



Newsletter  
Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2024  
Email  
[info@gamesley.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:info@gamesley.derbyshire.sch.uk)  
01457 853721  
Pastoral Manager  
Tammy Snape 07922 576932



Dear Families,

## 1. Back to School in September

We finally have confirmation that the long-anticipated renovations to the Nursery and Reception block will be going ahead over the summer holiday. This is very exciting news and we are so pleased that the youngest children will be educated in a lovely, updated learning environment including a new toilet block, conservatory and extended outdoor play area.

However, the work is going to take the full time of the school holiday and there will be a lot of sorting out to do once the builders have left. The Trust have therefore agreed that we should add an additional INSET day in September to give the staff time to get organised, meaning that the children in all year groups will now return to school on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September.

The school gates will open at 8.40am as usual on the first day back and will close again at 8.45am. As always we will be encouraging children from Year 1 upwards to walk in on their own through the playground when they feel ready to do so, but also understand that there may be a few wobbles after the long summer break.

## 2. School Uniform

Although we no longer have any "old" nursery uniform in stock at school in yellow and purple, it is absolutely fine for Catkins and Conkers children to continue to wear this next year and into the future.

However, as time goes by we will be encouraging all our families to transition to the main school colours of sky blue and royal blue. Bulldog Fashion in Glossop stocks all our school uniform if you want items with a logo, but many of our children also wear non-badged clothing. We really don't mind as long as the children are dressed in the correct school colours, and from September we would like nursery children to be in uniform each day.

As a reminder ready for the new school year: here is a list of the uniform from which you can choose for your children to wear to school from Nursery upwards:

- *Royal blue sweatshirt, cardigan or fleece; (Nursery aged children can also wear purple sweatshirts if you prefer, but if you are buying new please buy blue)*
- *Sky blue long or short sleeved polo shirt; (Or pale yellow for Nursery children)*
- *Dark grey long trousers, knee length skirt, knee length shorts or knee length pinafore. (Nursery children can wear dark grey, pull-up jogging bottoms instead if you think these would be easier for them to manage when using the bathroom)*
- *Sky blue and white checked knee length dress.*



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- *Sensible, flat, waterproof, plain black shoes including plain black unbranded trainers in a smooth, waterproof material. Please choose “Velcro” fastenings until your children can manage buckles or laces independently*
- *White, grey or black socks / grey or black tights*

### 3. Early Birds and Night Owls

We are very pleased that from September our Early Birds and Night Owls provision will be open to Nursery aged children who are aged three or older. In order to help us ensure we have enough staff to look after the children each session, please book places as far in advance as possible and also give us at least 24 hours' notice of any cancellations.

Booking forms can be found on the school website:

<https://gamesleyprimaryschool.com/parents/early-birds-and-night-owls-wrap-around-care/>

### 4. Attendance

You may have heard already that the Department for Education has introduced some significant changes in attendance which will come into place from the start of the autumn term for all children of statutory school age (the term after their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday).

I will send out more details plus a link to our updated attendance policy in a separate letter before the end of term, but just wanted to make you aware of the key changes before we break up. These are:

- *From September, schools will have to consider a fine if a pupil accrues 10 sessions (half days) of unauthorised absence in a rolling period of 10 school weeks, not just for holidays in term time.*
- *The threshold can be met with any combination of unauthorised absence. For example, four sessions in term time plus six instances of arriving late.*
- *The period of 10 weeks can also span different terms or school years.*
- *Absence fines charged to parents will rise from £60 to £80, or £160 if not paid within 21 days.*
- *Any second notice will automatically be charged at £160.*
- *From the autumn, only two fines can be issued to the same parent for the same child within a three-year rolling period and a third notice within a year-three rolling period could result in a summons to court.*



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## 5. Headlice – again!

We are still battling a few instances of headlice in both schools recently. Please don't be offended if we give you a call to let you know that we have spotted some little visitors in your child's hair. If you can comb live lice out as soon as you see them with a nit comb and plenty of conditioner you may have a chance to prevent them from laying their eggs (nits) which are much harder to remove as they stick to the hair shafts.

## 6. Stars of the Week

Congratulations to our recent stars who are:

Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> June 2024		
Nursery Conkers	Patient	Roman is a calm and kind friend who always waits his turn.
Reception Acorns	Patient	Leo is always patient and is able to wait his turn.
Year 1 Silver Birch	Thoughtful	Olivia is always a kind and caring member of Silver Birch Class.
Year 2 Willow	Thoughtful	Alice really cares that everyone around feels safe and happy and she does everything she can to look after her classmates.
Year 3 Holly	Responsible	Florence always arrives at school with everything she needs and ready to learn.
Year 4 Chestnut	Responsible	Millie is developing a very pleasing mature attitude to school life and is taking responsibility for her own progress.
Year 5 Elm	Independent	Nyah uses the classroom displays and equipment to support her working independently.
Year 6 Oak	Independent	Kieran has produced some lovely independent writing and has developed a beautiful joined handwriting style.
Orchard	Patient	Leo loved our recent musical trip and was able to wait patiently for his turn.

Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> June 2024		
Class	Value	
Nursery Conkers	Curious	Lilah is interested in everything and loves new learning.
Reception Acorns	Curious	George asks some great questions to find out more about his learning.
Year 1 Silver Birch	Enthusiastic	Yowel embraces every aspect of school life with such a positive attitude.



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Year 2 Willow	Enthusiastic	Milan loves learning and is always keen and wants to find out more.
Year 3 Holly	Articulate	Faye is able to discuss and share her ideas very maturely.
Year 4 Chestnut	Articulate	Marshall loves learning and is able to explain his ideas clearly.
Year 5 Elm	Honest	Tommie is always honest about his learning and about interactions with his friends.
Year 6 Oak	Honest	Amelia is utterly reliable, honest and hardworking. She is a credit to the school!
Orchard	Curious	Leroy has been enjoying our sensory learning lessons and he has been signing for "more" to keep the sessions going!

Very well done too to the last two weeks' curriculum stars who were:

Friday 21st June 2024		
Nursery Conkers	Reading	Layla loves listening to and joining in with familiar stories and talking about her favourite books.
Reception Acorns	Reading	Annabelle is working so hard in our Read, Write, Inc lessons.
Year 1 Silver Birch	Maths	Oliver is working so hard in his maths lessons and making such pleasing progress.
Year 2 Willow	Maths	Charlie has worked hard to present his maths work beautifully this week.
Year 3 Holly	Reading	Carter has taken every opportunity this week to grab a book and read!
Year 4 Chestnut	Maths	Riley is working so hard in maths lessons and is applying the skills he is learning to solve problems.
Year 5 Elm	Reading	We are so pleased that Belle is reading more regularly at home.
Year 6 Oak	Reading	Lucas has been applying his reading skills to learn his lines and deliver them with great expression.

Friday 28th June 2024		
Nursery Conkers	Reading	Tillie listens intently to stories making relevant comments and asking some great questions.
Reception Acorns	Maths	Aeson always listens carefully in our maths lessons.
Year 1 Silver Birch	Maths	Elliot is working so hard in our maths lessons and is making super progress.
Year 2 Willow	Reading	Tommie reads everything: books, signs, labels. He even volunteered to read the class novel to Willow Class.
Year 3 Holly	Maths	Harry is absolutely flying in maths lessons and is making very pleasing progress.
Year 4 Chestnut	Reading	Isabelle is working so hard and making great improvements with her reading.



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Year 5 Elm	Maths	Finley has been so motivated in lessons and in his recent maths tests.
Year 6 Oak	Reading	Aaliyah is making super progress with her reading and has developed a love of books.

## Dates for your Diaries

Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July 24	Year 1 Silver Birch and Year 2 Willow Classes visit to Lytham St. Anne's
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> July 24	Reception Acorns 2024 transition afternoon: 2.00pm to 3.00pm
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> July 24	Chess Club trip to London
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> July 24	Year 3 Holly Class take part in "Victorious Voices" choir concert.
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> July 24	Sports Day: Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6: 9.30am
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July 24	Year 6 Production: 2.00pm and 6.00pm
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> July 24	Reserve Sports Day: Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6: 9.30am
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> July 24	Reception Acorns Trip to Formby Beach
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> July 24	Reception Acorns 2024 transition afternoon: 2.00pm to 3.00pm
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July 24	Conkers and Acorns Sports Morning: 9.30am
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 24	Class parties in Orchard / Nursery / Reception
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 24	School Disco years 1 to 6
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July 24	Year 6 Leavers Assembly: 2.00pm
<b>Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July</b>	<b>Schools close for Summer Holiday</b>

<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September</b>	<b>All school staff attend Trust Conference Day in Manchester</b>
<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September</b>	<b>Staff in school: training day and setting up Early Years Rooms</b>
<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Staff in school: training day and setting up Early Years Rooms</b>
<b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>School Opens for start of Autumn Term</b>
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> September	Flu vaccines in school
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 1 Silver Birch and Year 2 Willow trip to Lyme Park
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	Reception Acorns Trip to Inside Out Forest School
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> October 24	Year 6 Oak Class residential trip to Whitehall Centre.
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> November 24	Year 5 Elm Class day trips to Whitehall Centre

Kindest Regards,

*Deborah Meredith*