

April 2024 Newsletter

Message from Mr Yellop

As we come to the end of another busy term, I would like to thank our families and staff for all their hard work and support over the spring term. Our Year 4 are currently on residential (two days) at Castleton Youth Hostel and we look forward to our Year 6 residential at the end of June. This is a three-day residential at Whitehall (a Derbyshire run outdoor adventure centre).

Thank you to everyone who helped support World Down's Syndrome Day by wearing different socks.



Congratulations



A huge congratulations to Mrs Shaw who has given birth to a baby boy earlier this month. We hope they are enjoying some family time together.

All the best

At the end of this term, we say all the best to Mrs Chambers and Mrs Geeson who will be on maternity leave. Mrs Tolson and Mrs Chittenden take over teaching responsibility in Holly Class. Mr Allton takes over full responsibility in Lime Class.

Welcome

We welcome Mrs Crombie, who will be joining us as a Higher-Level Teaching Assistant in place of Miss Fox who left us earlier this term.

Red Nose Day

Thank you to everyone who supported Red Nose Day in school, we managed to raise £965.72. The Year 4 team arranged an excellent bake sale where children led the sales and showcased their entrepreneur skills.



Breaston Comedy Evening

A huge thank you to Candice Marsden and the rest of the team for organising the Breaston Comedy Evening. Lots of fun was had and it was a really successful night, raising a total of £312.16 for the PTA.

World Book Day

Thank you for all the effort from our families in making World Book Day such a success. We have updated the school website with some pictures of our staff and pupils (including Where's Wally!) We raised £656.99 from the school bookfair. A huge thank you to our families who have purchased books through our scholastic wish list.

Parent governor elections

After Easter we will be sending out information and nomination forms for elections for a parent governor vacancy. The term for a governor is four years, working towards the strategic growth of the school. Please have a think whether you know of another parent that would be able to help the school and commit to this role.

PTA Easter Trail

Remember that after school today we have our annual Easter Trail. We hope you will be able to join us for some Easter fun. It costs £1 for one entry and £1 a go for



the 'Guess Where the Bunny is Hiding' Easter hamper prize raffle.

Safeguarding

Our designated safeguarding leads are James Yellop, Adam Thurgood, Rachel Tittershill and Kirsty Shepherd. If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact one of our DSLs through the school office. Remember if you have immediate concerns about the welfare or safety of a child, please contact the police or Derbyshire Starting Point on 01629 533190.

Medicines in school

A reminder that all medicines (prescribed or non-prescription) will only be allowed into school accompanied by a fully completed consent form completed by a parent or guardian. This form can be collected and handed back to the school office. Medicines need to be handed to the school office in the original packaging, clearly labelled with the child's name. The school will only accept non-prescription medicines under exceptional circumstances and in consultation with office staff or the headteacher.

As pollen levels start to increase we are now advising parents to administer hayfever medication before coming into school. A letter and updated policy will follow after Easter.

School Places

Firfield has a great reputation and we are lucky to attract pupils from a wide (out of catchment) area. Due to declining birth rates, we have now got spaces in some of our classes. If you know of any families that require a place for next year, please ask them to contact the school office.

Annual Parish Council Meeting

The Annual Parish Council Meeting is on Tuesday 21st May at Breaston Methodist Church. Representatives from the school will be there to show our support for the local community, share our sustainable futures projects and advertise our recruitment opportunities on the Governing Body.

Sustainable Futures

Over Easter we will be launching our Parking Pledge. Please use the QR code below to complete the Microsoft Forms.



In return for agreeing to follow the pledge we will issue you with a Parking Pledge Sticker for your vehicle.

On Thursday 26th April our local PCSO will be in school at the end of the day to offer security marking for bicycles. This will be down on a first come basis. We will issue a Microsoft Forms to sign up after Easter.

Thank you to all our families that helped with our 'Big Walk and Wheel' Campaign, we managed to come 289th out of 884 large primary schools, which is amazing as a high percentage of our pupils come from out of area. On average 62% of children walked, scooted or biked to school, despite the rainy days.

Crossing Patrol

Due to personal circumstances, Pete the crossing patrol man who supervises our families on Sawley Road has had to make the difficult decision to step away from his role. I know his cheery smile will be greatly missed by us all and we wish him all the best for the future. We ask parents and carers to be extra careful whilst we have no crossing patrol.



School Crossing Vacancy

Derbyshire County Council are still hiring for a School Crossing Patrol for Sawley Road. If you are interested in this role, please contact either on:

Tel: 07768 554384

Or

school.crossing@derbyshire.gov.uk

Road Closure

We have received communication from Severn Trent that Sawley Road North will be closed from 8th April to 17th May 2024. This may affect pupils and staff journeys to school, so we ask that suitable alternative routes are planned to prevent any late attendance.

INSET Days for 2024/25

Please note the next INSET day will be on Thursday 2nd May 2024 and the final one is Monday 3rd June 2024.

INSET Days for next academic year.

Wednesday 4th September 2024

Monday 4th November 2024

Thursday 1st May 2025

Friday 2nd May 2025

Monday 2nd June 2025



Diary Dates

APRIL 2024

Mon 15th Children return to school
Thurs 26th Bicycle (security marking)

MAY 2024

Thurs 2nd INSET Day
Mon 6th May Day Bank Holiday
12-16th Year 6 SATs week
9th Class and Yr6 leavers photos
20th – 24th Travel Smart Week
Tues 21st Magna Trip (Year 3)
Tues 21st Parish Council AGM
Fri 24th Last day of half term

JUNE 2024

Mon 3rd INSET Day
Tues 4th Children return to school
Tues 18th EYFS / KS1 Sports day
Thurs 20th KS2 Sports day
Mon 24th Friesland Year 6 Transition
Tues 25th Friesland Year 6 Transition
26th – 28th Year 6 Whitehall Trip