

ENJOY LEARNING:
EMBRACE CHALLENGE!

SOUTH DARLEY C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL



School Newsletter

Summer Term 5 2025

Dear all,

I'm writing this following the week of SATs tests for our Year 6 children, in which they have tried their best to do as well as they can. We are therefore extremely proud of them, whatever the outcomes are. Now they can enjoy what the rest of the school year has to offer – poetry recital, residential to Whitehall for Year 5/6, sports day, and much more – before heading onto the adventure of secondary school. We truly believe that South Darley offers our children such a lovely nurturing environment, enabling our pupils to keep a sense of connection to our school, long after they have gone. The same can be said of the adults here; last week our former Junior teacher Mrs Maynard paid us a visit, and Anne Eccles, whose grandchildren used to come here several years ago, has volunteered her time in retirement to read with the infant children. It is always lovely to reconnect with old friends and it reminds us that South Darley School has served its community for over 160 years, with hopefully many more to come.



Paul Wilde, Headteacher

Our playground refurbishment continues.....

One of our focuses this year has been to continue the work upgrading the play opportunities for our children and make our bin storage area more secure at the back of our school. Installed by former parent Rob Jordan with funds kindly donated by the hard work in fundraising by FOSDS, we now have a stage area and a secure bin storage compound. The final pieces will hopefully be in place very soon— raised planters so that we can relaunch our gardening club!



Could a Social Tariff broadband help you? Social tariffs are cheaper broadband and phone packages for people claiming Universal Credit, Pension Credit and some other benefits. Some providers call them 'essential' or 'basic' broadband.

They're delivered in the same way as normal packages, just at a lower price. They offer fast unlimited broadband, costs nothing to switch and the price won't go up mid-contract. They also cost nothing to leave before the end of the contract in case your circumstances change. Social tariffs are available through all major providers—the person receiving the benefit needs to be the main person on the contract. First, check if your current provider offers a social tariff. If they do, then call them and ask to switch. If they don't then you can switch to one that does. Your provider may let you leave your current contract without paying a fee. For more information visit [Social tariffs: Cheaper broadband and phone packages - Ofcom](#)



Dear school communities

Love. Love is the beating heart of the gospel message.

As a teacher, I started my career in a really challenging Church of England school in an area with very high levels of deprivation. I made a conscious decision, as a newly qualified teacher, that I was going to express my vocation by loving the children in my care. This wasn't a fluffy, fuzzy love but rather it was a love with boundaries and with expectations. A love that says, 'I see you'.



I realise now that what enabled me to teach with love was the way in which the school leader led with love. My first headteacher was an inspirational school leader and I am forever grateful to have begun my teaching career under his leadership. He developed a culture where the staff were not just well trained but well supported. Adults, as well as children, knew they were loved. Love showed itself in all sorts of different ways and I recall with great fondness, many of the simple and practical ways that this was expressed. The headteacher knew that for the school to flourish, we all needed a loving connection.

Emmanuel Gobillot talks about this in his book 'The Connected Leader'. He describes two kinds of organisations: the formal and real organisations. The formal organisation is structured to achieve a task with a clear action plan. There are roles and rules and employees get paid. The real organisation is made up of the networks of people, the friends and the connections. It is in the real organisation that we sense the social and moral obligations we share and it's where we experience trust and reciprocity.

The best leaders focus on channeling the life and the creativity of the real organisation. They focus on how they can help each person in the organisation feel stronger and more capable. Not happy - but stronger and more capable. This is leadership love in action!

So, you may think my encouragement to you in this month's newsletter is all about loving your team. Well, no it's not! I was taken by surprise recently when I stumbled across a clip on social media of someone talking about love in an interview with Drew Barrymore. It's only a minute long so do watch it. In essence, the message is this: we each have the gift of ourselves to take care of. Our number one job is to love ourselves. And this love is not about fluffy feelings but it is an approach or a way of being.

As you seek to lead with love, focusing on helping each one within your organisation grow stronger and more capable, my encouragement is that you lead yourself with love too. Think about what leading yourself with love might look like for you.

"You shall love your neighbour as yourself." Mark 12: 31

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!

 UK Health Security Agency

Measles

More than 1 in 10 eligible children under the age of 5 in England haven't had the Measles Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccine or are only partially vaccinated. This leaves these children unprotected and increases the risk of measles outbreaks occurring in nurseries and schools. The UK Health Security Agency are reminding parents to ensure their children are protected by taking up 2 doses of the MMR vaccine at the right time.

Measles: how infectious is it?

As families prepare for travel over the summer break, there is more chance for measles to be brought in from countries where there are outbreaks. It is especially important to check you are up to date with your 2 doses of MMR before you travel. Catching up children who missed out on their MMR vaccines is a priority, in order to help prevent another rise in measles cases.

Measles is one of the most infectious diseases in the world. It can be passed very easily from person to person.



Anyone who has not had 2 doses of the MMR vaccine can contact their GP surgery to book an appointment. It is never too late to catch-up.

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

Your chance to have your say—the 2025 Parental Survey is now open!

It is important to us that we are doing all we can for your children and so we conduct regular reviews of parental views towards our school. We would therefore be grateful if you could complete our 2025 Parental Survey as it will help us identify areas for our school improvement. You are welcome to keep the survey anonymous but we may not be able to follow up any issues raised if we don't know who you are. If you do have any concerns then please feel free to speak to any member of school staff—we are an open school and would hate to think that there may be concerns that weren't being addressed. The survey questions based on the questions posed on Ofsted Parentview. Paper copies of the survey can be found in the parent information wall folder outside the upper junior classroom. The deadline for completed surveys is Friday 4th July 2025.

**South Darley CE Primary School
Parent Survey 2025**



DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION-FUNDED
**HOLIDAY CLUBS
IN DERBYSHIRE**



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.

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



*See website for full eligibility criteria.



MORE INFORMATION:
itsaboutmederbyshire.co.uk



Text message updates.



Texts from the school will now come from one of two providers. For whole school, class or year group messages, the school will be using the free GOVNOTIFY service. Texts which need to go to specific individuals or specific groups e.g. football team will be sent via Integris. Please make sure the school has the right contact telephone numbers so you receive all messages.



Beat the heat

Plan ahead



Check the weather forecast and the news



Plan ahead to avoid the heat



Schedule activities to cooler times of the day

Keep yourself cool



Drink plenty of fluids and avoid excess alcohol



Wear sunscreen, a hat, and sunglasses



Cool your skin with water and slow down

Find somewhere cool



Close blinds and curtains during the day



Go indoors or outdoors, whichever feels cooler



Avoid closed spaces like stationary cars

Be safe



Be on the lookout for signs of heat related illness



Look after yourself and check in with others



Stay safe when swimming



Get help. Call NHS 111 or in an emergency 999

For more information go to: gov.uk/ukhsa/beat-the-heat

Spring Summer Menu 2025

You said we did!

By far the most concerns we receive from schools, academies and parents are regarding the perceived strange combinations of food we seem to offer and serve,

'The menu has too many carbs on pizza days' – The government food standards do advise some form of carbohydrate each day (including bread) but to address this we will no longer offer pizza with pasta; it will be served with a small portion of diced potatoes or wedges instead.

“Why are so many meals deconstructed for example chicken pasta bake and chicken curry”, some schools believe this confuses the children, as the dishes don't resemble what is actually on the menu, meaning that pupils, by choice, will often take just plain pasta, chicken or rice, all of which looks very bland and dry. Hence, the majority of our complaints about the food and that it is not value for money. We totally appreciate that our kitchens do this with the very best intentions, however we would like you to support all units, if possible, to serve chicken curry as it should be with the cooked diced chicken in the curry sauce, so that it is 'chicken curry'. However, for pupils who do not like curry, they can choose from the other alternative options available which will be chow mein, pasta pots, jacket potato with a filling or a sandwich meal. There's plenty of other choice, we will work with your school and we can offer flexibility and even create a bespoke menu tailored to your school needs.



Pasta Pots/Jacket Potatoes/Sandwiches – Our catering supervisor is asked to discuss and agree with you, the offer of a choice of pasta pots, jacket potatoes or sandwiches alongside the main options. Using the recipes provided, our teams can make different versions of the pasta pots throughout the menu cycle

Fish Friday – we will offer salmon mayo as a jacket potato or sandwich filling on one Friday throughout the menu cycle. Whilst we appreciate there will be very low uptake of this option, it means we can offer the more popular fish products but still comply with the school food standards.

Desserts with Fruit – The school food standards state that we must offer 2 desserts per week that contain 50% fruit. Therefore, it is essential that when a dessert is shown on the menu 'with fruit' that a bitesize portion of dessert is served alongside a half portion of fruit. We request that our teams present the fruit offer as attractively and colourful as they can and offer different fruits throughout the menu cycle.



SPOT THE RED-FLAGS FOR RADICALISATION...

DON'T IGNORE EXTREMISM. IF SOMEONE IS:

- Sharing extremist views
- Making extremist comments
- Supporting extremist groups

PREVENT provides confidential help, support and guidance to people at risk of being radicalised.

ACT Early | Prevent radicalisation:
Contact Derbyshire Prevent: prevent@derbyshire.gov.uk

IT'S TIME TO ACT.

Friends of South Darley School

Midsummer Disco

Friday 20th June 2025 / 6pm-8pm
South Darley Village Hall

Tickets £3 per family (purchased from the office)

Summer Headdress Competition

Bar and Tuck Shop

Arts & Crafts

Prizes for the best dancing!

Made with PosterMyWall.com

Please note children must be accompanied by an adult