

16TH JANUARY 2026

It has been another busy week again in school—one in which we have managed to keep a little warmer than last week! Unfortunately, the weather has still hampered plans to get out and about in the community for our Year 6 cohort who were due to visit the park for some geography field work, but I am sure they will reschedule this soon so that they can get on with this element of their learning!

Our Governing Board held their second meeting early this week and have elected Mrs Jackie Boswell, one of our Co-opted Governors who is also a parent of children at both Gayton and Ridgeway, as our Chair of Governors to take us through to the end of the school year, following the resignation of previous Chair, Mrs Sukhy Kandola. I would like to thank Mrs Kandola for her support as Chair over the last 18 months: I know she is confident that she is handing over the reins to an equally reliable candidate who will bring a good balance of challenge, support and leadership to the governing board, along with a passion for making sure all children have the best possible outcomes from their time with us at school. We are very much looking forward to working more closely with Jackie over the coming months.

Please do not allow dinner debts to build up on your accounts. These have to be funded by the school budget and Mrs Hardisty will be looking to close this down over the next few weeks as we are approaching the end of the financial year. Please look to clear off any outstanding debt as soon as you are able to.

Please remember that I am still *unable* to authorise any term-time leave of absence requests this year and, in the majority of cases, these will incur fines. These requests should be made in advance and not retrospectively please.

Kind regards,
Mrs J Hill

School Dinners

Next week, we will be on our **Week 3 menu**. Please remember that school dinners cost £2.80 and **MUST** be paid for, **ONLINE, IN ADVANCE**—we cannot allow accounts to build up debt as this impacts our school budget. [Week 3 Menu](#)



Prefects

A special congratulations to the children chosen to be this term's prefects. These children have stood out amongst their peers as model pupils whose attitude and effort at school at the start of 2026 has been exemplary:



Year 3—Yahya
Year 4—Pavan
Year 5—Emily
Year 6—Amelia



2025/26 DATES

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
Wednesday 11th February	9:00-11:00	Coffee Morning
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

FREE!
Access using
your child's
school Teams
account!



Parent Carer Workshop: Emotional Regulation

Date: Tuesday 10th February 2026
 Time: 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM
 Location: Online via Microsoft Teams
 Facilitator: Sarah Sanders, DCC Educational Psychologist

Join us for a relaxed and informative online workshop exploring how children experience and express emotions. We'll discuss why emotional regulation can be particularly challenging for some children and how their responses often reflect underlying needs. This session will provide practical strategies you can use at home to support your child's emotional wellbeing. Our aim is to empower parents and carers with tools that:

- Honour each child's individuality
- Nurture connection
- Promote wellbeing



For more information and to book your place
please visit

<https://derbyshireparentforums.co.uk/>