School Office Friday Update

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEKS AHEAD	
Monday 17th March	• KS2 Qualitas After School Club – Archery – Book / pay on ParentPay
Tuesday 18th March	• KS1 Qualtias After School Club – Fundamental Skills – Book / pay on ParentPay • Football training after school
Wednesday 19th March	• KS2 Qualitas After School Club – Athletics – Book / pay on ParentPay
Thursday 20th March	• Little Smiles Toddler Group 9.00am – 10.30am • Swimming - CLASS 3
Friday 21st March	• RED NOSE DAY - CRAZY HAIR AND/OR OWN CLOTHES!
Monday 24th March	• KS2 Qualitas After School Club – Archery – Book / pay on ParentPay • Class 3 meeting for activity / sleepover event 4.30pm
Tuesday 25th March	• KS1 Qualtias After School Club – Fundamental Skills – Book / pay on ParentPay • **2.30pm Mother's Day Afternoon tea followed by Book Look – see poster below for full details** • Football training after school
Wednesday 26th March	**Stay and Study – Please see poster below for more information 9.00am– 9:30am (Class 1 and 2 parents) 9.30am – 10.00am (Class 3 and 4 parents).** • KS2 Qualitas After School Club – Athletics – Book / pay on ParentPay
Thursday 27th March	• **PTFA non-uniform day – in return for donations of chocolate for the Easter Event on Monday 31st March** • Little Smiles Toddler Group 9.00am – 10.30am • Swimming – Class 3
Friday 28th March	•

OTHER NEWS

- **ParentPay – Thank you for your support in keeping accounts up to date. Please ensure you check your account regularly and keep on top of payments.**

- **WALESBY FOREST RESIDENTIAL – THE FINAL BALANCE IS DUE AT THE END OF MARCH. Thank you if you have already paid. There are still outstanding payments from January and February – please can these be paid as soon as possible. If you anticipate a problem with the final payment deadline please contact the school office.**
- **ST GILES EASTER FUN organised by the PTFA– Monday 31st March. Please join us from 3.00pm. Further details on the poster below.**

- **Easter Service – Tuesday 1st April 2.00pm in St Giles Church. Everyone is welcome to join us for our Easter Service.**

- **Mother's Day Afternoon Tea – Tuesday 25th March**



🌸 Mother's Day Afternoon Tea Invitation! 🌸

We would love to invite all the wonderful **mothers, nannas, sisters, aunties, or special female figures** to join us for a lovely **Afternoon Tea** in school! 💖

Come and enjoy a delightful afternoon with your child(ren), filled with **tea, coffee, soft drinks, delicious cakes, and fun crafts to create together!** 🎨☕🍰

This is a special opportunity to relax, chat, and celebrate the amazing female figures in our children's lives.

We can't wait to see you there! 💖

BOOK LOOK – Tuesday 25th March – Following the Afternoon Tea there will also be an opportunity to look at your children's books from 3.15pm until 4.00pm

- **STAY AND STUDY!**

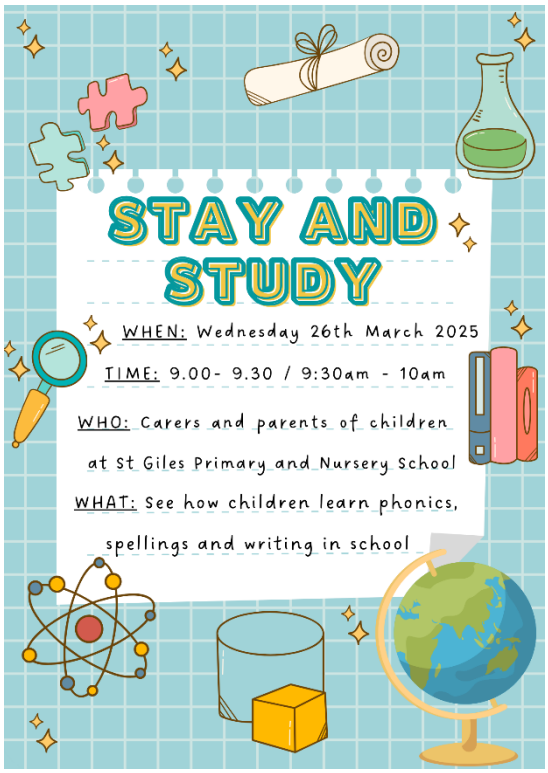
Following feedback from our recent parent survey, we would like to invite parents into school on **Wednesday, 26th March**, to observe how we teach phonics, spellings, and writing.

This is a fantastic opportunity to see our teaching methods in action and gain an insight into the language and vocabulary we use, particularly during phonics and spelling lessons. To ensure the morning runs smoothly without disrupting learning and to accommodate families with children in different classes, we have organised the sessions as follows:

Early Years & Year 1/2 (Nursery, Class 1 and Class 2) Parents: 9:00 - 9:30 AM (Phonics and Spellings lessons)

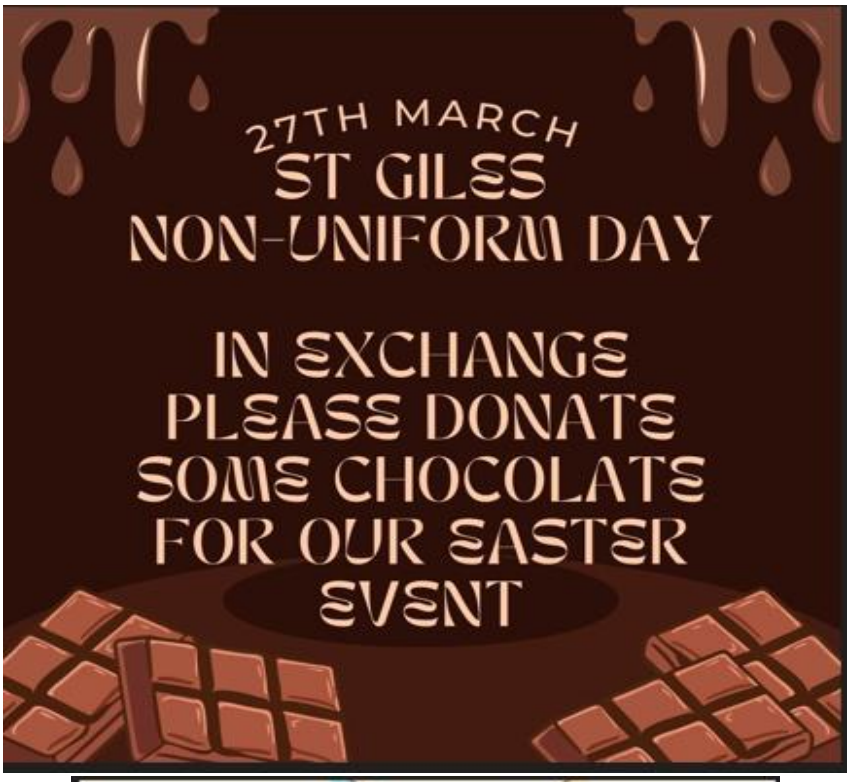
Key Stage 2 (Class 3 & 4) Parents: 9:30 - 10:00 AM (English lesson)

We look forward to welcoming you into our classrooms!




Achieving through kindness, compassion and perseverance
Let us run the race that is before us and never give up
RED NOSE DAY
CRAZY HAIR!
FRIDAY 21ST MARCH

PTFA EASTER EVENTS





- **INSET DAYS FOR THE 2025-2026 ACADEMIC YEAR**
  The five INSET Days for the next school year have been agreed as follows:
  Thursday 4th September 2025
  Friday 5th September 2025
  Monday 24th November 2025
  Monday 23rd February 2026
  Monday 1st June 2026
  School is closed to pupils on these dates. The first day of the Autumn Term is Monday 8th September 2025.

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	
Monday 31st March	PTFA Easter Event after school from 3.00pm
Tuesday 1st April	**Easter Service 2.00pm in St Giles Church. Everyone is welcome to attend**
Thursday 3rd April	NO SWIMMING FOR CLASS 3
Friday 4th April	**Air Ambulance Awareness Day. Children are invited to wear something yellow and bring in a small donation or, preferably, donations can be made directly to the charity at https://theairambulanceservice.org.uk/donate/ The Air Ambulance will be coming into school to talk to the children regarding their roles in their jobs.** Last day of the Spring term
Monday 21st April	**Easter Monday**
Tuesday 22nd April	**Back to school – Start of the Summer Term**
Thursday 24th April	Swimming for Class 3
Wednesday 30th April	Class 2 Multi Skills Festival at All Saints Juniors. This Girl Can Year 5 and 6 girls – Whitworth Park 9.30 – 11.30
Thursday 1st May	Swimming for Class 3
Monday 5th May	**MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY**
Thursday 8th May	Swimming for Class 3
Monday 12th May	KS2 SATS – English Grammar Punctuation and Spelling
Tuesday 13th May	KS2 SATS – English Reading Paper
Wednesday 14th May	KS2 SATS – Maths Papers 1 and 2
Thursday 15th May	KS2 SATS – Maths Paper 3
Friday 16th May	Year 6 Celebration at Whitworth Park
Thursday 22nd May	Bunting Cup
Friday 23rd May	Break up for half term
Monday 2nd June	**INSET DAY – School closed to pupils**

Tuesday 3rd June	**Back to school**
Thursday 12th June	South Peak Sports – Darley Dale Primary School
Wednesday 18th June	Class 2 Dance and Gymnastics Festival at All Saints Juniors
Thursday 19th June	**Lady Manners Transition Day for Year 6 pupils** Class 3 Activity Day and Sleepover – Details to follow Reserve Date for South Peak Sports
Thursday 26th June	Year 6 Primary Athletics at Moorways, Derby
Tuesday 1st July	**Highfields Transition Day for Y6 pupils**
Wednesday 2nd July	**Walesby Forest Residential – Class 4**
Thursday 3rd July	**Walesby Forest Residential – Class 4** FINAL SWIMMING LESSON FOR CLASS 3
Friday 4th July	**Walesby Forest Residential – Class 4**
Wednesday 9th July	Class 2 Sports Day at All Saints Juniors
Thursday 10th July	NO SWIMMING FOR CLASS 3
Thursday 17th July	NO SWIMMING FOR CLASS 3
Thursday 24th July	**Last day of the school year** **NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUB**
Friday 25th July	First Day of the summer holidays
ACADEMIC YEAR 2025-2026	
Thursday 4th September	**INSET DAY – School closed to pupils**
Friday 5th September	**INSET DAY – School closed to pupils**
Monday 8th September	**First day back at school**



DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION-FUNDED

HOLIDAY CLUBS IN DERBYSHIRE

it's about me

Derbyshire's Holiday Activity and Food Programme

2025/26

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.

*See website for full eligibility criteria.

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



DERBYSHIRE County Council

Department for Education

MORE INFORMATION:

itsaboutmederbyshire.co.uk

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.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ROBLOX

AGE RESTRICTION PEGI 7

Roblox is one of the most popular video games among children. In 2020, the game's developers claimed that more than half of the USA's children had played it. As a 'sandbox' title, the game lets players create their own gaming experiences with Roblox Studio to build custom levels, which can then be shared online.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ONLINE PLAY RISKS

Because Roblox connects random players across the world, it can put younger players into an environment with anonymous users who could use the platform for nefarious reasons. For example, some role-play games are used for online dates and mature role play, which could expose youngsters to inappropriate messages in the public chat box.

MATURE CONTENT

Content is difficult to moderate throughout Roblox, due to the number of games available. This is particularly notable on smaller games and experiences, but in summary, some of the games and experiences offered on the platform contain age-inappropriate content that could easily be seen by young players.

IN-GAME SPENDING

The majority of games within Roblox have extensive monetisation options, usually through season passes or microtransactions. Purchases can range in value from a few pennies up to much larger sums of money. While some games offer a lot of content via purchases, others can offer very little for real world money, causing younger players to end up out of pocket.

ANONYMOUS PLAYERS

The anonymity of users can leave players vulnerable to bullying, harassment, and predatory behaviour. Without the right parental controls or monitoring, users can connect with each other via personal messages or friend requests, and it is very difficult to know who's behind a username in this vast online world.

RISK OF ADDICTION

Roblox games can feature rewarding or satisfying mechanics that keep players coming back – or persuade them to stay logged-in for much longer. Like most games, they focus on interactivity, with constant rewards via in-game unlocks and currencies, which can sometimes lead to an addictive need to remain online for long periods of time.

SCAMS

Many of the games on Roblox feature collectible items, pets, or characters. These objects, while digital, are worth a lot of real money on certain online markets. Scammers will attempt to trade with younger users in the hopes of getting rare items that can be sold for real money, manipulating the child into handing them over, usually via misleading information.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MONITOR THE CONTENT

While Roblox does implement plenty of moderation tools and parental controls, it's up to parents and guardians to monitor the types of games a child or impressionable player is experiencing. If a youngster wants to play Roblox, be sure to check out which specific games they want to play within it, and get a good idea of their content.

PLAY TOGETHER

Consider playing Roblox with the children in your care. There are few more effective ways to see how monetisation works, gauge whether the game could lead to addictive behaviours, or even witness how interaction between players works, than sitting down and trying the game for yourself. This should help you figure out whether it's suitable for particular children.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TOOLS

Use the parental controls within the game itself and teach youngsters how to report and block other players. Knowing the powers within their reach will make Roblox a safer, happier experience. You can set age ranges for who's allowed to contact you, close public chat boxes, block spending, and even make your Roblox profile completely private. All these options are helpful in cutting off bad actors from engaging with children.

TEACH ONLINE BEHAVIOURS

Have an open conversation about the risks of online play and how to spend money wisely. By being honest and giving tips on how a younger user can protect themselves, you can empower them to not only take care of themselves, but others too. Any user can be reported to Roblox moderators by other players for behaving inappropriately. With this knowledge, younger players can be aware of what to look for and help prevent it.

Meet Our Expert

Dan Lipscombe is a videogame journalist and author of over 20 books on gaming, including books on Minecraft, Fortnite, Roblox, and more. For 15 years he has been writing about his passion for gaming. When he's not playing games, he's talking about them at GAMINGbible.

#WakeUpWednesday®

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