




# NEWSLETTER

## February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

We are incredibly proud to share this letter from the Secretary of State for Education, Bridget Phillipson, congratulating our school on the outstanding outcomes achieved by our disadvantaged pupils. This recognition is a testament to the hard work of our students, the dedication of our staff, and the unwavering support of our entire school community.

**A message from  
Bridget Phillipson**



Dear Sarah,

Congratulations to you and your team on the excellent outcomes the disadvantaged pupils at Chesterfield Primary School achieved at the end of the 2024/25 academic year. Your school's performance places it among the very best nationally, and this is a significant achievement.

This success reflects the dedication of your staff and the hard work of your pupils. It shows what can be achieved when ambition and commitment come together. Thank you for everything you do to give children the best possible opportunities to succeed.

Your school's achievements demonstrate what is possible, and I hope you will continue to share your experience and best practice with others. Even the strongest schools can go further. We encourage you to lead the way as a system leader - sharing effective practice, championing networks, supporting collaboration, and helping raise standards across the sector.

It has been another busy half term, and our classrooms have been buzzing with activity. From immersive educational visits that brought the curriculum to life to workshops in school, our children have fully embraced every learning opportunity.

As we look ahead to the coming weeks, we also want to send our warmest wishes to all our families who are beginning the holy month and we would like to wish Ramadan Mubarak to everyone in our community who will be celebrating.

Sarah Roberts  
Headteacher



## Year 6 Half Term Highlights

Year 6 have had a busy, engaging and thought-provoking half term across the curriculum.

In Geography, the children began the term with an exciting fieldwork trip where they developed their enquiry skills by collecting both qualitative and quantitative data. They compared traffic patterns in two contrasting locations: Ordnance Road and Forty Hall. The children carefully recorded the number and types of vehicles, considered environmental differences and reflected on how land use affected traffic flow. Back in the classroom, they analysed their data, created charts and graphs, and drew conclusions from their findings, demonstrating excellent teamwork and analytical skills.

In History and English, pupils have been learning about World War II from the perspective of a During an immersive writing lesson inspired by Letters from the Lighthouse, Year 6 pupils stepped into the role of evacuees arriving in unfamiliar villages during World War II. Through role play, they experienced what it might have felt like to be carefully selected by host families—being checked for nits and lice, or asked what household chores they could carry out to earn their keep. This powerful activity helped deepen their empathy and understanding of the historical context, while bringing their writing to life in a memorable and meaningful way.



## Tottenham Hotspur Coaching Sessions



We were delighted to welcome outreach coaches from Tottenham Hotspur into school this half term, who delivered exciting taster sessions to every class. The children thoroughly enjoyed the sessions and showed great enthusiasm throughout. They developed a range of new football skills, while also learning about teamwork, resilience and positive sportsmanship. It was a fantastic opportunity for pupils to be inspired, stay active and build confidence through sport.

Children learnt new skills - and even how to play Rock, Paper, Scissors with their feet!



## Rainbow Class 'Wow day'

For our Rainbow class 'Wow' day, a very special superhero visited our class to remind us that everyone has superpowers—like being kind to others, working as a team, being resilient, and making the right choices. It was an inspiring, fun and memorable experience for all our young heroes!

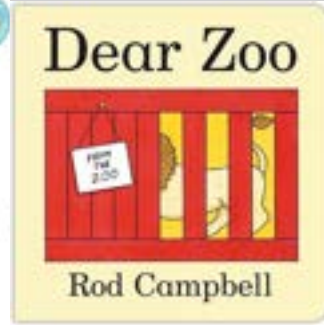
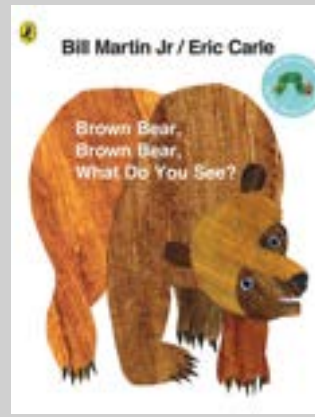
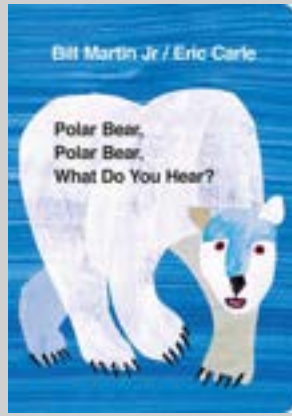


## News from Nursery

In Nursery, we have been reading the books, Polar Bear, Polar Bear, Brown Bear, Brown Bear and Dear Zoo. We have learnt many animal names and the sounds they make. We are looking forward to our animal visit next half term, I wonder which animals we will see!

We have been building towers and learning to count to 5. Can you count your fingers or your toes?

What else can you count to 5?



## Royal Institution Science Workshop

Children were treated to a high-energy visit from the Royal Institution for their "Fuel the Future" workshop. It was an action-packed journey through the science of sustainability, featuring demonstrations on how we generate, transfer, and store electricity.

From exploring the history of our planet's natural resources to understanding the impact of CO2 the children gained a deeper insight into the technology helping us build a greener society.



# Extra-Curricular Enrichment Clubs and Activities

Beyond the classroom, we offer a huge range of extra-curricular clubs designed to spark creativity and build new skills! We have clubs available before school, during lunch times and after school!

Before school, our Cooking Club has been particularly busy (and delicious) lately, with students mastering recipes like savory vegetable pasta with an Italian cheese topping, fruity strawberry jam puffs, and a classic pear crumble.

Our fabulous lunchtime clubs include Just Dance, Choir, Science Club, Uno, Lego, Running Club, Monster Colouring Club, Dodgeball, Library Club and Friendship Bracelet making and are run by staff and pupils.

After school, we offer everything from Art and Scrapbooking, where students preserve their favourite memories, to various Sports and our popular Social Club.

Don't forget that our doors also open early every day for Breakfast Club starting at 8am—the perfect way to start the morning fueled and ready to learn!



**Chesterfield School**

## After School Clubs

**3:15-4:15**  
Monday

- Mixed Football: 1-3
- Street Dance: 3-6
- Boys Boxing: 4-6

Tuesday

- Multi Sports: 1-3
- Mixed Football 3-6
- Art & Journalling: 4-6

Thursday

- Gymnastics: 1-3
- Art: 3-5
- Boys Football: 1-6

Social Clubs Years 1-6  
Monday, Tuesday & Thursday

**email any questions to:**  
[schoolclubs@chesterfieldprimary.org](mailto:schoolclubs@chesterfieldprimary.org)

# News from Reception

## Maths

This term we have focused on subitising numbers using a range of activities such as dice, board games and number cards. Children have been exploring number bonds to 5, we have taught this through the song '5 little speckled frogs' as well as using the part part whole method. We moved on to counting on from 5 using the Hungarian number frame and encouraging children to start counting on from 5.

## Literacy

This term we have encouraged children to spell cvc words using 'fred fingers' writing words from pictures in our focus book. They have been able to retell the story using pictures and a story map, encouraging the use of vocabulary from the story.

## Topic

Transport has been our theme of the topic, we explored activities that relate to the train ride, Naughty bus and Whatever next. The children have been junk modelling different types of transport including; buses, trains, rockets and planes. We have looked at modes of transport from the past and compared it to the present. This week we are exploring Chinese new year through table top activities such as chop sticks and cultural food, how they celebrate it and the origins of the zodiac. We have supported children to understand and focus on how they are feeling and express this using our feeling chart - made up of the colour monster. We have discussed why we might feeling that emotions and how we can show different emotions.





## National Storytelling Week

We celebrated National Storytelling Week this half term. It was a fantastic opportunity to foster a lifelong love for reading, with students engaging in a "Daily Author Spotlight" to discover the lives and inspirations behind their favorite books.

The magic of stories truly came to life through special guest sessions, as senior leaders and former teachers visited classrooms to share their favorite tales. We rounded off the week with our Big Book Swap, a wonderful initiative where children traded "pre-loved" books for "new-to-them" titles, promoting both a passion for reading and the importance of sustainability.

## Tips for Reading with your Child at Home

**Create a "Story Snuggle"**  
Establish a special time and place for reading, whether it's tucked up under a blanket or a dedicated five minutes before lights out.

**Be silly! Different voices and sounds help build imagination.**

**Play the "What Happens Next?" Game: Pause at cliffhangers and let their imagination lead.**

**Let your child "read" to you—even if they are just describing the pictures!**

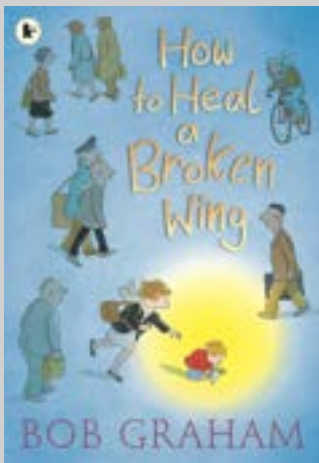
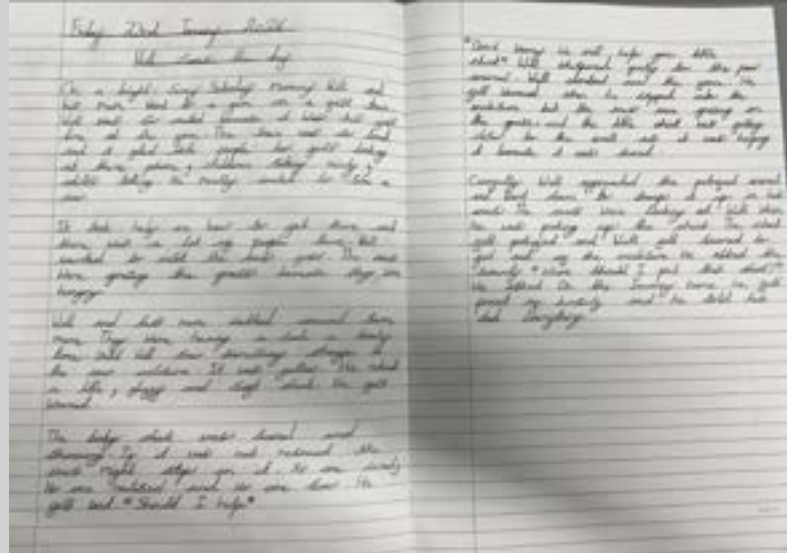
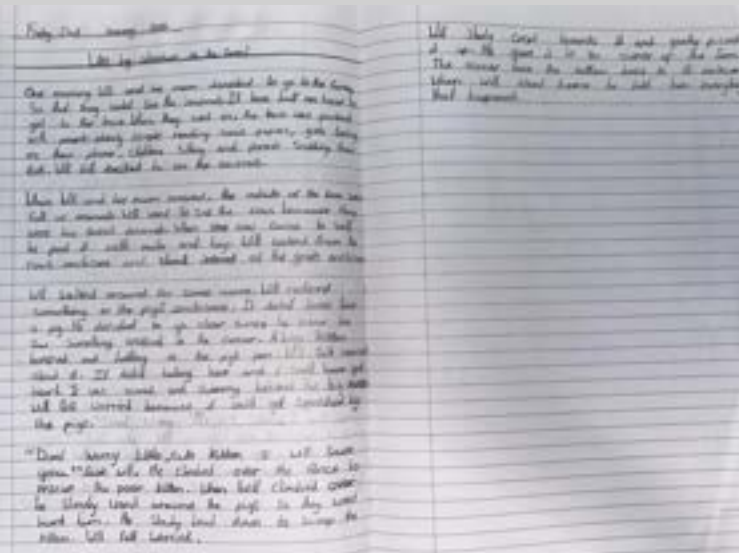
**Read What They Love: Comics, recipes, or non-fiction—all reading is good reading!**

# Art, English and Science in Year 4

In Science, children in Year 4 have been studying states of matter. They planned and conducted experiments to investigate how long it takes solids to melt and if liquids can be compressed.

In Art, we have been looking at tints and shades. The children were able to apply their understanding to help them create a 3D image.

English - After reading the book, *How to Heal a Broken Wing*, children in Year 4 wrote their own empath story. After planning and writing their stories, the children wrote their final drafts in their exciting writing books. Here are some extracts of some final drafts.

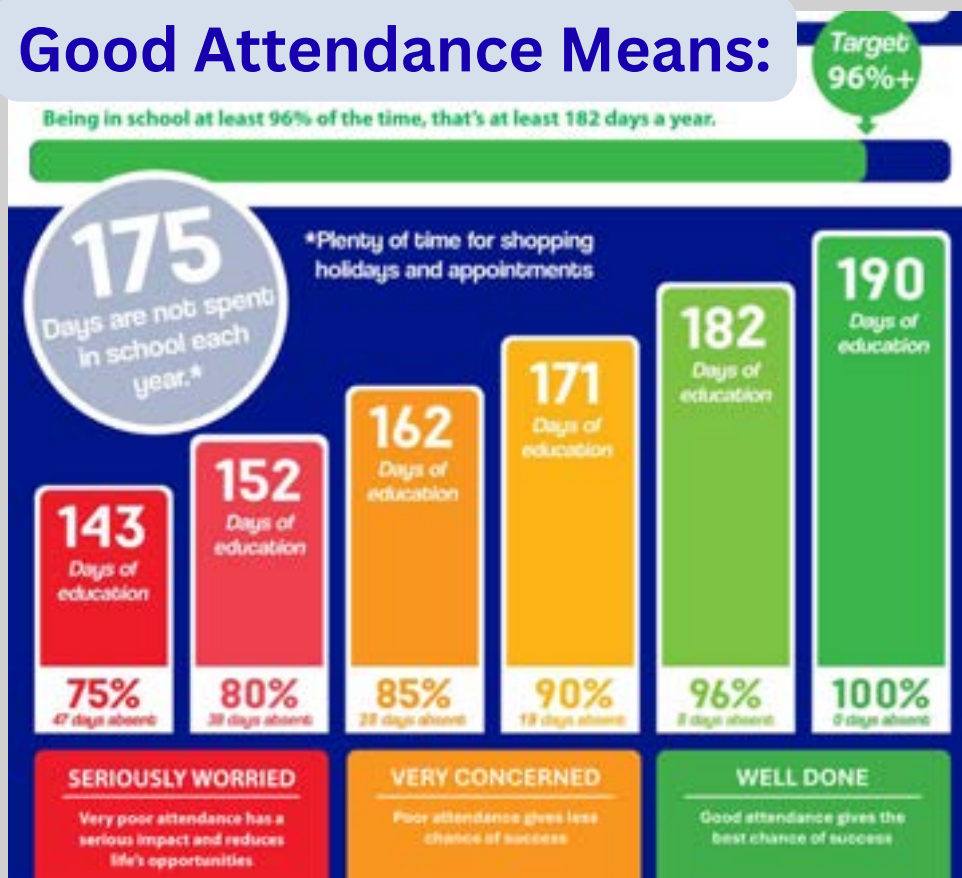


# Attendance Matters

We are committed to working with children and parents/carers to achieve our overall attendance target of 96%. As set out in our attendance policy, we will work with families to identify the reasons for poor attendance and try to resolve any difficulties. Early intervention will be a priority moving forward. Every school day counts.

Unfortunately we are unable to authorise holidays during term time. We understand that emergency situations may arise and if you wish to request a Leave of Absence due to an exceptional circumstance you should make a request to the Headteacher using the 'Request for leave during term time' form. The local authority may choose to issue a fine for unauthorised holidays taken during term time.

## Good Attendance Means:



## Spring Term Attendance 6 January – 13 February

YR	91.35%
Y1	90.07%
Y2	92.84%
Y3	93.49%
Y4	95.11%
Y5	94.48%
Y6	94.26%

**Our Whole-School Attendance Target is 96%**



# Dates for your Diary

## February/March 2026

### DATE

### EVENT

**Monday 23 February**

#### **BACK TO SCHOOL**

Year 4 Brunel Class visit to the National Gallery

**Tuesday 24 February**

Year 4 Turing Class visit to the National Gallery

**Wednesday 4 March**

Ark Farm visit to SRP, Nursery and Reception (in school)

**Thursday 5 March**

World Book Day - dress up as your favourite book character or wear pyjamas! (please see separate letter)

**Wednesday 11 March**

Year 1 Animal Action Drama Workshop (in school)

**Friday 13 March**

Year 1 - Year 6 Science workshops (in school)

**Tuesday 17 and  
Wednesday 18 March**

Parent/Carer Consultation Meetings (link to sign up for appointments will be sent out after half term)

**Thursday 19 March**

Year 4 ukelele concert for parents/carers  
9:15am in the Main Hall

**Friday 20 March**

Senior Choir Concert for Parents/Carers  
2:30pm in the Main Hall

**Tuesday 24 March**

Year 4 Recorder Concert for parents/carers  
9:15am in the Main Hall

**Wednesday 25 March**

Year 2 Parent/Carer Singing Concert  
9:15am in the Main Hall

**Thursday 26 March**

Year 1 Poetry Performance for parents/carers 9:15am  
Year 5 Poetry Performance for parents/carers 2:45pm


**Friday 27 March**

**End of Term 1:30pm**

## Term Dates

Autumn Term 2025	
INSET DAY	Monday 1st September 2025
INSET DAY	Tuesday 2nd September 2025
First Day of Term	Wednesday 3rd September 2025
Half Term	Monday 27th – Friday 31st October 2025
Start of Second Half Term	Monday 3rd November 2025
Last Day of Term	Friday 19th December 2025 <b>Finish at 1.30pm</b>
Spring Term 2026	
INSET DAY	Monday 5th January 2026
First Day of Term	Tuesday 6th January 2026
Half Term	Monday 16th – Friday 20th February 2026
Start of Second Half Term	Monday 23rd February 2026
Last Day of Term	Friday 27th March 2026 <b>Finish at 1.30pm</b>
Summer Term 2026	
INSET DAY	Monday 13th April 2026
First Day of Term	Tuesday 14th April 2026
Bank Holiday	Monday 4th May 2026
Half Term	Monday 25th – Friday 29th May 2026
INSET DAY	Monday 1st June 2026
Start of Second Half Term	Tuesday 2nd June 2026
Last Day of Term	Friday 17th July 2026 <b>Finish at 1.30pm</b>

### Chesterfield Primary School Term Dates 2026-2027



September 2026							October 2026							November 2026							December 2026						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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31																				30	31						

**Key**

<span style="background-color: #cccccc; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px;"></span> INSET DAY - school closed	<span style="background-color: #e0e0e0; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px;"></span> School Holiday - school closed	<span style="background-color: #ffff00; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px;"></span> 2nd Day Back to School - normal time 8:45am
<span style="background-color: #ff0000; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px;"></span> Bank Holiday - school closed	<span style="background-color: #90ee90; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px;"></span> Last Day of Term - Early Finish 1:30pm	