



Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been very festive in school this week! On Wednesday we were treated to the fantastic Year 3 and 4 Christmas show. It was lovely to see the children participating and finding so much enjoyment in performing to their families, and achieving so much whether through their acting, singing or playing of instruments. Thank you so much for coming and thanks also to our fantastic staff for making it happen.

On Thursday evening, our Christmas disco was very well supported and has raised much needed funds for the PTA. The snow machine was a real highlight. We are very grateful for your on-going support with these events.

Next week, we will be equally busy. We have our Carol Service at the Parish Church on Monday at 2pm. As my Dojo message said, this is not a concert, but a celebration of Christmas. There will be limited seating for parents, so we ask families to consider only coming in ones or twos to support the children. There will be chairs in the gallery, under the bell tower and near the font, but the majority of the seating in the nave will be reserved for the children.

On Tuesday, the whole school are off to the pantomime in Derby. Please remember that it is a whole school packed lunch that day.

On a lighter note, we seem to have an infestation of elves. If any parents have tips on how to control these cheeky little characters, please let Mrs. Ryley in the office know.

Best wishes,

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Photos from the Year 3 and 4 performance



Christmas Around the World



Christmas around the world day on Wednesday, learning about how other countries celebrate Christmas. It is a non-uniform day and please can children bring a plastic bag to take things home in.

On Thursday it is Christmas dinner day, all meals had to be pre-booked by 19th November as the school kitchen had to pre-order the food. All children may come to school in a Christmas jumper or T-shirt on Thursday.

Request for games and puzzles

If you have any complete board games, jigsaws, card games or colouring books that your children have grown out of and would like to donate them for our wet playtime boxes they would be gratefully received. Likewise, if you have any books which are no longer being used, we will happily take them too. Thank you .

Melbourne Christmas Tree Festival



Mrs Green and the arts ambassadors have worked really hard and decorated a tree which will be in the Christmas Tree Festival between 14th and 21st December.

Please pop along to the Parish Church to see our tree and all the other trees which have been decorated by organisations in the village.

Charity fundraising

We are pleased to let you know that Melbourne Junior School raised a fantastic £146.07 for the British Legion through the sale of poppies and merchandise ahead of Remembrance Sunday.

In addition, there was a collection at the Year 3 and 4 performances this week which will be split between the RSPCA and Make-A-Wish, the collection raised £189.20, thank you very much for your generosity.

After School Clubs

AT

Melbourne Junior School



Creative Activities

We're committed to delivering reliable and expert care that extends the school day with enriching and inclusive activities, which is valued and trusted by everyone involved.



After School Clubs

AT

Melbourne Junior School

> **4 unique zones**

Active Kids Zone, Wellness Zone, Discovery Zone and Creative Zone! Something for everyone...

> **Ofsted registered***

Parents can use childcare vouchers and tax free childcare, and be safe in the knowledge our clubs are delivered against strict criteria

> **Variety of menus!**

Different snack choices, breakfasts, encouraging healthy lifestyles



Ofsted Registered*



Something for everyone!

> **After School Clubs**

3.30pm to 4.30pm - Session 1 - £5.95 (with snack)
4.30pm to 5.30pm - Session 2 - £3.95

> **How to book**

You can book online with card and childcare vouchers -

www.progressive-sports.co.uk/derbyshire/wraparound-care (Click here)

If you need any assistance, email bookings@progressive-sports-derbyshire.co.uk

Derbyshire Parent Carer Voice

We are working on an important project in partnership with Derby and Derbyshire ICB to improve mental health support for neurodivergent children and young people.

We want to understand the experiences of parent carers of autistic, ADHD, both (dual diagnosis), or other neurodivergent children and young people who have had concerns about their mental health or needed support from mental health services.

Your help in sharing this survey with parents would be invaluable. Their feedback will help us identify what works well, where there are gaps, and what needs to change.

Neurodiversity and Mental Health Parent Carer Survey



We need your voice!



We're working with Derby and Derbyshire ICB on a project to improve mental health support for neurodivergent children and young people.

If you're a parent carer of an autistic, ADHD, both (dual diagnosis), or other neurodivergent child who has had concerns about mental health or needed support, please share your experiences.

Your feedback will help us understand what works, what doesn't, and what needs to change.

Every response matters and helps us push for real improvements in SEND services across Derbyshire.

For more information and to complete the survey please visit

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

Weekly Attendance

Whole school attendance for this week (8th – 12th December 2025) has been: 93.72%

Congratulations to Squirrel class for achieving: 98.26%



Diary dates

Date	What's On
Monday 15 th December	2pm Christmas Carol service at Parish Church – parents and grandparents very welcome
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