



Newsletter  
Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2024  
Email  
[info@gamesley.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:info@gamesley.derbyshire.sch.uk)  
01457 853721  
Pastoral Manager  
Tammy Snape 07922 576932



Dear Families,

## 1. Swimming Lessons start Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November

We are now able to share more details about our exciting plans for swimming in November. The swimming pool will be on site for four full weeks from Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November. It comes with a fully qualified swimming instructor Abi, and a full-time life guard.

- Year 4 Chestnut Class will have a half hour swimming lesson every morning for the full four weeks.
- Year 6 Oak Class will swim every afternoon for the first week. Some of these children will continue swimming for longer than the one week depending on their level of competency – we will keep you updated.
- Year 5 Elm Class will start swimming each afternoon on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November.

Families are welcome to come onto the playground when the gates open on the morning of Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November to view the pool, meet Abi and ask any questions you may have.

## 2. Individual and Family Photographs: Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October

The arrangements for photograph day will be as follows:

### 1. 8.45am: Family groups including afternoon Nursery Children and baby brothers and sisters.

Please come to the front door *after* you have dropped your other children off at the school gate. You will be asked to sign in and wait in the hall. When it is your turn to have your children photographed, we will collect them from their classrooms for you. This is to avoid crowding in the hall and to ensure the children do not miss lesson time.

The photographer is only here for the morning, so if your child is in nursery in the afternoons only, you are welcome to come along at 8.45am to have their photograph taken on their own and/or with siblings.

### 2. Family groups of children in school.

If your child has not already had a group photograph taken and they have brothers and sisters in school, we will arrange for them to have their picture taken together.

### 3. Individual photographs.

We will also arrange for *all* children to have their individual photograph taken. As above, afternoon Nursery children should arrive at 8.45am if you wish their picture to be taken.

Proofs will be sent home with your children and there is no obligation to buy any pictures.

## 3. Parent Governor Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a parent representative on our Board of Governors.



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Our governors are a very friendly and supportive group who meet together six times each year from 6.00pm to 8.00pm. They are also welcome to visit the school during the working day and chat to school leaders and class teachers to find out more about how the school operates.

If you would be interested in joining us, please email me by Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October at [headteacher@gamesley.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@gamesley.derbyshire.sch.uk)

### Spooky Disco: Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October, 4.00pm to 5.00pm (Year 1 to Year 6)

Our first disco of the year will have a spooky theme. Children are welcome to come in Hallowe'en clothes if they wish, but please bear in mind that the theme is SPOOKY and not SCARY! We want our youngest



children to have fun and not be frightened, so no masks or pretend weapons etc. please!

The cost of the disco is £2.00 payable on the door and no extra money is needed as this includes something to eat, drinks and face painting.

Our Orchard, Acorns, Conkers and Catkins children will be having their own spooky fun activities in class on Thursday instead of attending the disco.

We are hoping to decorate the hall and classrooms with some spooky carved pumpkins. There will be a prize for everyone who brings a carved pumpkin to school on

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October and we will provide battery tealights so your pumpkins can be displayed in their full glory.

### 4. Social Media and Complaints

We really try to look after your children and provide them with the best education possible, but we also know that we don't always get it right. I'm always very open to chatting to you, as are all our staff. Do get in touch straight away if something that has happened that you aren't happy with and we will do our very best to work with you and put things right.

Please can I ask that if possible you come directly to us rather than post your worries on social media before contacting us? We can only help if you let us know what the issue is.

### 5. Stars of the Week and Curriculum Stars:

Congratulations to the last three week's stars.

Conkers	Brave	Angel has been coming into Nursery so happily each morning.
Acorns	Brave	Isaiah comes into school with a big smile on his face each morning.
Silver Birch	Brave	It's a big step joining a new school and we are so impressed with how bravely Oscar has been coming into Silver Birch each morning.



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Willow	Brave	Amira has been so brave this week. Even when she has felt a bit wobbly she has come straight into school and settled to her learning.
Holly	Brave	Hugo faces up to any learning challenges with determination and as a result he is making very pleasing progress.
Chestnut	Brave	Harvey has stepped out of his comfort zone this week joining in our music lessons and trying some tricky maths questions.
Elm	Brave	Evie is always ready to try something new in her learning.
Oak	Brave	We were very impressed with Eva's confidence this week when she presented her learning to the whole class.
Orchard	Brave	Oliver has settled beautifully into Apples group and is now managing full days in school.

Conkers	Kind	Darcie is such a kind member of Conkers class who looks after her friends, shares and takes turns.
Acorns	Honest	Vada is always beautifully behaved and so honest in her dealings with adults and children alike.
Silver Birch	Honest	Tamsin is not only honest herself, she also supports her class mates in telling the truth.
Willow	Honest	Harry is an honest learner who will always ask for help when he needs it.
Holly	Honest	Mylah is a hard worker who is very honest with herself about when she can be independent and when she needs to ask for adult support.
Chestnut	Honest	Freya not only knows when to ask for help, but also recognises when she is working with a desirable level of difficulty and can continue to be independent.
Elm	Honest	Jamie is honest about every aspect of school life: his behaviour, his friendships and his learning.
Oak	Honest	Rocco is utterly reliable, patient and honest at all times in school.
Orchard	Kind	Alfie shares with his friends in Cherry Orchard and lets others take their turn.

Conkers	Patient	Scarlett always waits her turn and is genuinely pleased to see her friends having a chance to speak.
Acorns	Patient	Tillie always waits her turn and respects the needs of other children in Acorns.
Silver Birch	Patient	Leo is a patient learner who listens carefully to the teaching and takes time to think before starting his work.
Willow	Patient	Isla is always patient and takes such care with all her work, especially her beautiful art work.
Holly	Patient	Delilah is very patient and always listens and waits her turn before speaking.
Chestnut	Patient	Faye is so calm and patient with her friends and her learning, listening carefully and giving great attention.
Elm	Patient	Lucas thinks so carefully about all his learning and he is a great teacher – including supporting Miss Brown in the weekly chess lessons!



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Oak	Patient	Tommie is so thoughtful and caring towards everyone in Oak Class and he is also patient and ready to wait his turn
Orchard	Patient	Bodie is a calm, patient and focussed learner in Apple Orchard Class.

Our curriculum award winners of the last three weeks are:

Conkers	Grayson loves spending time in our class library sharing books with his classmates.
Acorns	Bonnie-Rae is an avid reader and she just loves books.
Silver Birch	Llando has made such a great start in Year 1 and is working so hard in his RWI lessons.
Willow	Ella used her super reading skills to research Neil Armstrong at home and shared her learning with the class.
Holly	Florence is an avid reader who just loves books.
Chestnut	Harrison has been working so hard in his maths lessons this week and completing lots of the challenge tasks.
Elm	Spencer is working so hard in his reading lessons.
Oak	Wyatt is a self-motivated mathematician who always does his best.

Conkers	Lottie reads at home every day with her Mummy and just loves sharing books.
Acorns	Jasper is such a maths whizz who loves numbers!
Silver Birch	Ellia is a great mathematician who is able to explain her thinking very clearly.
Willow	Ruby is driving her own learning and asking for extra challenges in our maths lessons.
Holly	Daisy is very enthusiastic about her reading and is working so hard.
Chestnut	Carter listens and contributes so well in our reading lessons, and is using the new vocabulary he is learning to discuss ideas in class.
Elm	Riley is a determined mathematician who pushes himself in every lesson.
Oak	Oliver is working so hard in all his lessons.

Conkers	Riley just loved our library and chose a great book to bring back to school to share with his classmates.
Acorns	Azora reads at home every day and loves her books.
Silver Birch	Raina has been a super independent maths learner this week.
Willow	Mylah is a fluent and expressive reader.
Holly	Kaleb is a wonderful learning partner in maths lessons and always works very hard.
Chestnut	Ivy makes such good contributions to our guided reading lessons.
Elm	Averie is an avid reader who is making such good progress in our guided reading lessons.
Oak	Darcie is being an absolute star in our maths lessons, so engaged and enthusiastic.

The last three week's "Respectful, Resilient and Ready" behaviour stars are Lexi, Luca and Alice.



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- Lexi was nominated by Miss Summer Bladen-Hovell for being such a great help and support at lunchtimes.
- Luca has been demonstrating great learning behaviour in Year 5 and is making such pleasing progress.
- Alice has been a model pupil since the start of Year 3 and is a wonderful role model to everyone in the school.

## 6. Dates for your Diaries

Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 5 Elm Class Family Dinner Day: 12.30pm
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 1 Silver Birch and Year 2 Willow trip to Lyme Park
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 4 Chestnut Class Family Dinner Day 12.30pm
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 6 Oak Class residential trip to Whitehall Centre.
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>***New Date*** Reception Acorns trip to Inside Out Forest School</b>
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> October	Individual and family photographs
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 3 Holly Class Family Dinner Day: 12.30pm
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October	Catkins and Conkers Family Learning: Spooky Crafts morning
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Acorns Family Learning: Spooky Crafts afternoon
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	Carved pumpkins can be brought into school
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	“Spooky” disco for Years 1 to 6: 4.00pm to 5.00pm Class parties during school day for Orchard, Nursery and Reception.
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October	School closes for half term holiday
Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	Deadline for applications for a Secondary School place in 2025
<b>HOLIDAY</b>	
<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>School opens for Autumn Term 2</b>
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	School based swimming lessons begin for Years 4 and 6
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 2 Willow Class Family Dinner Day: 12.15pm
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 5 Elm Class swimming lessons begin
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 1 Silver Birch Class Family Dinner Day: 12.10pm
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Reception Acorns Class Family Dinner Day: 12.00
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 5 Elm Class day trips to Whitehall Centre
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	School based swimming lessons end for this year.
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas disco for Years 1 to 6: 4.00pm to 5.00pm Class parties during school day for Orchard, Nursery and Reception.
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	School closes for Christmas holiday
<b>HOLIDAY</b>	
<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>School opens for Spring Term 1</b>



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Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 6 Oak Class Family Dinner Day: 12.30pm
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 5 Elm Class Family Dinner Day: 12.30pm
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> January	Year 4 Chestnut Class Family Dinner Day 12.30pm
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 3 Holly Class Family Dinner Day 12.30pm
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	School closes for half term holiday
<b>HOLIDAY</b>	
<b>Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>School opens for spring term 2</b>
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 4 Chestnut and Year 5 Elm Classes at Young Voices
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 2 Willow Class Family Dinner Day: 12.15pm
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 1 Silver Birch Class Family Dinner Day: 12.10pm
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	Reception Acorns Class Family Dinner Day: 12.00
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	Easter disco for Years 1 to 6: 4.00pm to 5.00pm Class parties during school day for Orchard, Nursery and Reception.
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	School closes for Easter holiday
<b>HOLIDAY</b>	
<b>Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April</b>	<b>School opens for summer term 1</b>
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Year 6 Oak Class Family Dinner Day: 12.30pm
<b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>School closed: Bank Holiday Monday</b>
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 5 Elm Class Family Dinner Day: 12.30pm
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 4 Chestnut Class Family Dinner Day 12.30pm
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	School closes for half term holiday
<b>HOLIDAY</b>	
<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June</b>	<b>School opens for summer term 2</b>
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 3 Holly Class Family Dinner Day 12.30pm
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 2 Willow Class Family Dinner Day: 12.15pm
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 1 Silver Birch Class Family Dinner Day: 12.10pm
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	Reception Acorns Class Family Dinner Day: 12.00
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Leavers disco for Years 1 to 6: 4.00pm to 5.00pm Class parties during school day for Orchard, Nursery and Reception.
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	School closes for summer holiday
<b>Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July</b>	<b>Staff in school: training day</b>
<b>Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July</b>	<b>Staff in school: training day</b>

Have a lovely weekend everyone.  
 Kindest Regards,

*Deborah Meredith*