



Drayton Green Primary School

Newsletter 16.5.25

Whole school attendance this week = **93.4%**

Well done to **Year 6** who had **100%** attendance this week. Fantastic work Year 6!

This week our school improvement partner came to visit the school again. She has worked with Drayton Green for a few years and last saw the school in February. She was very impressed with what she observed in the teaching and with children's behaviour across the school and she said she is pleased to see the progress that has been made since her previous visits.

This term is a busy time of year for assessments, the Year 6 children sat the SATS this week and after half term it will be the Multiplication Check for Year 4 and the Phonics Screening Check for Year 1 and some Year 2 children. Thank you to all of the staff and parents who are helping to prepare the children in advance, keeping the children calm during their assessments and encouraging the children to try their best! It is tricky time of year but the staff are looking out for the wellbeing of the children and trying to make the process as simple and pain-free as possible, If you have any concerns about your children, please speak to the class teacher as soon as possible so we can support you and your child.

We will be having class photos taken on Tuesday 20th May. Please send your child/children in to school looking lovely and smart and wearing the correct uniform. You will need to order these photos direct from the company so please look out for a letter coming home with instructions for how to order the photos, if you would like to buy a copy.

Certificate winners

Well done to the following children who were awarded a certificate in assembly this week for their efforts with their work, behaviour and attitudes.

Reception – Aalia, Arya, Benjamin, Dee Jay, Sami

Year 1 – Anita, Dominik, Nadine, Sarah, Zia

Year 2 - Ahmad, Amara, Haya, Hiyaan, Ikram, Masih, Nilofar, Osman, Safaah, Seba

Dates to remember

Tuesday 20th May, at **9:00am** or **2:15pm** – RSHE parent workshop, open to all parents

Tuesday 20th May – class photos being taken

Thursday 22nd May – PTA cake sale after school

Friday 23rd May – last day of school for pupils before the holidays, school will be open as usual – 8:45am – 3:15pm.

Monday 26th May – Friday 30th May – Half term holiday (school closed)

SATS

Well done to all of our Year 6 children who tried their best during the SATs papers this week! It was a very hot week but they were superstars and persevered through the heat and tricky questions!

The staff were very impressed at how mature the Year 6 children were! They approached the tests in a positive manner and the children were pleased with how they had answered the questions when we asked them about it after they had finished each paper.

We were also very proud at how the children in the rest of the school behaved during the week, being careful to move around the school quietly so as not to disturb the children working. Thank you to the classes or children that worked in different spaces to enable the tests to take place in a calm and controlled area.

Class photos

The photographer will be coming in to school to take class photos on Tuesday 20th May. Please send your child into school looking smart and wearing the correct uniform. Please make sure their hair is neat and long hair is tied back.

If your child is having their haircut soon, please remember that we do not allow children to have patterns shaved into their hair!

If your child has not already had an individual photograph taken, we have asked the photographer to take their photograph on Tuesday. Unfortunately there will not be time to retake all children's photos, so this will just be an option for any children that did not have a photo taken in September.

Safety on the school site

Please do not allow your child to ride a scooter or bike on the playground!

The playground is very busy and we have lots of people walking across the school site at the beginning and end of the day, including toddlers or smaller children, people with mobility issues and buggies.

If your child rides a scooter or bike to school, please make sure they get off and push it through the school playground to avoid anyone being knocked over or hurt.

The children are allowed to leave their scooters or bikes in school during the school day but please make sure they are left securely in the designated bike/scooter shelters on the playgrounds. We cannot accept any responsibility for any lost or damaged scooters/bikes so please make sure they are locked using a chain and padlock to prevent children taking the wrong scooter home by mistake.

PTA cake sale

The PTA are holding a fundraising event to raise money for some fun activities for our Year 6 children to do before they leave Drayton Green and move on to their secondary schools in September. They need your help!

They are holding a cake sale after school on **Thursday 22nd May**.

If you are able to, please donate some cakes for the PTA to sell at the cake sale – ideally cup cakes, biscuits or individual/small cakes as they are easier to hand out!

These can be shop bought or home made cakes but please do not buy or make anything that contains nuts and if you are donating homemade items, please let us know if there are any allergens in the recipe!

Please bring any donations to the school office on Wednesday 21st May after school or **Thursday 22nd May** before school.

The cake sale will be in the playground or the gym after school, it will be cash only so please come prepared with coins or £5 notes if you would like to buy some cakes.

Applying for Free School Meals

We sent out a letter to all parents/carers from the Mayor of London this week, please see the letter below if you haven't seen it.

You may have heard that the Government are considering stopping the provision of universal free school meals for children in years 3-6, however the Mayor of London is continuing to offer a free lunch to all children in primary schools.

This is amazing news because it means that all of your children can get a free hot meal every day.

Although this has helped lots of families, the school can also access more funding for the school, which is desperately needed, if parents/carers still apply for the Pupil Premium grant (Free School meals)

If you receive any benefits from the Government or have no recourse to public funds we can apply for Pupil Premium funding, which could bring the school an extra £1,480 in funding **per child**, to provide resources, learning support or help families out with paying for trips, uniforms, etc.

Please click here to apply or see if you are eligible for the grant;

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

To qualify for free school meals, a pupil or their parents must receive one or more of the following:

- Income Support or Income based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit (if not eligible for Working Tax Credit and have a yearly household income below £16,190)
- Guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Support under part VI of the immigration and asylum Act 1999
- Universal Credit (household yearly net income must be below £7,400 after tax)

To qualify for free school meals when you have no recourse to public funds (NRPF), your families' yearly household income must be no higher than:

- £31,200 for families within London with one child
- £34,800 for families within London with two or more children

If the information above applies to you and you would like more information, please contact the school office.

Please note that the school do not get to know your personal information, if you apply online, the school are informed that you qualify for Pupil Premium but no other information is shared!

MAYOR OF LONDON

Date: May 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

Delivering universal free school meals (UFSM) in London's primary schools has been one of my proudest achievements. I am delighted that all primary school children in state-funded schools will continue to receive free school meals for as long as I am Mayor.

Over the last two academic years, I have seen first-hand the transformative impact of this important intervention, ensuring that no child goes hungry and giving all children the best possible chance to succeed.

At a time when the cost of living is still so high, I hope this program has offered some financial relief to your family – potentially saving parents and carers over £500 per year per child. It is hugely encouraging to see research show that UFSM in London are also improving nutrition, behaviour, concentration, energy levels and parent-school relationships.

Even though your child will continue receiving free school meals automatically, it remains vitally important to register for the Government's free school meals if you meet the criteria.

This will ensure you receive other benefits you may be entitled to, like food vouchers during the holidays. It could also bring the school an extra £1,480 in funding per child. That is more money for extra-curricular activities, teacher development, and support for children who need it most.

Please visit <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals> or speak to your school for further information on how to register.

I am immensely proud that we have funded over 70 million free school meals to date, with hundreds of thousands of London's primary school children benefitting every day. I know this is just one part of the help families need to support their families.

I will continue to do all I can to support Londoners of all backgrounds, as we build a fairer, better and healthier London for everyone.

I have been writing to you with updates termly since I announced this programme in 2023. Now that we near the end of the second year of UFSM, there will be fewer updates to provide you with, so I will only write to you if and when there is new information to share.

I also want to thank you, the parents and carers, for the role you play in building the strong and caring communities that help your children to have the best start in life. Working together, we can build a London that is healthier, fairer and more prosperous for everyone.

Yours sincerely,

