Issue No 9:
Friday 13th November 2026

Derwent Primary School Newsletter

Our value for November is: Respect

Dear parents and carers,

What a cold end to the week – although much more pleasant in the sunshine than the fog and mist from the start of the week!

This week has been a busy one. We have observed Remembrance services both in Henlow village on Sunday 8th November, with children from one of our forces families representing Derwent, and then the whole of years 5 and 6 (as well as children from our forces families in years 3 and 4) attending the RAF service at Henlow Camp. Children in school also observed the two minutes' silence and learnt about why we are paying our respects on this day. As you will have seen from my post on Dojo, I was so proud of the children for their behavior and levels of respect at these events so a huge thank you to all.

We have had 'odd sock day' for anti-bullying week and some year 2 pupils were out at Pixbrook Academy this week for a KS 1 multi-skills sports festival. I have received so many reports about their fantastic attitude to taking part and learning new skills as well as impeccable behavior and representing Derwent so well.

Today, we support Children in Need. This is such a fantastic event and we always like to try to raise money from non-uniform days however this year Miss Peek asked if she could sign us up and organise a fun run event. The answer was of course yes and I was very excited to see how this would pan out. I couldn't believe it last week when Miss Peek said there was over £3,500 raised – this was amazing for a relatively small school. We encouraged her to contact the BBC to share this wonderful news, not thinking it would go anywhere. Miss Peek then gave me another update on Wednesday of the total being over £5,000 and that she had contacted Look East again to give them the update. I have to tell you that Miss Peek was incredibly shocked to get the phone call yesterday that the BBC would like to come and film some of the event and also when I told her the new total this morning of over £7,000. This is absolutely incredible and demonstrates just what wonderful, supportive parents we have here at Derwent. A huge thank you to everyone for supporting this event and of course to Miss Peek, for organising everything. Fingers crossed for the BBC's arrival and of course, we will let you know via Dojo if they made it to film – we do understand they are very busy! Pictures will follow in next week's newsletter.








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Word of the Week for the week:
For EYFS:
Journey
For KS 1 and KS 2:

Altruism (noun)
Definition: Unselfish concern for, or devotion to, the welfare and well-being of others.

I felt this linked well to our charity donations today for Children in Need.



Sign of the Week: (for the next two weeks)



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School Uniform Reminders:

A reminder of the link to purchase school uniform from the school:
https://derwentsouthilluniform.co.uk/

Other key bits of information

- **Please ensure pupils have the correct school uniform and PE kit. We do have quite a stock of second hand uniform if required – please ask at the school office about this.**
- **Please remember coats now the weather is starting to get colder and hats and gloves etc– please ensure all are named.**
- **Please do remember water bottles. Please ensure all are labelled.**
- **School lunches continue to be provided by AIP. Please use the school Food United app to order all meals by 8 am on the day otherwise the meal of jacket potato and beans will be served.**
- **Please ensure you have booked and paid for all WAC sessions, Pre-School lunch sessions and chargeable sessions via Arbor in advance.**

As always, if you have any concerns, questions or issues, please do contact the office or SLT.
Hopefully we will feature on tonight's Children in Need programme somewhere. If not, the children had a great time supporting this event and are going into the weekend with lots of happy memories from the afternoon.

Mrs Rimmer, Headteacher and the leadership team.

Headteacher Award

Ladybirds: Iqra
Caterpillars: Willow
Hedgehogs: Reuben
Squirrels: Archie
Rabbits: Dunya
Hares: Harmoni
Owls: Mahsa
Ravens: Ethan
Mice: Noah
Voles: Connie
Foxes: Arsham
Wildcats: River-Mae
Harriers: Charlie
Kestrels: Willow
Eagles: Rowan
Hawks: James

Certificates will go home with the children today

Derwent Primary School Safeguarding
safeguarding@derwentschool.co.uk

Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Tenille Rimmer
Deputy Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Chloe Bell, Mrs Sonya Read, Miss Hayley Kell and Mr Callum Masterson
Safeguarding Governor: W.O. Sarah Tuckwell

Do you have any safeguarding concerns regarding a child? If so, please feel free to contact any of the above in confidence via the email address at the top. This email is accessible by the above members of staff only.

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Friday 13th November 2026

Dates for your diary ***Please check here regularly for added dates throughout the year****

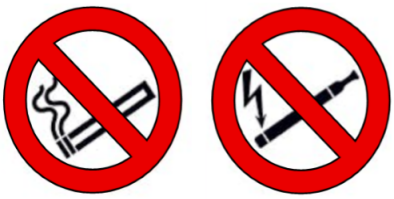
Dates for your 2026/27 diary

Monday 23rd – 4th December – Santa Challenge
Friday 27th November - Year 2 Christmas Show

December

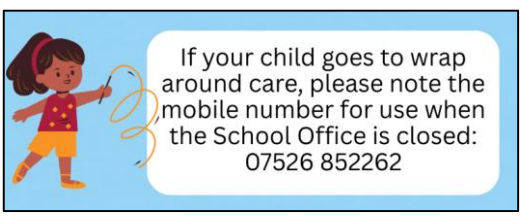
Tuesday 1st December - Year 3 Carol Concert at RAF Church
Wednesday 2nd December - Doctor Dolittle Panto KS1 & 2
Thursday 3rd December – Preschool Christmas Songs
Friday 4th December – Year 1 Christmas Show
Tuesday 8th December – Reception Christmas Performance
Tuesday 8th December – Year 2 Enrichment Day
Wednesday 9th December – Rocksteady Christmas Performance
Wednesday 9th December – Year 4 Christmas Performance
Thursday 10th December – Year 6 Christmas Performance (Hawks)
Thursday 10th December – PTA Christmas Sale
Thursday 11th December – Year 6 Christmas Performance (Eagles)
Wednesday 16th December – Year 5 Christmas Performance
Wednesday 16th December – Christmas Jumper/Dinner Day

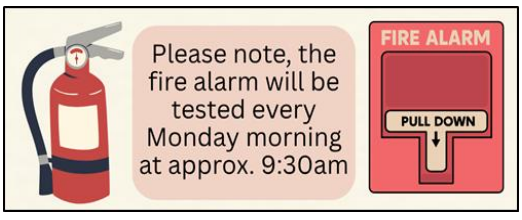
Why not look at the full calendar on the school website (https://www.derwentschool.co.uk/Calendar/). Here you will find what we have planned for the 2026/2027 Academic Year.



STRICTLY NO SMOKING OR VAPING ON SCHOOL GROUNDS THIS INCLUDES THE CAR PARK







Please read

School lunches

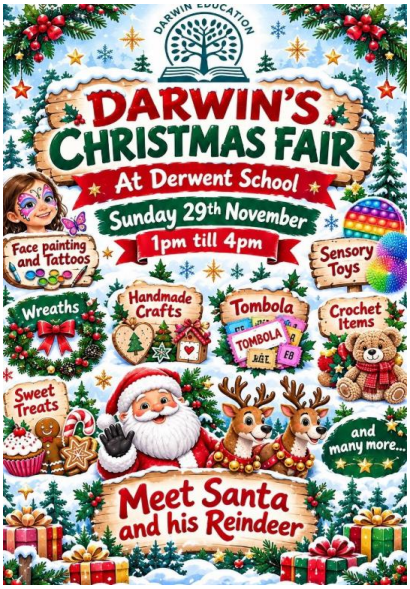
Please kindly ensure that if you have chosen a school dinner for your child, that you do not send your child in with a packed lunch. If your child would like to have a packed lunch on a day that you have selected a school dinner for them, please cancel it via the SFU app. This will help support the kitchen team in ensuring that they are preparing meals to the exact number of meals ordered and that will be taken.

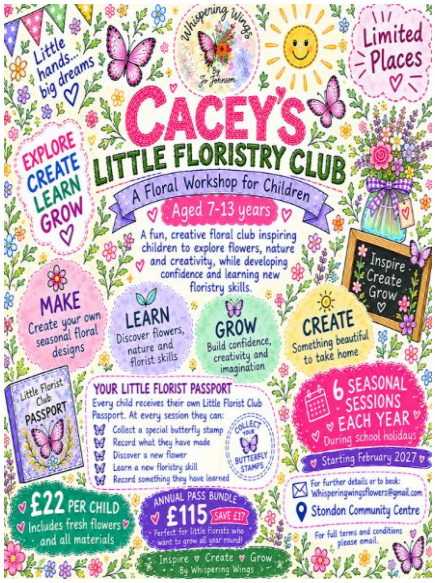
Lunchtime Clubs.

Day	Club	Staff member and room.
Monday	Young Carers check in 12:15-12:45 pm Gardening Club - Lunchtime for KS2	Miss Kell in the FEW Office. Mrs Amner - small playground
Tuesday	Purple Club (KS1 10:15 & KS2 10:40) TTRS Club (Year 4 12:45 - 1:10) Games Club (All years - 12:15 - 12:50)	Miss Kell in the Library. Mrs Sharp (Wildcats Classroom) KS1 Staff in Ravens Classroom
Wednesday		
Thursday	Origami (UKS2) Homework support 12:15 - 12:45 pm Games Club (All years - 12:15 - 12:50) Gardening Club - Lunchtime for Reception.	Mrs Goward in Kestrels room. Miss Kell in the Library. KS1 in Ravens Classroom Mrs Amner - small playground.
Friday	Gardening Club - Breaktime for KS1	Mrs Amner - small playground


DODGEBALL
Wednesdays: 21, 28 Oct;
4, 11, 18, 25 Nov; 2, 9 Dec 2026
4pm til 5pm
Ages 8+
FREE
Community Hall,
Lower Stondon, SG16 6QB
shefffordyouth@gmail.com
GrandActive
Stondon Parish Council


SALTO
RECREATIONAL
AT SALTO
AGE 5-6
A Fun & Energetic 1 Hour Structured Session Led By Our Coaches To Learn & Master The Basic Foundations of Gymnastics
AGE 7-9
A Fun & Challenging 1 Hour Structured Session Led By Our Coaches To Continue The Development of Skills Learnt At Age 5-6
AGE 10+
An extended & fun 1.5 Hour Structured Session Led By Our Coaches To Advance Skills Whilst Continuing to Strength & Condition Alongside
We Also Offer Recreational Trampolining From Age 5+ too!
Head To Our Website To Find Out More!
WWW.SALTOGYM.ORG


DARWIN EDUCATION
DARWIN'S
CHRISTMAS FAIR
At Derwent School
Sunday 29th November
1pm till 4pm
Face painting and Tattoos
Sensory Toys
Wreaths
Handmade Crafts
Tombola
TOMBOLA
Crochet Items
Sweet Treats
and many more...
Meet Santa and his Reindeer


Whispering Wings
Little hands... big dreams
Limited Places
CACEY'S
LITTLE FLORISTRY CLUB
A Floral Workshop for Children
Aged 7-13 years
EXPLORE CREATE LEARN GROW
A fun, creative floral club inspiring children to explore flowers, nature and creativity, while developing confidence and learning new floristry skills.
Inspire Create Grow
MAKE
Create your own seasonal floral designs
LEARN
Discover flowers, nature and florist skills
GROW
Build confidence, creativity and imagination
CREATE
Something beautiful to take home
Little Florist Club PASSPORT
YOUR LITTLE FLORIST PASSPORT
Every child receives their own Little Florist Club Passport. At every session they can:
Collect a special butterfly stamp
Record what they have made
Discover a new flower
Learn a new floristry skill
Record something they have learned
COLLECT THEM BUTTERFLY STAMPS
6 SEASONAL SESSIONS EACH YEAR
During school holidays
Starting February 2027
For further details or to book:
Whisperingwingsflowers@gmail.com
Stondon Community Centre
For full terms and conditions please email.
£22 PER CHILD
Includes fresh flowers and all materials
ANNUAL PASS BUNDLE
£115 SAVE £17
Perfect for little Florists who want to grow all year round!
Inspire ♥ Create ♥ Grow
By Whispering Wings


DERWENT PRIMARY SCHOOL
PTA
Together We Make a Difference
CHRISTMAS
RAFFLE PRIZES
CAN YOU HELP?
We are looking for donations for our PTA Christmas Raffle to help raise funds for Derwent Primary School.
IDEAS INCLUDE:
Gift sets
Vouchers
Toys and games
Chocolates and treats
Bottles (wine, prosecco etc)
Unwanted gifts
Experiences or days out
Any donations, big or small, would be very much appreciated!
RAFFLE PRIZES NEEDED!
Please drop your donations into the School Office by
Friday 11th December
Thank you for your support!


BASKETBALL
GAMES
Mondays:
12, 19, 26 Oct;
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Nov;
7, 14 Dec
7pm til 8pm
Ages 8+
FREE
MUGA, behind
Community Hall,
Lower Stondon, SG16 6QB
GrandActive
Stondon Parish Council


Make music.
Make friends.
Be inspired.
Discover our fun and friendly after-school and Saturday music groups in Central Bedfordshire.
Scan to find your local group and start your musical journey today
Whether you're just starting out or already play, there's something for everyone — from singing and bands to strings, brass, keyboard, folk group and more.
In all our sessions you can:
♪ learn new skills
♪ build confidence
♪ make friends
♪ perform and progress
inspiring music
Central Bedfordshire Music Service
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND