



Dear Parents and Carers,

This week our Year 4 children visited the Parish Church and spent the afternoon learning about the 900-year history of this amazing building. It was wonderful to see the children's excitement as they searched for interesting carvings and details in the stained-glass windows. I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone at Melbourne Parish Church who made this possible.

Next Saturday, our school choir will be singing at the Church's Christmas Fayre. We look forward to seeing many of you there.

The season of coughs and colds is really on us now. Please don't forget to let us know if your child is unwell. While we do really understand the impact of these winter germs, we are also still aware of how important good school attendance is. If your child's attendance does drop below 90%, schools are obliged to follow up poor attendance with parents. We are grateful for your on-going support keeping your children learning.

We have a fantastic wraparound club which runs every day after school, the sessions can be booked from 3.30 – 4.30pm and from 4.30 – 5.30pm. Please follow the link below if you are interested in booking sessions for your child/ren:

<https://progressive-sports.co.uk/derbyshire/wraparound-care/>

Best wishes,

Danielle Martin
Headteacher

Melbourne Junior School
Packhorse Road
Melbourne
Derby
DE73 8JE

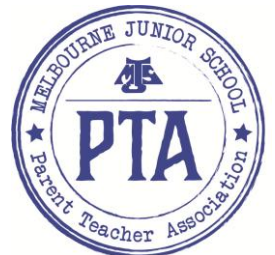
Head Teacher: Miss D. Martin
Email: info@melbourne-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk
Web: www.melbourne-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk
Telephone: 01332 862344

Christmas Disco



Easyfundraising

In the run up to Christmas, you can support the PTA by making your purchases through Easyfundraising. With most stores, a percentage of what you spend is given to your chosen cause, if you choose Melbourne Junior School PTA, the money can be used to purchase new resources like the outdoor gym and history timeline.



<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/melbournejspta>

Enrichment activities

A reminder that if your child is eligible for Free School Meals, Melbourne Junior School will provide your child with two school jumpers or cardigans, your child can choose to have a term of after-school club and a term of music lessons each academic year. If you would like more information about this, please contact Mrs Ryley or Miss Knight in the school office on 01332 862344 or info@melbourne-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk

Science week – March 2025

We would be very grateful to hear from anyone who would be willing to support the school in any way during Science Week next year. This could take the form of speaking to the children about your STEM role or supporting a science lesson in class. Contributions such as these from parents/carers in the past few years has really helped the children to understand the value of STEM careers and how their science learning can impact real life. Return speakers are very welcome!

Please email Mrs Pegg if you are able to help: holly.pegg@melbourne-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk

Futures week

In the summer term, we are hoping to hold a 'Futures Week' to help inspire our children to think about the purpose of their learning and to be ambitious about their own futures. If you have an interesting job that you think would inspire and engage the children and would be happy to come to school to talk about it, please let Mrs. Ryley in the office know.

Request from Infant School

The Infant School PTA are busy making arrangements for the Infant School Christmas Fair which will take place on Friday 12th December. The Infant School PTA would be grateful for any donations of soft toys/teddies to help fill the Teddy Tombola stall! Pre-loved soft toys/teddies are welcome - they should be clean and in good condition. Please drop off any donations to the Infant School office during office hours by Monday 1st December.

East Midlands Airport Competition

NAME A SNOW PLOUGH

Our £2.5m winter upgrade is here: six new Compact Jet Sweepers and a snow-cutter blower, ready to keep East Midlands Airport moving.



Think witty, imaginative, and memorable

Closing date: Monday 15th December 2025

Prize: Snow vehicles marked up with winners' suggested names

Winners will be invited with a parent/guardian to the airport on Tuesday 30th December to see the snow fleet up close (*all visitors will require a valid passport or driving licence*)

Each winner will also receive a family ticket for Twycross Zoo's 'Lanterns of the Wild'



Click [here](#) to enter



[Snow plough naming competition – Fill in form](#)



The poster features a rainbow graphic on the left side. At the top left is the 'citizens advice Mid Mercia' logo. The main title 'South Derbyshire Neurodevelopmental Community Hubs' is centered in large black font. To the right is the 'ND HUBS Embracing Neurodivergence' logo, which consists of a circular arrangement of colorful dots. Below this is the 'Joined Up Care Derbyshire' logo. A white box in the center contains the following text: 'December 2025 dates: Citizens Advice Mid Mercia 114 Church Street, Church Gresley, Swadlincote, DE11, 9NR Monday 8th December 10am-4pm Monday 22nd December 10am-4pm'. To the right of this box is a photograph of a brick building with a rainbow graphic overlaid on the top left corner. The text on the photo reads: 'Citizens Advice Mid-Mercia, 114 Church Street, Church Gresley, Swadlincote, DE11 9NR'. At the bottom left is the 'NHS Derby and Derbyshire Integrated Care Board' logo. At the bottom center is the contact information: 'Telephone: 01332 228744 Email: ch@citizensadvicemidmercias.org.uk'. At the bottom right is a logo of five stylized human figures in different colors.

citizens advice Mid Mercia

South Derbyshire Neurodevelopmental Community Hubs

ND HUBS
Embracing Neurodivergence

Joined Up Care
Derbyshire

December 2025 dates:

Citizens Advice Mid Mercia
114 Church Street, Church Gresley,
Swadlincote, DE11, 9NR

Monday 8th December 10am-4pm

Monday 22nd December 10am-4pm

Citizens Advice Mid-Mercia
114 Church Street, Church Gresley,
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NHS
Derby and Derbyshire
Integrated Care Board

Telephone: 01332 228744
Email: ch@citizensadvicemidmercias.org.uk



The Neurodevelopmental Community Hubs are a free service commissioned by the NHS/Joined Up Care Derbyshire to provide information and guidance (IAG) to children, young people and families in the South Derbyshire area that may be neurodivergent. No diagnosis is needed to access the service, as the service is designed to support families that are currently awaiting assessment to ensure they can access holistic support and information whilst they wait.

The hub provides a dedicated time whereby parents can talk through any support needs or areas that they are struggling with, and we can provide information and guidance surrounding how to support a young person who is neurodiverse. We can then offer signposting services that are specific to their need.

Lantern Parade

Join our Christmas Lantern Parade!

Make your very own magical Christmas Lantern, then light up the night and walk together in our festive Christmas Lantern Parade.

Gather together at **5.15pm on Friday 5th December** inside the Parish Church, Church Square for a treat before walking to Market Place in time to help Santa countdown before the Christmas lights are switched on.

All children are welcome, accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Lanterns should be safe for children to carry, lit with tealights, glowsticks or battery-operated lights.

Please let us know if you are taking part by emailing
clerk@melbourneparishcouncil.gov.uk
Melbourne Parish Council

Class Dojo update

“We would like to inform parents that a recent update to the ClassDojo app introduced a new feature allowing parent-to-parent messaging, which can be enabled by selecting specific preferences. ClassDojo explain that a parent *‘must actively select their preferences on a confirmation screen before they are searchable by other parents’*.

Please be aware that this functionality is not managed or controlled by the school. As a result, the school has contacted ClassDojo and requested that this feature be disabled. We want to be transparent with parents about this change.

While parents will no longer be able to initiate new chats with other parents, they will still be able to access and continue any existing threads they have already created.”

Weekly Attendance

Whole school attendance for this week (17th – 21st November 2025) has been: 97.14%

Congratulations to Squirrel class for achieving: 99.09%



Diary dates

Date	What's On
Saturday 29 th November	Choir singing at Parish Church Christmas Fair 12 noon
Tuesday 2 nd December	2pm – Open afternoon for prospective parents
3 rd – 5 th December 2025	Y6 Lea Green residential trip
Wednesday 10 th December	Y4 Christmas concert - afternoon 2pm and 5pm evening performances
Thursday 11 th December	Christmas Disco
Monday 15 th December	Christmas Carol service at Parish Church
Tuesday 16 th December	Dick Whittington pantomime at Derby Arena
Wednesday 17 th December	Re-scheduled flu immunization in school and Christmas around the world day
Thursday 18 th December	Christmas Lunch in school and Christmas Jumper day.
Thursday 22 nd January	Film Night 3.30 – 5pm
26 th January 2026	Mini Basketball
Friday 13 th February	INSET day
5 th and 6 th March 2026	Y5 residential trip to Thornbridge Outdoors
12 th March 2026	Y4 trip to Nottingham Outdoor Centre
23 rd March 2026	Y3 trip to Creswell Crags
23 rd March 2026	Primary Swimming Gala
Monday 1 st June 2026	INSET day