholding. I would like to remind you of our uniform expectations which can be found on the school website at this link [Correct School Uniform Information](#) . I appreciate that uniform can be an added financial burden for families. We may be able to offer support to families if this is a concern. Please do not hesitate to speak to our friendly office team who will be able to help you. Children who are unable to take out their earrings will not be allowed to physically take part in P.E lessons.

Appropriate footwear is also expected. For health and safety reasons crocs and converse are not appropriate footwear.



Pupil Premium - are you entitled to claim?

It's really easy to do!

- Do you claim any of the following benefits?
- Income Support
- • Income based Job Seekers Allowance
- • Income based Employment and Support Allowance
- • Child tax credit and no working tax credit with a household income of less than £16,190
- • Universal Credit The 'Guarantee' element of State Pension Credit
- • Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

If so and your child is attending a Dudley school (even if you don't live in Dudley) you can claim free school meals. Even if you don't want to take the meals, making a claim will help the school as they will receive some extra funding for each child registered for them.

It's really easy and quick to apply – an online application can be made through via the website at [Free school meals](#) .

You'll need to have your date of birth and national insurance number or national asylum support service number, along with your address and the children's details with you when you apply – you can apply for several children at a time on one application even if they are all at different schools. Staffordshire County Council will check your information and give you

an immediate answer and the chance to print a confirmation. All children in reception, year 1 or year 2 are automatically entitled to free school meals, even if you don't receive one of the qualifying benefits or tax credits.

Income-related Free School Meals (FSM) claims added before 1 April 2025 are protected until the eligible child leaves primary school (children in Reception to Year 6 as of 31 March 2025) or secondary school (young people in Years 7 to 13 as of 31 March 2025), even if parents/carers have a change in circumstance.

If your child is entitled to Income-related Free School Meals (FSM) and in Year 6, your eligibility will be rechecked in readiness for them to start secondary school.

New FSM claims added from 1 April 2025 onwards are not protected. Eligibility for new FSM claims will be regularly checked. New FSM claims will be cancelled if parents/carers are not found eligible. This may mean some children in the same family will be entitled to FSM and associated benefits (e.g. Holiday Activities and Food – HAF – Programme) while others aren't.

Safeguarding



At Dingle Community Primary, safeguarding is of the utmost 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