



Dear Parents and Carers,

Next week you will see that we are beginning some work to develop our garden area behind the year 4 and 5 classrooms. Thanks to a generous donation from the family of Jenny Tovell (the much-loved Granny T) we will be improving the pathways in the garden and are hoping to be able to open the area up for greater use by the children. We would really welcome any keen gardeners who might like to volunteer with us and make the space a useable wildlife garden and play space.

We had a water safety assembly on Thursday from Derbyshire Fire Service about the dangers of frozen water.

Year 4 have started their Forest School sessions this week. Thank you for supporting us by sending warm and waterproof clothing in with your children.

Don't be alarmed on Monday if you see some children looking rather under-dressed for school. Kingfisher class have chosen to come to school in their pyjamas as a reward for their fantastic participation and ambitious approach to their learning.

Best wishes,

Danielle Martin
Headteacher

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Parent Governor elections

There is currently a vacancy for a parent governor, and we have two parents who have put their names forward and therefore we need to have an election. All parents/ carers of children currently registered at the school are invited to vote from 9am on Monday 19th January for their preferred candidate.

The link to vote will be sent out by email and on Class Dojo. Details of the candidates and their personal statements are included on the voting form. Each parent/ carer has one vote.

The voting will close on Tuesday 27th January 2026 at 12 noon. The votes will be counted at school after the close of the election and parents/ carers will be notified of the result as soon as possible afterwards.

Dinner Money

Please can we remind all parents that dinner money should be paid in advance of your child taking dinners. Once your child's account goes into debt, the parent/ carer attached to the account will receive a daily email reminder to top up the account. If the account is owing £10 or more then you will be asked to send a packed lunch to school until the debt is cleared.

If your circumstances have changed and your child may be eligible for Free School Meals, please contact the school office.

Wellies

If anyone has any Wellington boots which are no longer used, please would you consider donating them to school for use within the Forest School curriculum. Please drop any donations at the school office.

School absence reporting

Sickness Absence and Attendance: If your child is unwell, please contact the school using the absence message line by calling the school by telephone (01332 862344) before 8.55am. Please do not inform us of your child(ren)'s absence by using Class Dojo.

Please note that exclusion periods will apply to certain illnesses.

PTA Film Night – Thursday 22nd January 2026

The next PTA film night is taking place on Thursday 22nd January 2026. If your child would like to attend, please make a payment via Parentpay. The film night starts straight after school and finishes at 5pm.



SEND support group



NEW GROUP!

Starting 25th February

Are you a parent or carer of a young person with SEND?

Come along to our drop-in café for peer to peer support:

Last Wednesday of every month

1pm-3pm

Athenaeum, Potter Street, Melbourne

(above The Wesley Hall)

***accessed by stairs only**

Contact us for more information:

Tel: 01332 863585

Email: melbourne-care@btconnect.com



After-school sports clubs – places available

There are also some spaces available in the Premier Education gymnastics club on a Wednesday from 3.30 – 4.30pm. If your child is interested in taking part in this club, please book them on via the Premier Education website: www.premier-education.com

Progressive Kids – wraparound club



After School Clubs

AT Melbourne Junior School

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.



Creative Activities

The wraparound club runs from 3.30 – 5.30pm every day. Parent can book their child/ren into Progressive Kids for 1 or 2 hour sessions each day.



After School Clubs

AT Melbourne Junior School



Ofsted Registered*



Something for everyone!

- **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

- **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

If you would like to book your child into the wraparound care, please go to the website: www.progressive-sports.co.uk/derbyshire/wraparound-care

Weekly Attendance

Whole school attendance for this week (12th – 16th January 2026) has been: 95.98%

Congratulations to Squirrel class for achieving: 97.94%



Diary dates

Date	What's On
Thursday 22 nd January	Film Night 3.30 – 5pm
Monday 26 th January	Mini Basketball
Tuesday 3 rd February	4.30pm Y5 parents meeting about residential
Friday 13 th February	INSET day
24 th February	Y6 parents meeting for SATS at 5pm in school
25 th February	Y3 trip to Melbourne Gallery
26 th February	Parents evening
3 rd March	Parents evening
5 th March	World Book day
5 th and 6 th March 2026	Y5 residential trip to Thornbridge Outdoors
w/c 9 th March	Science week
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
13 th April	First day of spring term
Monday 1 st June 2026	INSET day
Friday 4 th September 2026	INSET day
Monday 7 th September	Start of autumn term