

23RD JULY 2026

On behalf of all the staff at Gayton, I would like to wish you all a lovely summer break. I hope you all stay safe and well and we look forward to seeing most of you back with us in September. Thank you to you all for your kind gifts to staff at the end of the school year. As usual, you have been incredibly generous and I know that staff are extremely grateful. I would personally like to take a moment, as always, to thank our super team of staff for another positive year in school and I am sure you will join me in thanking everyone who has given their own time to ensure we can continue to provide exciting and memorable opportunities for our children.

Along with Mrs Lim, we are sad to be saying goodbye to our Year 6 children and their families. It has been a pleasure working with you and your children and I hope that the next step in their education is just as successful as this one as been. I am really proud to share their SATs results with our school community today following last week's return of results to school. Please note that all data is still provisional at this stage as we have sent some papers back for re-marking.

2026	Reading	Writing	Maths	GAPS	Combined RWM
Percentage of Pupils Working at Expected Level+	78%	78%	84%	84%	64%
National Average	75%	73%	75%	74%	63%
Percentage of Pupils Working at Greater Depth	30%	10%	33%	31%	9%

We are most proud of this cohort because we are all acutely aware that this group of children has experienced a primary school journey unlike any other. Their early years in infant school were significantly disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic, with periods of school closure, remote learning and social restrictions occurring during Reception and Year 1—some of the most formative stages of their education. These interruptions affected not only their academic development but also the important social and emotional experiences that help children grow in confidence, resilience and independence.

Despite these challenges, these children have flourished and shown a real strength in character that we value and nurture in Gayton children: they have demonstrated resilience, determination and a willingness to keep trying, even when learning has been difficult. Their progress is a testament to their hard work and positive attitudes and they leave us having built strong foundations on which to build at secondary school in September.

Over the holidays, if you are concerned that a child is at risk of harm or neglect, please email safeguarding@gaytonj.derby.sch.uk or ring 999 if you think a child is in immediate danger.

Have a lovely summer break—we return to school on Tuesday 8th September. Year 5 children should come into school with Year 6 through the entrance in the car park. ***Please wait at the front of school until the main gates are closed to stay safe.***

Kind regards,
Mrs J Hill

New Year Information

School Uniform

Please remember that we would ask children to continue to come to school wearing PE kit (t-shirt, navy sweatshirt or cardigan, navy or black tracksuit bottoms and plain trainers) on days when they have PE. Being ready for PE means we lose less time from PE lessons getting changed in and out of kit and means we don't have to worry about where to store their PE bags during the week.

Again, it would be most ideal if you could buy black trainer shoes instead of school shoes in your 'uniform shop' this summer—this means the children will have appropriate footwear for completing the daily mile. If you are not able to find anything suitable, please make sure your child brings their trainers to school each day to change into.

Jewellery is not allowed to be worn for PE.

Please remember that children should only bring a bookbag to school—large bags and rucksacks are not allowed for health and safety reasons.

PE Days

	Indoor PE	Outdoor PE	Swimming
Class 1	Monday	Wednesday	
Class 2	Thursday	Friday	
Class 3	Wednesday	Monday	
Class 4	Wednesday		Thursday
Class 5	Monday		Tuesday
Class 6	Thursday		Wednesday
Class 7	Friday	Monday	
Class 8	Wednesday	Thursday	
Class 9	Tuesday	Thursday	
Class 10	Monday	Friday	
Class 11	Friday	Tuesday	
Class 12	Thursday	Tuesday	



Year 4 will be swimming at the end of the school day, so may bring a onesie to school to get changed into when they finish their lesson if they wish. Children may come in PE kit on swimming days.

Year 4 swimming starts the week beginning Monday 14th September. Children will need swimsuits, a towel, a swimming hat and goggles (if they wish).

Umbrella

Umbrella is offering a range of inclusive summer activities for children with disabilities and their families, providing opportunities to have fun, make friends and stay active during the 6-week break. Click [here](#) to find out more!

Many of these activities are free of charge and are **open to any family**, making them accessible to those who may benefit from additional opportunities and support over the summer holidays.



2026/27 DATES

Friday 4th September	All Day	INSET 1
Monday 7th September	All Day	INSET 2
Tuesday 8th September	8:55am	Autumn 1 Term begins
Friday 23rd October	3:30pm	End of Autumn 1 Term—break up for half term
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 authorized 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

Derby Safe Haven

Derby Safe Haven is a free out-of-hours mental health support service for adults aged 18 and over in Derby and Derbyshire. As the summer holidays approach, they recognise that some families may have increased pressures, including challenges with their mental health and wellbeing. Safe Haven provides a welcoming, non-clinical space where individuals can access emotional support, practical guidance and signposting to other services when needed.

The service is available during evenings from 16:30-00:30 every day, weekends and bank holidays, offering support at times when many other services may be closed. There is no cost to access the service and individuals can self-refer without needing an appointment.

Click [here](#) for more information, call 0330 008 3722 or [email](#)
309 Burton Road, Derby DE23 6AG



School Dinners

School dinners MUST be paid for, **ONLINE, IN ADVANCE** using your School Money account. Dinners cost **£2.90 per day (£14.50 for a full week)**. When we return in September, we will be back on the new [Week 1](#) menu.

