



# NEWSLETTER 1 – 19th September 2025

‘Let your light shine’

[www.derryhillschool.co.uk](http://www.derryhillschool.co.uk)

Welcome back!

I trust you all had a lovely summer break and are looking forward to another exciting year at Derry Hill School. It was so lovely to see the children returning happy and excited to see their friends and continue their learning. Staff worked hard throughout the summer preparing the school for our children’s return and to welcome our new families to Derry Hill School. This year we welcome Mrs Kimberley Brown as our new School Business Manager and Mrs Hayley Sanders as a new MDSA.

It was lovely to see so many parents attending our ‘Meet the Teacher’ sessions – we hope these were of value and that you were able to start the year well informed and ready to support your child in the next phase of their education. We firmly believe that by working together with families your children will gain the greatest success. With this in mind please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any concerns or niggling worries regarding any issues at school – we can only help if we are aware of things that may be affecting your child’s school experience – no concern is too small. We are hopeful that the school events information sent out in July and September has helped you to plan for the events that will happen throughout the year and we have also ensured that these events are on the calendar on the school website for your reference.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to our school.

Best wishes

Mrs Roberts

## Parking at drop off – pick up

Please can we remind you that the Village Hall Car Park is the safest and suggested place to park at drop off and pick up times. As you know Church Road gets very busy at drop off and pick up times with the large volume of cars undertaking school journeys but also with the general passing traffic through the village. As a school we have no control of the traffic flow however we would like to encourage as many parents as possible to park in the Village Hall car park to avoid further congestion on Church Road.

Many thanks for your cooperation.

## DIARY DATES

DATE	ACTIVITY	ADDITIONAL INFO
Monday 22nd September	Dormouse Phonics Session for Parents	3.30pm (Dormouse Class)
Wednesday 24th September	Mole & Squirrel Class Cake Bake	3.15pm ( Front Playground)
Friday 3rd October	Harvest Festival	9.15am (Church)
Wednesday 8th October	Parents Evening	3.30pm till 6.30pm (School Hall)
Thursday 9th October	Individual & Sibling Photographs	All Day Event (School Hall)
Wednesday 15th October	Parents Evening	3.30pm till 6.30pm (School Hall)
Friday 17th October	Friends of Derry Hill School AGM Meeting	9.15am (School Hall)
Monday 20th October	Fox Class trip to Bowood (Art Trip Trail)	10am till 3.15pm
Tuesday 21st October	Owl Class Family Learning Afternoon	2pm (School Hall)
Wednesday 22nd October	Non-Uniform Day	All Day Event (For Raffle Prizes for Christmas Bonanza)
<b>Wednesday 22nd October</b>	<b>End of Term 1</b>	<b>3.15pm</b>

### Mole & Squirrel Class Cake Bake

Mole and Squirrel classes will be holding a cake bake after school on **Wednesday 24th September**, on the front playground.

Please don't forget your cash and something to carry your cakes home in.

Thank you for your support.



### Class Wishlist's

Thank you so much to some of our lovely parents who have already purchased items from the Class Wishlist's – we appreciate your kindness and the children have really enjoyed receiving some surprise gifts already this year. Our Class Wishlist's were set up as a way of sharing much needed resources for school that our main funds do not stretch far enough to purchase. The gifts can be purchased by the FODHS committee and by parents directly. Another reason we created the Wishlist's is so that children can purchase a book or gift for their class on their birthday rather than bringing in sweets or cake to share (as we are unable to do this due to allergies).

### Harvest Festival - Friday 3rd October

This year we will be celebrating our Harvest Festival in church again.

The service will be starting at 9.15am and all are welcome to join us.

Harvest Festival is a time we can share with those in need, as usual we would be grateful for any donations of food brought in.

We would ask that these are non-perishable goods such as pasta and tinned food. Please no fresh produce this year!

Many thanks for your continued support.



### Daps (indoor shoes)

Please can we ask that all children bring a named pair of daps into school to be kept at school.

At present our children come to school in their PE kit and trainers meaning that the children undertake their PE lesson in the trainers they attend in. When the children then come into school after their PE lesson their trainers are often muddy or wet meaning that they are unable to wear them in school. A pair of daps in school will ensure that the children have a suitable pair of footwear to change into if their trainers get wet or muddy and it will also provide them with a pair of suitable shoes for indoor PE sessions. Please can they be sent in named and in a named shoe bag or carrier bag. Many thanks for your cooperation.

### Forest School

I am looking forward to starting our Forest School sessions with Mole and Hedgehog classes in Term 1, please note the dates below.

As we head into Autumn the weather is becoming wetter and colder, so please ensure your child comes into school suitably dressed for a session outdoors (no best clothes please) as they are likely to get muddy! We will be going out in all weathers so at the least a waterproof coat, and if possible, waterproof trousers too.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Hand

### Mole Class dates:

Tuesday: 23/09 30/09 07/10 14/10

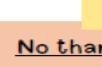
### Hedgehog Class dates:

Thursday: 25/09 02/10 09/10 16/10



### Doorway Harvest Wish List

#### Yes please, we really need...

-  Tinned tomatoes 
-  Baked beans
-  Tinned vegetables (including potatoes)
-  Tinned meat (e.g. corned beef, meat stew)
-  Tinned fish (tuna, mackerel, sardines etc)
-  Bags of pasta & rice
-  Packet soups, packet instant mash
-  Packet savoury noodles
-  Coffee & Tea
-  Tinned fruit
-  Tinned puddings & custard
-  Packets of biscuits, bars & cereal bars
-  Long life fruit / jelly pots
-  Individual cartons of fruit juice

#### No thanks, we have enough or can't

-  use....
- Tinned soup, tinned pulses
- Cereals & porridge
- Pot Noodles
- Jars of cooking sauce
- Jam & Chutney
- Fresh produce
- Catering-sized items
- Anything containing alcohol
- Anything that is past its best before date



## A little message from Miss Hopes

Hello parents! We are looking for a little bit of help in Dormouse Class so we are introducing our new 'donation station'. This will include lots of things we are hoping people can kindly donate to us if you are having a clear out at home. Each term we will update the list and will post a physical copy outside of the little kitchen next to Dormouse Class outdoor area. If you do have any of the items on the list that you are willing to donate, please either drop them into Dormouse Class or into the office.

Thank you very much in advance, we are very grateful!



**DORMOUSE CLASS**

# DONATION STATION

We are very fortunate to have lots of lovely resources in school, however we are always on the lookout for things to further inspire our children!

We would be extremely grateful if you were able to source/donate any of the following items (we will update this regularly so please keep an eye out!)



# SEPT 2025

## LOG SLICES

WE ARE LOOKING FOR LOTS OF LOG SLICES (VARYING SIZES)

MATHS: COUNTING, SHAPE AND SIZE, COMPARISON, MEASURE  
SMALL WORLD: SCENE SETTING, FAIRY GARDENS  
ART: PRINTING, NATURAL PORTRAITS, SCULPTURE



## WOODEN PLANKS

WHEN PAINTED WE WILL CREATE ROADS



WE ARE LOOKING FOR WOODEN PLANKS

SMALL WORLD: ROADS, RACE TRACKS, CONSTRUCTION  
EXPRESSIVE ART & DESIGN: IMAGINATIVE PLAY  
PHYSICAL: FINE + GROSS MOTOR SKILLS



## LAMPS

WE ARE LOOKING FOR LOTS OF LAMPS OF ALL SHAPES AND SIZES. WE ARE AIMING TO CREATE A CALM AND COSY CLASSROOM WITH ALTERNATIVE LIGHTING WHEN NOT NEEDING THE MAIN LIGHTS ON.

IF YOU HAVE ANY OLD LAMPS AT HOME (IN WORKING ORDER) THAT YOU WOULD BE WILLING TO DONATE, WE WOULD BE VERY GRATEFUL.



## BARBIE ACCESSORIES

WE ARE RUNNING LOW ON BARBIE ACCESSORIES (CLOTHES, SHOES, BAGS)

SMALL WORLD: PEOPLE  
EXPRESSIVE ART & DESIGN: IMAGINATIVE PLAY  
PHYSICAL: FINE MOTOR SKILLS



# TECHNOLOGY FOCUS

We would love to create a new area in the classroom focussing on technology and the ever evolving world around us. If you have any of the following items at home and are able to donate, we will be forever thankful!

## TYPE WRITER

WE ARE LOOKING FOR A TYPEWRITER (DOES NOT NEED TO BE IN WORKING ORDER BUT WOULD BE GREAT IF IT WAS)

LITERACY: LETTER FORMATION, LETTER RECOGNITION  
EXPRESSIVE ART + DESIGN: IMAGINATIVE PLAY  
PSED: PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS, LOGICAL REASONING  
PHYSICAL: FINE MOTOR



## CD PLAYER

YES WE MAY BE SLIGHTLY MAD FOR SUGGESTING THIS... BUT WE ARE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR A CD PLAYER (IN WORKING ORDER). CHILD APPROPRIATE CD'S WOULD BE A BONUS!

UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD: TECHNOLOGY, TOYS FROM THE PAST, CULTURAL AWARENESS  
EXPRESSIVE ART + DESIGN: MUSIC  
PHYSICAL SKILLS: GROSS MOTOR (DANCING/MOVING TO MUSIC), FINE MOTOR



# FOREST SCHOOL

Mrs Hind is also on the lookout for a few bits to enhance our fabulous forest school area. We would be grateful if you are having a clearout perhaps and could donate any of the following...

## NATURAL MATERIALS

- CONKERS
- WOOD OFFCUTS

## KITCHEN EQUIPMENT

- WHISKIS
- POTATO MASHERS
- SIEVES

## WATERPROOFS

- COATS
- TROUSERS
- ALL IN ONES

## GUTTERING

## WOOL

# AMAZON WISHLIST

We also have an amazon wishlist! Please do not feel obliged at all to purchase anything from this list but if you would like too we would be extremely grateful.

## QR CODE



