



**William Gilbert Endowed**  
(Church of England)  
**Primary School & Nursery**  
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Headteacher: Mrs S J Whyld

## NEWSLETTER

25<sup>th</sup> January 2023

No. 588

Dear Parents

### Staffing News

We are pleased to welcome Mrs Davies back to school following her maternity leave, returning to her role as Teacher in Year 3 and her role as SENCO across 3 days. Miss Rice will continue to support Mrs Davies this half term. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Miss Whiting and Miss Rice for their work and support covering the SEND role over the past 12 months.

### Strike Action

With reference to the recent National News and media coverage that the National Education Union have declared strike action planned to commence on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February, I am pleased to confirm that our school will be operating as normal for all classes other than Year 6. Further information will be sent directly to Year 6 parents.

### Easter Service

It has been necessary to change the previously published date of our Easter Service. The whole school will now attend St Alkmund's Church on **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March at 2.00pm**. Children will go home directly from Church at approximately 3.00pm.

I will write to you again with further details, but for now please take note of the change of date, especially if you are needing to make arrangements with your work commitments, to attend.

### Christmas Jumper Day

Thank you for supporting the Christmas Jumper Day on the last day of term. I am pleased to announce that we raised £144.00 for this worthwhile charity.

### Snow

At this time of year there is always a possibility of snow. In the event of a substantial snow fall that necessitates the school to be closed, this will be put out on BBC Radio Derby and their website, and as soon as practically possible this will be followed up with the text messaging service and put on our school website. A decision on closure will be made by 8.00 a.m. In the event of snow, we will do our best to keep the school open. We take our responsibilities seriously and are aware of the impact on parents and carers if the school is closed at short notice. Local staff will take over while staff travelling further distances arrive as soon as they can. If substantial snow arrives during the day we will assess the conditions and make a decision based on:-

- The severity of the weather at the time
- The forecast and likelihood of an improvement or deterioration in the weather
- Access to and from school for parents, pupils and staff

If we are forced to close during the school day we will try to provide parents with as much notice as possible via the text messaging service and the Radio and websites detailed above.

### **Up to date Contact Details**

In view of the above and/or emergency medical calls, it is vital that you keep the school informed of any changes to your contact details. Please send any changes in writing to the School Office.

### **WEDUC Update**

Further to our previous communication, we are looking to start using the Weduc App with effect from **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February**, so can all parents please ensure that this is accessible via your phone or other device. I confirm that this will mean that all emails, messages and notifications will be communicated to parents through this App, and not via Teachers2Parents.

Please find attached a user guide to the Weduc system for your information, but if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

### **Sporting Success**

We are pleased to share that a group of Year 5 and 6 pupils have won the AVSSP indoor rowing event this morning at Ripley Leisure Centre. Well done to Erin Bairstow, Seren Fowkes, Verity Nelson, Jessica Taylor-Bond, Aiden Butler, Idris Crawford, Henry Rees and Luke Upton.

### **Car Parking on Vicarage Lane**

I have received complaints from residents about the number of cars waiting on Vicarage Lane with their engines running. I appreciate the weather is cold but may I remind you that:

- engine idling is illegal
- car fumes are toxic and have a negative impact on the human body and health

Please do not sit waiting in cars outside the houses of local residents with your engine running.

### **Dates for your Diary 2023**

Further to previous communication, may I remind you of the remaining training day for staff, which is for this **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2023**.

### **Term Dates for next Academic Year 2023/2024**

#### **Derbyshire Term Dates**

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October

Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October to Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July

The school will have 5 days when it is closed to pupils for staff training days. Two of these days will be at the beginning of term on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September which means the children will begin the new academic year on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

Best wishes to you all for a happy and healthy 2023.

Yours sincerely

S J Whyld  
Headteacher