

We've had a lovely first week back at school. It's been wonderful to see everyone settling in so well and enjoying being back together. I'm pleased to share our weekly newsletter with you—it's designed to help keep you up to date with important information, dates and news from across the school.

Week 1 Attendance

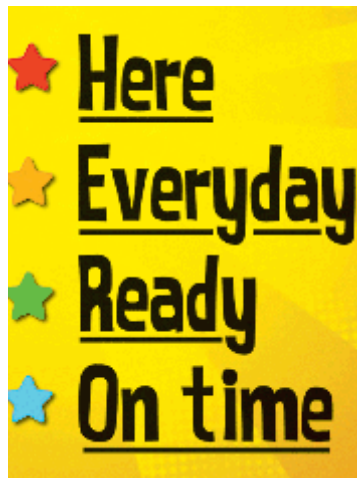
Our overall school attendance for week 1 is **96.7%**, which is just over our target of 96.6%—well done everyone!

Well done to all our classes for their attendance in week 1! Special congratulations to **Elm Class** for achieving the highest overall attendance of **98.3%**. Keep up the great work!

- **Elm (Y1/2):** 98.3% ★
- **Sycamore (Y3/4):** 97.5%
- **Ash (EYFS):** 97.7%
- **Oak (Y5/6):** 94.3%

A big well done to **Sycamore** and **Ash** for achieving attendance above 96.6%!

Let's keep going and help every child be an **attendance HERO**—Here, Every day, Ready and On time. Every day counts!

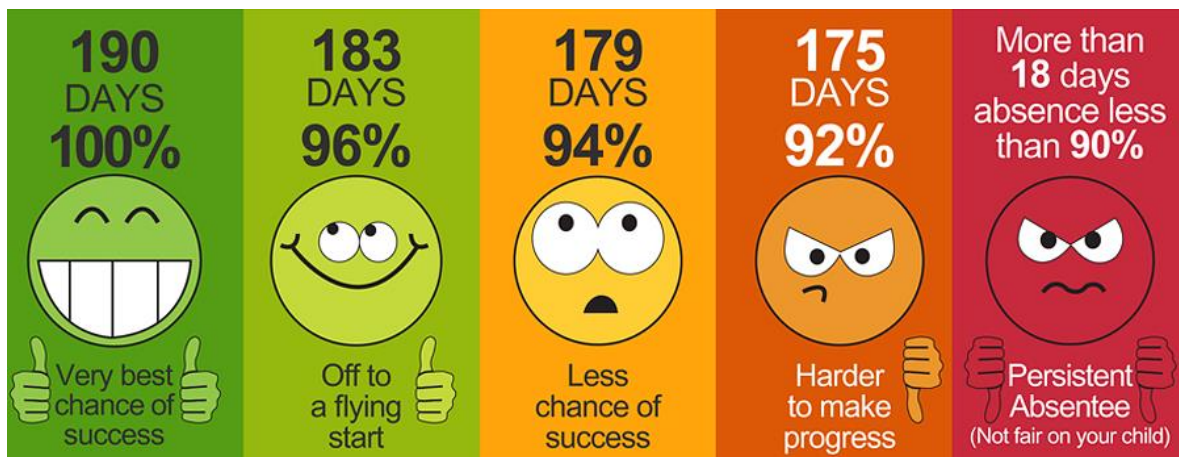


Illness

If your child is too unwell to attend school, please notify the school office by phone as soon as possible on the morning of their absence.

Remember, children with mild illnesses such as a slight cold, sore throat, or mild cough can usually still come to school. If you're ever unsure whether your child should stay at home, check the NHS guide [‘Is my child too ill for school?’](#) for helpful advice.

Your support helps us keep our attendance high and ensures your child doesn't miss out on valuable learning.



Punctuality Matters

A reminder that our school gate opens at **8.30am** and closes at **8.40am**. Registration begins promptly at **8.40am**, and we expect all children to be in class by this time, ready to learn. Any arrivals after **8.45am** will be marked as late. Please help your child to arrive on time every day—it sets them up for a positive start!

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



Every school day counts BUT every minute is equally important!

House Points Update

Well done to all four houses for a fantastic start to the term, earning house points through hard work, kindness and great behaviour!

This week's totals are:

- **Cavendish: 24** ★
- **Hardwick: 24** ★
- **Arkwright: 21**
- **Allwood: 21**

Congratulations to **Cavendish** and **Hardwick**, who are joint leaders this week with 24 points! You both get to cut the tuck shop queue on Friday.

Well done also to **Arkwright** and **Allwood**—you're not far behind, with 21 points each. Keep it up, everyone!

School Meals Update

We're pleased to share that we've received lots of positive feedback from children about our new school meals, now provided by **Mellors**. The children are really enjoying the variety and quality of the meals on offer.

A reminder that all pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to **universal free school meals**. For pupils in Years 3 to 6, the daily cost is **£2.50**. Some families may be eligible for **free school meals** based on their circumstances. To find out more or check your eligibility, please visit our school website or contact the school office.

Our current menus are also available to view on the school website.

Music Lessons

We're delighted that the Derbyshire Music Partnership will be delivering Steel Pan music lessons to our Year 5 and 6 pupils from **Thursday 18th September**. The children will have the chance to learn all about these fantastic instruments and develop their musical skills. We're looking forward to seeing their progress and can't wait to perform for parents later in the school year!

Swimming Lessons for Y5/6

Swimming lessons for Year 5 and 6 will start on **Friday 19th September**. Swimming is a key part of the National Curriculum and an important life skill for all children to learn. Please remember to send your child with their swimming kit each week.

MacMillan Coffee Morning

We would like to invite you to our **Macmillan Coffee Morning** on **Friday 26th September from 9 am** in the school hall. Everyone is welcome—parents, carers, family members and friends! We would be really grateful for any cake donations to help us raise as much as possible for this important cause. Thank you for your support, and we look forward to seeing you there!