



**William Gilbert Endowed**  
(Church of England)  
**Primary School & Nursery**  
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Headteacher: Mrs E H Britten

## NEWSLETTER

7<sup>th</sup> May 2026

No. 641

Dear Parents

I hope you all had a lovely bank holiday weekend and enjoyed the sunshine.

Please find below a reminder about some upcoming events taking place for our school community.

A reminder that children are invited to wear green or dress as an animal tomorrow, Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May. Please donate £1 via your child's Scopay account to WWF. This is not compulsory and please do not buy anything especially for this event.

### Sir David Attenborough turns 100! 8<sup>th</sup> May 2026



**Wear Green or  
dress as an animal - £1  
donation to WWF**

It could be a full animal onesie  
or a homemade animal mask,  
headband or butterfly wings

**Skip, hop, stride, gallop,  
flutter or stamp to school,  
animal style!**



#### **Parkrun – Markeaton Park, Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May**

If you would like to get active and support Mrs Reed at the upcoming Primary Parkrun on Sunday, it is not too late to sign up and take part. The deadline for registering your interest with school is **midday on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May** so Mrs Reed can print the list ready for Sunday. Please use the link below for this.

[Primary Parkrun - Sunday 10th May 2026 – Fill in form](#)

#### **About junior parkrun at Markeaton Park**

Markeaton junior parkrun is a free, fun and friendly weekly 2km event for children aged 4–14 years, held every Sunday at 9:00am. The event takes place in Markeaton Park, Kedleston Road, Derby, DE22 4NH.

#### **What do I do next?**

Using the link [www.parkrun.org.uk](http://www.parkrun.org.uk) register your child (if you are planning to run alongside your child you will also need to register) once you have inputted the required information, a unique barcode will be generated. Print or download your barcode and turn up with it the morning of the run, the organisers have a strict 'no barcode=no entry' policy.

## On the day – Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2026

**Location** – The Markeaton parkrun starts by the stone bridge at the top of the lake within Markeaton Park.

**First-timer Briefing** – arrive early to attend this briefing (usually 15 minutes before start) to understand the course. After the run, you will receive a token at the finish line, which you will scan alongside your personal barcode to record your time.

Mrs Reed and the ECO committee will be there to welcome you. We would love as many families as possible to join us and hope you'll consider taking part in this fun, healthy and community-spirited event.

### Christian Aid Week Coffee Morning

A reminder that we will be supporting Christian Aid Week by hosting a community coffee morning on **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May**. Families, friends and pre-school children are warmly invited to join us.

We would very much appreciate donations of cakes and biscuits to sell next Friday at the event, so could any contributions be brought into school on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May. If you are able to help support the coffee morning with donations, can you please let the school office know via a quick phone call or email, so we know how many cakes/biscuits to expect.

### 2026 Challenge – Diary Date

Following the huge success of this event last year, we have decided to hold a 2026 Challenge day again this academic year. This will take place on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June.

**After-School Fundraising Event: Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June, 3:30–4:30pm** on the **junior playground**. All pupils and parents are welcome to attend and support our pupils.

This after-school event was a fantastic opportunity for pupils to showcase their efforts:

- **KS2 pupils (if they wish)** can run their own stalls — selling cakes, crafts or creating tabletop games.
- **ALL pupils** will be welcome to attend and enjoy the games and stalls.

Class teachers in KS2 will talk to the children before half term about this event to give them time to think about how they would like to raise £20.26 and talk to their peers about ideas. If your child in KS2 would like to run a stall, they will need to:

- Share their idea with their teacher before completing the permission slip
- Have permission from a parent/carer – please share your idea on the permission slip below and return it to your child's class teacher
- Consider pricing, signage, and how to attract customers!

More detailed information will be sent in a separate letter. Save the date and time for this vital fundraising event.

Your support and contributions to this annual event would be much appreciated. Further information regarding donations will be circulated soon.



William Gilbert Endowed C of E Primary School and Nursery are hosting a **Christian Aid Coffee Morning & Bake Sale** As part of Christian Aid Week 10<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> May 2026 **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May 8:45am - 10:30am** in the school hall

This is an event for all the community to visit our school, have some refreshments and raise vital funds for Christian Aid. Please come along and bring friends, neighbours and pre-school children. Everybody welcome!

coffee tea cakes  
Savoury bakes juice Or buy some to take away!

Any donations of cakes or savouries would be greatly appreciated on the morning of the event.

Scan the QR code to donate to Christian aid

christian aid  
Founded 1942






















## Walk to School Month

There are lots of activities in school during the month of May to promote our walk to school month. This has been shared with pupils by our Junior Travel Ambassadors.

During the month of May, Mrs Britten and the JTAs will be setting up a scooter route on the playground. If you bring your scooter to school, you will be able to ride it along the route at lunchtimes. Look at the Walk to School month calendar and when you see this icon it will be happening. KS1 on a Monday and KS2 on a Friday.

As part of the walk to school month our JTAs will be helping Mrs Britten place the 100 animal painted pebbles across key walking routes to school. They look amazing! These will be around the village from 11<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup> June. Look out for all the different animal pebbles as you walk to school. Please look with your eyes and leave the pebbles for others to enjoy. Thank you.

## Walk to School Month - MAY 2026

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
			We have some special visitors at school on 1 <sup>st</sup> May 	1 Scooters KS2 	2	3 
4 Bank Holiday Have fun and get active! 	5 	6	7	8 David Attenborough's 100 <sup>th</sup> birthday! 	9	10 Primary Parkrun at Markeaton Park 
11 	12 Pebble walking trail 11 <sup>th</sup> -21 <sup>st</sup> What animals will you spot on your walk to school? 	13	14	15  Coffee morning & bake sale	16	17 
18 National Walk to School Week 	19 Shoesday Tuesday 	20 	21 Active Breakfast-Active Travel Celebrations 	22 INSET day	23 School holidays	24 
25 	26 	27	28	29 	30	31 

## Travel Smart Week – Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May

As part of the national year of reading, please join our book themed Travel Smart week to help create happier, healthier, safer, cleaner and greener school journeys for everyone.

Each day will feature a unique theme which will be detailed in the Derbyshire County Council Travel Smart information leaflet. These will be sent home next week.

## Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May – Shoesday Tuesday

During Travel Smart Week we will be having a Happy Shoesday Tuesday. Happy Shoesday celebrates walking, wellbeing and creativity. Pupils simply wear any shoes that make them feel happy – bright, bold, sparkly, comfy, sporty, or wonderfully weird to help remind everyone how amazing walking to school is to make streets safer, healthier and more walkable for all. School uniform to be worn on this day.

### Themed Menu – Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May

The children have been excited to vote for their choice of themed school lunch. The choice was tough with three delicious menu options to choose between. The votes are in:

Full English Breakfast 46%

Italian 29%

Chinese 25%

If your child normally brings a packed lunch, they can still take part in the themed meal. The menu for Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May is a choice of bacon, sausage, baked beans, hash browns, scrambled egg and optional mushrooms/tomatoes. The pudding will be a traditional cornflake, jam tart and custard. There will of course be vegetarian/no pork options for those children who require it.



If your child usually has sandwiches and would like the themed lunch next Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May, please complete the link below. Once you have registered, £3.20 will be added to your Scopay account. Please complete the link by Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May at the latest

[Link for themed lunch](#)

### Warmer weather

As summer approaches, we want to ensure our children remain safe and comfortable. Can I please remind parents to apply sun cream to their children before school if the forecast is for hot weather. If sending sun cream to school, please ensure it is in a labelled bottle, as it can only be applied by the children themselves. Additionally, please make sure your child brings a sun hat and a full water bottle each day to stay hydrated and protected from the sun.

Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our children safe and comfortable during this warm weather.

### KS1 & KS2 Sports Day

Weather permitting, Key Stage 1 Sports Day is scheduled for Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June (reserve date 15<sup>th</sup> June) and Key Stage 2 Sports Day is scheduled for Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June (reserve date 16<sup>th</sup> June). Both events will be held on Gray's Recreational field beginning at 1.30 p.m. We warmly welcome parents and friends of the school to be spectators. Please bring your chairs and picnic baskets.

Children will wear their normal PE kit with plimsolls/trainers and we will provide coloured bibs to represent the team colours. Please send your child with a full water bottle and a sun hat. If the forecast is good, please ensure that your child has had an application of sun cream before they come to school.

Children will be dismissed from the field at normal home time (3.20/3.30 p.m). Please ensure your child is clear about their going home arrangements. If the weather is inclement, we will send a message via Weduc to notify you that the afternoon is postponed.

### Head Lice

All pupils with collar length hair **must** wear their hair **tied back**. There have been a number of reported incidents of head lice. This is a community problem, so I urge you to be rigorous in checking your child's hair regularly.

If we notice a child has head lice, we will contact you and ask you to collect and keep your child away from school until they have been treated and their hair is clear. It is important to remember to retreat your child 7 days after initial treatment to kill lice which had not hatched at the first treatment.

Yours sincerely

Mrs H Britten  
Headteacher