

With just a few weeks left of this academic year, I wanted to take a moment to recognise our pupils' wonderful achievements and highlight some key dates for your diary.

Phonics Screening Check/Multiplication Check

We want to give a special mention to all our children who completed the phonics screening check and our Year 4 pupils who took the multiplication tables check this term. Every single child has worked incredibly hard to prepare for these assessments and should be very proud of their efforts. These checks help us identify how we can best support each child's learning, and it's been wonderful to see the determination and resilience they've shown. A huge thank you also to all the staff who have supported the children in their learning and preparation – your dedication makes a real difference! Outcomes from these assessments will be shared on the end of year reports.

Transition Week 6th – 8th July

Transition week will run from 6th to 8th July, when children will have the opportunity to spend time in their new classes for the upcoming academic year. Each morning, children should arrive at their usual classroom for registration as normal. At 9 am, they will then move to their new classroom where they'll spend the morning getting to know their new teacher and classmates. After lunch, children will return to their current classroom for the afternoon and will be dismissed from their usual classroom at the end of the day. This is a wonderful opportunity for the children to familiarise themselves with their new learning environment and help ease any worries about moving up to their next year group.

Sports Day - Friday 10th July

We're really looking forward to welcoming you to our Sports Day on Friday 10th July. The gate will open at **1.15 pm** and the event will start at **1.30 pm**. Please bring your chairs or picnic blankets and make yourselves comfortable! Refreshments will be also available to purchase from Jade's Delights. Sports day will start with our Nursery races. Once the Nursery children have completed their races, they will be able to join you on the parent side of the field. All other pupils will remain with their class throughout the afternoon, so they can cheer on their classmates and take part in all the activities. To ensure the safety of all our children and the smooth running of the event, we ask that parents please remain on the parent side of the field and don't attempt to come over to your child during the races. We look forward to seeing you there!

Upcoming dates

- **Friday 19th June:** INSET Day – school closed
- **Wednesday 24th June:** Reception/Y1/Y2 Trip to Matlock Farm Park (Nursery is open as usual for Nursery children)
- **Monday 6th – Wednesday 8th July:** Transition week
- **Thursday 9th July:** Year 6 Graduation 1.30 pm

- **Friday 10th July:** Sports Day 1.30 pm
- **Friday 10th July:** End of year reports sent home
- **Monday 13th July:** Year 5/6 Residential Trip
- **Thursday 23rd July:** Last day of summer term – **1.30pm finish**

INSET Days – 2026/27

- Friday 4th September 2026
- Monday 5th October 2026
- Friday 23rd October 2026
- Monday 30th November 2026
- Monday 5th July 2027
- Monday 26th July 2027

Important: Changes to Free School Meals – what this means for you

Dear Parent/Carer

We are writing to let you know about some national changes to free school meals (FSM) following updated government guidance.

From September 2026, the rules around who is entitled to free school meals are changing. These changes mainly affect families who receive Universal Credit or whose circumstances have changed.

What is changing

- From the start of the 2026/27 academic year, **all children in households receiving Universal Credit will be entitled to free school meals**
- The current **£7,400 household income threshold for Universal Credit will be removed**
- **Transitional protections are ending** at the end of the 2025/26 school year

This means that from September, families must meet the updated eligibility rules to continue receiving free school meals. Some families who were previously eligible may no longer qualify, while others may now become eligible.

What you need to do

Free school meal applications are processed through your **local authority**, not the academy. This means the academy cannot apply on your behalf or confirm eligibility; the local authority will carry out the check and confirm whether your child is entitled.

If you think your child may be eligible, you will need to:

- Apply (or reapply) through your local authority
- Complete the application form online (or request a paper form if needed)
- Provide key details such as your National Insurance number so eligibility can be checked
- Wait for confirmation from the local authority
- Submit your application **before the summer holidays** so support is in place for September

You can apply here:

<https://caya-apps.derbyshire.gov.uk/Synergy/SynergyWeb/Enquiries/Citizen/FreeSchoolMeals.aspx> or google Derbyshire free school meals.

If your child already receives free school meals

If your child currently receives free school meals, **you may need to reapply to confirm your entitlement from September**, particularly if your circumstances have changed.

Important

- Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will **continue to receive universal free meals** (this is not changing)
- Applying is important even if your child already receives meals, as it helps schools receive additional funding to support pupils. If you need help or are unsure whether you are eligible, please contact the academy office or your local authority.