



Firfield Primary School

Learn Together, Grow Together, Achieve Together

October Newsletter 2026

UPCOMING EVENTS

* Book Evening

October 14, 2026

We look forward to sharing the children books with you next week after school. These will be available to view in classroom until 5pm.

* PTA Disco

October 16, 2026

We look forward to having a jive at the first PTA event of the year.

* Individual Photos

October 22, 2026

Professional photographer in school for individual photos.

* Parents' Evening

October 20 or 22, 2026

A reminder about Parents' Evening on Tuesday 20th October or Thursday 22nd October.



Message from the Headteacher

It has been a very positive start to the new school year, and I have been delighted to see how well the children have settled into their new classes and routines. They have returned with enthusiasm and are already working hard across the school.

Improving writing remains an important focus for us this year. Alongside this, we are developing our approach to the teaching of spelling, focusing more closely on morphology, helping children understand the structure of words, how they are formed and the connections between them. This moves us away from an over-reliance on learning spelling rules or words by rote and towards developing a richer understanding of language.

Our upcoming Book Evening and Parents' Evening will provide opportunities to look at your child's work, celebrate their progress and talk with their teacher about how they have settled into their new year group.

Finally, thank you to everyone who attended the PTA AGM. We are very pleased to have a full committee in place and appreciate the time and commitment of everyone involved.

Mr Yellop

All the best

We send our very best wishes to Mrs Chamber and Mrs Tolson as they start their maternity leave. We hope they have a wonderful time ahead and look forward to hearing their exciting news. We'll keep everyone updated when there is some lovely news to share!



Extra-Curricular

Year 4 and Year 6 Residentials

At Firfield, we are incredibly proud of the experiences we offer our children. Educational visits and residential trips provide opportunities for learning beyond the classroom, helping children develop confidence, independence and, importantly, resilience, one of our school values. They encourage children to try something new, challenge themselves and work together.

Our residentials build on the many trips children enjoy throughout their time at Firfield. In Year 4, children stay at the YHA in Castleton, where they bring their history learning to life by becoming immersed in Roman life and enjoying other history-related activities. For many, this is their first residential and an opportunity to develop independence and confidence away from home.

In Year 6, children travel to White Hall in Buxton for an action-packed residential, with activities including rock scrambling, canoeing, abseiling, climbing and team challenges. Children step outside their comfort zones, support one another and persevere when things feel difficult, putting resilience into practice and gaining a real sense of achievement.

We recognise that residential trips are an additional cost for families and work hard to keep costs as low as possible. We strongly believe the experiences, memories and skills children gain make residentials an important part of their time at Firfield.

A reminder to all Year 4 and Year 6 parents and carers to complete the expression of interest and pay the required deposit as soon as possible, helping us plan these fantastic experiences for our children.

Glee Club

We are delighted to continue to offer opportunities for Firfield pupils to share their love of music and singing through Glee Club, who keep us entertained through the year with their amazing performances. We look forward to 'The Big Sing' at Trent College in October and Young Voices in Sheffield in February. Thank you for the support from Mr Surridge who is running Glee Club this year. We look forward to sharing our songs with everyone.

**Sporting News**

Our first sporting event of the year saw a team of Year 6 boys and girls attend a rugby festival against five other teams at Trent College. The team did amazingly well, winning two, drawing two and losing one. Everyone showing amazing skills and excellent sporting behaviours. Kai scored two excellent tries in the last game and was awarded player of the tournament for Firfield. A huge congratulations to all the children who played at the festival.

This term we are focusing on football in Key Stage 2 with girls and boys training after school. We are hoping to get some fixtures set up against our local schools. We look to focus on a number of key sports including football, netball, rugby and cricket and offer opportunities across all key stages.

Book Bus

We continue to promote a love of reading and encourage all families to support us by listening to their child read four times a week and recording this on Boom Reader. Reading opens doors across the entire curriculum and builds confidence in every subject.

Thank you to all the parents who visited the travelling book fair at the end of September. In November, the book bus will be visiting Firfield — a perfect opportunity to pick up Christmas gifts and help us nurture a lifelong enjoyment of books.



Parents and Teachers Association

Thank you to all the parents, volunteers and staff members who joined us for our AGM earlier this months. Laura Thurgood continues in her role as Chair. We have now a number of new members on the committee. A huge thank you goes out to Gail Patching who has been a key member of the PTA for many years of dedication, who has finally decided to step down from her role (after many years of persuasion).

The PTA are looking to raise money this year for equipment to develop our computing hardware (additional Ipads and Laptops).

We look forward to the school discos this month (NB children in Reception can come in party clothes on the day).

Dates for the Diary



October 2026

Wednesday 14th	Book Evening
Friday 16 th	Partake Year 4 Egyptian Day
Friday 16 th	PTA Discos
Tuesday 20th	Parents' Evening
Wednesday 21st	Y4 Art Museum Trip
Thursday 22nd	Parents' Evening
Thursday 22nd	Individual Photos
Friday 24th	Last Day of Term

November 2026

Monday 2 nd	Return to School
Tuesday 3 rd	Book Bus in School
Tuesday 3 rd	The Big Sing
Wednesday 11 th	SEND Parents' Evening
Friday 13 th	Children in Need

Monday 19th October is our Travel Smart week where we encourage children to walk, scooter and bike to school (more details to follow).

INSET Days

Friday 4th September 2026
 Monday 4th January 2026
 Thursday 6th May 2027
 Monday 7th June 2027
 Monday 26th July 2027



EMAIL - ENQUIRIES@FIRFIELD.DERBYSHIRE.SCH.UK

TEL: 01332 872216

WEBSITE - WWW.FIRFIELD.DERBYSHIRE.SCH.UK/