



**Dingle Community Primary School**  
**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2026 Newsletter**



## A Message From Ms Heather



As we approach the final holiday of the academic year, it has been wonderful to reflect on the many exciting experiences our children have enjoyed at Dingle, including medieval

banquets, Egyptian days, pirate days and even a special visit from Florence Nightingale to name just a few.

The final half of the summer term promises even more exciting visits, including trips to Little Owl Farm, the Sea Life Centre, the Botanical Gardens and Severn Valley Park. These experiences play such an important role in bringing learning to life and creating lasting memories for our children. Thank you to all families for your continued support in making these opportunities possible.

Staff continue to work hard to provide positive and engaging lunchtimes, with activities such as crafts, hula hooping, pom-pom dancing and Craze of the Week proving very popular. It has been lovely to see children building friendships and enjoying playtimes together.

As the year draws to a close, we kindly remind families to continue supporting our uniform policy. I appreciate that children often have growth spurts and that this is not always an ideal time to be replacing school uniform. Therefore, I understand that we may begin to see a few slight deviations from our usual uniform expectations. Branded clothing, jewellery, make-up and unsuitable footwear, including Crocs and coloured trainers, are not permitted for health and safety reasons. Children wearing jewellery will not be able to access outdoor play at breaktimes due to the potential risk of injury. Children wearing make-up will be asked to remove it when they arrive in school. Appropriate footwear is also expected as part of our uniform policy. Crocs and coloured trainers, including Converse-style footwear, are not considered suitable school shoes.

From September, we will be introducing further healthy eating and hydration initiatives in line with government guidance, including providing every child with a school water bottle. The period between half term and the summer break offers a valuable opportunity to begin introducing some small, manageable changes and gradually phase in healthier snack options ahead of September. We appreciate that successfully embedding these healthy habits can only be achieved by working together in partnership with our families, and we are grateful for your continued support.

Please also keep an eye on the Dates for the Diary section of the newsletter. We always endeavour to avoid making changes wherever possible and will only do so when unforeseen circumstances arise. Thank you, as always, for your understanding.

We look forward to welcoming the children back after the half term break for the final (hopefully sunny) half term of the year.

# Ladder To Success Attendance Board -Attendance for Summer Term 1



## Every Day Counts

At Dingle, we have high expectations for attendance. Being in school every day helps children make strong progress, build confidence, and develop positive habits for the future.

Poor attendance can quickly lead to gaps in learning, especially as lessons build on prior knowledge. Even small amounts of absence can affect progress, particularly in reading, writing and maths. Arriving on time is also vital, as phonics in EYFS and KS1 takes place at the start of the day.

Our attendance target is **95%**.

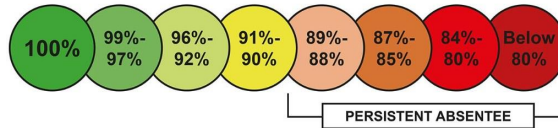
**To promote good attendance, we offer:**

- Termly rewards for 100% attendance
- An end-of-year raffle
- An Attendance Ladder of Success for year groups

Thank you for supporting us to ensure every child is in school, on time, and ready to learn.

## ATTENDANCE MATTERS

On Time: First Time, Every Time



Which **CIRCLE** are you in?



# Upcoming dates for your diary



- **Friday 22nd May: End of Summer Term 1**

- **Monday 1st June:** *Children return to school*
- **Week commencing Monday 1st June:** Year 4 Multiplications check week
- **Tuesday 2nd June 1:30pm:** Year 6 Road Safety Workshop
- **Wednesday 3rd June:** Whole School Severn Trent Assembly and workshop for Year 5
- **Week commencing Monday 8th June:** Year 1 Phonics Screening Check Week
- **Monday 15th June-26th June:** Assessment weeks for Year 2-5
- **Monday 15th June:** Year 2 and Sensory Hub Trip to Sealife Centre
- **Tuesday 16th June:** Year 3 and Year 4 Maths Championship Final (parents of participating children have been notified)
- **Tuesday 16th and Wednesday 17th June:** Dudley CFR First Aid Sessions in school for each class
- **Thursday 18th June:** Father's Day Wrapping Room (Option to pay on SchoolMoney closer to the time)
- **Friday 19th June:** Year 4 Trip to Botanical Gardens
- **Tuesday 23rd June:** School nurse is in school to work with Year 4 and Year 5 in a Relationships Workshop
- **Friday 26th June:** Reception Trip to Little Owl Farm
- **Tuesday 30th June:** Sports Day: 9:15am-10:45am Year 4, 5
- **Tuesday 30th June:** Sports Day: 1:30pm-3:00pm Year 1, 2 and 3
- **YEAR 6 SPORTS DAY IS NO LONGER TUESDAY 30TH JUNE** - Due to this now being their transition week at their Secondary Schools. **Please see their rescheduled date below.** We apologise for the inconvenience in this change.
- **Friday 3rd July:** EYFS Sports Day: 1:45pm-3:00pm
- **Monday 6th -8th July:** Year 6 Pioneer trip (Children not attending Pioneer are expected in school as normal)
- **Wednesday 8th July:** Reception-Year 5 in school transition afternoon
- **Thursday 9th July 1:45pm-3:10pm:** Family Picnic Afternoon
- **Friday 10th July 2:30pm:** Values Reward Assembly - (Invitation only) Parents to be invited via text closer to the time
- **Monday 13th July 5:30pm:** Year 6 Celebration Evening

- **Wednesday 15th July 9:15am-11:00am:** Year 6 Interactive Sports Day - Parents/carers invited to attend and take part
- **Wednesday 15th July 3:30pm-5:30pm:** Parents Open Evening; Not mandatory, no bookings required
- **Thursday 16th July 9:30am:** Pre-school graduation morning; Details to follow (Only the Dingle Ducks starting Reception this September 2026)
- **Thursday 16th July:** House Point Winners Reward with a Mufti-Day - Winners to be announced via text closer to the time
- **Friday 17th July 9:15am:** Year 6 Leavers Assembly Parents Invited
- **Friday 17th July:** Last Day of term **finish at 1:30pm** (No afterschool club on this day)

#### **Year 6 Transition days for Secondary Schools:**

**Monday 29th June & Tuesday 30th June:** Summerhill transition days

**Tuesday 30th June & Wednesday 1st July:** Wordsley transition days

**Wednesday 1st July & 2nd July:** Crestwood transition days

## **Next 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: School Commences

Friday 23rd October: School Closes for 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:	School Closes for 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:	School Closes for Half Term
Half Term:	Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June
Monday 7th June:	Return to School
Wednesday 21st July:	Last Day of Term

## **PE Days**

**PE Days for this half term are:**

**Reception:** No PE

**Year 1** - Thursday

**Year 2** - Friday

**Year 3** - Wednesday

**Year 4** - Monday, Tuesday

**Year 5** - Friday

**Year 6** -Monday (Outdoor)

Children only need to wear their PE Kit on their PE Days, we no longer require the whole school to wear PE kit on Fridays. Normal uniform is expected on any days that aren't PE days listed above.

### Forest School Days

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

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

**Year 2** - Friday morning - Please wear forest school clothes into school and bring uniform and shoes in a bag

**Sensory Hub**- Thursday morning - Please wear forest school clothes into school and bring uniform and shoes in a bag



Congratulations to our Values winners this half term, who have all demonstrated our school value 'Connection'



Recently at Dingle, we celebrated a truly special occasion — the planting of our very own *Tree of Hope* in honour of Sir David Attenborough's 100th birthday.

Our EYFS and KS1 pupils took part in a wonderful tree planting ceremony, where they reflected on the importance of caring for our planet, protecting wildlife and nurturing nature for future generations. It was a meaningful and inspiring experience for everyone involved.

The *Tree of Hope* will now grow proudly in our outdoor learning area — a lasting symbol of hope, care and environmental responsibility for years to come. We hope it will continue to inspire, provide joy and shade for many generations of pupils.

This beautiful event would not have been possible without the incredible hard work of Mrs Perry, whose vision and organisation brought the whole project to life. From planning and leading the ceremony itself, she has worked hard to make this memorable experience possible for our children.

We want to thank Mrs Perry for the time and energy that she poured into making this event such a success.

## Illnesses

To ensure consistent care, staff will only contact parents if a child is too unwell to remain in school.

For minor injuries or mild illness, trained staff will provide first aid and monitor children closely.

Please do not send children to school with non-prescribed medication, including items such as Sudocrem or throat lozenges.

If your child is slightly unwell but able to attend, please give any necessary medication at home before school.

Thank you for your support.

# IS MY CHILD TOO ILL FOR SCHOOL?

yes
until...


<b>CHICKENPOX</b>	At least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over.
<b>DIARRHOEA AND VOMITING</b>	48 hours after their last episode.
<b>HIGH TEMPERATURE</b>	If your child has a high temperature, keep them off school until it goes away.
<b>IMPETIGO</b>	Their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics.
<b>MEASLES</b>	4 days after the rash first appeared.
<b>MUMPS</b>	5 days after their swelling started.
<b>SCABIES</b>	They've had their first treatment.
<b>SCARLET FEVER</b>	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics.
<b>WHOOPIING COUGH</b>	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics.



## NO

<b>CONJUNCTIVITIS</b>	You don't need to keep your child away from school if they have conjunctivitis. Do get advice from your pharmacist. Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands regularly.
<b>COUGHS &amp; COLDS</b>	It's fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or common cold.
<b>HAND, FOOT &amp; MOUTH</b>	If they seem well enough to go to school, there's no need to keep them off. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues straight away and to wash their hands regularly.
<b>HEAD LICE</b>	There's no need to keep your child off school. You can treat head lice and nits without seeing your GP.
<b>THREADWORMS</b>	Speak to your pharmacist, who can recommend treatment.
<b>SORE THROAT TONSILLITIS</b>	You can still send your child to school if they have a sore throat. But if they also have a high temperature, they should stay at home until it goes away.
<b>SLAPPED CHEEK</b>	You don't need to keep your child off school if they have slapped cheek syndrome because, once the rash appears, they're no longer infectious.



## Reporting Absence's In The Morning

As stated in Section 3.7 on Page 4 of our Attendance Policy, all Parents/Carers must report their child's absence before 8:45am on the day of the absence and each subsequent day of absence. For safeguarding and legal reasons, we must have any and all absences reported and recorded onto our registers, this includes our Dingle Ducks in Pre-school. Please see our attendance policy for further information. [Attendance Policy](#)

## Any Planned Absence Must Be Requested In Advance

Please ask for a Leave of Absence Request form at the office or, email [info@dingle.dudley.sch.uk](mailto:info@dingle.dudley.sch.uk) and return to the office completed.

# Thinking about booking a holiday during term time?

**REMEMBER: ANY ABSENCE MUST BE REQUESTED IN ADVANCE**

Absence for an activity or holiday that can be arranged during the annual 13-week holiday time will not be authorised during the school term.

A penalty notice may be issued if there are five days/10 sessions or more of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period. This can include irregular attendance.

**First offence** - the first time a penalty notice is issued for term time leave or irregular attendance, the amount will be **£160** per parent per child to be paid within 28 days. Reduced to **£80** per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.\*

**A penalty will be issued for each child**



£160 + £160 + £160  
3 x children + 1 parent = **£480**  
reduced to **£240** if paid within 21 days

**A family of two parents and two children**



£160 + £160  
2 x children + 2 parents = **£640**  
reduced to **£320** if paid within 21 days

**Second offence** (within 3 years) - the amount will be **£160** per parent per child to be paid within 28 days. No reduced rate will be offered.\*



2 parents +  
1 child  
**£320**

2 children  
**£640**

3 children  
**£960**

**Third offence** - a penalty notice will not be issued, the case will be presented to the Magistrates' Court for prosecution, where either a fine of up to **£2,500**, a community order or a custodial sentence of up to three months can be imposed. A conviction in the Magistrates' Court may be disclosed on future DBS certificates.

\*The first time a penalty notice is issued for term time leave or irregular attendance, the amount will be £160 per parent per child to be paid within 28 days. Reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

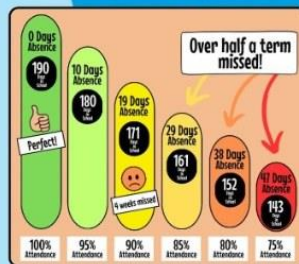
Dudley  
Metropolitan Council

## School Attendance

Every day counts...

Good attendance helps with...

<p><b>Academic Achievement</b></p> <p>Regular attendance helps children stay on track with the curriculum and achieve stronger academic results.</p>	<p><b>Social Skills</b></p> <p>Being in school every day helps children make friends, develop important social skills and feel part of the school community.</p>	<p><b>Routine &amp; Responsibility</b></p> <p>Attending school regularly teaches the importance of commitment, routine and responsibility, helping children build valuable life skills.</p>	<p><b>Focus &amp; Engagement</b></p> <p>Children who attend school regularly are more likely to stay engaged in their learning and develop a positive attitude towards education.</p>	<p><b>Building Confidence</b></p> <p>Regular attendance can boost a child's self-esteem and confidence, as they see their progress and achievements over time.</p>	<p><b>Enhanced Learning Opportunities</b></p> <p>School offers more than academic learning - it provides clubs, activities and enrichment opportunities that help children discover new interests and talents.</p>
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Did you know there are...

- 365 Days in a Year
- 190 School Days
- 175 Non School Days

Having 90% over 5 school years, is half a school year's work missed!

### Tips for Supporting Good Attendance...

<p><b>Set a regular routine</b></p> <p>A consistent bedtime and morning routine helps children feel ready for school and reduces last-minute stress.</p>	<p><b>Aim for every day</b></p> <p>Try to make school attendance the default. Only keep your child off if they are genuinely unwell.</p>	<p><b>Plan appointments carefully</b></p> <p>Where possible, book medical or dental appointments outside school hours or your child's usual break times.</p>	<p><b>Talk positively about school</b></p> <p>Get ahead of your child's day and celebrate the little things they enjoy. Your positivity helps them feel forward to school.</p>	<p><b>Stay in touch</b></p> <p>When a child's struggling, early communication with the school helps everyone find solutions and make things easier for the child.</p>	<p><b>Prepare the night before</b></p> <p>Pack bags, lay out uniforms and check homework in the evening to make morning meander and less stressful.</p>
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Silly School Education

[MMR Vaccine update](#)

## 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.**

## **If You Have Any Concerns About Your Child In School:**

**Please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance.**

## **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](mailto:info@dingle.dudley.sch.uk)