



NEWSLETTER

Thursday 17th July 2025

info@gamesley.derbyshire.sch.uk

Main Office: 01457 853721

Pastoral Manager: 07922 576932



1. School Organisation from September 2025

When we come back into school after the holiday, Ms Caroline Sutherland will start her new role as Head of School supported by Mrs Lyn Malik as Assistant Head. Miss Brown will still be working full time at Gamesley, but she will not be in the classroom every day as she will be taking over the role of SENCO.

In my new role as Executive Head I will still be very involved with the school and be in the building at least two days each week. As I will also be working in other schools across the Trust, Miss Sutherland will be running the school day to day and be your first point of contact with any concerns.

As mentioned in last week's newsletter, we can now confirm support staff as well as class teachers.

Nursery Conkers / 2026 school starters: (mornings)	Mrs Kerrie Wood-Doyle	Mrs Rachel Kennington, Mrs Hazel Walmsley, Mrs Gemma Fewtrell
Nursery Catkins / 2027 school starters: (afternoons)	Mrs Kerrie Wood-Doyle	Mrs Rachal Kennington, Mrs Wendy Bruce, Mrs Gemma Fewtrell, Miss Zara Rowbottom
Reception Acorns	Mrs Lyn Malik	Mrs Emma Kidd, Mrs Charlotte Harridance
Year 1 Silver Birch	Miss Toni Bruce	Mrs Steph Clarke
Year 2 Willow	Miss Abi Gordon	Mrs Emily Stanton, Mrs Shelly Winterbottom
Year 3 Holly	Mrs Katie Andrews (Monday to Wednesday) and Miss Emma Brown (Wednesday to Friday)	Mrs Katy Clubb, Mrs Karen Barton
Year 4 Chestnut	Miss Clare Dangerfield	Mrs Kirsty Taylor, Miss Kerry Parkin
Year 5 Elm	Miss Sam Dawson until Mrs Jenny Parker returns from her maternity leave in the spring term	Mrs Tracey Delaney
Year 6 Oak	Miss Ashleigh Martin	Mrs Jemma Dixon, Miss Dawn Stevenson
Orchard	Overseen by Miss Emma Brown	Mrs Cath Priestley, Mrs Julie Banner-McGrath, Miss Hannah Jackson, Mrs Jo Goddard and Miss Adele Richards (lunchtimes)

We will be saying very sad goodbyes to some members of staff at the end of this term. Our midday supervisors Sandra Warburton, Kerry Sparham, Sarah Baker, Summer Bladen-Hovell and Daryl Hersien have cared for and looked after your children at lunchtime so well (and over many, many years in the case of Sandra and Kerry!) and they will be deeply missed by the children and staff alike. I am sure you will join me in thanking them and wishing them every happiness in the future.

Miss Donna Ellis will be staying with us to oversee lunchtimes, supported by our team of teaching assistants who will all be taking on lunchtime duties in September.

2. School Uniform;

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

- **Royal blue sweatshirt, cardigan or fleece:**
- **Sky blue long or short sleeved polo shirt**
- **Dark grey long trousers, knee length skirt, knee length shorts or knee length pinafore:** *(Nursery children can wear dark grey, pull-up jogging bottoms if you think these would be easier for them.)*
- **Sky blue and white checked knee length dress.**
- **Flat, waterproof, plain black shoes (including plain black unbranded trainers) which fasten securely to your child's feet. Please choose "Velcro" fastenings until your children can manage buckles or laces independently.** *(If your children wear wellingtons to walk to school in rainy weather, please also send in their bag school shoes or trainer for them to change into. Wellingtons are not designed to be worn for long periods of time and do not support growing feet.)*
- **White, grey or black socks / grey or black tights.**

Please also send your child to school with a waterproof coat with a hood every day. We play out in all weathers including rain, and even if the day starts out sunny and warm it can quickly change.

And finally: please name EVERYTHING! At the end of every playtime we collect numerous abandoned coats and jumpers from the playground and field, and if they are named we can quickly reunite them with their owners.

3. Class Dojo Relaunch

Our Class Dojo pages need cleaning up and resetting so we will be shutting the current version down on Monday 21st July and then relaunching. If there are any photographs that you would like to save from the current version, please download them before our shutdown on Monday 21st July.

4. Enrichment and Extra Curricular Activities

We will be having a slightly different approach to enrichment activities in September. Rather than running after school clubs which some children access and others do not, we will be building exciting extra-curricular opportunities into the school day.

This will begin with us extending the Forest School curriculum to all children in Key Stage 1 and 2 on a rolling timetable throughout the school year. The autumn term Forest School dates are:

Tuesday 16 th September	Year 1 Silver Birch Class
Tuesday 23 rd September	Year 2 Willow Class
Tuesday 30 th September	Year 3 Holly Class
Tuesday 7 th October	Year 4 Chestnut Class
Tuesday 14 th October	Year 5 Elm Class
Tuesday 21 st October	Year 6 Oak Class
Tuesday 4 th November	Year 1 Silver Birch Class
Tuesday 11 th November	Year 2 Willow Class
Tuesday 18 th November	Year 3 Holly Class

Tuesday 25 th November	Year 4 Chestnut Class
Tuesday 2 nd December	Year 5 Elm Class
Tuesday 9 th December	Year 6 Oak Class

We will also be offering chess lessons and Mini Police in Year 5 and brass lessons in Year 4. The mobile swimming pool will be back for four weeks in November offering daily lessons for children in Years 6, 5 and 4. We will keep you updated with future plans for the rest of the year which will include Forest School and yoga classes in Early Years and Orchard, cooking, arts, dance and music afternoons, careers fairs, visits from sports coaches, drama lessons and special curriculum days.

5. School Trips

In order to help you budget and plan for the year ahead, we will try to give you as much advance notice of school trips as possible. The trips that have already been booked are highlighted below and will go "live" on Arbor as soon as the new school year starts in September (some payments have already been taken for the Year 6 residential trip)

Year 1 2025/26	Conkers	Acorns	Silver Birch	Willow	Holly	Chestnut	Elm	Oak
Trip 1	Manor Park		Manchester Art Gallery		Creative Workshop at Z Arts Theatre Wednesday 15th October 2025 £23.61		Farm Experience	Residential trip to Whitehall Centre Monday 13th October 2025 £215 in total
Trip 2	Dinosaur Workshop Teach Rex?		Chatsworth Park		Church	Church	Synagogue	Synagogue
Trip 3	Bridgewater Gardens		Lytham St. Anne's		Chester Zoo Wednesday 8th July 2026 £31.40 per child		Alton Towers	

Year 2 2026/27	Conkers	Acorns	Silver Birch	Willow	Holly	Chestnut	Elm	Oak
Trip 1	Manor Park		Lyme Park and Crow Wood		Manchester Museum		Outdoor Adventure	Residential
Trip 2	Peak Wildlife Park		Manchester Bus Tour and Z Arts Theatre		Mosque	Young Voices		Mosque
Trip 3	Formby Beach		Portland Basin Museum		Carsington Water		Llandudno	

6. Stars of the Week

Many congratulations to our kindness stars who we celebrated last Friday:

Nursery Conkers Class	Kind Star	Layla is kind and gentle to everyone in Conkers Class
Reception Acorns Class	Kind Star	Lilah always thinks about other and makes sure everyone is included in her games.

Year 1 Silver Birch Class	Kind Star	Llando is such a kind and caring member of Silver Birch Class
Year 2 Willow Class	Kind Star	Leo always looks out for his friends in Willow Class
Year 3 Holly Class	Kind Star	Alexis is kind to adults and children alike.
Year 4 Chestnut Class	Kind Star	Isaac is kind and helpful from the minute he arrives in school.
Year 5 Elm Class	Kind Star	Riley is a thoughtful and caring member of Elm Class
Year 6 Oak Class	Kind Star	Kobi is such a kind and selfless boy who is always willing to help.
Orchard Class	Kind Star	Eric is kind to all his friends in Orchard Class.

...and also to our curriculum stars who are

Nursery Conkers Class	Reading Star	Scarlett loves sharing books and acting out stories with our toys and puppets.
Reception Acorns Class	Reading Star	Reenie can now recognise lots of tricky “red” words on sight
Year 1 Silver Birch	Reading Star	Raina loves books and really enjoys our Talk through Stories lessons.
Year 2 Willow Class	Reading Star	Harlow is making such good progress in his reading lessons in school.
Year 3 Holly Class	Maths Star	Amber works hard in all our maths lessons and makes some great contributions.
Year 4 Chestnut Class	Maths Star	Freya makes great contributions in all our maths lessons.
Year 5 Elm Class	Maths Star	Avarie is making such good progress in maths.
Year 6 Oak Class	Reading Star	Tommie has continued to read regularly at home, even after SATs, and is making super progress.

Dates for your Diaries

Thursday 17 th July	Leavers Disco for Years 1 to 6: 4.00pm to 5.00pm Class parties during the school day for Orchard, Nursery and Reception.
Friday 18 th July	<i>School closes for summer holiday</i>
<i>Monday 21st July</i>	<i>Staff in school: training day</i>
<i>Tuesday 22nd July</i>	<i>Staff in school: training day</i>
HOLIDAY	
<i>Tuesday 2nd September</i>	<i>Staff training day in Manchester</i>
<i>Wednesday 3rd September</i>	<i>Staff in school: training day</i>
<i>Thursday 4th September</i>	<i>School opens for Autumn Term 1</i>
Tuesday 16 th September	Year 1 Silver Birch Class Forest School
Tuesday 23 rd September	Year 2 Willow Class Forest School
Thursday 25 th September	Conkers Class “Wheelie Morning”
Friday 26 th September	Acorns Class “Wheelie Morning”
Tuesday 30 th September	Year 3 Holly Class Forest school
Tuesday 7 th October	Year 4 Chestnut Class Forest School

Thursday 8 th October	Acorns and Conkers library visit
Monday 13 th October	Year 6 residential trip to Whitehall Centre
Tuesday 14 th October	Year 5 Elm Class Forest School
Wednesday 15 th October	Year 3 Holly and Year 4 Chestnut Classes Trip to Z-Arts Theatre
Wednesday 15 th October	Nursery Conkers “Stay and Play” Family Learning session: 10.45am to 11.45am
Wednesday 15 th October	Reception Acorns “Stay and Play” Family Learning session: 2.00pm to 3.00pm
Thursday 16 th October	Individual children’s photographs
Friday 17 th October	Year 6 Oak Class Family Dinner Day: 12.30pm
Tuesday 21 st October	Year 6 Oak Class Forest School
Wednesday 22 nd October	Open Evening: 6.00pm to 7.00pm
Thursday 23 rd October	Parties in Catkins, Conkers, Acorns and Orchard Classes
Thursday 23 rd October	Spooky Disco for Years 1 to 6: 4.00pm to 5.00pm
Friday 24 th October	Year 5 Elm Class Family Dinner Day
Friday 24th October	School closes for half term holiday
HOLIDAY	
Monday 3rd November	School opens for Autumn Term 2
Monday 3 rd November	Swimming Pool on site for 4 weeks: swimming lessons for Years 4, 5 and 6
Tuesday 4 th November	Year 1 Silver Birch Class Forest School
Thursday 6 th November	Acorns and Conkers library visit
Friday 7 th November	Year 4 Chestnut Class Family Dinner Day
Tuesday 11 th November	Year 2 Willow Class Forest School
Friday 14 th November	Year 3 Holly Class Family Dinner Day
Tuesday 18 th November	Year 3 Holly Class Forest School
Friday 21 st November	Year 2 Willow Class Family Dinner Day
Tuesday 25 th November	Year 4 Chestnut Class Forest School
Friday 28 th November	Year 1 Silver Birch Class Family Dinner Day
Tuesday 2 nd December	Year 5 Elm Class Forest School
Thursday 4 th December	Acorns and Conkers library visit
Friday 5 th December	Reception Acorns Class Family Dinner Day
Tuesday 9 th December	Year 6 Oak Class Forest school
Wednesday 10 th December	Nursery Conkers “Stay and Play” Family Learning session: 10.45am to 11.45am
Wednesday 10 th December	Reception Acorns “Stay and Play” Family Learning session: 2.00pm to 3.00pm
Wednesday 10 th December	Year 3 Holly Class sing at “Victorious Voices” concert
Thursday 11 th December	Pantomime “Robin Hood” in school.
Friday 12 th December	Orchard Class Family Dinner Day
Monday 15 th December	Conkers and Acorns Christmas Singalong: 9.15am
Wednesday 17 th December	Silver Birch and Willow Classes nativity play: 2.00pm and 6.00pm
Thursday 18 th December	Parties in Catkins, Conkers, Acorns and Orchard Classes
Thursday 18 th December	Christmas Disco for Years 1 to 6: 4.00pm to 5.00pm
Friday 19 th December	Christmas Jumper and Christmas Dinner Day
Friday 19th December	School closes for Christmas holiday
HOLIDAY	

Monday 5th January	School opens for Spring Term 1
Friday 13th February	School closes for half term holiday
HOLIDAY	
Monday 23rd February	School opens for Spring Term 2
Friday 27th March	School closes for Easter holiday
HOLIDAY	
Monday 13th April	School opens for Summer Term 1
Monday 4th May	School closed (Bank Holiday)
Monday 11 th May	Year 6 SATS week
Thursday 21st May	School closes for half term holiday
HOLIDAY	
Monday 1st June	School opens for Summer Term 2
Monday 1 st June	Year 4 Multiplication Checks begin (over next two weeks)
Monday 8 th June	Year 1 Phonics screening this week
Wednesday 10 th July	Year 3 Holly and Year 4 Chestnut Classes Trip to Chester Zoo
Friday 17th July	School closes for Summer Holiday
Monday 21st July	Staff in school: training day
Tuesday 22nd July	Staff in school: training day
HOLIDAY	
Wed 2nd September 26	Staff training day in Manchester
Thurs 3rd September 26	Staff in school: training day
Friday 4th September 26	Staff in school: training day