



Dear Parent and Carers,

Welcome back to the new school year. It has been lovely to see all the children and I hope that they have enjoyed returning to routine and seeing friends and teachers in school.

Thank you to everyone who has supported our new uniform. All the children look incredibly smart. Do not worry if you have not made the switch to navy; you have until September 2027 to do this.

On 21st of September, we will be welcoming parents to our 'Open Classrooms' event between 3.25 and 4pm. This is an informal opportunity to drop in and see your child's new class and some of the work they have been doing. There will be no formal teacher presentations as I am aware that all the information that you need will have been sent out on Class Dojo. If you are unable to make this date, please contact your child's class teacher to arrange another time when you can pop in.

On 29th of September we will be welcoming parents to our Mini Masterpieces exhibition. This exhibition will be a chance to celebrate the artwork that the children have produced in school during their 'Start-right' weeks. There will be an opportunity to purchase a framed edition of your child's artwork if you would like to, but there is no obligation to do so.

Kind regards,

Danielle Martin
Headteacher

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Secondary School applications

Secondary school: Parents of children in Year 6 have until 31st October to apply for a school place for their child. Please be aware that it is prudent to apply for the local area school (Chellaston Academy) even if you have made applications to other schools, including independent schools. This also includes parents who may be considering a home-schooling model. Chellaston Academy becomes very over subscribed and if plans change, there is no guarantee of securing a place after applications have closed. In the past this has led to children being allocated schools a long way away.

Flu immunisations

All parents have been sent an email asking whether you give consent for the flu immunisation. These will take place on Monday 14th September. If you have any questions, please call NHS/ Intrahealth on: 0333 3583 397 – Option 5 or email: immunisations.derbyshire@intrahealth.co.uk

Choir and Singing lessons

Choir starts again on 22nd September at 8.30am. This is a free club open to all year groups.

Singing lessons will also start again on 21st of September. These cost £21 for a half hour session. If parents are interested, they should contact the school office.

After School club - Gymnastics

There are a few places available for the after-school gymnastics which is on Wednesdays from 3.30 – 4.30pm, if your child would like to attend, please follow the link below:

<https://www.premier-education.com/parents/venue/courses/6278/?location=Melbourne%20Junior%20School&distance=0.0&distance=0.0>

Wraparound Care

If you require wraparound care for your child, there is a breakfast club run by Premier Education at Melbourne Infant School from 7.30 – 9am. Please follow the link below if you would like to book a place for your child:

[Premier Education Breakfast Club](#)

Progressive Kids run an after-school club at Melbourne Junior School from 3.30 – 5.30pm each day. There is a flyer attached to the general weekly email and the link to their website is below if you would like to book a place for your child:

[Progressive Kids after-school club](#)

Parent Support Session

Parent Carer Support Drop-In Session

Advice, Information & Support Under One Roof

Friday 18th September

10am – 2pm

Venue: Chesterfield Football Club, The HUB, East stand, S418NZ

Friday 6th November

10am – 2pm

Venue: Sports Hall, Melandra Castle Road, Gamesley, Glossop, SK13 6UQ

Join Derbyshire Parent Carer Voice and local professionals for a relaxed, welcoming drop-in session where you can access support, ask questions and connect with other parent carers.

- Educational Psychology Service
- DIASS
- Neuro Hubs
- Compass Changing Lives
- CAMHS
- Inclusion Support Advisory Service (ISAS) Teachers
- Derbyshire Parent Carer Voice Trustees & Representatives

Why Attend?

- Speak directly with professionals
- Access a range of services in one place
- Get information, advice and signposting
- Meet other parent carers
- Enjoy a cuppa and a friendly chat
- Take things at your own pace in a non-judgemental environment

Bookable Educational Psychologist Conversations Available. To book please email: info@derbyshireparentcarervoice.org

30-minute confidential one-to-one discussions where you can:

- Talk through your experiences
- Explore possible next steps
- Ask questions in a supportive environment

Everyone is Welcome

Whether you're looking for advice, support, information, or simply a friendly chat over a hot drink, we'd love to see you there. For more information visit

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



Understanding PDA Free Online Sessions for Parent Carers

Delivered by the PDA Society

Do you support a child or young person with a PDA (Pathological Demand Avoidance) profile?

Join us for one of our informative and supportive online sessions to learn more about PDA and discover practical strategies to support your child.

Session 1

Understanding and Supporting Younger Children with PDA **Thursday 17 September 2026**

10.00am – 11.00am

Session 2

Understanding and Supporting Teenagers with PDA **Thursday 24 September 2026**, 10.00am – 11.00am

The Sessions Will Cover:

Understanding the PDA profile

Why everyday demands can trigger anxiety

Practical PDA-informed approaches and strategies

Further information and sources of support

Opportunity for questions and discussion

For more information and to book your place please visit <https://derbyshireparentforums.co.uk/>



Free School Meals

From September 2026 all families in receipt of Universal credit will be eligible for Free School Meals in school. To check whether your child is eligible, please follow the link below:

[Free School Meal checker](#)

All Families in Receipt of Universal Credit can get Free School Meals from September 2026

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 already receive free meals.

Children in Year 3 and above may also be eligible.

Three ways to check if you qualify:

- Use the free school meals checker online - simply scan the QR code
- Contact the team by email or telephone, details overleaf
- Ask at your school for further information

Good to know:

Once registered, you don't need to reapply each year. Your eligibility is checked automatically every month.



All Families in Receipt of Universal Credit can get Free School Meals



If school meals are free for reception, year 1 and year 2 - why do I still need to apply?

Eligible pupils attract Pupil Premium, additional funding for the school. This enables the school to support families in appropriate ways, for example this could include help with:

- residential school trips
- travel costs to school
- school uniform costs
- Holiday Activity Funded (HAF) Places
- music lessons

www.derbyshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals
email: checking@derbyshire.gov.uk
telephone: 01629 536481



Weekly attendance

Whole school attendance for this week (7th - 11th September 2026) has been: 98.53%

Well done to Kestrel class which had 100% attendance this week.

Diary dates

Date	Event
Monday 14 th September	Flu immunisation team visit
Monday 21 st September	Open classrooms 3.30 – 4pm
Tuesday 22 nd September	First Choir session 8.15am in school hall
Tues 29 th September	Mini-Master artworks
Wed 30 th September	Y4 parents meeting about Lea Green residential trip
Friday 16 th October	Athlete visit to school
Tue 20 th October	Parents Evening
Thursday 22 nd October	Halloween Disco - £6 payable on Parentpay
Thursday 5 th November	Parents Evening
Friday 6 th November	MIS Bonfire and Fireworks night
Wednesday 16 th December	Whole school trip to see 'The Railway Children' at Derby Theatre - £17.85 payable on Parentpay
Thursday 10 th December	Christmas Disco - £6 payable on Parentpay