

July 2024 Newsletter

I would like to thank you, as parents for all the support you have given over the year. Thank you to all the children who make the school so great, we should be very proud of them.

We hope you have a wonderful summer break. Keep safe and have fun. We look forward to welcoming you all back in the autumn term.

A reminder of the classes for next year

Mrs Tolson / Mrs Chittenden	Reception (Holly)
Miss Harston	Reception (Maple)
To be confirmed	Year 1 (Apple)
Miss Truman	Year 1 (Pear)
Mrs Thomas	Year 2 (Lime)
Miss Tomlinson	Year 2 (Olive)
Mr Surrudge (was Mr Mundy)	Year 3 (Beech)
Miss Tittershill / Mrs Shepherd	Year 3 (Pine)
Mr Tolson	Year 4 (Elm)
Mrs Swallow	Year 4 (Birch)
Mr Lawson	Year 5 (Oak)
Miss Crowder	Year 5 (Redwood)
Mr Allton	Year 6 (Chestnut)
Mr Thurgood / Miss Trigg	Year 6 (Willow)

This year we will let parents know which class their children will be in on Monday 8th July to allow parents of children with SEND who may be feeling anxious about the change, time to discuss this with them.

Reports

On Tuesday 16th July we will be sending home your child's end of year report. After positive feedback from the last few years, we have kept the report format the same. We invite feedback on reports or the learning throughout the year on a form included with the report.

Building Works on Firfield Avenue

Building works are due to commence on a property on Firfield Avenue in the next 14 days. The

builders have planned the works so that the majority can take place over the summer holidays and they thank everyone for their patience.

Sports Day

Thank you to all the parents that were able to attend our EYFS, Key Stage 1, Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 Sports Day a few weeks ago. There were many excellent sporting performances from the children and we thank all the parents who joined in with some races at the end. A huge thank you to the Year 6 pupils who supported the younger children with their sports day, you did an amazing job.

Year 6

We say farewell to our Year 6 pupils. We look forward to the end of year performance and year 6 party in the last week. We have many fond memories and successes that we have shared.

We wish them all the best for the future and hope they continue to excel at secondary school.

A reminder that we also say goodbye to Mrs Lawson, she has given so much to the school. We hope she has much fun in her next chapter

Also farewell to Mrs Simmons who has supported many children in school, in lessons and at lunchtime.

Finally farewell to Mrs MacDonald-Preston who has supported a number of children as a teaching assistant across the school.

Congratulations

A huge congratulations to Mr Mundy who will be getting married over the summer holidays. He will take his partners name and become Mr Surrudge. We hope he has an amazing day!



Governors

As we near the end of another academic year, the Board of Governors would like to say thank you for the hard work and dedication from staff, children and parents at Firfield!

This academic year has been a busy time of change with Vic Beardmore taking the helm as the Chair, some terms of office coming to an end and recruiting new Governors. We've been building on the positive feedback from OFSTED and the NGA Review which we sought in 2022/2023 and some key events/changes since are as follows -

- The work of the Governors has become more strategic with the introduction of Strategy meetings.
- Staff and Governors were invited to attend the Annual Parish Council Meeting in May 2024 which was an opportunity to connect with other organisations in our community.
- Both the Chair and Vice-Chair and the Clerk have been attending Network Meetings along with other Chairs and Clerks in the Local Authority to share best practice and support.
- Link Governors continue to visit school and meet with members of staff to review key areas of the school's provision such as Safeguarding, SEND and Literacy.
- The Board continues to focus on the four core functions at regular meetings. These being strategic direction, holding the SLT to account for education performance, overseeing financial performance and ensuring that stakeholder voices are heard.

We'd like to thank Corinne Poland and Barbara James for their valuable insights and time during their tenure as Governors. They are leaving us this July and we wish them all the best for the future. This does mean there are some new vacancies for Co-opted Governors, which we hope to fill early in the Autumn.

We wish you an enjoyable and sunny summer break and look forward to returning to school in September!

PTA

This weekend, on Saturday 6th July 2024, we have our annual PTA Summer Fair. The fair will be on from 12pm to 3pm, we hope to see as many of you as possible.



I would like to extend a huge thank you to the PTA and all the parents that supported the events throughout the year.

School Meals

Please see the information below regarding free school meals.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Pssst

Did you know that all reception, year 1 and year 2 pupils are entitled to receive a free meal at lunchtime regardless of family income?

And if your child is in year 3 or above, they may also be eligible, if you receive one of the qualifying benefits.

Just log into the new speedy free school meal checker system to see if your child is eligible. Scan the QR code and it will take you straight there.

SCAN ME

DERBYSHIRE County Council

If school meals are free for reception, year 1 and year 2 - why do I still need to apply?

All children in reception, year 1 and year 2 get free school meals, but if you receive one of the qualifying benefits you may also get help with:

- the cost of residential school trips
- travel costs to school
- school uniform costs
- music lessons at school

For every child registered for free school meals, schools receive a pupil premium payment each year. This will be used to help your child achieve their best at school.

Use the QR code overleaf to access the portal and check your eligibility.

www.derbyshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals
email: checking@derbyshire.gov.uk telephone: 01629 536481

DERBYSHIRE County Council

Safeguarding Message

We hope that all our families will have a relaxing and safe summer break. During term time, if you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact the school and speak to one of the Designated Safeguarding Leads: Mr Yellop, Mr Thurgood, Miss Tittershill or Mrs Shepherd.

Alternatively, if you are concerned about a child's welfare or worried, they are being abused, you can ring Starting Point: (Call Derbyshire) 01629 533190 (this support is available during term time and holidays).

If you believe that a child or an adult is at immediate risk of harm and in need of protection, then you should call the Police - **999**, straight away.

JULY 2024

Tuesday 2 nd	Stratford Year 6 Trip
Thursday 4 th	INSET DAY (Year 5 at Friesland am)
Friday 5 th	Early Years Trip - Stonehurst Farm
Saturday 6 th	Summer Fayre 12-3pm
Tuesday 9 th	All Change Day (am) (transition to new class)
Tuesday 9 th	Year 6 Wilsthorpe / Long Eaton Transition Day
Tuesday 9 th	Year 4 and Year 5 Matilda Matinee pm
Wednesday 10 th	All Change Day (pm) (transition to new class)
Wednesday 10 th	Year 6 Wilsthorpe / Long Eaton Transition Day
Thursday 11 th	Summer Concert
Friday 12 th	Treat Day
Tuesday 16 th	Reports Out
Tuesday 16 th	Year 6 Production
Thursday 18 th	Year 6 Disco
Monday 22 nd	Year 6 Leavers Assembly
Tuesday 23 rd	Last day of term

SEPTEMBER 2024

Wed 4 th	INSET day
Thurs 5 th	Return to school
Mon 9 th	Reception in full time

INSET Days for 2024/25

A reminder of the extra INSET day for the general election on **Thursday 4th July 2024** where the school will be closed to all pupils except Year 5 who will be visiting Friesland during the morning. They should arrive at normal time in school uniform.

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