St Giles Primary and Nursery School Office Friday Flyer!

Achieving through kindness, compassion and perseverance

This weeks ‘Big Question’

Class 1 and 2 – What activities can we do together?





Class 3 and 4 – How important is it to feel as sense of togetherness?



On Friday, the Princess of Wales will host her annual carol service, which will bring people together to celebrate kindness, connection, and community. The event aims to show how love can link people of all ages, backgrounds, and beliefs, especially at times when the world can feel divided. It encourages everyone to think about the power of togetherness and the importance of supporting one another with compassion and joy.

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEKS AHEAD	
Monday 8th December	• Photographer in school this morning taking new photographs for the school website. Please ensure all children are in full school uniform looking "spick and span" Thank you!
Tuesday 9th December	• No football club
Wednesday 10th December	• Open sessions for Reception Starters September 2026 – 9.30am and 2pm • Christmas Crafts for Nursery children and September 2026 new starters 3.30pm – 4.30pm
Thursday 11th December	• **Pantomime at Buxton Opera House – Whole School** • **Please use Arbor to give consent and payment. Children need to be at school between 8.15 and 8.30 See full details below.** • NO SWIMMING for Class 3
Friday 12th December	• **Christmas Jumper Day** • **Secret Santa – Donations needed. See below.** • No celebration assembly
Saturday 13th December	• Cake and Carols in St Giles Church 3pm - All welcome
Monday 15th December	•
Tuesday 16th December	• No football club
Wednesday 17th December	• **Infant Nativity 2.00pm. Parents and relatives of infant children are invited to watch the performance. Tickets are not required.** • Carol Service in St Giles Church 7.30pm
Thursday 18th December	• NO SWIMMING for Class 3 • **Infant Nativity 5.00pm. Parents and relatives of infant and nursery children are invited to watch the performance. Tickets are not required. Infant and nursery children need to be back at school for 4.30pm.**
Friday 19th December	• **LAST DAY OF TERM** • **Christingle Service in St Giles Church at 2:30pm Everyone is welcome to join us. If you are at the service you may take your child home straight from church. All other children will be walked back up to school for you to collect. It is likely to be 3.30pm when we get back to school. THERE IS NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUB TODAY**

OTHER NEWS

- **Secret Santa** – We would be extremely grateful for donations of any unwanted gifts for the **Secret Santa event on 12th December.** There is a box in reception. Suggested items: Toiletries, Chocolate, Candles, Socks etc. for both **men and women**. All children are invited to take part. They can choose a gift for mum, dad, grandparents or other relative. The gift will be wrapped for them to bring home. The cost is £1 per gift. We hope to have enough for each child to buy a maximum of two gifts. **We currently do not have enough donations and especially need gifts for men**. Chocolate is always good! Thank you in advance for all your support and to everyone who has donated already.

Whole School Trip to Buxton Opera House A Reminder that on **Thursday 11th December 2025** we are going to Buxton Opera House to watch a performance of Aladdin. We will be leaving school at

8.45am for the 10.00am performance. **Children should arrive at school between 8.15am and 8.30am. NO LATER THAN 8.30am.**

We will have a picnic lunch on our return to school. The school kitchen will provide packed lunches for all infant children and those eligible for free school meals. All other children should bring a packed lunch from home. **Children will need to wear their full school uniform. Please can children bring their water bottle (containing only water) but we ask that you DO NOT SEND ANY SWEETS OR SNACKS.**

Once again we would like to thank our amazing PTFA who have very generously paid for the tickets for all children which are £15.00 each. They are also providing every child with a goody bag for the interval. We are therefore only asking for a voluntary contribution of £7.50 per child to cover the cost of the transport to and from Buxton. Please note that if we do not cover the cost of the transport then it may affect our ability to run further trips this school year. **Payment and consent should be done on Arbor. The deadline for payment is Friday 28th November.**

- **Wraparound Care Bookings** – Thank you to everyone who has booked for Breakfast and After School Club using Arbor. **A polite reminder that all children must be booked in advance**. We are still having children arrive at Breakfast Club and After School Club that we weren't expecting. Fortunately we have been able to accommodate the extra children so far but some days we have been at maximum capacity. If you are experiencing any teething problems using Arbor to make bookings please do let us know in the office so that we can help you. Please also remember to cancel any booked sessions that you no longer require with the office to free the space up for others. Non-attendance will be charged.

- **Christmas Dinner – Wednesday 17th December.** Unfortunately, this year we are unable to open this up to the whole school. Only children who normally have a school lunch on Wednesdays will be able to have a Christmas Dinner. This is totally out of our control due to issues with kitchen equipment which is currently restricting the catering staff on a daily basis. We understand that this may be disappointing as we have always been able to offer this in the past. Please accept our apologies.

- **Tuesday Football Club with Mr Williams.** The Football league matches have finished for this term. Due to the dark nights football club will also take a break until after Christmas. We will advise when this will restart.

- **Friday 19th December** – As this is the last day of the Autumn Term there will be **NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUB.**

- **Nut Free School –** A gentle reminder that we are a **nut free school**. This means **no nuts or nut products** (including peanut butter, Nutella, cereal bars with nuts etc.) should be brought into school. We have children with nut allergies and even a small trace can cause a serious reaction. Your support helps us keep everyone safe and healthy.

- **Car Park Safety** – **Polite Reminder and for the benefit of our new parents - Please do not use the school car park to drop off and collect your children.** The car park is for staff, visitors and deliveries only. The safety of your children is our priority and the car park is not a safe place for children at these busy times of the school day. Thank you in advance for your cooperation with this.

- **Water Bottles - Please ensure your child has a water bottle, with their name on (containing only water) in school every day.**

Please do not hesitate to contact us on 01629 56813 or by email with any questions or queries.

Friday updates can be found in the Newsletters section of our school website.

FURTHER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY ACADEMIC YEAR 2025-2026	
Monday 5th January	First day of the Spring Term
Thursday 8th January	NO SWIMMING FOR Class 3
Thursday 15th January	Swimming for Class 3 Deadline for Primary School Applications for Sept 2026
Friday 30th January	Young Voices for Class 4
Monday 23rd February	**INSET DAY – School Closed to pupils**
Thursday 5th March	World Book Day
Friday 20th March	Comic Relief/Red Nose Day
Thursday 26th March	Easter Service – details to follow
Friday 27th March	Easter Bonnet Parade and PTFA Mini Easter Fair Last day of term
Monday 4th May	**May Day Bank Holiday**
Monday 11th May	KS2 SATS – Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling
Tuesday 12th May	KS2 SATS – English Reading Paper
Wednesday 13th May	KS2 SATS – Maths Paper 1 & 2
Thursday 14th May	KS2 SATS – Maths Paper 3
Friday 15th May	Y6 Celebration at Whitworth Park
Monday 1st June	**INSET Day – School Closed to pupils**
Wednesday 24th June	**SPORTS DAY**
Wednesday 1st July	**Year 6 Transition Day at Lady Manners**
Thursday 2nd July	**Year 6 Transition Day at Highfields**
Thursday 23rd July	**Last Day of term** **NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUB**



DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION-FUNDED

HOLIDAY CLUBS IN DERBYSHIRE 2025/26

it's about me
Derbyshire's Holiday Activity and Food Programme

MORE INFORMATION

Did you know that as well as free school meals during term time, your child can also benefit from Department for Education-funded spaces at holiday clubs in your local area?

Thanks to the Holiday Activity and Food Programme, known in Derbyshire as 'It's About Me', your child can experience holiday clubs filled with fun, learning and healthy meals at no cost to you!

If your child is aged between 4-16 years old* and is eligible to receive benefits-related free school meals, they're entitled to access It's About Me holiday clubs.

With a wide range of activities such as sports, arts and crafts, cooking, dance, music and more, there's something for everyone! Plus, every session includes a nutritious meal to keep them energised and happy throughout the day.

Each club offers a unique programme depending on its location and type—there's so much to explore!

Not eligible? Many clubs also offer paid places, so every child has the chance to join the fun.

IMPORTANT DATES

SPRING
Bookings open: 17th March 2025
Holiday clubs open: 7th April 2025 - 17th April 2025

SUMMER
Bookings open: 30th June 2025
Holiday clubs open: 28th July 2025 - 3rd September 2025

WINTER
Bookings open: 1st December 2025
Holiday clubs open: 22nd December 2025- 2nd January 2026

All dates exclude bank holidays and weekends.

HOW TO BOOK

1. Get your unique IAM/ HAF code from your child's school
2. Go to our website itsaboutmederbyshire.co.uk
3. Follow our handy How to Book Guide
4. Sign-up to receive It's About Me updates

HOW TO BOOK

it's about me
Derbyshire's Holiday Activity and Food Programme

Why not take a photo of these instructions?

GET YOUR CODE

1. Get your IAM code from your child's school.
   If you haven't received your code, but believe you are eligible for the programme, please contact your child's school.

CHOOSE YOUR CLUBS

2. Go to itsaboutmederbyshire.co.uk and click BOOK NOW
3. Enter your criteria E.g Location, participant age, date and click SEARCH
   To view the session details click MORE INFORMATION
4. Once you've found a holiday club you like, click "BOOK NOW" and choose a date and time that works for you.
5. Enter your child's details- you can add more than once child.
   You may need to add 'Supplementary Information' Please write 'none' in any fields that do not apply.
6. Repeat to add more sessions.

CREATE A LOG-IN

7. Once you have chosen all your sessions, go to your cart and click CHECKOUT
8. To complete your booking, you will need to create a log-in. You can then view/ edit and add any additional bookings at any time by logging in.

Create a Log-in
- Add your details
- Sign up for session reminders
- Enter your child/ children's details
- Sign up for our It's About Me newsletter

COMPLETE BOOKING

Click COMPLETE BOOKING

MORE INFORMATION:
itsaboutmederbyshire.co.uk

DERBYSHIRE County Council
Department for Education

COME AND JOIN US FOR

Christmas Crafts

Who: Nursery and reception 2026 starters

When: Wednesday 10th December at 3:30pm - 4:30pm

What: make a variety of different Christmas crafts with Mrs Taylor, Mrs Rodgers and Miss Simpson.

Mince pies, cookies and drinks available all whilst listening to Christmas music!

NO NEED TO BOOK, JUST TURN UP!

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

ELECTRICAL SAFETY AND DEVICES

Electrical safety is a vital topic for parents and educators, especially with the growing use of devices like smartphones, laptops, and power banks. Electrical fires are a major risk and are the cause of many deaths and injuries each year. There are reportedly nearly 20,000 accidental fires of electrical origin each year in the UK. This guide offers practical advice to help families and schools prevent electrical hazards, and promote safety when using everyday devices.

1 CHECK FOR OVERHEATING

Devices such as laptops, tablets, and smartphones can overheat if used for long periods or when charging. Ensure that children don't use devices on soft surfaces like beds or sofas, which can block ventilation. If a device becomes unusually hot, turn it off and unplug it. Overheating can lead to fire hazards if left unchecked.

2 INSTALL RESIDUAL CURRENT DEVICES

Ensure that homes and schools are equipped with Residual Current Devices (RCDs). These devices cut off the power if an electrical fault occurs, preventing electric shocks and reducing the risk of fires. RCDs should be tested regularly to ensure they are working properly. More information about RCDs is available from Electrical Safety First.

3 AVOID OVERLOADING SOCKETS

Plugging too many devices into one socket can overload the electrical system and cause a fire. In schools and homes, ensure extension leads are not overloaded and never 'daisy chain' multiple extension cords together. Educate children on the dangers of connecting too many devices to a single outlet.

4 POWER BANKS: SAFE USE

Power banks are a handy way to charge devices, but they can also pose a risk if misused. Ensure power banks are of high quality and comply with UK safety standards. Teach children never to leave power banks charging unattended, and to avoid placing them under pillows or bedding where they may overheat.

5 REGULAR DEVICE INSPECTIONS

Regularly check devices for signs of wear and tear. Frayed charging cables, cracked device casings, or devices that are slow to charge may indicate electrical problems. If any issues are noticed, stop using the device until it can be repaired or replaced by a qualified technician. This proactive approach helps prevent fires caused by faulty devices.

6 UNPLUG DEVICES WHEN NOT IN USE

Encourage children and pupils to unplug devices when not in use, particularly overnight. Devices left plugged in unnecessarily can overheat or become fire hazards, especially if left charging unattended for long periods. Simple habits like unplugging can prevent serious incidents.

7 USE GENUINE CHARGERS

Always use chargers supplied by the manufacturer or from a reputable retailer. Faulty or counterfeit chargers can cause devices to overheat, short-circuit, or even catch fire. Teach children the importance of avoiding poor-quality chargers, and regularly inspect charging cables for signs of wear or damage. More tips on safe charging can be found at Electrical Safety First.

8 WATER & ELECTRICITY DON'T MIX

Teach children that water and electricity are a dangerous combination. Devices should never be used near sinks, bathtubs, or swimming pools. Parents and educators should ensure that any electrical appliances near water sources have proper waterproof casings and are plugged into RCD-protected outlets.

9 KEEP DEVICES VENTILATED

Devices need proper ventilation to avoid overheating. Avoid stacking items on top of plugged-in devices like laptops or gaming consoles, and make sure there is enough space around devices to allow for airflow. Proper ventilation helps prevent dangerous heat build-up, reducing the risk of fires.

10 SUPERVISE YOUNG CHILDREN

Younger children may not understand the dangers of electricity, so it's important to supervise them when they are using devices. Keep electrical cords out of reach and always remind children never to put objects into electrical outlets.

Meet Our Expert

James Whelan is an experienced health and safety expert who is a Chartered Member of the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health. He provides services to educational settings as well as many other industries to help them maintain a safe working environment.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

See full reference list on our website

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 03.12.2025

Autumn & Winter Menu

Available Daily: Bread, Salad, Fruit, Yoghurt & Drinking Water

CELEBRATING 120 YEARS OF SCHOOL MEALS

Week 1

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
The Main Event	Beef Bolognese with Pasta & Seasonal Vegetables	Crispy Chicken or Quorn Burger V in a Bun with Potato Wedges & Seasonal Vegetables	Pork or Vegetarian V Toad in the Hole with Mashed Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables & Gravy	Sweet & Sour Quorn Dippers Ve with Mixed Rice & Seasonal Vegetables	Golden Crumbed Fish Fingers with Chips, Baked Beans & Peas
Alternative Choice	Margherita Pizza V & Seasonal Vegetables	Pasta with a Creamy Tomato Sauce V & Seasonal Vegetables	Creamy Cauliflower Bake V with Mashed Potatoes & Seasonal Vegetables	Vegetarian Mince Layered Tortilla Stack V with Mixed Rice & Seasonal Vegetables	Vegetable Fingers Ve with Chips, Baked Beans & Peas
Daily Choice	Pasta Pot, Filled Jacket Potato or a Sandwich meal. - Please speak with your school for their selection.				
Dessert	NEW Gingerbread Cookie	Chocolate Orange Muffin	Bitesize Cornflake Bar with Fruit	NEW Lemon Sponge Tart	Autumn Fruit Crumble with Custard

03.11.25
24.11.25
15.12.25
19.01.26
09.02.26
09.03.26

Week 2

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
The Main Event	NEW Chicken Goujons with Homemade BBQ Sauce, Mixed Rice & Seasonal Vegetables	Margherita Pizza V with Seasonal Vegetables	Yorkshire Pudding with Beef Hot Pot / Roast Pork / Quorn Fillet V with Potatoes & Seasonal Vegetables	Big Breakfast with Sausage & Bacon or Vegan Breakfast Ve, Hash Browns, Baked Beans & Tomatoes	NEW Harry Ramsden's Battered Fish Fillet with Chips & Seasonal Vegetables
Alternative Choice	Five Bean Chilli Taco Ve with Mixed Rice & Seasonal Vegetables	Veggie Bolognese Ve with Pasta, Seasonal Vegetables & Garlic Dough Balls	Cheese & Tomato Puff Pastry Swirl V with Seasonal Vegetables	Jacket Potato with Cook's Choice of Filling V & Seasonal Vegetables	Creamy Cheesy Pasta Bake V with Crusty Bread & Seasonal Vegetables
Daily Choice	Pasta Pot, Filled Jacket Potato or a Sandwich meal. - Please speak with your school for their selection.				
Dessert	Vanilla Shortbread Slice	Chocolate Cracknel	Bitesize Sprinkle Cake with Fruit	Jelly & Fruit	NEW Jam Roly Poly & Custard

10.11.25
01.12.25
05.01.26
26.01.26
23.02.26
16.03.26

Week 3

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
The Main Event	Vegetarian Sausage Roll Ve, with Baked Beans, Herby Potatoes & Seasonal Vegetables	Pork or Vegan Meatball Sub Ve with a side of Pasta & Seasonal Vegetables	Roast of the Day or Quorn Fillet Ve with Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables & Gravy	Chicken or Vegetable V Curry with Mixed Rice, Seasonal Vegetables & Flatbread	Golden Crumbed Fish Fingers with Chips, Peas & Sweetcorn
Alternative Choice	Pasta with Homemade Tomato Sauce Ve & Seasonal Vegetables	Jacket Potato with Filling V & Seasonal Vegetables	Old School Cheesy Potato & Bean Pie V with Seasonal Vegetables	Mac & Cheese V with Seasonal Vegetables & Flatbread	Pizza Panini V with Chips, Peas & Sweetcorn
Daily Choice	Pasta Pot, Filled Jacket Potato or a Sandwich meal. - Please speak with your school for their selection.				
Dessert	NEW Toffee Apple Muffin	Bitesize Chocolate Crunch with Fruit	Cook's Choice of Mousse	NEW Carrot Cake Cookie	NEW Saucy Chocolate Pudding

17.11.25
08.12.25
12.01.26
02.02.26
02.03.26
23.03.26

DERBYSHIRE County Council

For further information and the allergen matrix please visit: www.schoolmeals.derbyshire.gov.uk

Derbyshire County Council
School Calendar 2025/26

August 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
31					1	2	3
32	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
33	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
34	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
35	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

September 2025 (19)							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
36	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
37	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
38	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
39	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
40	29	30					

October 2025 (18)							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
40			1	2	3	4	5
41	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
42	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
43	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
44	27	28	29	30	31		

November 2025 (20)							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
44						1	2
45	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
46	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
47	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
48	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December 2025 (15)							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
49	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
50	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
51	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
52	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
1	29	30	31				

January 2026 (20)							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1				1	2	3	4
2	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
3	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
4	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
5	26	27	28	29	30	31	

February 2026 (15)							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
5							1
6	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
7	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
8	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9	23	24	25	26	27	28	

March 2026 (20)							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
9							1
10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
12	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
13	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
14	30	31					

April 2026 (14)							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
14			1	2	3	4	5
15	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
16	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
17	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
18	27	28	29	30			

May 2026 (15)							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
18					1	2	3
19	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
21	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
22	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 2026 (22)							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
23	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
24	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
25	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
26	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	29	30					

July 2026 (17)							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
27			1	2	3	4	5
28	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
29	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
30	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
31	27	28	29	30	31		

Denotes Bank holidays Denotes School holiday dates