

Durand Primary School

Newsletter

Summer 2023 Issue Final



Learning Together, Achieving Together
Dysgu Gyda'n Gilydd, Cyflawni Gyda'n Gilydd

It's hard to believe that the end of this academic year is here! I would like to thank all of you, as part of our Durand Primary School family, for your continued support. As staff we really appreciate the community spirit around our school!



We finish school for this academic year on Friday 21st July. **Please note that the new school year for all our children begins on Monday 4th September as Friday 1st September will be a training day.**

Sports Day

A huge thank you to everyone who joined us for our Sports Days I am sure that you will agree that it was a fantastic experience for everyone involved. The winning house for both the track events was Wye and for the field events it was Usk! Congratulations! Also, a great big thank you to Mrs Noblet for organising all the events.



Forest School Donations

We would like to say a **HUGE THANK YOU** to **CROWNHILL TOPSOIL & AGGREGATES LIMITED** owned by **Emma and Simon Stone**, with a particular thank you to **Alexandra Stone** for organising their extremely **generous donation** for our Forest School area. They very kindly donated soil for a mud kitchen, bedding plants, and stone for the base for a shed to be based within the forest.



School Office

As you know Mrs Williamson is retiring and finishes at the end of term. Mrs Salisbury is taking over the role of administrator and will be available every morning outside the main entrance to receive messages or answer any queries. During the day, please telephone the school or email and Mrs Salisbury will be able to help with enquiries - durandprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk or telephone 01291 422296. In the case of an emergency during the school day parents should ring the buzzer at the security gate and speak to the office staff.

Training Days

There are six training days to be taken during the 2023-24 academic year. The dates that Mrs Kilbourn has allocated for these are:

Friday 1st September

Thursday 21st December

Friday 22nd December

Friday 9th February

Monday 3rd June

Plus one more - to be kept should we need to close for election purposes.

Summer Reading Challenge

Once again, this year we have had a huge focus on reading, and we are delighted with the results we are seeing with our pupils. In order to continue to foster a joy for reading don't forget that your children can take part in the Summer Reading Challenge at the local library! This year the theme is 'Ready, Set, Read!' and the challenge runs until Saturday 16th September.



Staff News

As you know we are very sadly saying good-bye to a number of staff as they either retire and / or move on to new adventures. We wish Mrs Williamson, Mrs Collier and Mr Edwards a long and happy retirement. Good luck to Mrs Noblet, Mrs Middleton, Mr Wilks, Mrs Dolbel and Mrs Seymour for their future ventures.

We have already welcomed Mr Lane as our new caretaker and look forward to Mrs Perry joining the team, as a member of the teaching staff, in September alongside Mrs Kilbourn who is coming to take on the role of Headteacher.

We would also like to wish Miss Goff the best of luck as she is due to get married during the summer break and will return in September as Mrs Sheldrake.

Term Dates for 2023-2024

Term	Term begins	Half term begins	Half term ends	Term ends
Autumn	1-9-2023	30-10-2023	3-11-2023	22-12-2023
Spring	8-1-2024	12-2-2024	16-2-2024	22-3-2024
Summer	8-4-2024	27-5-2024	31-5-2024	19-7-2024

Plus May Bank Holiday on Monday 6th May 2023

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish our leavers all the best in their new school. They have been a credit to us here at Durand and we are very proud of them. **GOOD LUCK!**

Thank you for your support this year and over the years. It really has been an absolute honour to be the Headteacher at Durand Primary School. I will miss all the wonderful children, they are a credit to you all. This school is truly an amazing place to be!

I hope everyone has a very enjoyable summer break!



Take care, stay safe!

Good-bye to you all!

**Mrs Allison Waters
Headteacher / Pennaeth**