

March 2025 Newsletter

Message from Mr Yellop

It was great to see so many of you at Parents' Evening before the half term break. We look forward to a number of exciting events in March including World Book Day, French Day, the Year 4 Residential, PTA Discos and our PTA Easter Trail to look forward to.

Welcome back

This term we welcome back Mrs Shaw and Mrs Geeson from their maternity leave. They will be taking over in Maple Class. We wish all the best to Miss Harston, who is moving on to teach at a school closer to home. We will all miss you!


We also welcome back Mrs Chambers. She has been teaching in Holly Class on Fridays since the start of this year. She returns at the end of this term from her maternity leave to teach alongside Mrs Tolson in Holly Class. We would like to take this opportunity to say a massive thank you to Mrs Chittenden for teaching and supporting in Early Years. She has supported the school for many years now and we will continue to come in and cover when needed.

World Book Day

It was lovely to see all the fantastic costumes and PJs yesterday for World Book Day. Thank you to everyone for celebrating with us and for supporting the book fair and our drive for reading in school.



Comic Relief – Red Nose Day

 On Friday 21st March, we will be holding our Red Nose Day. Red noses are available from the school office for £2 before and after school and during break-time. A reminder that children are invited to wear non-uniform (Comic Relief themed clothing

can be worn or come dressed for a disco from 80's, 90's noughties or 2010s) for a £1 donation. Children can also bring a maximum of £3 to spend at the cake sale.

Building work

As you are aware, we have building work to replace the roof on the main school building. Yesterday, we sent out a letter to parents to keep you updated on the progress of the building work and to share with you the plan to temporarily relocate classes along the Year 3-4 corridor to the hall whilst their section of the roof is being replaced. We are trying to limit disruption to routines as much as possible, whilst keeping the children safe at all times. The Quad area outside Willow Class, John's Garden, the area around the back of the old school building and the area outside the hall (including the blue door outside Year 4) are out of bounds to children, parents and visitors. Hopefully most of the work will be completed by the start of May.

Thank you for your continued patience and support during this process. We will keep you updated of any changes to this plan and of the progress of the building work.

Safeguarding

A reminder that the 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.

PE Lessons

PE Lessons are a vital part of our broad and balanced curriculum as well as an excellent way to improve physical and mental wellbeing. We expect all children to participate in PE lessons, activities can normally be adapted if a child has an injury and are recovering from illness. Children will only be allowed to not participate for exceptional reasons agreed between the class teacher and the parent. Thank you for your support with this.

Prem Aware Award

We are proud to announce that we are the very first school in Derbyshire to be accredited with The Prem Aware Award! In collaboration with our SEND governor, Dr.

Samantha Johnson, all staff engaged in training to raise awareness of the impact that prematurity can have on child development. Thank you to Miss Trigg (SENDCo) for her commitment to this initiative.



With her support, we have started to implement change at Firfield that will continue in the future to support children and families who have experienced pre-term birth.

PSHE / RSE

In PSHE this term the children will be focussing on 'Healthy Me' where they will learn about keeping clean and healthy, keeping safe, having healthy friendships and having a healthy body image.

We are currently working towards our Gold level BERT Award in RSE. As part of the gold criteria, we need to reach out to both the local community and parents whilst focussing on an area that our children need. The area that we have chosen to focus on is personal hygiene in Upper Key Stage Two so that we can support the children as they grow and their bodies start to change. More information will follow shortly but please feel free to reach out and contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you, Mrs Shepherd.

School Council

Our School Council this year is being run by Mrs Shepherd and Mr Yellop. Over the last few weeks the children have been thinking about how we can work together as a school to improve healthy eating at Firfield. The children have been set the task of finding out what the favourite fruit or vegetable is in their class and to also think about different challenges that we can set classes across the school to promote healthy eating. It is really important that children bring a piece of fruit, vegetable or salad to school for their mid-morning snack as they offer the children a range of nutrients and minerals and provide them with the energy that they need to continue their learning throughout the morning. Also, our Year 5 and 6 School Councillors have started to support Mrs Smith with her Table Tennis lunch club for Year 3 children, a great opportunity for them to be fantastic role models for the younger children.



INSET DAYS 2025

Thursday 1st May 2025 (polling day)

Friday 2nd May 2025

Monday 2nd June 2025

NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR INSET DAYS 25/26

Thursday 4th September 2025

Friday 5th September 2025

Monday 23rd February 2026

Thursday 7th May 2026 (polling day)

Monday 1st June 2026

DIARY DATES

March 2025

Thurs 6th World Book Day

Tues 18th Year 4 Residential

Wed 19th Year 4 Residential

Thurs 20th French Day

Fri 21st Comic Relief

Tues 25th Year Y4/Y5 Wilsthorpe Mary
Poppins Matinee

Fri 28th PTA Disco (EYFS – 2:30pm,
Y1/Y2 – 3:30pm to 4:30pm,
Y3/Y4 5pm to 6pm, Y5/Y6
6:30pm to 7:30pm)

Monday 31st EYFS Trip to Crich

April 2025

Fri 4th PTA Easter Trail

Fri 4th Last Day of Term

Tues 22nd Summer Term Starts