

ENJOY LEARNING:  
EMBRACE CHALLENGE!

# SOUTH DARLEY C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL



School Newsletter

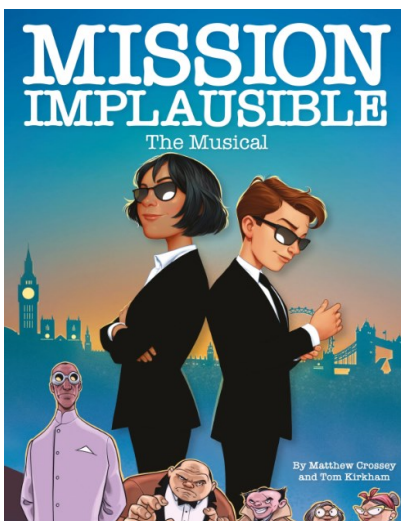
Autumn Term 2 2024

Dear All

So the nights are getting darker and Christmas is nearly here, bringing to an end a busy but exciting term. This culminated in our Nativity service in which the children showed the best of themselves by singing and acting out the Christmas story. Children are obviously excited about what presents Father Christmas might bring them but we are always proud when they think of others less fortunate than themselves. We had lots of lovely donations for the Derby City Mission Christmas Connection project which allows families to choose presents for their children when they can't afford to buy them. Our children also think about those pupils at Hastings School in Kolkata who still have a classroom open to the elements under a flyover. I am looking forward to visiting them in January to see all the great work that has been going on and to renew our link with the pupils there. As previously, we will be trying to have live links with the children and I will also be writing a blog that everyone can follow.

Please have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Paul Wilde, Headteacher.



## Exploding pens at the ready....there's an arch villain to stop and a world to save in this high-energy caper of a musical!

We have all grown up watching and reading spy stories: franchises such as James Bond, Mission Impossible and Jason Bourne have meant that spies have rarely left our screens over the last few decades, not to mention the hundreds of other films, programmes and books that centre on spies solving mysteries and more often than not, saving the world.

But a spy stage musical? Its not something that many of us will have encountered.....until now!

When Dr Yes kidnaps the esteemed scientist Professor Sandy Beach, four of MI5's least capable agents find themselves tasked with rescuing him and capturing Dr Yes. It won't be easy though, not with the likes of Paws, Tic-Tac, Number Two and Rosy Webb standing in their way. And how does the Prime Minister's long-awaited speech about 'going green' fit into the equation?

'Mission Implausible' takes a light-hearted approach to the genre, filling the action with memorable characters, exciting moments, catchy songs and engaging drama. Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to purchase tickets through the school office before they all explode!

**Don't forget.....to apply for your reception school place.** You must apply by 15th January 2025 for a place at primary school if your child was born between 1st September 2020 and 31 August 2021. With small class sizes, high quality teachers, and a curriculum designed to give children the very best opportunities, it is no wonder that the school has seen consistently excellent academic results and, more importantly, produced pupils to be proud of. From forest school to fabulous shows, successful sports teams to residential adventures and from musical opportunities to Indian links, the staff and community at South Darley CE Primary School offer something special to every child, underpinned by Christian values permeating daily school life. If you need a school place and haven't yet made your mind up about which school to apply for then please visit us to see first hand all the wonderful opportunities we provide for our children.

John 15:13 "Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends".

Do you remember some years ago, when the internet was in its early days, there was a website called “Friends Reunited”? I’m sure that lots of you, like me, signed up and reacquainted yourselves with old friends from school or college. I’m not sure for me though, that in becoming reacquainted, any of those old friendships were reignited in a more long-lasting way.



I was prompted to think about friendship whilst listening to my latest audiobook, *There Are Rivers in the Sky* by Elif Shafak. The book weaves through its storytelling the tale of the Epic of Gilgamesh, an ancient Mesopotamian text which features, amongst other things, an event very close to the Noah’s Ark narrative found in the Old Testament.

A theme running through Gilgamesh is one of friendship:

“Where you have set your mind begin the journey, let your heart have no fear, keep your eyes on me!”  
 “Hold my hand in yours, and we will not fear what hands like ours can do.”

And we see that theme too running throughout the Biblical narrative; for example, between David and Jonathan, between Naomi and Ruth and between Noah and God. Christians believe that Jesus took the understanding of friendship to the next level, offering a radical welcome of relationship to all – not just the Jews.

Wherever you take your inspiration from, be encouraged in your friendships. We need friendship. We need professional and personal friendship. We are made for companionship. A good question to ask ourselves from time to time is this: ‘is that sense of friendship and companionship evident to all in our school?’

With every blessing, Carolyn Shoyer, Diocesan Director of Education, Derby Diocesan Board of Education

Services are held in St Mary’s Church on the 1st Friday in every month (Celebration Assembly) and the 3rd Tuesday of every month (Family Worship) and normally start at approx. 9.10am. We look forward to seeing all the children and parents there!

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PRIMARY SCHOOL

Our Pre-School and Toddler Group:

**Little Darlings!**

Stay & Play group at South Darley  
CE Primary School

(DE4 2JT, between Darley Dale and Wilsthorpe)

All the fun at Little Darlings returns on  
Wednesday 8th January 2025  
10.30am—12 noon in term time

## Our Value this term is:

*Peace*  
Psalm 23

We will be exploring:

- ⇒ Finding peace in scriptures such as ‘The Lord is my shepherd...’
- ⇒ Making peace when we have quarreled;
- ⇒ Jesus as the Prince of Peace and the story behind the famous ‘Christ of the Andes’ statue;
- ⇒ How St Francis of Assisi lived at peace with the world;
- ⇒ Winners of the Nobel Peace

Peace | leave with you; my  
peace | give you. | do not  
give to you as the world  
gives.  
Do not let your hearts be  
troubled and do not be  
afraid.  
John 14:27

Let there be Peace on Earth,  
... and let it begin with Me!

When the  
**power of love**  
overcomes the  
**love of power,**  
**the world will know peace.**  
-Jimi Hendrix



Morning Club Advanced Bookings and After-school Club options are now available to book for Spring Terms 3 and 4 2025. As in previous years, morning clubs will be available at the advanced rate of £25 per child for each day in the spring term and can be paid for through Parentpay. Forms to make advanced bookings for after-school club have also been emailed to all parents and are on the school website. Hard-copies of the form can be

requested through the school office. Booking after-school clubs in advance allows you to guarantee childcare each day (apart from Fridays when the club does not operate). We can still accommodate most late booking requests but only where there are other children already booked in and to the latest time slot already requested for that day.



John 15:13 “Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends”.

# School Values.....just for school?



As a church school we seek to ensure that all our work is characterised by the following core values which derive from the school's mission, our behaviour policy, our teaching and learning policy and the school community. Christian, British and School values are discussed and agreed by our pupils, staff and governors. It is important to share these values as a community so that we can all help nurture South Darley children as they begin to make their way in the adventure that is life. We thank parents and the wider community for helping our children live out these values, whether in school or at home.

## Respect

- We value the views and faith of each individual within our school and celebrate difference and diversity within our community.
- All members of the school community treat each other with mutual respect.
- We co-operate and work together in harmony and respect each other and the rules of our community.
- We value and respect our environment and seek to be good stewards of the world in which we live for ourselves and future generations.

## Service

- We seek to live as children of light and to have fellowship to bring us closer and stronger together as a community.
- We are kind and generous with our time and resources in serving others.
- We act with thankfulness and compassion when serving others who are less fortunate.

## Justice

- We seek peace and truth and act with integrity, fairness and courage to pursue justice.
- We are tolerant when errors are made and act with Christian love and forgiveness.
- We ensure our behaviour and our values set a good example for others.

## Responsibility

- We act with thoughtfulness and in a mature and responsible way.
- We are humble when success comes our way and persevere when faced with adversity.
- We accept responsibility when we have made an error or fallen short in relation to our values or rules.

## Trust

- We trust those in our school community and work together with our peers.
- We accept and trust in decisions we have made collectively.
- We seek to build trust by acting with integrity and friendship and valuing the success of others.

## Independence

- We work independently, with creativity and take responsibility for our own work when working in a team.
- We are honest about ourselves and our strengths and the areas which we are working on to improve.
- We seek understanding to make informed choices about what we believe, what we do and how we go about it.
- We understand and exercise our individual rights wisely in the knowledge that our actions have an effect on the rights of others.



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## Matlock, Cromford, Wirksworth and Darley Dale Police SNT say Stay Safe and Visible in the Dark!

As the nights get longer, it's important to stay visible while jogging or walking your pets. Whether you're out for a morning jog or a late-night walk, visibility is key to your safety. Here are some simple tips to help you stay seen and stay safe:

**Wear Bright or Reflective Clothing:** Choose gear with reflective strips or bright colours that stand out in low light. Even better if you wear a reflective vest!



**Use Lights:** Clip a small LED light to your clothing, shoes, or pet's collar. Flashlights or headlamps are great options too.

**Stay on Well-Lit Paths:** Stick to well-lit streets, pathways, or parks. Avoid dark or isolated areas where visibility is limited.

**Make Sure Your Pet is Visible:** Dress your pet in reflective gear or use a light-up collar to help them stay visible too.



**Avoid Headphones:** Stay alert by not using headphones while walking or jogging. Listen for approaching vehicles or other hazards.

**Stick to Safe Areas:** Avoid distractions and always be aware of your surroundings, especially in low-light conditions.

### FRIENDS OF SOUTH DARLEY SCHOOL

Thank you to all who attended our recent Christmas Fayre. We are pleased to tell you that the event raised XXXXX. School have asked FOSDS to assist in purchasing another set of classroom i-Pads and a charging unit so the money will go towards that.

# 8:50

## Every school minute counts.....being late adds up to a loss of learning.

School start times changed in September and children are now expected to be in school ready to start their lesson at 8.50am. If your child arrives at 9am they have missed the first 10 minutes of learning. If you are 5 minutes late every day that adds up to over 3 days of school missed per year. 15 minutes late is the same as being absent for 2 weeks of the year. Making sure your child is at school ready to start their lessons by 8.50am is important—help us to teach your child. If you are worried about your child's attendance please talk to the class teacher or Headteacher about it. Where the school is concerned about a child's lateness then it may write to the parent before taking further advice from the local authority. If your child is late please ask yourself **Is your child missing out and if the answer is yes...please bring them into school at 8.40am.**



**A very big and heartfelt thank you from all the staff at South Darley CE Primary School for your continued support and thank you all for the lovely presents and cards you and your children have brought into school. Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Please stay safe and well over the festive period and we look forward to seeing you all on the first day of Term 3 on Tuesday 7th January 2025**



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