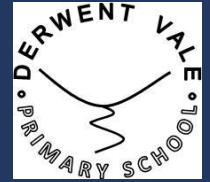
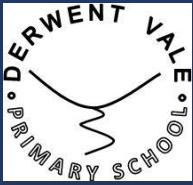


Derwent Vale Primary & Nursery School

Newsletter

17th April 2026



★ Star of the Week ★

Nursery & Reception

Reggie – for fantastic listening and being a lovely classmate

Year 1/2

Elias – for a wonderful abstract piece of art

Year 3/4

Mya – for sharing her great knowledge of the Amazon river

Year 5/6

Travis – for using bar models to solve missing angle problems in Maths

Highest Attendance this week:

Year 5/6 97.5%

Governor Vacancies

We currently have some vacancies for new governors to join our governing body. You do not need to have had any experience in schools or as a governor and you would be well supported by our current governors. If you are interested or know anyone who would be, please contact the school office for more information. Thank you.

Nursery Applications

We are now accepting applications to our nursery for children who are due to start in September 2026 and January 2027. If you have a child who will turn 3 before September or January or know someone who does, please contact the school office for an application form or more details.

Year 3/4 Multi-Sports After School Club

There are still a limited number of places available for the Year 3/4 Multi-sports after school club which starts on Tuesday 21st April, 3.15 – 4.15pm and will run weekly until the first week after the May half term. If you would like a place for your child, please email admin@derwentvale.cumbria.sch.uk. Thank you.



Staffing Update

We are sad to let you know that Mrs Steel will be leaving us this term following some health problems. We are going to miss having her as part of our team and wish her the best of luck in her new role outside of education. Miss Casacuberta has joined the Nursery/Reception team to cover Mrs Steel's sickness absence on a temporary basis as Mrs Bell has left us for a while. Mrs Bell will be returning to cover Miss Rhodes maternity leave in September. The recruitment process for a permanent Nursery/Reception teacher from September is underway and we will update you when this has been carried out.



Achieving Together

Whole School Attendance

93.8%

Below target

Our Local Authority target is 96%.

Feet First 5 day Active Travel Challenge

Our school will be taking part in the county wide Feet First 5-day Active Travel Challenge starting on **Monday 20th April** and finishing on **Friday 24th April**. The challenge is for pupils and their families to choose an active way of getting to school as many times as possible over the 5-day period, supporting active journeys on the school run.



There are prizes for everybody who completes the challenge, as well as the chance to win a whole school prize, so we would love everyone to take part. Walking, using a mobility aid such as a wheelchair, cycling, skating, scooting, and park & stride are all active ways of travelling, and we hope by taking part in the challenge it will:

- Improve health and wellbeing of our pupils and families
- Encourage pupils and families to be more active
- Reduce congestion and parking problems around our school
- Reduce our school community's collective carbon footprint
- Promote active travel for the school run and encourage families to continue to do this after the challenge ends
- Be good fun!

Each child will receive their own card to record their active journeys. Those pupils who have recorded at least one active journey on the card at the end of the challenge will be awarded an individual prize.

We understand that it's not always possible for families to walk with their children to school for the entire journey, but if you live a long way from school, you can still take part by parking further away and walking the last part of your journey, (Park & Stride), or by car sharing with another family. Children who use school transport during the active challenge week will be able to collect stickers as this helps to reduce individual car use. Thank you.

Upcoming dates

Monday 20th – Friday 24th April

Walk to School Week

Tuesday 21st April

Year 3/4, 5/6 Yoga

Year 3/4 Multi-sports after school club

Wednesday 22nd April

Year 6 SATs after school club

Thursday 23rd April

Year 3/4 Forest School

Year 3/4 Rugby

Tuesday 28th April

Year 3/4, 5/6 Yoga

Year 3/4 Multi-sports after school club

Wednesday 29th April

Year 6 SATs after school club

Thursday 30th April

Year 3/4 Forest School

Monday 4th May

School closed for Bank Holiday

