

19TH DECEMBER 2025

What a lovely week we have had in school in the run up to Christmas! We've enjoyed welcoming our Year 3 parents and carers into school to watch our production of 'The Christmas Jigsaw' this week and enjoyed a great singing assembly to finish off the year too—including our old favourite, '12 Days of Christmas' which I sometimes think the staff enjoy more than the children!

The staff and I would all like to wish you and your families a **very Merry Christmas and best wishes for 2026** and I would also like to thank the staff for their efforts over the last term—all of them have battled through feeling a little (or very) under the weather as we approach the holidays. **We look forward to seeing you all back in school on Monday 5th January 2026!**



If you have any safeguarding concerns over the Christmas holidays, please email our Safeguarding Team using safeguarding@gaytonj.derby.sch.uk—one of the team will get back to you as soon as we can as we monitor the site regularly during the holidays. If you are concerned that a child is in immediate danger, you should ring 999.

Kind regards,
Mrs J Hill

Safeguarding

Huge thanks to my colleague at Markeaton Primary for making us aware this week that another series of books have web addresses in them that are directing children to untrusted websites. Several titles in the 'According to Humphrey' series contain a weblink in the back of the book that no longer directs children to information about the books. Instead, **the link has been compromised and now leads to inappropriate and unsafe material that should not be accessed by children.**

Please see the included image of some of the books in the series so that you might recognise any you may have at home. The link can be found on the back cover or may also be included on a page inside. **These books are published by Scholastic, who run our Book Fairs, so it is possible that your child might have bought a book at a Book Fair in school.**



We do not believe we have any copies of these books in school but please do return any that your child might have borrowed as a reading book after the holidays—please pass these directly to an adult at the door so that we can dispose of these appropriately.

Please be extra vigilant with any links in books your child is reading and check them before your child accesses them. This is now the second known instance of this so it is best to be cautious.

2025/26 DATES

Friday 19th December	3:30pm	Break up for Christmas Holiday
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY		
Monday 5th January	8:55am	Spring Term 1 Begins
Wednesday 14th January	9:00-11:00	Coffee Morning
Wednesday 21st January	All Day	Year 4 Space Centre Trip—Details to follow
Wednesday 28th January	7:30am—7:00pm	Year 6 Harry Potter Studio Tour Trip—see letter
Thursday 12th February	3:30pm	Break up for Half Term Holiday
Friday 13th February	All Day	INSET 4
Monday 23rd February	8:55am	Spring Term 2 Begins
Friday 27th March	3:30pm	Break up for Easter Holiday
EASTER HOLIDAY		
Monday 13th April	8:55am	Summer Term 1 Begins
Monday 4th May	All Day	May Day—Bank Holiday
Monday 11th—Friday 15th May	All Day	Year 6 SATs Week— No Authorised Absences
Friday 15th—Sunday 17th May	TBC	Year 6 PGL Residential
Friday 22nd May	3:30pm	Break up for Half Term Holiday
Monday 1st June	All Day	INSET 5
Tuesday 2nd June	8:55am	Summer Term 2 Begins
Thursday 23rd July	3:30pm	Break up for Summer Holiday

School Dinners

When we return to school in January, we will be back to our **Week 1 menu**. Please remember that school dinners cost £2.80 and **MUST** be paid for, **ONLINE, IN ADVANCE**. [Week 1 Menu](#)



Parent App

Parent App is our preferred method of communicating with parents as it is quick and easy: it is the best way to let you know if there is a problem in school, such as a power cut or lack of water that means we are unable to open or, at this time of year, an issue with snow. Therefore it is vital that **ALL** parents have signed up to the app and we still have a small number of children whose parents are not registered, which means it costs us money to send out messages by text messages. Please make it your New Year's Resolution to install and register the app if you have not already. Contact me at head@gaytonj.derby.sch.uk if you require a new invitation!

Weekly newsletters are also sent out via the app and this is the best way of keeping up with what is happening in school, as well as being able to report absences and find links to school dinner menus on the go.

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

You are the expert of your child

You Are Not Alone - Every 1st Tuesday of the month - 7.00pm - 8.30pm

A free monthly online drop-in for parents & carers

The **You Are Not Alone** community is a friendly and safe space run by Erik & Sally Wagter where you can come and learn about autism & PDA, ask questions, connect with like-minded people or simply listen and learn from other people's conversations.



In this community we talk about all sorts of things such as:

- helping your child regulate their emotions & feelings
- understanding autism and PDA
- navigating school and EHCPs
- Supporting your child with friendships
- understanding and managing challenging behaviour
- managing sensory needs
- developing a positive relationship with your child (family dynamics)
- exploring EOTAS or home education
- looking after your wellbeing
- and so much more



Here's what parents have said:

*'My husband Jamie was saying that in the last few sessions, he has learned **so much more about autism and PDA** than he has over the last year'*

Jo (parent)

*'Thank you so much for the group this evening. I can't tell you how grateful I feel and I **really do feel less alone** and more validated. My hope is back'*

Louise (parent)

'Thank you so much for your support. I nearly chicken out in speaking but I'm glad I did. These sessions have been really helpful and I don't feel so alone'

Emma (parent)

If you would like to join the **next drop-in on Tuesday 6th January**, please send an email to sallywagter@gmail.com and we will send you the **Zoom** link.