



# Firfield Primary School

*Learn Together, Grow Together, Achieve Together*

## February Newsletter 2026

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### \* Parents' Evening

February 10 and 12, 2026

We look forward to seeing all parents and carers at our second Parents' Evening of the year.

#### \* Young Voices

February 11, 2026

Glee Club show off their talents at the Young Voices concert at the Sheffield Arena.

#### \* PTA Spring Disco

February 27, 2026

We have our second disco of the academic year and welcome the return of DJ Dan. Get out those disco outfits!



#### A Warm Welcome

This term we welcome Sally Bradbery to the governing body after being voted as parent governor in our recent elections. This term the governors will be focusing on setting the school budget for the next financial year and setting the strategic direction of the school.



### Message from the Headteacher

As we step into February, I want to take a moment to reflect on what has been an incredibly productive and purposeful start to the year. January has been filled with focused work across our school, particularly in strengthening key improvement areas. Our teams have been working hard to build on the excellent practice to raise attainment at the end of Early Years and to further embed our writing routines across the school, so that every child is supported to achieve their very best.

We were fortunate to welcome colleagues from the Derbyshire Early Years Team and our School Improvement Partners, who spent time with us reviewing our practice. Their feedback was very positive, and it was wonderful to see the hard work of staff and pupils recognised. As always, we remain committed to building on this success and identifying any opportunities to make our school even stronger. A comment written in our school improvement report said "During classroom visits, pupil engagement was generally excellent. Pupils were observed to remain on task and engage well with the learning. Behaviour across the school was outstanding, with pupils consistently demonstrating positive learning behaviours".

This week, we were delighted to invite parents into school to look through children's books. It's a fantastic opportunity to see first-hand the effort, pride, and growing confidence pupils are showing in their writing. We hope you enjoyed celebrating their progress as much as we do.

Over the next two months we look forward to lots of trips organised to enhance our curriculum.

Mr Yellop

## Fantastic Opportunities

### Supporting Physical Development

#### Early Years

In Early Years, the children have loved venturing out to the Field of Dreams and becoming fully immersed in a wide range of outdoor learning experiences. These activities have encouraged curiosity, teamwork and independence, and it has been wonderful to see the children so enthusiastic about exploring the natural environment. Activities have included making bird feeders, exploring the woodlands and learning about nature around them.

#### Allotment Project

Our PTA have shared an exciting update in their recent newsletter about the ongoing allotment project. With fantastic support from Derby College, we have been hard at work constructing raised beds and developing other elements of our grand design for the area behind the Year 1 and 2 classrooms. Once complete, this space will provide rich opportunities across the curriculum, from science and design technology to wellbeing and outdoor learning.

#### Sporting Events

In our last newsletter, we highlighted the wide range of sporting clubs and activities available to pupils, and we remain committed to increasing participation and enjoyment in physical activity before, during and after the school day. We continue to build strong links with local clubs and community organisations so that children can experience a broad variety of sports.

This term we will be offering an exciting programme of opportunities. These include football sessions supported by Long Eaton Football Club, Bikeability for children in Upper Key Stage 2, an outdoor learning day for pupils in Year 1, and the start of swimming lessons for our Year 3 pupils.

We are also hoping to introduce Zumba sessions for children in Years 3 and 4 to broaden the range of physical activities available.

In addition, some of our Key Stage 2 pupils will be taking part in a cross-country event in the coming weeks, and we look forward to another swimming gala towards the end of term. All of this sits alongside the full range of clubs we offer across the school through our partnership with First Grade Sports and the excellent work of our sports coach, Mrs Smith.

### School Council / Mental Health and Wellbeing Champions

Our School Council and our Mental Health and Wellbeing Champions have been meeting regularly this term to explore meaningful ways of listening to the views of pupils across Firfield. They have already begun shaping decisions that will support improvements around school, as well as promoting positive mental health and wellbeing for all children.

The School Council are keen to develop a wider range of activities and equipment to enhance playtimes and lunchtimes. Their ideas include expanding opportunities for ball games and sporting skills on the ball court, and introducing a variety of equipment on the artificial grass area—such as balancing resources, skipping ropes and general skills equipment. They are also eager to make greater use of our lodges during breaktimes, offering indoor games and creating more opportunities for children to relax with a good book.

Our Mental Health and Wellbeing Champions are focusing on improving the quiet area near the ball court. Their aim is to create a calm, supportive space where pupils can take time to look after their wellbeing and talk to someone if they need support. They will be holding peer open sessions every Tuesday lunchtime to ensure pupils know there is always someone available to listen.



### Safer Internet Day

Safer Internet Day 2026 will take place on the 10<sup>th</sup> of February 2026, with celebrations and learning based around the theme 'Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI'. Scan the QR code for more information.



## Focus on Safeguarding

### Road safety around school

A huge thank you to everyone who has supported safer parking and driving on Firfield Avenue. Over the last two weeks we have been supported by the road enforcement team and a number of fines have been issued for illegal parking. I have personally witnessed a number of vehicles driving and parking on the pavements stopping on the zigzag lines or parking in the single yellow lines during the time restricted times (these spaces should only be used by families displaying a disability badge).

We thank the parents and carers for more considerate use of the school car park before and after school, whilst picking up and dropping off at WRAP club. We remind parents to use the seven spaces nearest the school office and reverse park cars to ensure maximum visibility when leaving the car park.

Children in Year 5 will have the opportunity to improve their bicycle skills through the Bikeability programme, starting with basic skills on the playground before going in the roads around Breaston to learn about wider safety.

We remind parents that at all other times children and visitors should dismount bikes and scooters before entering the school grounds. Electric vehicles are prohibited from using roads around school including on the school grounds.



## Vacancies in School

### Caretaker Vacancy

We currently have a vacancy for a part time caretaker to work alongside our current team at the start of the week. For further details please use the contact details below.

Careers@vertas.co.uk or call 01473 944422 (Option 3)



EMAIL - [ENQUIRIES@FIRFIELD.DERBYSHIRE.SCH.UK](mailto:ENQUIRIES@FIRFIELD.DERBYSHIRE.SCH.UK)

TEL: 01332 872216

[WEBSITE - WWW.FIRFIELD.DERBYSHIRE.SCH.UK/](http://WWW.FIRFIELD.DERBYSHIRE.SCH.UK/)

## Dates for the Diary



### February 2026

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> - Year 6 Beaumanor Trip  
 Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> - Safer Internet Day  
 Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> - Parents' Evening  
 Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> - Year 6 Author Visit  
 Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> - Young Voices (Glee Club)  
 Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> - Parents' Evening  
 Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> - Year 1 - Animal Experience  
 Friday 13<sup>th</sup> - Cross Country Event  
 Friday 13<sup>th</sup> - Last Day of Term  
 Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> - INSET Day (School Closed to Pupils)  
 Friday 27<sup>th</sup> - PTA School Disco

### March 2026

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> - World Book Day  
 Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> - Year 4 Trip to Castleton (return Wed 11<sup>th</sup>)  
 Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> Year 5 Matilda @ Wilsthorpe  
 Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> - Year 2 Sealife Centre Trip  
 Friday 13<sup>th</sup> - Swimming Gala  
 Friday 13<sup>th</sup> - Year 1 Trip to Warwick Castle  
 Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> - PSHE Parents Coffee Morning  
 Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> - Year 5 Space Centre Trip  
 Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> - EYFS Crich Trip  
 Friday 27<sup>th</sup> - Last day of Spring Term  
 Friday 27<sup>th</sup> - PTA Easter Trail

## INSET Days

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2026

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2026