

25TH SEPTEMBER 2026

Year 3 were incredibly lucky with the weather this week as they ventured out to Markeaton Park for their first trip of the year! They had a lovely time with their friends playing crazy golf, canoeing and walking in the woods before enjoying an ice lolly and feeding the ducks.

The school choir have begun rehearsals for this year's Young Voices concert which will take place after Christmas—we have enjoyed listening to them singing this week after school whilst we have been working in the office. ☺

Congratulations to our first four prefects of this academic year. These children have made a fantastic first impression on staff in school in the first few days of the year with how hard they are working, good manners and excellent attitudes for learning!



Year 3—Katie
Year 4—Emily
Year 5—Zoha
Year 6—Lyla



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

Harvest

This year we are collecting for Newmount Church's harvest celebration. **Please send any donations into school by Thursday 1st October.** They will be collecting items for a basic food bank from the list below:

Tins of fruit or deserts
Tea Bags
Tins of meat - corned beef/stewing steak
Tinned vegetables
Shampoo/shower gel/toothpaste

Jam/Honey
Sauces - Tomato/brown/mayo
Tins of fish
Cereal
Toilet Rolls



Lateness

We are still finding a number of children arriving late for school after the doors have closed in the mornings. Arriving late can cause children to be unsettled when they arrive in the classroom. Please help your child to establish a good routine in the morning to get here by 8:55am.

Similarly, we have a number of children who are regularly being collected late. Our staff have tasks to do beyond 3:30pm and appreciate all children being collected on time.

Thank you.

2025/26 DATES

Wednesday 7th October	AM	Individual School Photos
Friday 23rd October	3:30pm	End of Autumn 1 Term—break up for half term
Saturday 31st October	Deadline for Secondary School applications for September 2027 for Y6 Parents	
Monday 2nd November	8:55am	Autumn 2 Term begins
Friday 27th November	All Day	INSET 3
Friday 18th December	3:30pm	End of Autumn 2 Term—break up for Christmas
Monday 4th January	8:55am	Spring 1 Term begins
Friday 12th February	3:30pm	End of Spring 1 Term—break up for half term
Monday 22nd February	8:55am	Spring 2 Term begins
Thursday 25th March	3:30pm	End of Spring 2 Term—break up for Easter break
Monday 12th April	8:55am	Summer 1 Term begins
Monday 3rd May	All Day	Bank Holiday—School Closed
Monday 10th May— Friday 14th May	All Week	Year 6 SATs—no authorised absences this week
Friday 28th May	3:30pm	End of Summer 1 Term—break up for half term
Monday 7th June	All Day	INSET 4
Tuesday 8th June	8:55am	Summer 2 Term begins
Friday 23rd July	3:30pm	End of Summer 2 Term—break up for Summer
Monday 26th July	All Day	INSET 5

School Dinners

Next week, we will be on our new Week 3 menu. Please remember that school dinners cost **£2.90** and **MUST** be paid for, **ONLINE, IN ADVANCE**. [Week 3 Menu](#)



Allergies

We have had a very close call this week in school relating to a product containing nuts in a packed lunch and a child with a severe allergy. With that in mind, please make a note of products that commonly contain nuts that you may not typically consider:

- Kinder chocolate
- Pre-filled chocolate pancakes
- Some cereal bars—**please check packaging**
- Anything containing praline
- Anything containing marzipan
- Chocolate spread
- Cherry Bakewell
- Some flapjack—**please check packaging**
- Some bagels—**please check packaging**
- Brownies—**please check packaging**



Housekeeping!

The start of term is incredibly busy, so if you have five minutes this weekend to put your feet up, please check you have done everything on our housekeeping list!



- 1) Have you all **signed up to our app and checked you have notifications turned on**? The app is our quickest way of getting reminders and urgent messages to parents—and it's free, meaning we can save money and spend more on the children and creating fun, engaging learning experiences! Please check for an invite by text message.
- 2) Have you signed up to **School Money**? Even if your child brings a packed lunch to school, please sign up as this is our preferred way of collecting trip payments: we are trying to move towards a cashless office. Please contact [Mrs Hardisty](#) in the school office if you need log in details. Thank you.
- 3) Have you signed and returned a copy of the **Home/School agreement** that came home at the start of term? Please do so as soon as you can so that your child's class teacher can file a completed class set.
- 4) Year 3 parents: have you completed and returned the **admissions and permissions forms** that were emailed to you ahead of your child joining us for the transition days in July? Please check your emails and return these as soon as you can so we can make sure your child's records are up to date and to avoid us having to send out duplicates.
- 5) Year 3 parents: have you logged into **Microsoft Teams** using the details sent home? This is how the Year 3 team will communicate directly with you with reminders about trips, special days in school and messages about things children need to remember so it is important to get logged on as soon as you can please.
- 6) Year 6 parents: have you completed your **application for your child's secondary school place for September 2027**? The deadline for applications is midnight on 31st October. Please follow the link to find the [Secondary Admissions Page for Derby City](#)
- 7) Is everyone signed up to the school app? We send newsletters each week using the app. These can also be found on the school website if you do not sign up to the app but we cannot send these out by text message every week if you do not sign up as it costs the school budget too much money. Please contact [Mrs Hill](#) if you need a new password or invitation.

Persistent Absence

We know that children are sometimes unwell or need to be absent from school for important reasons, and we always want families to feel able to talk to us if there are difficulties affecting attendance.

At the same time, regular attendance really does make a difference. Being in school each day helps children keep up with their learning, maintain friendships, build confidence and feel part of our school community. Even occasional days away can add up over time, so we encourage families to prioritise school wherever possible and work with us if attendance becomes difficult. Our aim is always to support children and families so that every child has the opportunity to make the most of their time at school.



Please do not send children in if they have been sick in the last 24 hours. They cannot return to school until 48 hours after their last bout of sickness.