



**Dingle Community Primary School**  
**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026 Newsletter**



## A Message From Ms Heather



Another short but incredibly busy term draws to an end. This term has seen many exciting events in school, and we look forward to an exciting summer term ahead. With a glimpse of warmer weather on the way, we have our fingers crossed for a sunny Easter holiday. Thank you, as always, for your continued support over the term.

After many years of dedicated service, we will be saying a fond farewell to Mrs Wallis as she leaves Dingle Community Primary. During her time with us, she has taught and inspired countless children—indeed, even some of the parents of our current pupils. Her commitment to improving the lives and outcomes of every child has made a lasting impact on our school community.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Mrs Wallis for her years of dedication, care and professionalism. We wish her well in her adventures after Dingle. She will be greatly missed by staff, pupils and families alike. Mrs Wallis' last day in school will be Thursday 30th April 2026.

Finally, please note that children should not be collected early from school unless in an emergency, as this can interrupt important learning and routines for all pupils.

We would like to wish all staff, children and parents a very happy Easter.

## Reminder

We would also like to ask for your support in ensuring that children come to school with appropriately sized water bottles. Recently, larger bottles have led to more frequent requests to leave lessons, including at the very start of the day, which can disrupt learning and important teaching time.

We actively encourage children to stay hydrated and to develop good habits around this; however, we also aim to support them in managing this responsibly. Encouraging children to use the toilet before the school day begins and to bring a standard-sized water bottle will help minimise interruptions and ensure that all pupils can make the most of their learning time.

We will be looking at purchasing water bottles for pupils in September, but until that time we would greatly value your support. A gentle reminder also that juice is not beneficial for children's teeth, so we ask that water is provided in bottles brought into school.

## Ladder To Success Attendance Board -Attendance for Last Half Term (Spring 2)



**Whole School Attendance for Spring 2 is 94.44%**

Please see the image above to see each classes attendance for this half term.

### 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:**

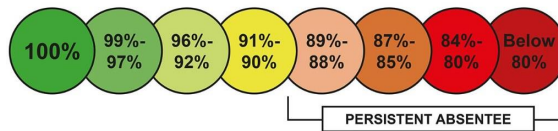
- Termly rewards for 100% attendance

- 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



- **Monday 13th April: *INSET Day***
- **Tuesday 14th April: *Children return to school***
- **Friday 17th April: Loudmouth Theatre Group Performance for Year 6 in school**
- **Friday 24th April: First Praise Assembly of the half term (Invitation only) Parents to be invited via text message**
- **Monday 4th May: *School Closed for Bank Holiday***
- **Week beginning 11th May: Year 6 SATs week**
- **Friday 15th May: Year 1 trip to Warwick Castle**
- **Wednesday 20th May 2:30pm: Values Reward Assembly - (Invitation only) Parents to be invited via text closer to the time**
- **Thursday 21st May: Census Day, Please book a hot dinner this day to help raise vital funds for our school**
- **Thursday 21st May: House Point Winners Reward with a Mufti-Day - Winners to be announced via text closer to the time**
- **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: Father's Day Wrapping Room (Option to pay on SchoolMoney closer to the time)**
- **Tuesday 16th June: Year 3 and Year 4 Maths Championship Final (texts to parents of children participating closer to the time)**
- **Tuesday 16th and Wednesday 17th June: Dudley CFR First Aid Sessions in school for each class**
- **Tuesday 30th June: Sports Day: 9:15am-10:45am Year 4, 5 and 6**
- **Tuesday 30th June: Sports Day: 1:30pm-3:00pm Year 1, 2 and 3**
- **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)
- **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:** Parents Evening (Bookings to follow closer to the time)
- **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:** Leavers Assembly Parents Invited
- **Friday 17th July:** Last Day of term



### **New PE Days**

**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

## **Easter Egg Decoration Winners!**

### **Dingle Ducks**

Winner: Rose

Runner-up: Noah

### **Reception**

Winner: Sienna

Runner-up: Elyza

### **Year 1**

Winner: Theo

Runner-up: Tylow

### **Year 2**

Winner: Olivia

Runner-up: Bella

### **Year 3**

Winner: Adelaide

Runner-up: Dylan

### **Year 4**

Winner: Skyla

Runner-up: Evie

### **Year 5**

Winner: Jesse

Runner-up: Ivo

### **Year 6**

Winners: Abi G

Runner-up: Freya E and Ziyen

Well done again to everyone who took part – you made it very difficult for our judges!

A huge thank you to everyone who purchased a ticket for our Easter raffle 🙌🌟

We have been absolutely blown away by your support and are delighted to share that we raised a fantastic £466.00, which will go directly towards new equipment for our children.

A special congratulations to our first prize winner, Adelaide, who was thrilled to receive her brand new JellyCat bunny 🐰

With over 40 prizes won, our assembly was buzzing with excitement today – it was wonderful to see so many happy faces!

Thank you again for your continued support



We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the wonderful local companies who supported our very first Easter Egg Appeal. Thanks to your kindness, generosity and incredible community spirit, every child at Dingle Community Primary School was able to go home with an Easter egg – something that brought so much joy and excitement across our school. Your support truly makes a difference to our children and families. Please do show

your appreciation by following and supporting these fantastic businesses on their social media pages.



Our Mother's Day Wrapping raised £679.91, thank you to everyone who participated. Our children really enjoyed choosing special gifts to wrap for their loved ones.



**Dingle Community Primary School**  
*Hire Our*  
**SCHOOL HALL & FACILITIES!**  
Perfect for *Events, Clubs & Community Activities!*

*Ideal for:*

- ✓ Community Groups
- ✓ Meetings & Training
- ✓ After School Clubs
- ✓ Large Playing Field

*Contact us for Availability & Rates!*

☎ **01384 283699** ✉ [info@dingle.dudley.sch.uk](mailto:info@dingle.dudley.sch.uk)

- ✓ Spacious Hall
- ✓ On-Site Parking
- ✓ Large Playing Field

*We look forward to welcoming you!*



**OUR VALUES STARS**  
Compassion

Isabella, Ataeyenne, Oskar, Millie, Maisie, Oscar, Rowan, Nellie, Thea, Billie, Elsa, April, Martha, Esme, Brooklyn

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

Thank you to all of our parents who completed our Parent Questionnaires. Your feedback plays a vital role in shaping future school priorities, guiding improvements and helping us to ensure that our provision continues to meet the needs of our children and community. Every response was valued and we greatly appreciate you working with us to make our school the best it can be,

Full feedback and our actions and next steps can be found at <https://www.dingle.dudley.sch.uk/parent-correspondence?action=saved>

Thank you to parents for attending a number of workshops and information sessions over the last term. We hope that you have found them useful. Presentations are available under year group pages if you wish to revisit any of the key parts shared.

We also always appreciate your feedback following these events.

## Phonics Screening Check

### 2026 KS1

#### A GUIDE FOR PARENTS

**HOW THE CHECK WORKS**

- The check is carried out 1:1 in school by a teacher or trained member of staff
- It includes 40 words, split into two sections of 20
- Each section contains a mix of real words and pseudo-words (made-up words that are phonically decodable but not real)
- Children receive a score from 0-40 (one point per word read correctly)
- There is no set time limit, but it usually takes around five to ten minutes

**RESULTS AND NEXT STEPS**

- The Phonics Screening Check (PSC) is a short national check for Year 1 pupils
- Schools share each child's result with parents before the end of the summer term
- If a child does not meet the expected standard in Year 1, the school should provide additional support with phonics.
- Children who don't meet the standard in Year One usually take the check again in Year 2

**WHY IT MATTERS**

- The Phonics Screening Check is a statutory (required) national check that assesses whether pupils have met the expected standard in phonics decoding (using phonics to read words).
- It helps schools identify which pupils may need extra support with phonics.

**DATES FOR THE CHECK**

- **8-12 June 2026:** Phonics Screening Check week - schools choose a day during this week for each child to take the check.
- Children will complete it in one short session, but the school may test different children on different days across the week.
- **Up to 19 June 2026:** Extra time is available for any children who were absent during check week.

# Multiplication Tables Check

**2026 KS2 Year 4** A GUIDE FOR PARENTS

## WHAT IS IT?

- Children answer multiplication questions up to  $12 \times 12$ , with greater emphasis on the 6, 7, 8, 9 and 12 times tables, as these are generally the most difficult to recall.
- The check is online and completed on screen.
- It contains 25 questions, with 6 seconds to answer each one.
- There is a 3-second pause between each question before the next one appears.
- Before the check, children can answer 3 practice questions to become familiar with the format.
- Each check usually takes less than 5 minutes per child.
- There are multiple versions of the check - each question is generated randomly.
- There is no official pass mark or threshold.

## WHO DOES IT?

- The Multiplication Tables Check is statutory for all Year 4 pupils in England.
- Children do not need to re-sit the check if they do not achieve a high score.
- Schools will share each child's result with parents or carers.

## WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

- The purpose is to see whether children can fluently recall multiplication facts up to  $12 \times 12$ .
- Secure times table knowledge helps children feel more confident in maths and supports later learning, including division, fractions and problem-solving.
- The check helps schools identify children who may need extra support with times tables.

## WHEN IS IT?

- In 2026, schools must complete the check between Monday 1st June and Friday 12th June.
- Additional time can be used from Monday 15th June to Friday 19th June for children who were absent or unable to complete the check during the main window.

## HOW TO HELP AT HOME

**Practise Little and Often**  
Short sessions of 5-10 minutes work best.

**Focus on Quick Recall**  
Children need to answer within a few seconds.

**Practise All Tables**  
Especially 6, 7, 8, 9 and 12.

**Use Games and Quizzes**  
To make practice fun.

**Use Real-life Maths**  
Cooking, shopping and travel can all involve multiplication.

# KS2 SATs

**2026 KS2 Year 6** A GUIDE FOR PARENTS

	Date	Test	Duration	Marks	Details
<b>ENGLISH</b>	Monday 11th May	Grammar, Punctuation and Vocabulary Paper 1 - Short Answer Questions	45 Minutes	50	• A written test with a mixture of grammar, punctuation and vocabulary questions.
		Spelling - Paper 2	Approx 15 mins (not timed)	20	• 20 words read aloud by the teacher. The class is asked to give the Paper 1 score to give a combined total.
	Tuesday 12th May	English Reading	60 Minutes	50	• Three texts each increasing in challenge (fiction & non-fiction). • A mixture of short and longer written responses.
<b>MATHS</b>	Wednesday 13th May	Maths Paper 1 - Arithmetic	30 Minutes	40	• Involves mathematical calculations covering all four operations (+, -, $\times$ , $\div$ ) including fractions, decimals and percentages.
		Maths Paper 2 - Reasoning	40 Minutes	35	• Both of these papers assess reasoning and problem-solving, including word problems.
	Thursday 14th May	Maths Paper 3 - Reasoning			• All three maths papers' scores are added together to give a total mark out of 700.

→ There are six tests over four days (three English and three maths).

→ Writing is not a test - it is teacher assessed (using work from across the year).

→ Children do not sit a science SATs test; science is assessed by teachers in class instead.

→ Schools can administer the tests between 7am and 7pm on the scheduled day.

→ All test papers are externally marked.

→ KS2 test results are expected to be available online on Tuesday 7 July 2026.

**LOOKING AT THE WHOLE CHILD**

SATs are just one moment in your child's learning journey. Teachers look at your child's progress, effort and achievements across the whole year - not just their test results.

In the build up to SATs and the MTC, we offer a number of free morning clubs.

Year 6 Calculations and Cookies 8am Tuesday and Thursday

Year 4 MTC Practice 8:20am Daily

All children in these year groups are welcome.



Congratulations to Ash who were our winning house this half term. It was a very close battle and amazing to see over 4,000 house points have been awarded across the school.



During our recent Inset Day, a number of our staff were very excited to take part in Positive Playtime Training; an initiative designed to improve playtimes for children with a focus on social interaction, restorative practice and well-being. Dingle are very enthusiastic about launching this programme with our children after the holidays. Look out for further correspondence and updates on this project over the coming term.

## 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...* **NHS**

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

**NO**

CONJUNCTIVITIS	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.
COUGHS & COLDS	It's fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or common cold.
HAND, FOOT & MOUTH	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.
HEAD LICE	There's no need to keep your child off school. You can treat head lice and nits without seeing your GP.
THREADWORMS	Speak to your pharmacist, who can recommend treatment.
SORE THROAT TONSILLITIS	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.
SLAPPED CHEEK	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.

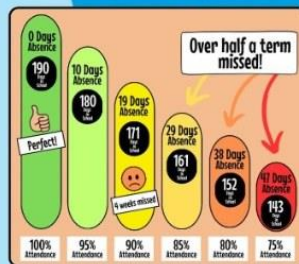
Dudley  
Metropolitan Council

## 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 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 smoother 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)