

Newsletter

December 2025

SEASONS GREETINGS

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of a busy and joyful Autumn term, we would like to take a moment to celebrate the many wonderful experiences that have brought our school community together in the lead-up to Christmas.

It has been a pleasure to welcome so many families into school for our Christmas Crafts afternoon, the Year 3 Christmas performance, and our Recognition Awards. The Year 3 Christmas Medley was a particular highlight, showcasing a wonderful range of performances that reflected pupils' confidence, creativity and enthusiasm. We have also enjoyed celebrating the energy and talent on display at the Rocksteady Concert and seeing our pupils spread kindness through their visit to Douglas Court Nursing Home. Festive spirit was in abundance on Christmas Jumper Day when the children enjoyed their special lunch, alongside our December Birthday Party and class pizza parties, which gave pupils time to relax and celebrate together. We have also been proud to support Year 3 as they experienced the Christmas story at St Augustine's Church and to share in the joy of the Year 3 and 4 Christmas Festival at the Tennis Centre.

As we close the term, we would like to thank our pupils, families and staff for their continued support and commitment to our school community. We wish you all a safe, happy and healthy Christmas and a peaceful New Year, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for the new term ahead.

Warm regards,

Mrs Collins
Head of School



Merry
Christmas
and
HAPPY NEW YEAR

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LOCAL OPPORTUNITIES



New to the City, or wanting to visit somewhere new? Experience the best of Derby without breaking the bank with our these free attractions.

Discover a wide range of engaging and budget-friendly activities that showcase the city's rich history, natural beauty, and cultural offerings. From stunning parks to fascinating museums, there are plenty of free attractions to explore and enjoy in Derby. Plan your visit and make the most of your time without spending a penny.

[Explore Here.](#)



Derbyshire Wildlife Trust



As we step into the new year, why not reconnect with nature and discover the wildlife on our doorstep? Derbyshire Wildlife Trust offers a range of family-friendly events, walks and activities throughout the year, encouraging children and adults alike to explore the natural world, care for local habitats, and develop a lifelong love of wildlife. [Local Events Link.](#)

A very special bear is coming to Derby!

Paddington™ will be visiting St Peters Quarter, Derby on Saturday 20th December. Come along for FREE to say hello to everyone's favourite bear from Peru and enjoy a heart warming day out in the city.

[Book your free tickets here.](#)



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LOCAL OPPORTUNITIES

Cadet & Uniformed Youth Opportunities in Derby

Derby offers a fantastic range of cadet and uniformed youth programmes that help children and young people develop confidence, teamwork, leadership and practical life skills. Many start from age 8 and provide safe, structured opportunities to serve the community, enjoy outdoor adventure and build lifelong skills.

Derbyshire Volunteer Police Cadets (Approx. Ages 10-17)

A uniformed youth group offering insight into policing, community projects and personal development while building confidence and citizenship.

 [Derbyshire Police Cadets](#)



St John Ambulance Cadets (Ages 10-17)

Cadets learn lifesaving first aid, wellbeing skills and teamwork, with opportunities to support community events and work towards recognised awards.

 [St John's Ambulance Cadets](#)



City of Derby Sea Cadets (Ages 10-18)

Offering sailing, boating, first aid, navigation and adventurous training, Sea Cadets promote resilience, discipline and teamwork in a supportive environment.

 [Sea Cadets Derby](#)



Royal Air Force Air Cadets - City of Derby Squadron (Ages 12-20)

Aimed at young people interested in aviation, leadership and challenge, with opportunities for flying, gliding, expeditions and qualifications.

 [Air Cadets Derby](#)

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HAF



inspire FITNESS ACADEMY

HAF Holiday Activities & Food

MULTI-SPORTS

BOXING

FOOTBALL

SCHOOL HOLIDAY CLUB

22nd, 23rd, 27th, 28th DECEMBER

AGES 4-16 | 9:30AM-1:30PM

FREE FOR QUALIFYING FAMILIES

LUNCH INCLUDED

£10 PER CHILD FOR NON QUALIFYING FAMILIES

HARRINGTON ST, PEAR TREE, DERBY DE23 8PB

FOR MORE INFORMATION 07546 161805

UNIFORM

We expect **all** children to be wearing the correct school uniform and shoes. Children dressed appropriately feel more connected to their community, take pride in their school and behave well.

[Uniform Information on the School Website](#)



ONLINE SAFETY

Please make sure your child is safe online. We are having an increasing amount of online incidents at home which are being brought into school.

If you are concerned about messages online, please contact school or phone the police if necessary.



Stay safe online

Speak to somebody if you need help

Ask an adult before going online

Friends are real people we know

Enjoy play, have fun and stay safe

e-safety adviser

Quality First Education Trust

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OPAL

We believe play is essential to every child's growth, health, happiness, and learning. Through the OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) principles, we are creating a rich, inclusive, and sustainable play environment that evolves over time and promotes a wide variety of play. Ask your child about what has changed and visit our [OPAL website page](#) for more information. **For all weather play, please ensure your child has a waterproof coat with a hood and a pair of wellies.**



ATTENDANCE

A Graduated Approach for Parents/Carers:

Tier 1

- Building positive relationships with school
- Helping and encouraging your child to attend school regularly and be on time
- Understand and support any concerns your child may have.
- Recognise personal achievements and value education
- Communicate with teachers about any concerns.



Tier 2

EBSNA Toolkit for families

- Activities to try at home
- Work with the school to help understand their child's barriers to attendance.
- Proactively engage with the support offered to prevent the need for more formal support.
- Continue to communicate effectively with the school regarding absence.



Have you spotted our pupil Attendance Ambassadors on the playground in the morning?

Need Support

If your child has had more than 5 days absent from school since September and you need support, please contact the school office, 01332 and a member of the Attendance Team will assist you.



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ATTENDANCE

Parents will.....	School will.....
Value their child's education and value the importance of excellent attendance.	Provide engaging lessons where all children want to attend.
<u>Absence.</u> Phone school on 01332 760610 if their child is absent by 8:50am and provide any evidence to support the absence e.g. hospital appointment card, doctor's appointment.  	Record absences on the register with the correct code. 
<u>Punctuality.</u> Make sure your child is on time. Gates open at 8:45am.	Offer breakfast club for children needing to be in school earlier and offer support in an emergency. 
<u>Leave of Absence</u> Complete a leave of absence form request at least seven days prior to the absence and hand into the office. 	Consider a request on an individual basis and inform parents by letter. School will contact Derby City Council.
School and parents will support children to be in school on time, every day. In the case of no communication, school will phone home or complete a home visit to support the family. 	

Attendance Results for the Autumn Term:

92.3% whole school,

Year 3 - 91.1%, Year 4 - 92.3%, **Year 5 - 94%**, Year 6 - 92.3%

All schools are aiming for 96%.

✨ Attendance has been improving over the last three years ✨
Attendance has shown a rising trend over the past three years:

- 2022-23: Whole School attendance of 91.7%
- 2023-24: Whole School attendance of 91.8%
- 2024-25: Whole School attendance of 92.8%

This represents steady improvement and reflects stronger whole-school efforts on attendance.

Thank you to all our families for their increased engagement.

EVERY
is DAY is
for THEIR
FUTURE



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PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT

	Whole School Events	Parental Engagement Celebrations	Parental Engagement Curriculum and enrichment workshops
January	January birthday celebrations		Maths Workshops and MTC - multiplication tables check
February	Children's Mental Health Week January and February birthday celebrations		Tea and toast - SEND/ mental health Internet workshops
March	World Book Day March birthday celebrations	Easter Workshop/Mother's Day - wellbeing focus Pancake day -4th March - breakfast club	Breakfast with a book Reading workshop
April	Recognition assembly April birthday celebrations	Vaisakhi Craft Workshop	Writing Workshop
May	May birthday celebrations		
June	End of school disco- Y6 Sports day and picnic June birthday celebrations OPAL Parent Stay & Play	Eid/Father's Day - Wellbeing focus Culture Day	
July	Transition week Recognition assembly July and August birthday celebrations		Tea and toast - SEND/ mental health Internet workshops

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SAFEGUARDING



Worried about a child during the holiday?

If you believe that a child is at **immediate risk** and in need of protection then you should call the **police on 999 immediately**.

Alternatively, if you want advice from the police and the child is not in immediate need of protection, you can call them on 101.

Children's Social Care and the First Contact Team

You may want to discuss your concerns with a social care worker. The First Contact team deals with all concerns about children and young people across the city. Members of the team will help you to talk about the concerns you may have for a child and decide what actions may be required to make a child safe. You can contact them Monday to Friday, between 9am and 5pm. Telephone: 01332 641172

Social Care Out-of-Hours Support

Use Derby City Careline

It operates Monday to Friday from 5pm to 9am, with a 24-hour service during weekends and bank holiday. Phone: 01332 956606.

People who are hard of hearing or Deaf please email DCCcareLine@derby.gov.uk or text 07812 300177.

Concerns which are not urgent can be raised using their [online form](#).



Other organisations:



01159 825090
TRANSFORM TRUST
'Together we Achieve'



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