



School Office Friday Update

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEKS AHEAD

Monday 22nd June	• New starter parents meeting
Tuesday 23rd June	• Churchtown Tots - 9.30am-11am. All welcome.
Wednesday 24th June	• Class 1 Forest School
Thursday 25th June	•
Friday 26th June	• Sports day- 1.30pm, all welcome! • Celebration assembly
Monday 29th June	• Highfields sports event for juniors. New date.
Tuesday 30th June	• Churchtown Tots - 9.30am-11am. All welcome. • Football league match- you will have received a message if your child has been chosen to play. • PCSO visit to school
Wednesday 1st July	• Class 1 Forest School
Thursday 2nd July	• Highfields transition day • New starters transition morning • Move up day!
Friday 3rd July	• Celebration assembly

Drop off arrangements

Ideally parents and carers should say goodbye to their children at the school gates in the morning as this helps build the children's independence. For younger children in Class 1 it may be necessary to take them to the door to the infant cloakroom area. A member of staff will always be present here to welcome the children into school. Parents should not come into the school building. If you need to speak to a member of teaching staff, then please speak to the staff members on the door or gate to arrange this. If the matter is urgent then the member of staff needed will be sent for. For non-urgent queries a telephone call or meeting should be arranged.

Please note, these arrangements apply when children arrive at the normal time (between 8.40am and 8.50am). If children arrive at school after the gates close then parents and children should come to the school office to complete an individual registration form.

Other news:

- Please could all parents visit the trip section of Arbor, there are parental consents required for trips for all classes. Thank you.
- Our latest plans to open a nursery are now available on the school website, including a form to register your interest. Please return forms to info@darleychurchtown.derbyshire.sch.uk
- Footwear worn as part of school uniform should be black, flat and practical. Flat sandals are permitted in summer. Please also remember that the only jewellery allowed is a single pair of stud earrings and a wrist watch. Full details can be found in our uniform policy on the school website.
- After school club is now available every day after school until 5pm. Bookings to be made via Arbor. Lots of different activities available including- maypole dancing, gardening, crafts, baking, debates, games and many more! Snacks and drinks provided.
- Please ensure all children have a PE kit in school. This should stay in school for half term and it will then be sent home for a wash.
- If you need to apply for a medical diet for your child for this school year, please use the following link- <https://www.schoolmeals.derbyshire.gov.uk/allergies-and-special-diets/allergies-and-special-diets.aspx>
- Just to remind you, if you pay for your child's school lunches these should be paid in **advance** of the meal being taken where possible. Thank you.

- Children are encouraged to bring a drinks bottle to school containing water. They are also allowed to bring a healthy snack for morning break. This should be either fruit or a plain biscuit. Fruit is provided for children in Class 1. Please do not send snacks that contain chocolate or have a high sugar content as these can make it difficult for children to concentrate in lessons.
- Now the sun is shining, please could all children have a sunhat in their bag and suncream on before school. Children can bring suncream to school to re apply.

FURTHER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY	
06/07/2026	New starters stay and play
06/07/2026	Highfields sports event for years 3,4 and 5
08/07/2026	Anthony Gell transition
08/07/2026	Class 1 Forest School
08/07/2026	Class 1 sports day event at ASJ
11/07/2026	PTA Summer Fair
14/07/2026	Football league match
15/07/2026	Class 3 Level Centre visit
17/07/2026	Class 1 Forest School
21/07/2026	Junior play
22/07/2026	Year 6 pizza party
23/07/2026	Leavers service
01/06/2026	Inset- School closed

2026/2027 planned inset days-

- Inset 1- Friday 4th September 2026
- Inset 2- Monday 22nd February 2027
- Inset 3- Thursday 27th May 2027
- Inset 4- Friday 28th May 2027
- Inset 5- Monday 26th July 2027

In September 2013 the government introduced new regulations making it clear that Headteachers must not give approval for any leave of absence during term time, including holidays, unless there are exceptional circumstances. Parents are not entitled to take their children on holiday in term time. Planned absence can only be taken with the prior written approval of the headteacher. Each case will be considered on its own merits and the decision of the headteacher is final.

Any requests for term time leave should be made on a leave of absence request form available from the school office and handed in at least two school weeks before the first date of the requested absence whenever possible. You must have received written authorisation before your child can be absent from school.

If a request for leave is denied and the pupil is absent for 5 days or more then the school is expected to refer the case to the local authority. Parent/carers may be issued with a penalty notice fine or prosecution should leave of 5 days or more be taken which is not authorised by the Headteacher, or where repeated incidents of leave in term time for less than 5 days occur or where the unauthorised absence contributes to wider poor attendance that meets the legal threshold. If unpaid this could lead to prosecution under section 444(1) of The Education Act 1996

Absence deemed for the reason of unauthorised leave in term time will be marked in the register with the Attendance code G.

Further information regarding school attendance and penalty notices can be found on the DCC website <https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/education/schools/welfare-services/attendance/school-attendance.aspx>

Please see our Attendance policy on our school website for more details.

Spring & Summer Menu

Daily:
Bread, Salad,
Fruit, Yoghurt,
Drinking Water
& Seasonal
Vegetables

CELEBRATING
120 YEARS
OF SCHOOL
MEALS

Week 1

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

13.04.26

04.05.26

01.06.26

22.06.26

13.07.26

07.09.26

28.09.26

19.10.26

The Main Event

Alternative Choice

Daily Choice

Dessert

Chicken with Curry Sauce
Rice &
Homemade Flatbread

Macaroni Cheese
&
Homemade Bread **V**

Pasta Pot, Filled Jacket Potato or a Sandwich Meal. Please speak with your school for their selection.

Chocolate Cookie

Big Breakfast:
Sausage & Bacon
Hash Browns
Baked Beans &
Tomatoes

Veggie Breakfast:
Veggie Sausages
Hash Browns
Baked Beans &
Tomatoes **Ve**

Flapjack with Fruit

Roast Dinner
or
Roasted Vegetable
Tart **Ve**
Mashed Potatoes &
Seasonal Vegetables

Vegetable Jambalaya
&
Homemade Bread **Ve**

Strawberry Layer
Dessert

Margherita Pizza **V**

Veggie Burrito **V**

Sprinkle Cake

Fish Fingers
Chips
Peas & Carrots

Veggie Sausage Roll
Chips
Peas & Carrots **Ve**

Chocolate Pear Slice

Week 2

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

20.04.26

11.05.26

08.06.26

29.06.26

20.07.26

14.09.26

05.10.26

The Main Event

Alternative Choice

Daily Choice

Dessert

Dippers with a
Homemade Sauce
&
Rice **Ve**

Sweet Potato &
Lentil Curry
&
Rice **Ve**

Pasta Pot, Filled Jacket Potato or a Sandwich Meal. Please speak with your school for their selection.

Salted Caramel Cookie

Meatballs in Tomato
Sauce
Spaghetti
& Garlic Bread

Tex Mex Chilli
Loaded Wedges **V**

Chocolate Brownie
with Fruit

Roast Dinner
or
Roasted Quorn Fillet **Ve**
Mashed Potatoes &
Seasonal Vegetables

Vegetable Chow Mein **V**

Carrot Cake Muffins

Chicken Goujon Wrap
Garlic Mayo Dip &
Potato Wedges

Veggie Balls with
Tomato Sauce
& Pasta **Ve**

Ice Cream with Fruit

Battered Fish Fillet
Chips
&
Baked Beans

Macaroni Cheese
&
Homemade Bread **V**

Pinwheel Biscuits

Week 3

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

27.04.26

18.05.26

15.06.26

06.07.26

31.08.26

21.09.26

12.10.26

The Main Event

Alternative Choice

Daily Choice

Dessert

Chicken Burger
in a Bun
&
Potato Wedges

Southern Style Burger
in a Bun
&
Potato Wedges **Ve**

Pasta Pot, Filled Jacket Potato or a Sandwich Meal. Please speak with your school for their selection.

Apple Oat Cookie

Beef Taco
Sunshine Rice
&
Sweetcorn Salsa

Veggie Taco
Sunshine Rice
&
Sweetcorn Salsa **Ve**

Lemon Cake with Fruit

Sausages
Yorkshire Pudding
Mashed Potatoes &
Seasonal Vegetables

Veggie Sausage with
Yorkshire Pudding
Mashed Potatoes &
Seasonal Vegetables **V**

Jelly with Fruit

Margherita Pizza **V**

Vegetable Lasagne
with Garlic Bread **V**

Jam Sponge

Fish Fingers
Chips
&
Baked Beans

Cheese Panini
Chips
&
Baked Beans **V**

Chocolate Cracknel

DERBYSHIRE
County Council

For further information and allergen details please visit: www.schoolmeals.derbyshire.gov.uk

Dates highlighted in bold denote theme day events.



CHURCHTOWN PTA

SUMMER FAIR

11TH JULY

11.30AM - 2.30PM

FUN FOR
ALL THE
FAMILY!

AND
MUCH
MORE!

BOUNCY CASTLE

BURGERS
AND NACHOS

SWEETS

HAIR BRAIDING

Darley Dale in Bloom

Summer Competition 2026 for the Under 14s:
Best Planted Up Unusual Container, eg an old
boot, teapot or saucepan!



Special prize for the
winning entry !

Closing date for entries is 6
July. Judging will take place
on 11 July at Darley
Churchtown PTA Summer
Fair at 2pm. The Fair is
open from 11.30 am

Entry forms are available:

online on the Darley Dale
Town Council Facebook page

from the Whitworth Centre
and Tally Ho, Old Road,
Darley Dale, DE4 2ER

DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION-FUNDED

HOLIDAY CLUBS IN DERBYSHIRE

it's about me
Derbyshire's Holiday Activity and
Food Programme

2026

MORE INFORMATION

Did you know that, as well as free school meals during term time, your child can also access funded spaces at holiday clubs?

Through the Department for Education's Holiday Activity and Food Programme, known in Derbyshire as It's About Me, children can attend local holiday clubs packed with fun activities, learning opportunities and healthy meals—all at no cost to you.

If your child is aged 4–16 and eligible for benefits-related free school meals, they're entitled to funded places at It's About Me holiday clubs.*

Our clubs offer a wide variety of activities, including sports, arts and crafts, cooking, dance, music, and more—so there's something to suit everyone! Each session also includes a nutritious meal to keep children happy, healthy and energised throughout the day.

Every club runs its own unique programme depending on its location, meaning there's always something new to discover.

Not eligible? Many clubs also offer paid places, so every child can still get involved and enjoy the fun.

IMPORTANT DATES

SPRING

Bookings open: 9th March 2026
Holiday clubs open: 30th March 2026 -
10th April 2026

SUMMER

Bookings open: 29th June 2026
Holiday clubs open: 23rd July 2026 -
4th September 2026

WINTER

Bookings open: 30th November 2026
Holiday clubs open: 21st December 2026 -
31st December 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 Subscribe to the It's About Me Newsletter

*See website for full eligibility criteria.



MORE INFORMATION:
itsaboutmederbyshire.co.uk



All Families in Receipt of Universal Credit can get Free School Meals

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 already receive free meals.

Children in Year 3 and above may also be eligible.

Three ways to check if you qualify:

- Use the free school meals checker online - simply scan the QR code
- Contact the team by email or telephone, details overleaf
- Ask at your school for further information

Good to know:

Once registered, you don't need to reapply each year. Your eligibility is checked automatically every month.



All Families in Receipt of Universal Credit can get Free School Meals

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

Eligible pupils attract Pupil Premium, additional funding for the school. This enables the school to support families in appropriate ways, for example this could include help with:

- residential school trips
- travel costs to school
- school uniform costs
- Holiday Activity Funded (HAF) Places
- music lessons



www.derbyshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

email: checking@derbyshire.gov.uk

telephone: 01629 536481

