

# Summer Term 2025



**DATES FOR THE DIARY** (NB. Letters for events & trips will be sent out closer to the time):

Week beginning 2<sup>nd</sup> June

Year 4 Multiplication Times Tables Check

Week beginning 9<sup>th</sup> June

Year 1 Phonics Screening & Y2 Retakes

9<sup>th</sup> June

Year 5 Dartmoor Trip

10<sup>th</sup> June

Class Photographs

12<sup>th</sup> June

Year 4 Dawlish Warren Trip

Week beginning 16<sup>th</sup> June

Sponsored Reading Event

Week beginning 23<sup>rd</sup> June

Year 5/6 Bikeability

23<sup>rd</sup> June

Year 2 Wildwood Trip

25<sup>th</sup> June

Year 6 Woodlands Trip

26<sup>th</sup> June

Year 3 Dartmoor Trip

Week beginning 30<sup>th</sup> June

Year 5/6 Bikeability (continued)

30<sup>th</sup> June

Year 1 Ocombe Farm Trip

2<sup>nd</sup> July

KS1 (am) and KS2 (pm) Sports Days

3<sup>rd</sup> July

Transition Day (all year groups)

5<sup>th</sup> July

Decoyfest

8<sup>th</sup> July

KS1(am) and KS2(pm) Sports Day (reserve date)

9<sup>th</sup> July

Year 5 Art Exhibition (4 – 5.30pm)

10<sup>th</sup> July

Nursery and Reception Sports Day (2pm)

11<sup>th</sup> July

Reports emailed to parents

15<sup>th</sup> July

Year 6 show (to families) 5.30pm

16<sup>th</sup> July

Year 6 show (to families) 2.30pm & 5.30pm

22<sup>nd</sup> July

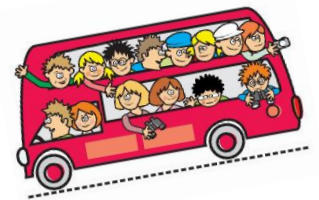
Year 6 Graduation & Barbeque (from 1.30pm)

23<sup>rd</sup> July

Last Day of Summer Term

4<sup>th</sup> September

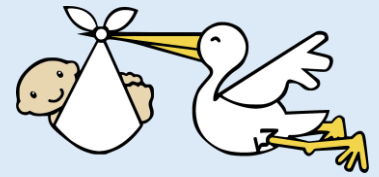
First Day of Autumn Term



## Staff Changes

Mrs Thomsett is due to start her maternity leave at the start of July 2025. The teaching arrangements for the last 3 weeks of this term will be confirmed soon and shared with parents of pupils in Woodpecker Class ASAP.

We wish Mrs Thomsett and her husband all the very best for the birth of their baby. We can not wait to meet Baby Thomsett very soon!



### Caretaking

Earlier this term, Andy the caretaker made the decision to leave the company that we employ as our cleaning and caretaking contractor. Andy was a popular and caring face around the school and will be very much missed by staff and children.

However, we are delighted to welcome Paul as our new caretaker.



### Special Educational Needs

We are pleased to announce that we have been able to increase our capacity to support pupils and families with Special Educational Needs. Earlier this year, Miss Strong, our school SENDCO, increased her working week from 4 days to full time. We have also created a Deputy SENDCO role, which Miss Fraser has been appointed to. From September, Miss Fraser will have a day out of class to further develop this new role.

## Have You Ever Considered Working in School?

We are looking to recruit a new mealtime assistant.

1.5 hours a day

5 days a week

£12.26 per hour

Please speak to Jess Edwards in the school office or email [admin@decoyschool.co.uk](mailto:admin@decoyschool.co.uk) for more details.

### Jewellery

Children can wear small stud earrings to school, but these need to be removed or covered with tape for PE lessons. Tape should be provided by parents. Children can wear digital or analogue watches to school, but **not** smart watches. No other jewellery should be worn (including necklaces, bracelets, rings etc.), unless worn for religious observance or if agreed for other.

### Hair

For safety reasons and to help prevent the spread of headlice, hair that is longer than shoulder length must be tied back for school. No large headbands - please. Pupils should also not have their hair coloured, unless it is a temporary hair spray for a themed event such as World Book Day.

### Nails

Artificial nails are not acceptable in school at any time. Nails should not be painted.

## Expectations for School Staff, Parents, Carers and Visitors

At Decoy, we value the importance of our supportive and inclusive school community. We work in partnership with staff, governors, parents, carers and other members of the community to ensure all children receive a high-class education in a safe and nurturing environment. We develop strong and productive working relationships and understand the importance of these relationships in equipping our children with the necessary skills for their education.

- **WE EXPECT** our school community to respect our school ethos, care for our school and set a good example for behaviour on school premises (including the immediate vicinity of the school ) and when accompanying classes on school visits.
- **WE EXPECT** our school community to keep our children safe by adhering to the school's request to drive and park carefully around the school area; ensuring that local residents and other road users are treated with respect and consideration.
- **WE EXPECT** our parents and carers to work in partnership with the school by reading emails and ClassDojo messages, keeping medical/contact information up to date and following school policies.
- **WE EXPECT** our school community to put their mobile phones away when they enter the school site. Phones may only be used on school site when permission has been provided by the school for photographs and videos at school events. Any urgent calls should be taken outside the school site.

### Behaviour that will not be tolerated:

- Inappropriate or disruptive behaviour, which interferes or threatens to interfere with any of the school's normal operation or activities anywhere on the school premises.
- Using loud or offensive language or displaying temper, whilst on or around the school site. Should this behaviour occur, you will be asked to leave and may consequently have restricted access arrangements put in place.
- Threatening a member of staff, visitor, fellow parent/carer or child.
- Damaging or destroying school property.
- Sending abusive/threatening emails, text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communications (including social media) to school staff or PTA members.
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school on social media sites. \*
- The use of physical, verbal or written aggression towards another adult or child.
- Approaching someone else's child in order to discuss or chastise them because of the actions of this child towards their own child or others. (Such an approach to a child may be seen to be an assault on that child and may have legal consequences.)
- Smoking, vaping, taking illegal drugs or the consumption of alcohol on school premises. Alcohol may be consumed during authorised events e.g. Decoyfest.

**To read our full Code of Conduct for Parents, Carers and Visitors, please visit the school [website](#).**

\*Please address any issues, that may arise, directly with the school.

# Transition Day

**3<sup>rd</sup> July 2025**

All children will spend the day in their new classrooms with their new class teachers and teaching assistants.

Where we feel there is a need to do so (eg. SEND needs, friendship difficulties etc), we reorganise the classes. This year, we will be reorganising the current Reception and Year 2 cohorts. Parents/carers of children in these year groups, will be consulted prior to the transition day.

Parents/carers will be informed of their child's class teacher/new class on 2<sup>nd</sup> July.

Most Y6 pupils will be on their transition days to secondary school on 3<sup>rd</sup> July. Any Y6 pupils who are not on a transition day, will be expected to attend school as normal.

## PTA

We cannot thank the PTA enough for their hard work, boundless energy and determination to do amazing things to support the school. Whether dressing up for events, arranging work parties to develop the school grounds or coming up with new and creative ideas to raise money, their efforts are making a huge difference to the school.

Thank you to everyone who has supported the events by giving donations, painting fences, taking part in the lottery, buying cakes etc.

We love our new outdoor classroom, the redesigned Key Stage 1 playground and meadow area. We cannot wait to see what exciting things happen next.

### This term's events:

Thursday 5th June – Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	Penny Wars
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	Dads and Lads PTA Gift Shop (for Father's Day)
Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	Decoyfest

## Reception Starters 2025

If you have a child starting in Reception in September 2025, you should have already received a starter pack with key information and dates. If you have not received your pack, please check with the school office.

### Dates for Reception Starters:



Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	New Reception Stay and Play (3.45-4.30pm)
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	New Reception Transition Session 1 (1-2.30pm)
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	New Reception Transition Session 2 (1-2.30pm)
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Transition Morning/Afternoon (specific session to be confirmed)
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	New Reception Parents Meeting (6-7pm)
Week beginning 14 <sup>th</sup> July	New Reception Home Visits (not for families with children at First Steps Nursery)

# School Values



We are in the process of reconsidering our school values and would like your thoughts and ideas. At the present time, our school values are:

- Have a go
- Make the right choices
- Try your best
- Think of others

The school's '**golden rule**' is to treat others as you would like them to treat you.

It is important that a school has a shared set of values that are lived out and celebrated by all members of the school community. Although we think the above 'values' are essential learning attitudes and behaviour expectations, they are not necessarily the fundamental principles that serve as a compass to guide the overall culture of the school – its pupils, staff, families, governors, visitors and community.

We need your help! To share your thoughts about the school's values, please [click here](#).

## Parking, Driving and Road Crossings

It would not be a Decoy Community Primary School newsletter without a reminder about driving, parking and keeping safe on the roads, especially around the school.

To help everyone to be safe:

- Do not park or stop in the Parking D outside the main school gates whilst the school gates are open, unless you are a blue badge holder or permission has been given by the school in relation to exceptional circumstances. If permitted to use this area, please return to your car and leave as soon as possible once you have dropped off/collected so that other users are not forced to reverse out.
- Collect a parking permit for Decoy Park car park from the school office. This permit gives you 30 minutes of **free** parking at the start and end of the school day. Be aware that this permit is invalid if the parking attendant sees you or your children using the park's facilities during this time. If you wish to use the facilities, you must pay for a parking ticket.
- Use the unofficial one-way system along Deer Park Road. Enter St. Michael's Road, from the mini-roundabout, then turn right into Deer Park Road - this helps the traffic to flow easily.
- Do not park on the double yellow lines on the corner of Deer Park Road and Kingskerswell Road. Vehicles parked in this area block lines of sight for pedestrians and drivers. This is especially dangerous for pedestrians accessing Decoy Park's playing fields via the lane.
- Please be considerate of local residents and do not block access to their properties. We pride ourselves on being a primary school at the heart of a thriving local community – we want to maintain positive relationships with the school's neighbours.

## Attendance Matters!



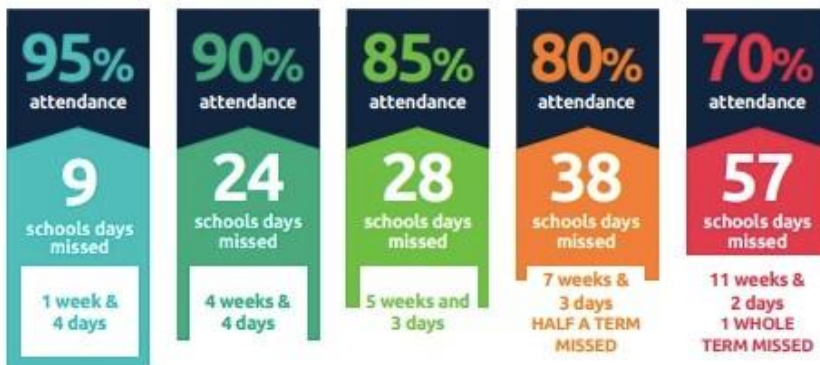
Every Student, Every School, Every Day

### Congratulations Chaffinches!

97% attendance for the class is very impressive and considerably above local and national attendance for this academic year.

Chaffinch	97.0%
Dragonfly	95.9%
Eagles	94.9%
Falcons	95.7%
Kestrels	94.2%
Kingfisher	95.7%
Ladybirds	95.1%
Mallards	93.9%
Owls	95.3%
Partridges	94.6%
Puffins	94.4%
Swans	96.2%
Woodpecker	95.3%
Wrens	94.9%
National	94.8%
Local Authority	95.0%

### Every day in school counts...



### and every minute counts...



If your child arrives after the register has closed (9:00am), your child is marked as absent for the morning session.

If a child arrives at 9am everyday, they miss 10 days of learning time every year compared to classmates who walk through the gates at 8.45am.

If your child has 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week rolling period, you may be issued with a penalty notice. They do not have to be consecutive days. The first penalty notice is £160. This can be reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days – this reduction does not apply to any subsequent penalty notice. A second penalty notice, to the same parent for the same child, issued within three years of the date of the first penalty notice, is charged at a flat rate of £160. A third penalty notice will not be issued within a three year rolling period - alternative action or legal measures may be taken.

Penalty notices are issued per parent-per child. So, a family of four with two parents and two children would receive a first penalty notice totalling £640 for the family (reduced to £320 if paid within 21 days). If we suspect that a family has gone on holiday but contacted the school to report that their child is unwell, a penalty notice may still be issued.

The school follows government and local authority expectations when managing school attendance.