



NEWSLETTER

SPRING IS SPRINGING!

The Spring term is well underway, and there is a fantastic buzz for learning around school! It's wonderful to see children so engaged, eager, and enthusiastic in their lessons. The atmosphere across school is brilliant, with children demonstrating excellent behaviour and a real desire to learn.

We have so many exciting opportunities ahead, and we can't wait to share more with you throughout the term! Thank you for your continued support.

FUNDRAISING FOR OUR FRIENDS IN YEAR 6

A huge thank you to everyone who joined in with our Year 6 Valentine's Fundraiser! It was wonderful to see so many children and staff dressed in red and pink, showing their support and helping to raise funds for our Year 6 leavers' celebrations, keeping up with true Hollingwood traditions.

Thanks to your generosity, we raised an amazing £235! This will go a long way in making the end of the Year 6 journey extra special.



£235 raised for our Year 6 Leavers' celebrations.

ATTEND TODAY, ACHIEVE TOMORROW.

Our current school attendance stands at **96.19%**, which is slightly below our school target of 97%.

Our Attendance Champions continue to offer support in ensuring your child maintains excellent attendance.

If you're facing challenges that involve sleep, morning routines, or getting into school, please don't hesitate to reach out. We're here to work with you and find the best solutions to support your child's attendance.

97%

*Absences add up.
Attendance matters!*



A FLIPPING FANTASTIC PANCAKE DAY!

A huge thank you to our amazing PTA for organising a fantastic Pancake Day event! The children loved tucking into their scrumptious pancakes, and it was wonderful to see so many happy faces and sticky fingers enjoying the treat.

We also want to say a big thank you to our parents and carers for their donations - your support enables the PTA to continue to provide opportunities and experiences for the children.

GRACIE TO TAKE CENTRE STAGE

We're incredibly proud of Gracie, one of our talented Year 6s, who has been cast as "Young Fiona" in Lee Semley Theatre Productions' Shrek the Musical! She'll perform alongside the adult company, singing I Know It's Today. Bravo, Gracie!



DON'T MISS OUT ON FREE SCHOOL MEALS

We have recently reminded all parents and carers to check their eligibility for Free School Meals. With the rising cost of living, it's more important than ever to ensure you're accessing the support available to you.

If you think you may qualify, we encourage you to check — even if your child receives universal infant free school meals. Eligible families can also benefit from additional school funding that supports learning.

For information please contact the FSM Team by email at checking@derbyshire.gov.uk or telephone 01629 536481. To apply please visit www.derbyshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals



FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Pssst


Did you know that all reception, year 1 and year 2 pupils are entitled to receive a free meal at lunchtime regardless of family income?

And if your child is in year 3 or above, they may also be eligible, if you receive one of the qualifying benefits.

Just log into the new speedy free school meal checker system to see if your child is eligible. Scan the QR code and it will take you straight there.



SCAN ME



DERBYSHIRE County Council



If school meals are free for reception, year 1 and year 2 - why do I still need to apply?

All children in reception, year 1 and year 2 get free school meals, but if you receive one of the qualifying benefits you may also get help with:

- the cost of residential school trips
- travel costs to school
- school uniform costs
- music lessons at school

For every child registered for free school meals, schools receive a pupil premium payment each year. This will be used to help your child achieve their best at school.

Use the QR code overleaf to access the portal and check your eligibility.

www.derbyshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals
email: checking@derbyshire.gov.uk telephone: 01629 536481



DERBYSHIRE County Council

ONLINE KINDNESS AND DIGITAL RESPONSIBILITY

Over recent weeks, we have had a number of incidents where children have been unkind online. If your child has access to phone services such as messaging and calling, we encourage all parents and carers to talk to them about the importance of kindness and respect online.

It's vital that children understand that everything they do online leaves a digital footprint, and messages can be screenshot and shared as evidence. By working together, we can help ensure that all children use technology safely and responsibly.

Thank you for your support in reinforcing this important message at home. 📱💡



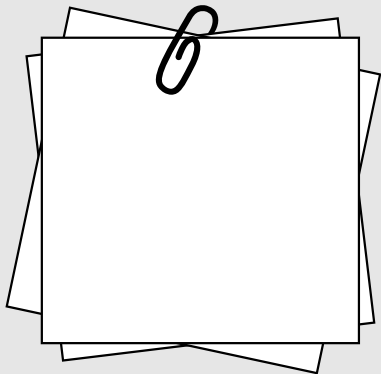
STAYING CONNECTED VIA CLASS DOJO

A reminder to all parents and carers to use the Class Dojo calendar to keep up to date with both whole-school and class-specific events.

As requested, class-specific events will only be posted on individual Class Dojo pages, so please make sure you're checking regularly to stay informed.

Spring 2 is shaping up to be a busy and exciting term, with events such as Easter Bonnet Parades, Authentic Outcomes, and Parents' Evenings coming up — so don't miss out!

Thank you for staying connected and supporting our school events. 🎉📅



EXTENDED WRAPAROUND CARE 7:30AM - 6PM

Reminder: Our extended wraparound care is here to support families!

- Breakfast Club now opens from 7:30am (£1 extra per session).
- After-School Club extends to 6:00pm from 27th Jan (£1.50 extra per session).



ClassDojo



KEEP UP TO DATE WITH OUR OFFICE BULLETIN

Have you seen our new Office Bulletin? Based on your feedback, it provides key weekly updates. Check Class Dojo every Friday for important info, events, the lunch menu, and reminders. We hope you find it useful! 😊



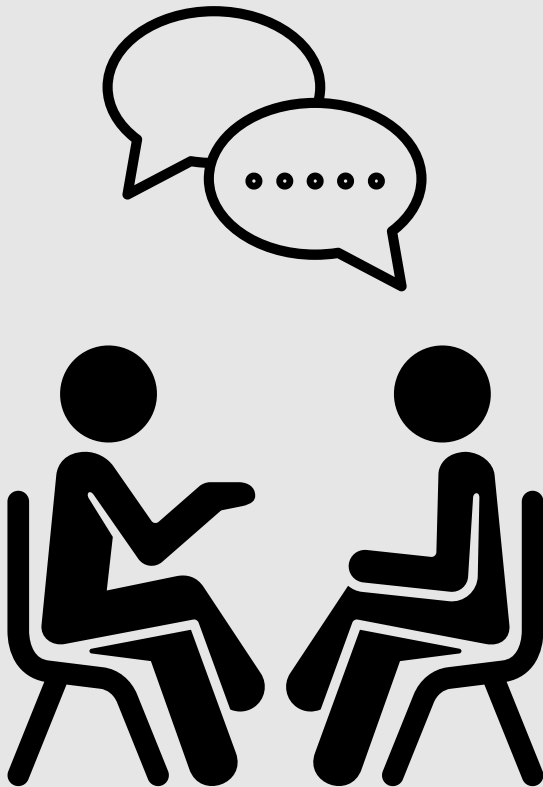
PARENT'S EVENINGS 1ST & 2ND APRIL

Parents' Evening is coming up, and we hope you've managed to book your appointment via our new system. If not, please contact the school office as soon as possible to secure a slot.

This is a valuable opportunity for teachers to share your child's current attainment and recent assessment data.

If you're unable to arrange childcare, there will be benches in the hall for children to sit on while you meet with the teacher. We kindly ask that they remain respectful of others and sit quietly during this time.





We look forward to meeting with you again and updating you on your child's progress.





OUR SCHOOL IN BLOOM

We're excited to be taking part in 'Chesterfield in Bloom' and continuing to develop our outdoor spaces, giving children great opportunities to connect with nature.

To support this, we welcome donations of:

-  Seeds & seedling trays
-  Compost
-  Perennials
-  Small plastic greenhouses

If you're having a garden clear-out, please drop any of the above donations at the school office.

Thank you for helping us grow something amazing!  



BRAVE ELLIE LEAVES A LEGACY!

We are incredibly proud to share Ellie's inspiring journey over the last few months. After being diagnosed with a congenital heart defect last September following an unrelated illness, Ellie underwent a procedure at Leeds General Infirmary in January to have a stent fitted to improve blood flow to her body.

Despite still managing high blood pressure with medication, Ellie has shown amazing resilience and decided to give something back by raising money for the British Heart Foundation, which funds vital research and surgical advancements for people with similar conditions.

Originally setting a goal to walk 20 miles throughout February as part of her recovery, Ellie amazed us all by covering a staggering 80 miles! 🚶🏻🏆 Her determination and strength over the past six months have been truly inspiring, and she continues to build back her fitness and take on new challenges.

Well done, Ellie – we are all so proud of you!



*Ellie has raised an amazing
£745! WOW!*

CONGRATULATIONS, MISS ASHLEY

We are delighted to share some happy news with our school community - Miss Ashley (Mulberry's Class Teacher) is expecting a baby! 🎉💛

Miss Ashley will continue to be with us into the Summer term, and we know the children will enjoy sharing this special time with her before she begins her maternity leave.



WE SUPPORT #LET GIRLS PLAY!



On Friday, Hollingwood Primary proudly took part in the Barclays FA #LetGirlsPlay initiative, championing girls' football and encouraging equal opportunities in the sport. Our fantastic girls took to the MUGA for an exciting football session, showcasing their skills, determination, and love for the game.

What made the event even more special was the incredible support from our brilliant boys, who showed great respect and encouragement throughout. Seeing everyone come together to celebrate girls' football was truly inspiring — proud is an understatement! 🏈💙

BUYING A BOOK SUPPORTS OUR SCHOOL

The Book Fair will be in school from Monday 10th – Thursday 13th March, available after school each day. Children can also bring money to spend during the day - please send it in an envelope with their name and an approved amount.

Class teachers will confirm visit days closer to the time. To celebrate World Book Day, each child will receive a £1 discount on their first book purchase.

Your support helps us bring more high-quality books into school - every purchase earns rewards, which have funded class sets and books for all class. Thank you!



ISLA'S FOOTY SUCCESS

We are so proud to share that Isla took part in a football tournament last Sunday in Doncaster, representing her Pan Disability Group. Isla put in a fantastic performance, scoring three goals, and her whole team was rewarded with a trophy for taking part! 🏆👏

A huge congratulations to Isla on her achievement — we love celebrating the sporting successes of our pupils! ⚽🎉

If your child has any sporting accomplishments outside of school, we'd love to hear about them! Let us know so we can celebrate their achievements in our newsletter.

✉ enquiries@hollingwood.derbyshire.sch.uk

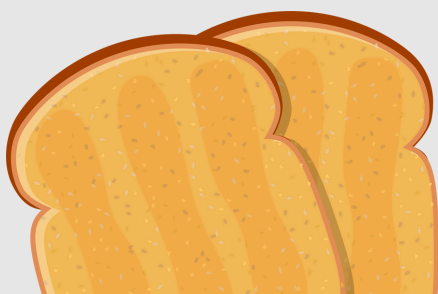


MORNING SNACK UPDATE

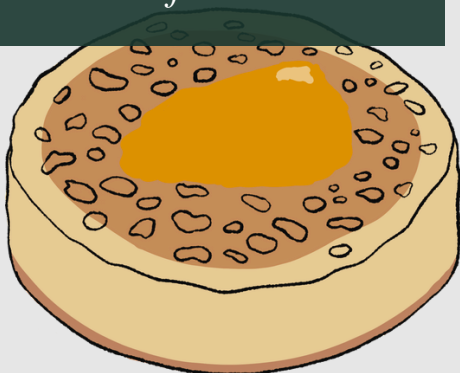
You may recall our School Council trialing a morning playtime snack initiative, offering toast and crumpets. This was a fantastic experience for the children, providing them with valuable life skills such as stock-taking, budgeting, and estimating.

A huge thank you to everyone who supported this initiative! While the trial was a great learning opportunity, we have decided that, at this time, it is not cost-effective to continue. However, we will certainly revisit this idea in the future.

A huge well done to our dedicated School Councillors for their hard work and enthusiasm throughout the trial! 🎉👏



We will revisit morning snack again in the future.



RED NOSE DAY

Red Nose Day is just around the corner, and we're excited to be fundraising as a school to support this fantastic cause!

On the day, children are invited to wear red noses, red accessories and/or red clothing (inc official merchandise). We kindly ask for a £1 donation to take part.

We will also be running some fun fundraising activities:

- 🎨 Design Your Own Red Nose Competition – 50p per entry
- 🍬 Guess How Many Sweets Are in the Jar – 50p per guess

All proceeds will go towards Comic Relief. ❤️



Red Nose Day - Friday 21st March.



IT WAS A BOOGIE WONDERLAND

Our PTA World Book Day Disco was a fantastic success! Children dressed as their favourite book characters and enjoyed an evening filled with dancing, music, and traditional disco games. It was wonderful to see so much creativity and excitement as we celebrated the magic of books in such a fun way!

A huge thank you to our fun-loving PTA for organising such a brilliant event and volunteering your time to host! Your fundraising helps create these special memories for our children! 📖 ✨ 🎵

WORLD BOOK DAY WAS FULL OF CHARACTER

Our World Book Day was a fantastic success, enjoyed by both staff and children alike! It was wonderful to spend the day totally immersed in books, with exciting activities that brought stories to life.

A huge thank you to parents for your support — the costumes were amazing, and it was brilliant to see so much creativity and enthusiasm. What a wonderful way to celebrate the joy of reading.

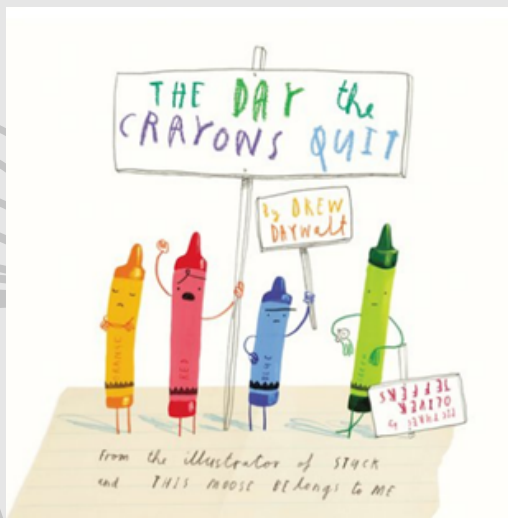




RECOMMENDED READS

Here is this month's recommended reads...

We encourage all children to read at least once a day, 5 times a week.

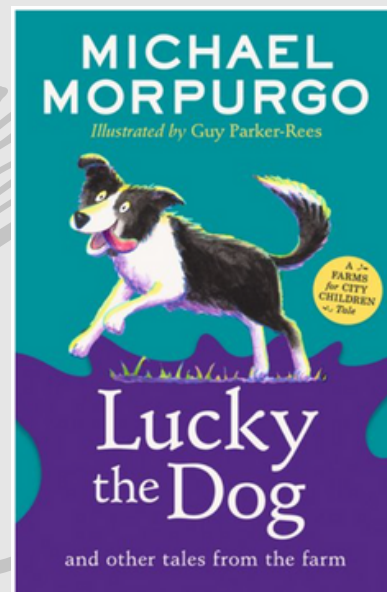


EYFS:

Duncan's crayons have had enough! When he opens his box, all he finds are quit notes—Yellow and Orange are feuding, Blue is overworked, and Beige feels unloved. Will they ever draw together again? This hilarious bestseller will make you see your crayons in a whole new way!

KS1:

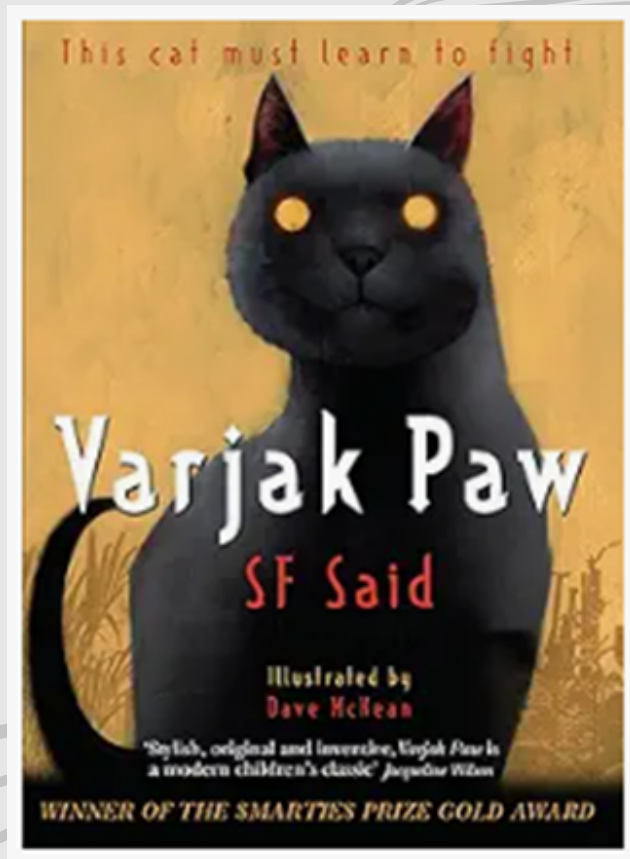
A heartwarming collection of three uplifting stories, full of friendship and adventure. Meet Elvis the donkey who rescues a sea turtle, discover the animals of Wick Court, and watch Lucky become the best sheepdog. Perfect for sharing!



LKS2:

Lucy wakes up to find all the grown-ups vanished! While the other kids celebrate, she just wants her mum back. With friends Norman and Ella, she embarks on a wild adventure into a strange, upside-down world—the world of The Creakers!





UKS2:

Varjak Paw is a Mesopotamian Blue kitten, who lives high up in an old house on a hill.

He's never left home, until he receives a mysterious visit from his grandfather who tells him about The Way - a secret martial art for cats.

Now Varjak must use the Way to survive in a city full of dangerous dogs, cat gangs and, strangest of all, the mysterious Vanishings.

This award-winning story has become a modern classic. A celebration of friendship, loyalty and difference, Varjak Paw is an adventure like no other.

MR LODGE loves... THE BOY WHO GREW DRAGONS

This is my favourite book because it's funny, exciting, and full of imagination! It follows Tomas, who discovers a dragon fruit tree in his grandad's garden — only to find the fruit hatches real, live dragons! With adventure, humour, and heart, this book will keep you hooked, especially as Tomas tries to hide his mischievous dragon, Flicker! 🐉🔥



OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL





NEURO HUB
NEURODIVERGENCE THRIVES HERE

Neurodivergent Spring Summit

Networking Day - Connecting Families and Local Services

Guest Speakers
11am-12pm
1pm-2pm



Refreshments available to purchase all day



Come find out what we have to offer at Fairplay and the NeuroHub



Networking & Stalls available all day



Wednesday 19th March 2025
11am - 3pm

Free Event

Venue

DCAS,
Spring Bank Road,
Chesterfield,
S40 1NL

Please park in Mecca
Bingo - Parking fees apply,
access through the Fairplay Centre

For more information please call Fairplay on 01246 203963

Networking/ pop-in day to link families and services for SEND support in Derbyshire



NEURODIVERGENCE THRIVES HERE



£5 pp



MOVEMENT TO MUSIC

DCAS
Spring Bank Road
Chesterfield
S40 1NL

Next sessions: SEND dance sessions! (5-15 years)

Fun, relaxed dance group!
Come and make some new friends and have a good dance!
Chance for parents/carers to have a coffee and chat whilst your children are having fun!



Next sessions:

- 4th January
- 1st February
- 1st March
- 5th April
- 3rd May
- 7th June
- 5th July
- 2nd August
- 6th September
- 4th October
- 1st November
- 6th December

all 11am-12pm

Contact Fairplay for more information: 01246 203963

Joined Up Care
Derbyshire



NEURODIVERGENCE THRIVES HERE




Chester's Den and Fairplay will be opening exclusive Neurodiverse sessions in 2025

SUNDAYS | 8:30AM - 9:30AM

19
JAN

16
FEB

16
MAR

20
APR

18
MAY

22
JUNE

20
JUL

17
AUG

21
SEP

19
OCT

16
NOV

21
DEC

All children and families are welcome where they will benefit from this session.

Children up to age 12 can use the play equipment and those over age 12 can attend and access art/crafts.

UNDER 8'S FAMILY SESSION

Fairplay Centre,
Alexandra Road West,
Chesterfield, S40 1NP

1.30pm - 2.30pm

£2.50 per child



Next Sessions:

Saturday:

- 18.01.2025
- 15.02.2025
- 15.03.2025
- 19.04.2025



Come and join us for a Sensory Learning Session for you and your child.

Sensory Activities, 2 Sensory Rooms, Games, Outside Area for you to enjoy together and make friendships with other parents.

Refreshments available for a small donation.



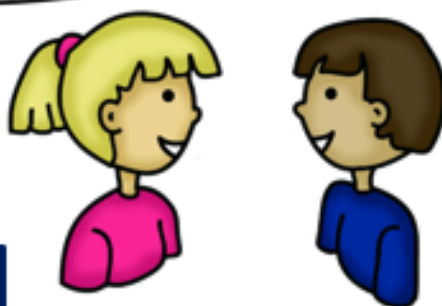
For more information please contact the Fairplay Office on 01246 203963.

STAYING SAFE

at **Hollingwood Primary School**

Are you feeling worried about yourself or someone else?

Do you want to talk to someone who can help?



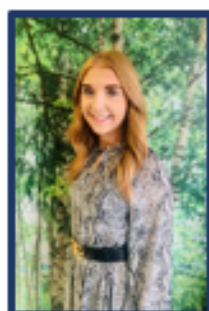
Mr Stewart
Senior Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Miss Clarke
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Miss Thirkell
DSL



Miss Robinson
DSL



Miss Hudson
DSL



Mrs Vodden-Page
Safeguarding
Governor