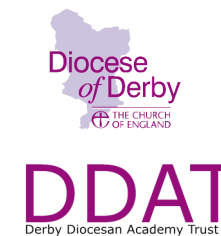
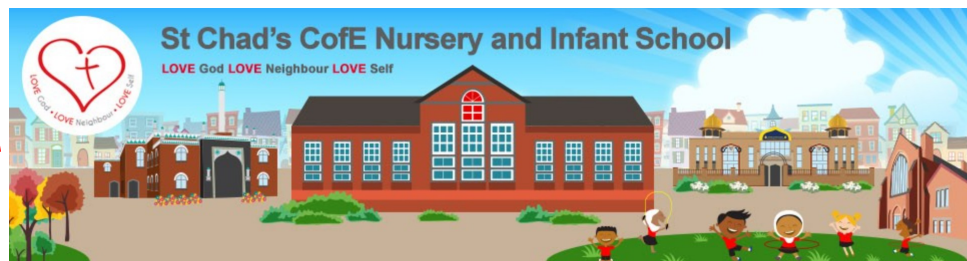


Newsletter May 2025



Dear Parents/Carers,

As this short half-term draws to a close, we embrace the start of the summer season. As we begin preparing for end-of-year assessments and arrangements, we are so proud of the progress the children are making. We have a busy calendar ahead, with many exciting events including Transition Week, trips, and end-of-year celebrations. Please do keep an eye on Class Dojo and check the key dates on our website to stay up to date. Thank you, as always, for your continued support—we wish you a restful and enjoyable break and look forward to welcoming the children back on **Monday, 2nd June**.

Love Ms. Leach and Mrs Morley x

PHONICS PARENT GROUP This half term, Mrs Sohanpal and Mrs Bibi have worked together to run an extremely successful phonics parent group. Held every Friday, the sessions have given parents valuable skills to support their child's reading at home, particularly in preparation for the Phonics Screening Check in June. A huge thank you to all the parents supporting their children with phonics at home. Your efforts are making a real difference — we've seen a direct impact on the children's learning and progress. Feedback has been incredibly positive, with many parents sharing that their confidence in supporting their child has grown. We will be starting further parent workshops next half term. If there is anything in particular you would like us to focus on, please speak to Mrs Sohanpal.



ESOL CLASSES—SEPTEMBER 2025!

We are pleased to let you know that ESOL classes (English for Speakers of Other Languages) will be running again from September. Classes will take place every Wednesday morning. These classes are a great way to improve your English, build confidence, and support your child's learning. If you are interested in joining, please speak to Mrs Sohanpal so she can add your name to the list.

In **Collective Worship** after half-term, we will continue exploring the value: **respect**. We will be using the Bible story *Jesus Cares for Everyone* (Mark 10:46–52) to learn how, like Jesus, we can show respect by listening, caring, and helping others. We will begin thinking about learning behaviours in school, such as listening carefully and working well with others.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Friday 23rd May

Monday 2nd June

W/B 9th June

W/B 23rd June

1st—3rd July

Monday 7th July

Wednesday 9th July

Thursday 10th July

Monday 21st July

Wednesday 23rd July

Thursday 24th July

SCHOOL BREAKS-UP

BACK TO SCHOOL

Year 1 Phonics Screening (*and Year 2 re-sits*)

Meet the Teacher*

Transition Week*

Twycross Zoo trip (*Flamingos and Elephants*)

Lion Learners experience

Etwall Alpacas trip (*Hedgehogs*)

Year 2 Leavers (9:15am)*

SCHOOL CLOSED (INSET Day)

SCHOOL CLOSED (INSET Day)

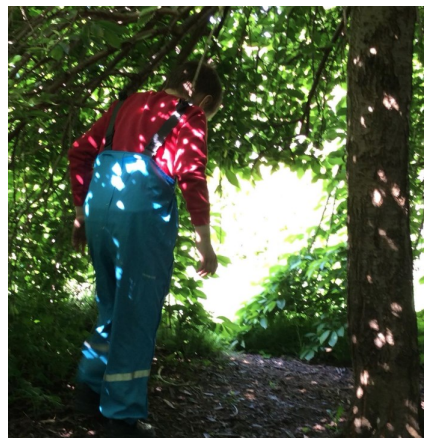
SCHOOL BREAKS-UP

You can find more information about all of the wonderful things happening in school, on our **school website**. *Please note: Further details will follow for these events. For now, please 'save the date'.

We would like to say a big well done to Miss Wright and Ms Leach, who have both recently passed their NPQs with the Church of England. Miss Wright has completed her NPQ in Leading Teaching, and Ms. Leach in Leading Behaviour and Culture. Both accreditations will help further strengthen our school improvement work. Well done Miss Wright and Ms. Leach!

FOREST SCHOOL "The best classroom is roofed only by the sky." (Margaret McMillan)

Hedgehogs have really enjoyed their Forest School sessions with Brendan, and these will continue after the holiday. Our partnership with St James' Juniors also continues, with their weekly sessions at our site. Next half-term, we are excited to further develop our community work by welcoming Hardwick Primary, who will be starting their own sessions. We are incredibly proud of how the field has developed over the past three years. What was once a sparse and empty piece of land has transformed into a much-loved and well-used space that enriches teaching and learning. As a CofE school, we are especially proud of the positive impact this is having on our wider community.



KINGS AND QUEENS

We are thrilled to announce that our Kings and Queens for this half-term are:



Bears: Isabela and Omer

Crocodiles: David and Brenda

Flamingos: Azlan and Aisha

Elephants: Zaroon and Nikola

Congratulations

KEEPING YOUR CHILD SAFE WORKSHOP

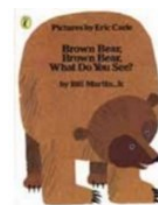
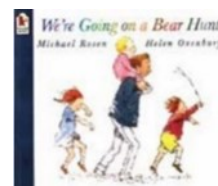
A huge thank you to everyone who attended the *Keeping Your Child Safe* workshop with Mrs Kay and Mrs Sohanpal. This session was an important part of our safeguarding work, and it was fantastic to see so many parents take part. Mrs Kay shared valuable information about how to keep your child safe, including useful resources from the NSPCC. This week, children have also been learning about the *Speak Out Stay Safe* programme in class. This important programme helps children understand that they always have the right to feel safe and know who to talk to if they are worried.



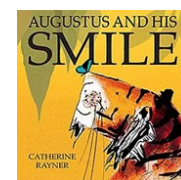
LOVE TO READ

Here are the key texts for each class for next half-term:

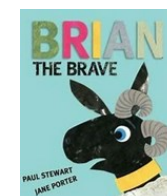
Nursery



Reception



Year 1



Year 2



Normanton Library

Address

St Augustine's Community Centre
Almond St
Derby
DE23 6LX

You may consider purchasing your child's year group book from Amazon/book stores so that you can enjoy it together at home

WATER BOTTLES

We have noticed an increasing number of large and expensive water bottles, such as Stanley bottles, being brought into school. As we have limited storage space and to help avoid these costly bottles getting damaged, we kindly ask that you provide your child with a smaller, inexpensive water bottle—e.g. ones easily available from Poundland.



HOME READING

We know we can be a little persistent, but we're thrilled to see a growing number of weekly home reading videos being submitted. We truly appreciate the effort it takes—life is busy, and protecting time to hear your child read regularly isn't always easy. However, the impact is huge. Reading at home supports every aspect of your child's learning, and your encouragement makes a real difference. Please continue to upload your child's reading video to their portfolio page by Thursday each week. The children absolutely love coming together to listen to and celebrate one another's learning.

NURSERY—SPACES AVAILABLE!



St Chad's CofE Nursery and Infant School FREE NURSERY PLACES FOR 2-4 YEAR OLDS*

*15 and 30hrs funding

**TEACHER LED NURSERY
FOREST SCHOOL ON-SITE**



Gordon Road, DE23 6WR
admin@stchads.derby.sch.uk



01332 345997



WARM WEATHER SCHOOL UNIFORM

As we approach the warmer months, please ensure your child brings a sunhat to school, clearly labelled with their name to avoid it getting lost. We also recommend applying sun cream to your child before school. Please make sure your child has a named water bottle that is not too big or expensive.



SCHOOL COUNCIL STARS!

Our School Council continue to impress us all. As well as regularly visiting the residents at Middleton Lodge Care Home, they have now taken on additional responsibilities by leading our school's Eco-Club. We'd like to say a huge well done to one of our school councillors, who has created these superb 'No Digging' signs to help keep our vegetable patch safe and thriving. What thoughtful and important work!



ATTENDANCE As we move towards the summer break, we'd like to gently remind families that *leave of absence requests – including those in the final weeks of term – cannot be authorised*. School finishes on **Tuesday 22nd July**, and every day leading up to this is important for learning, connection, and celebration. You may recall that in September 2024, we shared information about the Department for Education's updated national expectations around attendance. As part of these changes, the cost of *penalty notices has increased*, and schools are required to issue them for unauthorised leave. ***This is something we always want to avoid, therefore we ask that holidays are taken when school is closed.***

IMPORTANT REMINDER



We've noticed an increase in the number of children arriving a few minutes late over the last half term. While we understand that mornings can sometimes be challenging, arriving on time really does make a big difference to a child's start to the day. Our school gate opens at **8:45am** and closes promptly at **9:00am**. Arriving during this window helps children to settle quickly, take part in morning routines, and feel calm and ready to learn alongside their friends.

Further information can be found on our [school website](#)

If you have any safeguarding concerns during the holiday period, these can be reported via our safeguarding email: safeguarding@stchads.derby.sch.uk This email will be monitored periodically throughout the holiday. For additional guidance, including how to report a serious safeguarding concern, please visit the safeguarding section of our [website](#).