



Downton Church of England VA Primary School

Gravel Close, Downton, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP5 3LZ

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Headteacher: Mrs Paula Carlton BA (Hons) QTS NPQH

Acting Deputy Headteacher: Mrs M Ford BA (Hons)



Monday 5th September 2022

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to another great year of learning. I would like to extend a warm welcome to all of our families old and new. I hope that you have all had a lovely summer.

We would like to extend an especially warm welcome to our new families – Ivan, Diana, Arlo, Yuliia, Slava, Harrison, Phoebe, Molly, Isla, Jack, Callie and Taylor. We hope you will all have many happy days with us here at Downton Primary School.

Whether your child is new to school, or they are simply returning to us after the summer, rest assured that they have an exciting year of learning ahead of them. This morning on the gate, it was most apparent the children have arrived excited and enthused for the adventures we have in store. Thank you all for always preparing them for the new school term so wonderfully. The start of the school year is always a moment of great anticipation and excitement at the gate and this year was no exception. Everyone was so happy to see one another again and were busy catching up. For us, the sound of laughter at playtime and in the hall at lunchtime has been a lovely reminder of the wonderful times ahead of us.

We are delighted to welcome our new teachers Miss Brown and Miss Till to our wonderful Year 1/2 team here at Downton. We are also pleased to share that Mr Hamilton has joined us as a teaching assistant. Please do say hello to them, when you see them!

Drop off and Pick Up

Arriving at School on time gives children the best, most settled start to their day and ensures a prompt start to their learning. This year all KS1, Year 5 and Year 6 children should come into school via the gate nearest the playground in the Memorial Gardens each day. Collection will be from the middle playground at 3:15pm.

Children in Years 3/4 should come into school via the white gates in Gravel Close and collected via the same entrance. A reminder that the arrival and pick up times for School with the exception of our Reception children are between 8:40am and 8:45am in the morning. After this time the main gates will be closed and secured. If you arrive after this time please come into the school office to sign your child in and order a lunch. We would ask that children stay on the footpath at this entrance, as there have been a few near misses over the last year.

If you are picking up siblings or children for other parents, for all children, we would ask that you drop off and pick up from the Memorial Gardens entrance. This applies to all year groups except Reception (who are collected at 3:05pm). This is because the school has grown significantly over the last three years and the Gravel Close entrance is no longer able to accommodate 277 children and their families.

After School Sports Clubs

Mr Hamilton has agreed to run some after school clubs, alongside our other provision. If your child is attending an after school sports club on a day which they do not have PE, please send their PE kit to school to change into at the end of the day. We would be grateful if you can ensure that all items are labelled and that they have everything with them when you collect them. Thank you.



Breakfast and After School Club

We appreciate that it can be frustrating if you cannot book a space at our wraparound care. Please note that we are unable to accept children above our staffing ratio, and hope that the new additional clubs on offer after school may help with this. Please note if you do not need a space please let us know at least 24 hours before so that we can offer the space to other families.

Uniform

Our children looked so smart as they arrived at School today. Thank you. It is very important that children are dressed smartly and in the correct uniform, as this positively influences learning behaviour. As always we will continue working hard to ensure that uniform standards across the school remain high and that children have the appropriate clothing for PE sessions. We would like to thank you all for your co-operation in this matter. Please note hair ties should be blue and modest.

Having all of our children coming into school today has been the most wonderful start to the term. I am looking forward to sharing lots of great things with you over the coming weeks and months.

Best wishes



Paula Carlton

