St Giles Primary and Nursery School Office Friday Flyer!

Achieving through kindness, compassion and perseverance

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEKS AHEAD	
Monday 13th October	•
Tuesday 14th October	• **NO FOOTBALL CLUB AFTER SCHOOL TODAY**
Wednesday 15th October	• Class 2 MAD sports event at ASJ 9.30 – 11.00. **Please provide consent on ParentPay** • Open Session 9.00am for September 2026 Admissions • PTFA Meeting 7.30pm in school
Thursday 16th October	• Swimming for Class 3
Friday 17th October	• Celebration Collective Worship in St Giles Church at 2:30pm. All parents are warmly invited to join us for our Celebration Collective Worship. Tea and coffee will be served from 2:00pm if you'd like to come a little earlier and enjoy a drink before the service.
Monday 20th October	• School Team Football Home Match – St Giles v Ashover
Tuesday 21st October	• **NO FOOTBALL CLUB AFTER SCHOOL TODAY**
Wednesday 22nd October	• **Open Session 9.00am for September 2026 Admissions** • **Cross Country Event at Cavendish Fields. Children taking part will have had a letter** • **Parents Evening and Book Look – Now available to book through Arbor**
Thursday 23rd October	• **NO SWIMMING FOR CLASS 3** • **Parents Evening and Book Look – Now available to book through Arbor**
Friday 24th October	• LAST DAY OF TERM • Celebration Collective Worship in St Giles Church at 2:30pm. All parents are warmly invited to join us for our Celebration Collective Worship. Tea and coffee will be served from 2:00pm if you'd like to come a little earlier and enjoy a drink before the service.

OTHER NEWS

- **Arbor – We now have 94% of parents who have successfully activated their Arbor accounts. Thank you!**

- **Parent Pay Outstanding Balances** – In preparation for our move over to Arbor please can we kindly request that all accounts in Parent Pay are clear before the end of this half term. Any account that is in credit will be transferred across. Thank you in advance for your support with this.

- **Parents Evening – Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd October.** Appointments for parents evening are now available to book through Arbor, so please ensure you have activated your Arbor account.

- **Dawn to Dusk Wrap Around Care – Please ensure you have emailed to book places for both Breakfast and After School Club for next week.** A reminder that this is now available to children from Nursery to Year 6. For this half term please email the office: enquiries@st-giles-matlock.derbyshire.sch.uk to book places for your child/children. We need to know by Friday for the following week to ensure our staff to child ratios are correct and that we have the right amount of food and resources. **Any bookings for sessions from 3rd November onwards must be made using the Arbor parent app / portal.**

- **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	
Friday 31st October	**Deadline for applying for secondary school for Yr 6**
Monday 3rd November	**Back to school**
Wednesday 5th November	Open Morning 9.30am for Reception 2026 Admissions
Thursday 6th November	Open Afternoon 2.30pm for Reception 2026 Admissions Swimming for Class 3
Thursday 13th November	Swimming for Class 3
Thursday 20th November	Swimming for Class 3
Monday 24th November	**INSET DAY – School Closed to pupils**
Thursday 27th November	Swimming for Class 3
Monday 1st December	Christmas Jumper Swap
Thursday 4th December	Last Swimming for Class 3 until after Christmas Christmas Crafts for Nursery children and September 2026 new starters. 3.30pm – 4.30pm
Thursday 11th December	Pantomime at Buxton Opera House – Whole School NO SWIMMING for Class 3
Friday 12th December	Christmas Jumper Day, Christmas Crafts and Secret Santa
Wednesday 17th December	Infant Nativity 2.00pm
Thursday 18th December	Infant Nativity 5.00pm NO SWIMMING for Class 3
Friday 19th December	Christingle Service in St Giles Church at 2:30pm NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUB Last day of term
Monday 5th January	First day of the Spring Term
Thursday 8th January	NO SWIMMING FOR Class 3
Thursday 15th January	Swimming for Class 3
Friday 30th January	Young Voices for Class 4
Monday 23rd February	**INSET Day – School Closed to pupils**
Monday 1st June	**INSET Day – School Closed to pupils**
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**


COME AND JOIN US FOR
Christmas Crafts
Who: Nursery and reception 2026 starters
When: Thursday 4th 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!

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

DEALING WITH TRAUMATIC & CHALLENGING EVENTS

Children and young people may face a wide range of traumatic or challenging events – from bereavement and illness to bullying, family breakdowns, or witnessing violence. These experiences can affect their mental health, behaviour, relationships, and academic progress. With the right support from trusted adults, children can begin to feel safe, rebuild resilience, and develop healthy coping strategies. This guide offers practical and empathetic ways to provide support and promote positive outcomes.

1 A PREDICTABLE ENVIRONMENT

Children who have experienced trauma often feel unsafe or uncertain. Creating routines, setting clear expectations, and maintaining consistency can help restore a sense of security. This structure offers reassurance and helps children feel more in control of their surroundings.

2 USE LANGUAGE THAT MATCHES THEIR AGE

Speak clearly and sensitively, choosing words that are appropriate for the child's age. Avoid overwhelming them with too much information at once. Offer gentle, honest explanations and focus on reassurance, especially when talking about difficult or sensitive subjects.

3 TRAUMA AND THE BODY

Mention briefly that trauma can show up in physical ways, such as changes in sleep, appetite, concentration, or as physical aches and pains. Consider this before labelling behaviour as 'difficult' or 'lazy'. Some children may become withdrawn, while others may be more outwardly challenging. Highlight that there's no 'one way' children respond.

4 AVOID RETELLING OR RELIVING TRAUMA

Children sometimes get asked to explain or repeat their experience multiple times. Striking a balance of when to listen and when to gently redirect can help to avoid unnecessary re-traumatisation. Acknowledge, but don't probe for detail unless safeguarding procedures require it.

5 AVOID DISMISSING OR MINIMISING FEELINGS

Seemingly well-meaning comments like "It's not that bad" or "You're okay" may shut down children's emotional expression and are often not helpful. Instead, acknowledge what they're feeling, even if it seems small. Validating a child's emotions helps them feel seen and encourages open communication in future.

6 UNDERSTAND HOW THEY'RE FEELING

Many children don't have the words to express their emotions, especially during distress. Supporting them to name what they're feeling – such as angry, scared or sad – builds emotional literacy. Tools like emotion charts, drawing, or storytelling can help externalise feelings in a safe, manageable way.

7 BE AWARE OF YOUR OWN RESPONSES

Children pick up on adult emotions and reactions, often mirroring them. Staying calm, even in challenging situations, helps children feel more secure. Practising your own self-regulation is an important way to model healthy stress management and encourages children to do the same.

8 SEEK PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT

While many children benefit from everyday emotional support, some will need more specialised help. If symptoms persist, worsen, or disrupt their daily life, consult with school safeguarding leads, a GP, or a mental health professional. Early intervention can prevent long-term difficulties and support healthy recovery.

9 MAINTAIN CONNECTION

Isolation can worsen the impact of trauma. Encourage involvement in group activities, praise their efforts, and ensure they feel like a valued part of the school or family community. Meaningful connection with trusted adults and peers builds resilience and a sense of belonging.

10 BE PATIENT – HEALING TAKES TIME

There's no quick fix for emotional recovery. Children may have good days and setbacks, and progress may not always be visible or linear. Your ongoing support, patience, and presence can help them move forward at their own pace, knowing they are not alone.

Meet Our Expert



This guide has been written by Anna Bateman. Anna is passionate about placing prevention at the heart of every school by integrating mental wellbeing within the curriculum, school culture, and systems. She has been a member of the advisory group for the Department for Education, advising them on their mental health green paper.

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 08.10.2025

Applying for your child's secondary school place 2026-27 – a summary

DERBYSHIRE County Council

You must apply by 31 October for a place at secondary school.

If your child lives in Derbyshire and was born between 1 September 2014 and 31 August 2015 you need to apply to Derbyshire County Council for a secondary school place for them.

The closing date for applications is midnight on Friday 31 October 2025. Please note that all applications made on time receive equal consideration. Applying after the deadline may reduce your chances of getting a place at your preferred school – particularly if it is popular.

This leaflet will help you apply for your child's place but it is only a summary. Full information is available in 'How to apply for a place at secondary school – a guide for parents 2026/2027'. You can read the guide for parents at **www.derbyshire.gov.uk/admissions**. If you want your own copy email **admissions.transport@derbyshire.gov.uk** or ring **01629 537479**.

If your child has an Education, Health & Care Plan (EHCP) your child's school place will be arranged by the local authority's SEND Assessment Service (SENDAS). For queries please speak to your SENDCO in school or visit the Derbyshire Local Offer at **www.localoffer.derbyshire.gov.uk** and search for admissions.



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

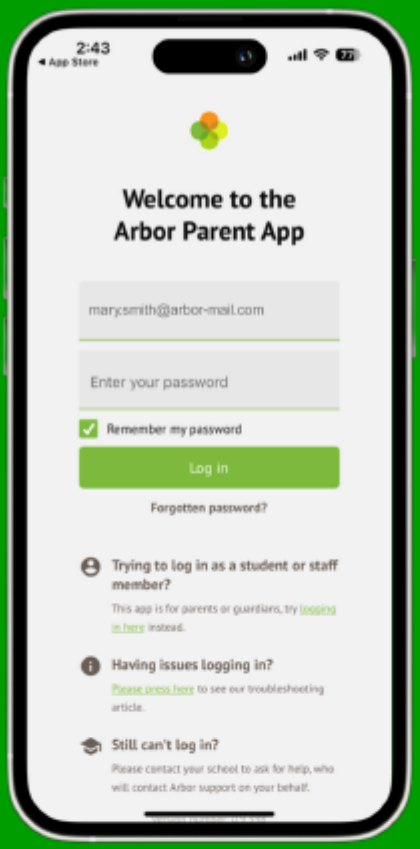
17.11.25
08.12.25
12.01.26
02.02.26
02.03.26
23.03.26

DERBYSHIRE County Council

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

We're using the Arbor Parent App!

See and manage your child's day-to-day school information. Understand their progress, make payments and bookings, and receive in-app messages - all from one app



Log in in seconds with Face ID

Receive in-app messages and reminders on your phone

Make payments, sign up for clubs, and book parents evenings

See your child's progress, attendance, behaviour points, report cards and more

Check your child's calendar, it's always up-to-date

Scan the QR code to download the Arbor Parent App, and use your email address to log in

GET IT ON Google Play

Download on the App Store

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