



‘A School Where Every Child Can Shine.’

11th December 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Christmas has finally arrived and there have been many wonderful events over the last few weeks which have included:

- 11th November 2024 – School Act of Remembrance in the open air
- 11th-15th November Anti-Bullying Week (Odd Sock Day 15th)
- 18th-22nd Road Safety Week
- 4th December 2024 – Harry Potter Tour and Workshop for creating characters – Warner Bros Studio

Forthcoming Events:

- On **Tuesday 17th December**, we will be taking the whole school to the Pantomime. School uniform will be worn on this occasion. As in the past, we have allowed children to bring a small packet of sweets. Children will return to school for a ‘picnic lunch’ that Etwall will be providing. Some children that usually have a school lunch have requested to bring their own packed lunch on this day.
- **Wednesday 18th December**, is Christmas Jumper Day. Children do not need any money, but can wear a Christmas themed jumper/clothes to school (non-uniform). We will also be having our Christmas lunch in school on this day.
- Our final day of the Term will be **Thursday 19th December, 2024**. In the morning the children engage in Christmas Party games and children can come to school in their party clothes. In the afternoon, at **2.15pm**, all the children will be taken to St Michael’s Church for a Carol and Crib service. All family and friends are welcome to attend the Act of Worship.
- After the Church Service, all children will be brought back to school as the PTA have a gift for each child. Dismissal will be as normal.
- Safe Internet use is taking a high profile Nationally. We invite all our parents to a meeting delivered by PC Mark Worrall on Tuesday 11th February 2025 at 3:15 p.m. (Safer Internet Day) This annual meeting is very informative.

We thank all the parents and children for their kind gifts donated to the Children’s Society after our Christingle Service on Friday 6th December 2024. The service was extremely well attended and we thank the Church volunteers who organised this Act of Worship for The Christingle.

The school has just received thanks and confirmation from the Breast Cancer Charity. The school and parents raised £138.

We also raised £297 for the Mental Health and Well-Being Day in October 2024.

In November 2024, the School received a trophy and certificate for Winners of the Champions Award from Amber Valley School Sport Partnership. As a small village school, we are very proud of this achievement in sport and a special thanks goes to the parents who support the 'transport needs' to get to the various venues.

Positive Play:

Across the Autumn Term, the Positive Play initiative has been a continued focus. We have spent over £2000 on equipment in order to build effective relationships and engage in physical activity with a purpose.

We have seen a significant impact on positive behaviours and children's ability to understand their choices of behaviour have significant impact on those around. The DFE have recently issued further advice to all schools regarding Behaviour in School:

"Good behaviour in schools is central to a good education. Schools need to manage behaviour well so they can provide calm, safe and supportive environments which children and young people want to attend and where they can learn and thrive. Being taught how to behave well and appropriately within the context they're in is vital for all pupils to succeed personally."

Our School Improvement Partner visits; Governor Monitoring; Visitors in school, Supply Teachers, Ofsted and Pupil Voice have endorsed the 'outstanding' behaviour of our children. We work tirelessly with our pupils to ensure inappropriate choices are recognised and how they can 'move forward'. I also thank the Positive Play leads in the school for organising the variety of activities on offer each week.

PTA:

Our PTA have worked tirelessly to build greater community links and plan a wide range of activities that raise valuable funds for the school. The number of volunteers to support the Autumn Disco ensured the event was a success. Feedback from children, parents and the community have been incredibly positive and appreciative. We look forward to even more events in 2025. Our annual Pancake Race will be on Tuesday 4th March, 2025.

Morning and After School Provision:

Our morning provision, again in January, will begin at 8.05 at the earliest and children will be offered fruit and a drink before moving to their class at 8.40am. Our After School Physical Activity Club will be 3.15pm and the last 'pick up' is 5pm. This provision is organised by RS Sports Coaches. From all the returns following our audit of need for provision 80% of the feedback wished to keep provision as it is. For those who do need further provision we are signposting families to the local Schools Out Club:

<https://www.schoolsoutclub.com/before-after-school/>

Attendance:

As from September 2024 all schools have been allocated an Inclusion Advisor to support attendance.

Derbyshire Local Authority:

‘As you are aware there is a strong emphasis on partners working together to support pupils and families to remove barriers to attendance prior to any consideration being given to legal intervention.

From September each school will be allocated an Inclusion Support Advisory Teacher (ISAT) who will offer schools advice and guidance in relation to attendance. This will include whole school strategy advice but also case management consultation, thereby ensuring that the school and Local Authority are satisfied that all offers of support have been exhausted and it can be evidenced that the parent is failing in their duty to secure their child’s regular attendance at school.’

At Kirk Langley Church of England Primary School our attendance for Autumn 2024 is 96.70%. We always aim for 97% as this makes a positive impact on progress and attainment.

May we wish all our children, families, staff and governors a Happy Christmas and a healthy and Happy New Year. We look forward to welcoming you back to school for the new term on Tuesday 7th January, 2025.

Mrs Jayne Stevenson
Headteacher