



Headteacher Newsletter November 2025

Dear pupils and parents,

I hope you've all had a restful half term and are ready for the many exciting events we have arranged for the upcoming half term, including Christmas events! Our new logo is now in use and is available on new purchases of clothing. Please do not feel under any obligation to replace current uniform items.

Diary Dates

Please see below dates and events planned for this academic year.

Thursday 6 th November	Class 3 trip to Cromford Mills
Thursday 6 th November	Class 1 FUNdamentals HVC
Monday 10 th November	Class 3 – Breedon Forest School
w/c Monday 10 th November	Anti Bullying Week
Wednesday 12 th November	9.30am – 11.30am Open Session for potential Reception Starters
Thursday 13 th November	Class 2 & 3 Cross Country HVC
Friday 14 th November	Children In Need
W/C Monday 17 th November	Parents Evening Week
Monday 17 th November	Class 3 – Breedon Forest School
Thursday 20 th November	Class 3 – Karate HVC
Monday 24 th November	Class 3 – Breedon Forest School
Thursday 27 th November	Flu Immunisations
Monday 1 st December	Class 3 – Forest school
Wednesday 3 rd December	Christmas Craft Afternoon
Thursday 4 th December	Class 1 Dance Festival HVC
Thursday 4 th December	Class 2 & 3 Carol singing at the Pavilion
Monday 8 th December	Class 3 – Forest school
Tuesday 9 th December	Secret Santa
Thursday 11 th December	Pantomime Trip
Friday 15 th December	Class 3 – Forest school
Wednesday 17 th December	Christmas Dinner and Party Day
Thursday 18 th December	Nativity and Carol Concert 2pm in St Helen's Church
Friday 19 th December	Last Day
Monday 5 th January	First Day Back

Future Inset Days

- Friday 13th February 2026
- Thursday 21st May 2026
- Friday 22nd May 2026

Anti-Bullying Week – w/c Monday 10th November

Next week, it is Anti-Bullying week. As part of our learning in school we will be celebrating ODD SOCKS DAY which is on Monday 10th November. Odd socks day is designed to be fun! It is an opportunity to encourage people to express themselves and celebrate their individuality and what makes us all unique! We also have lots of other activities planned for the children during the week.

Children are invited to wear ODD SOCKS to school on Monday 10th November.

Children In Need

On November 14th it is 'Children in Need' day! This year the theme is 'Challenge yourself to 25!'

So, this year we have thought of a super challenge that you can all do with your families from now, until the end of November. We challenge you to move for 25 kilometres!

You can complete your 25k by running, walking, swimming or riding a bike. You can do it by yourself, or with your family. You have one whole month to complete your 25k and can add up your daily totals. For example, if you bike 5k on one day, and 3k the next, you have already worked up to 8k!

We are inviting you to gain sponsors for completing your 25k, and any money raised will be donated to Children In Need. Please bring all money raised into school for the 28th of November.

On Friday 14th November, we are also inviting children to come into school in their own clothes. We are not asking for donations towards this, unless you wish to.

Thank you for helping us to support this very important cause, and just so you know.... the staff are doing this too!

EYFS framework – food guidance

A reminder that the new EYFS Framework came into place at the beginning of September, and this document provides statutory requirements, which schools must follow. There is a significant number of requirements based around healthy eating and this is where we need your support.

The document reiterates the importance of providing healthy snacks and packed lunches to children. Therefore, we ask where food is brought into school from home, it is based on the healthy eating guidance below. Snacks and packed lunches should be well-balanced and free from nuts and chocolate.

<https://www.nutrition.org.uk/nutrition-for/children/>

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/eat-well/how-to-eat-a-balanced-diet/eating-a-balanced-diet/>

It also states that where edible treats are provided for birthdays, these should be fruit based or changed for a non-edible item. For example, a fruit platter, bubbles or stickers. We would appreciate your support reinforcing this message by only providing healthy food items for either snacks or in packed lunches. Also, birthday treats are not necessary for your child's class but if you would like to provide a treat, we ask that you make this fruit or non-edible.

Thank you for your continued support.

School Information

Please ensure that you continue to tell us about any changes to medical needs for your children. You should also email the office with any changes to your contact details (e.g. email / phone numbers, addresses etc).

Year 6 Booster Clubs

A reminder to all Year 6 parents / carers that booster sessions are taking place every Monday and Thursday starting at 8.15am. We encourage all Year 6 pupils to attend these sessions, as they provide an excellent opportunity to reinforce learning and boost confidence.

Panto Trip 2025

We are pleased and excited to confirm that the whole school will be attending the Winding Wheel in Chesterfield on Thursday 11th December to enjoy the pantomime Jack and The Beanstalk. We are attending the morning performance which starts at 10am. A form will be set out in due course to give consent for your child to attend. A massive thank you to PTFA who are fully supporting this trip.

Christmas Dinner and Party Day

Wednesday 17th December, is our Christmas Dinner and Party Day. This is open to all children. A form for Packed lunch children to opt or for those on school meals to opt out will be sent out nearer the time.

Christmas Crafts – Wednesday 3rd December

We had some wonderful feedback about our last Christmas Craft afternoon and the school was alive with Christmas festivities. Therefore, we will be hosting this again this year. Parents will be welcomed into school to help staff run activities in their child's classroom. One of the activities that worked well last year was wreath making, so if you have any unused small Christmas decorations (baubles, berries etc) then we would welcome any donations. Also, we will be asking for foliage closer to the time, so hold off pruning those hedges until December!

Best Start in Life

Please see below a link to the new UK Government website which gives advice and support for your child's development from pregnancy to childcare right through to starting school.

[Homepage | Best Start in Life](#)

School Uniform

It has been wonderful to see children wearing the school uniform; it makes them feel part of the community and it is easy to recognise when offsite at events.

As a reminder:

School Uniform consists of:

- Sweatshirt or cardigan in royal blue
- A polo shirt in white or royal blue
- Trousers, skirt, pinafore dress or shorts (for the summer) in grey or black
- Summer dress in royal blue / white gingham (for the summer)
- A fleece (optional) in royal blue
- Dark coloured shoes

PE kit consists of:

- Tracksuit, jogging trousers or legging in black or blue
- A fleece in blue or black or a round necked school sweatshirt
- Round neck t-shirt in white or blue (we would **prefer** a school logo on the t-shirt but it is not a requirement)
- Navy or black short (advised for Spring / Summer)
- Trainers or plimsolls in a dark colour

Also, it is really important that long hair is tied back during the school day and jewellery should not be worn to school, except earring studs, which should be removed or taped over for PE.

Facebook



Please like and follow our Facebook page, as well as encouraging current or prospective parents to do so. Thank you!

<https://facebook.com/61560770514176>

Sept 2026 Intake

If you have a little one who is due to start school in Sept 2026 and you would like to visit then

please contact the school office to book an appointment.

If you have friends or family with a child due to start school in Sept 2026, please let them know they are welcome to contact us to arrange a tour of our school.

Thank you all for your continued support,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "KL Gemmell".

Kate Gemmell (Executive Headteacher)