

Weekly Bulletin no.1256

Friday 13th February 2026



This week was one full of celebrations! We enjoyed delicious Pancakes for **Pancake Day** and partied at our discos for **Valentine's Day**. Congratulations to all of our **attendance winners**. **Prizes will be handed out after half term.**

Parents'/ Carers' evening is now live on ParentPay. Please book early to get the time that you want. This is the link for booking:

[SchoolCloud - Darnhall Primary School](#)

It is important you check if your child(ren) are eligible for **free school meals** as this allows many benefits for example the holiday clubs, meal vouchers, subsidy on some trips etc. Don't miss out if eligible. Please check today. <https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/education-and-learning/free-school-meals>. Also can you please make sure that all of your contact details are up to date by letting us know - phone numbers, addresses etc. School reopens on **Monday 23rd February**. Please ensure to order lunches and snacks in advance on ParentPay for the first week back.

THE IMPORTANCE OF ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY!

Achievement is directly linked to attendance and punctuality.

Children with high levels of attendance make better progress and succeed in school.

Every Minute Counts!

Lateness = Lost Learning Time • Over one academic year

Minutes Late	Days Lost
5	5
6.5	6.5
10	10
13	13
19	19

- ✓ Pack your school bag the night before
- ✓ Hang up/set out your uniform items
- ✓ Set your alarm
- ✓ Arrive at Darnhall Nursery and Primary School by 8.30am each day!

Monday

23rd February

School Reopens

Wednesday

25th February

Swimming Year 5

Friday

20th March

Red Nose Day

Friday

20th March

Red Nose Day

Tuesday

31st March

Nursery Stay and Play

Other Darnhall News

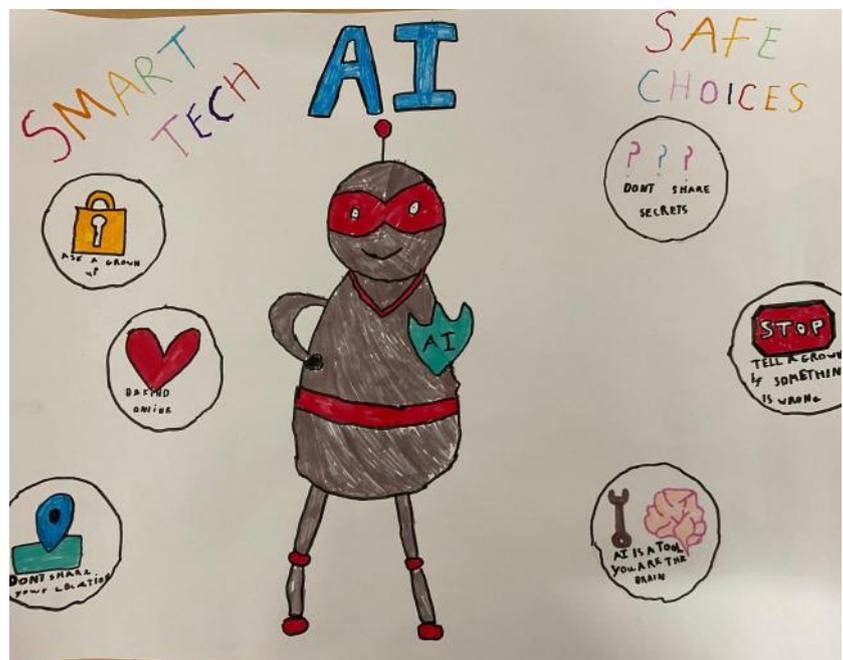
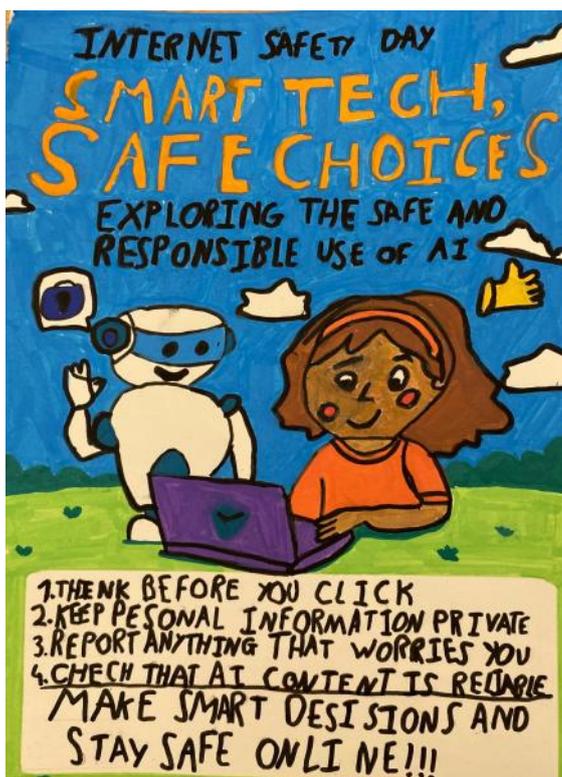
Thank you for all of the brilliant **E-Safety Poster** Competition entries!

The judging panel, including PC Andy Ward, who delivered our E-Safety Workshops over the past two days, have selected a winner!

Well done to the creator of this poster - you have won the £20 Amazon Gift Voucher!

As we had so many super entries, we have also selected two runners-up who will also receive a prize in school!

Here is our winner!



Dear Parents and Carers of Dragonfly and Butterfly Classes

We are delighted to invite you to attend a **Creative Junk Modelling Session** with your child/children.



This will be a fun, hands-on session where you and your child can work together to create models using recycled and reusable materials. It's a lovely opportunity to be creative, spend time together, and enjoy learning through play.

Session details: Location: KS2 Hall | Time: 2:00pm – 3:10pm
Dates: Friday 27th February 2026, Tuesday 10th March 2026, Monday 16th March 2026

There will be 15 places available per session, so booking is essential. Places should be booked via ParentPay, and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.



We hope as many of you as possible are able to join us and look forward to welcoming you to this creative event.



Please could we request that you collect any packaging or recycling and bring it into school at your earliest convenience to help resource this event.

Red Nose Day is back on Friday 20th March 2026!



Do something funny for money!

Children can come to school in their own clothes and are invited to wear something silly.

Classes will be holding joke contests on the day.



Please send your child in with 50p to wear something silly and 50p if they would like to enter the joke contest.



Nursery Stay & Play

Easter themed egg hunt stay and play
Tuesday 31st March 2026

AM children 10:30am-11:15am

PM children 2:15pm-3:00pm

One special person to attend the session. No younger siblings can attend due to limited space.



A big well done to this week's
attendance winners

Otter Class

who had a fantastic attendance
this week of **98%**



They have been rewarded with 15
minutes of extra outdoor play.



Important Information Regarding Holidays

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Government discourages the taking of holidays in term time. Evidence shows that children who miss school do not achieve as well as those who attend regularly.



As of September 2013, the law restricted a Headteacher's ability to authorise holidays during term time, Headteachers are now only empowered to approve a leave of absence when it is requested in advance by the parent or carer with whom the child resides, and when circumstances of the requested leave are 'exceptional'.

A new National Framework for Penalty Notices for School Absence will come into effect from the 19th August 2024. Should you choose to take a holiday for 5 consecutive school days or more during term time the Local Authority will be informed as this will constitute an unauthorised absence. A Fixed Penalty Notice will then be issued in accordance with Section 444 of the Education Act 1996.

The law stipulates that the current penalties payable by parents/carers are £80 when the penalty is paid within 21 days, and £160 when the penalty is paid within 28 days. This penalty is per parent/carer, per child. If the fixed penalty is not paid this could lead to you being prosecuted in the Magistrates' Court.

Where it is deemed appropriate to issue a second **penalty notice** to the same parent for the same pupil within 3 years of the first notice, the second notice is charged at a flat rate of £160 if paid within 28 days.

In cases where there have been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence within a 3 year period of the date of the first absence and if there is a 3rd occasion of unauthorised absence (10 sessions), alternative action will be taken instead. This will often include considering prosecution, but may include other tools such as one of the other attendance legal interventions.

If you require any further information regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact school and speak to **Katie Harrop** or email: contact@darnhall.cheshire.sch.uk

Kind regards,

Mrs Sarah Tomlinson
Headteacher

Darnhall Primary School, Sandyhill Road, Winsford, Cheshire CW7 1JL

Telephone: (01606) 593315 | Email: contact@darnhall.cheshire.sch.uk

Website: www.darnhall.cheshire.sch.uk | Facebook: www.facebook.com/DarnhallPrimarySchool

Here is the link
to our
**Wrap-around
Care
booking system**

[https://
darnhall.childcare
-online-
booking.co.uk](https://darnhall.childcare-online-booking.co.uk)

We offer Breakfast
Club on both sites
starting at 8am.
Home Hub After
School Club takes
place in the KS2
building and starts at
3:15pm until 6pm.

Darnhall Doodlebugs

Every Friday at 2:15pm-3:00pm

KS1 Hall

Sing, Play, Imagine & Create –
Big Adventures for Little Doodlebugs!



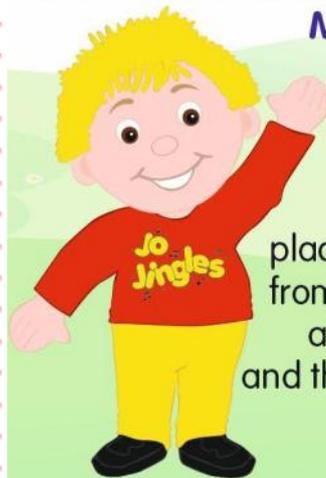
Toddler Groups At Darnhall Primary

Jo Jingles™

Est. 1995

sessions for parents
and carers with babies and toddlers!

Mondays in the **Key
Stage 2 Hall** from
8:45am - 9:30am



Sessions will take
place every week, apart
from the first week back
after a school holiday
and the last week of each
half term.

Sessions are FREE. No need to book

Please note, in the rare event that a class is cancelled, you will be notified via the Darnhall Nursery and Primary School Facebook page.



PopCat's Music Time

FREE Social interaction
for parents and their little ones.
MUSIC & MOVEMENT FOR 0 to 5 YEARS

12 places available.

Please note, in the
rare event that a
class is cancelled,
you will be notified
via the Darnhall
Nursery and
Primary School
Facebook page.

Dates:

Thursday 15th January 2026
Thursday 22nd January 2026
Thursday 29th January 2026
Thursday 5th February 2026
Thursday 5th March 2026
Thursday 12th March 2026
Thursday 26th March 2026

9:00am in the KS2 Hall

Our School Day



Nursery

(Ladybirds and Caterpillars)

Session 1: **8:30am – 11:30am**

Session 2: **12:15pm - 3:15pm**

Reception, Year 1 & 2

School Day Begins: **8:30am**

Morning Break: **10:30am - 10:45am**

Lunchtime: **12:15pm - 1:00pm**

School Day Ends: **3:10pm**



Year 3, 4, 5 & 6

School Day Begins: **8:30am**

Morning Break: **10:30am - 10:45am**

Lunchtime: **12:15pm - 1:00pm**

School Day Ends: **3:15pm**



Owl Class

(Resource Provision)

School Day Begins: **8:30am**

Morning Break: **10:30am - 10:45am**

Lunchtime: **12:15pm - 1:00pm**

School Day Ends: **3:00pm**



Dream, Believe, Learn, Achieve

Cheshire West & Chester

HAF

Holiday Activities & Food



Funded by the Department for Education (DfE) as part of the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme



Department for Education

FREE

February

HOLIDAY CLUBS

for eligible free school meal children
across West Cheshire



Scan me

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL...

Please scan the QR code and contact the relevant provider using our interactive online map.

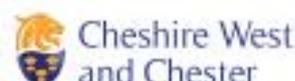
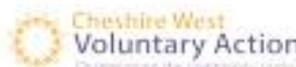


KEEP UP WITH ALL THE HOLIDAY FUN ON OUR SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES....

 Go_cheshirewest and EdsentialUK

 Cheshire West and Chester Council and EdsentialUK #HAF2025

If you would like help booking please call **01244 977394** or email **HAF@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk**



Holiday Dates 2025/2026



HOLIDAY PERIOD	DATE OF CLOSING	DATE OF RE-OPENING
Autumn Term		Wednesday 3rd September 2025
Autumn Half Term	Friday 24th October 2025	Tuesday 4th November 2025
Christmas	Thursday 18th December 2025	Monday 5th January 2026
Spring Half Term	Friday 13th February 2026	Monday 23rd February 2026
Spring Break	Wednesday 1st April 2026	Monday 20th April 2026
May Day Weekend	Friday 1st May 2026	Tuesday 5th May 2026
Summer Half Term	Friday 22nd May 2026	Tuesday 2nd June 2026
Summer	Wednesday 22nd July 2026	

Inset Days 2025/2026

Monday 1st September 2025 Friday 19th December 2025
 Tuesday 2nd September 2025 Monday 1st June 2026
 Monday 3rd November 2025

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Holiday Dates 2026/2027



HOLIDAY PERIOD	DATE OF CLOSING	DATE OF RE-OPENING
Autumn Term		Wednesday 2nd September 2026
Autumn Half Term	Friday 23rd October 2026	Tuesday 3rd November 2026
Christmas	Friday 18th December 2026	Tuesday 5th January 2027
Spring Half Term	Friday 12th February 2027	Monday 22nd February 2027
Spring Break	Thursday 25th March 2027	Monday 12th April 2027
May Day Weekend	Closed: Monday 3rd May 2027	
Summer Half Term	Friday 28th May 2027	Monday 7th June 2027
Summer	Friday 16th July 2027	

Inset Days 2026/2027

Tuesday 1st September 2026 Tuesday 20th July 2027
 Monday 2nd November 2026 Wednesday 21st July 2027
 Monday 19th July 2027

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