



Darley Class Newsletter

Autumn 1 – September 2026

Working together to

inspire nurture empower

Welcome Back & Updates

Welcome back! We hope you've all had a fantastic summer and are ready for an exciting new school year.

I'm **Jordan, the Class Teacher**, and I'll be working alongside our fantastic team: **Shannon, Katy & Parween (Teaching Assistants)** and **Abbie & Hayley (Personal Care Assistants)**.

We're all really excited to get to know the students and support them with their learning, development and achievements throughout the year.

If you need to discuss anything, please feel free to contact me by phone or email (**Jordan.Thompson@ivy.set.org**), and we can arrange a chat. The **school diaries** will also be used to share information from the day.

We're so excited to get started and look forward to a fantastic year in **Darley Class!**

Key Concepts and Skills

Our theme for this half term is 'Having fun and trying new activities'. Whilst we will have plenty of fun enjoying our familiar routines and activities, hopefully each student will have an opportunity to experience some things they're less familiar with or have never come across before. In addition to increasing your child's cultural capital, we will be ensuring their learning touches each of curriculum areas of **Health and Wellbeing, Life Skills, Communication and Friendships** and **Creative**. This half term's home learning suggestions are inspired by some of the scenes and happenings from our topic text: Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream.'

Reminders / additional information



If it is appropriate for your child to have snack, please use Arbor to pay for it. We have a range of snack options, including yoghurts, crisps, biscuits and juice.

This half term our hydro day is **Monday** but please send in your child's kit at the beginning of the week as we may take them in whenever there is a space. Please include a costume/trunks, 2 towels and some body wash/shampoo.



Please ensure your child has a set of spare clothes in school at all times. thank you.



Home Learning Curriculum Ideas

Skills For Life



Exercise all of your senses as you explore a magical world inhabited by fairies:

- Focus on and track lights as they appear in a darkened room
- Manipulate shiny or glittery fabrics and materials as you watch the effect you are creating
- Notice the variety of smells and tastes of the liquids and foods you have in your cupboards

Health & Wellbeing



Have a good stretch, a massage or even a dance as you listen to Felix Mendelssohn's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream Overture'.

The music begins mysteriously and changes tempo several times; enjoy reacting differently to each different section.

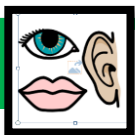
[YouTube Link](#)

[Spotify link](#)

[Apple Music link](#)



Communication Community and Friendship



Animals, insects and wild beats are all mentioned in the play. You could:

- spend quality time with a pet or soft toy.
- feel the sensation of an insect crawling across your skin.
- visit an animal park or zoo
- Listen to different sounds that the animals or insects might make!

Creativity, Contributions & Choices



Can you make table decorations for the three weddings that take place?

- Go on a nature walk
- Collect some of the beautiful and textured things you find along the way
- Explore them more closely once you are home
- Arrange them on your table, tray or bed
- Snap a photo and send it to us so we can share it with the class

Makaton signing

This half term we will be **'having fun and trying new activities'**. Here are some signs that might come in handy: if you would a 'how to' video, let us know.



new



Pat chest gently

like



Index fingers move upwards with a twist

different