



Street Lane Primary School

Street Lane, Denby, Ripley, Derbyshire DE5 8NE

01773 742717 – 07734 104328 - info@streetlaneprimary.org

Acting Headteacher – Mrs Tracey Marie Dixon



Monday, 14th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

The children had a super first week back in school last week and all staff have been delighted with how quickly they have settled back into the school routines. The children have all been excited as new equipment purchased by the PTFA has started being delivered this week. The new beanbags have already been placed by the reading dens and are proving very popular. We also now have a new PTFA noticeboard on the gate outside of the main entrance, where updates will be posted.

Coats and Bags

The weather has been quite changeable this week. Please can you ensure your child has a waterproof coat in school every day as we will always access the outdoor provision at every opportunity. Please can we ask that you ensure that all clothing is also named. It is very tricky for children (and staff) to get belongings back to their rightful owners without name labels to help. Thank you for your support with this.

School bags are a big challenge in school. School policy is that we do NOT allow any rucksacks in school. This is because of the strict health and safety policies we have to follow to keep all of our children safe in the event of a fire or other cause for evacuation. Our tiny village school, simply does not have the storage space to keep 93 rucksacks. Your child only needs to bring their reading book and record, a water bottle and a packed lunch bag (if needed) each day. Book bags can fit easily inside the drawers/ cupboards allocated for your child. If your child has additional needs that requires them to bring extra equipment into school daily, this can be agreed with myself and items stored inside the school office. If you have a circumstance when your child needs overnight clothes to stay away from home, this will be regarded as an exceptional circumstance and a rucksack/ small suitcase will be stored safely for the day. We do not require your child to have a school labelled book bag. These are available from loop wear but can just as easily be purchased without the school logo from Amazon or Asda or a range of other outlets or a thin carrier bag will serve equally well.

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Please note that no rucksacks (without prior permission) will be permitted, in school from Monday 21st September. Please help us to keep all of our children safe. Thank you for your support.

Swimming for children in the Owl class.

Swimming for all children in years 3 and 4 Owl class will commence on Friday 18th September. This is a statutory element of the school curriculum controlled by the local authority and Department for Education. If your child has additional needs/exceptional circumstances which prevents them from participating in these lessons, please can you confirm this in writing to school and acknowledge responsibility for teaching your child these life saving skills privately.

The children will depart school by coach at 2pm and travel to Ripley Leisure Centre. They will be accompanied by 3 members of familiar school staff. Once there, the girls will be accompanied into a school changing room to get changed into their swim wear. They can select if they wish to change in the school communal area or inside a private cubicle. The boys have a separate changing space, again with the option of private cubicles. ***Please note that these changing rooms are not open to members of the general public and will only be supervised by staff with an enhanced DBS check from school.***

We know that going swimming for the first time without a family member can cause children to feel a little bit anxious initially. I have spoken to all of the children about this and answered any questions they have raised. Please be assured that our staff are there to support your child and ensure they have a positive experience.

Several parents have raised concerns about their children not being able to dress and undress themselves independently. Our staff are always very happy to assist in any way that they can.

You can support your child's confidence with their independence by helping them practice getting changed in and out of their swimming costume at home, teaching them how to dry themselves when they get out of the bath and dress themselves.

Please note that a towel, swimsuit, brush can be brought to school in an additional bag on Fridays. These will be secured away safely during the day and distributed prior to the swimming lesson.

Please also ensure that your child knows what their belongings look like and name items wherever possible. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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Home learning opportunities

To support your children's learning at home, we have set a range of activities across different platforms.

All children from Y1 to Y6 have individual login details (which are stuck into their reading record) for the following websites. If you have any problem accessing these, please speak to your class teacher. Weekly tasks are available on each of these platforms

- **Mathletics:** Tasks have been assigned to reinforce and extend mathematical understanding and to help reinforce their learning from the week. We do recommend that the children have paper to jot on when completing their tasks.

<https://www.mathletics.com/uk/>

- **Ed Shed:** Children can access games to consolidate phonics knowledge and improve spelling. Common exception words are also listed in your child's reading diary if you would like to support them further. Ed shed where they can practise their grammar and punctuation knowledge and spelling rules (SPaG).

<https://www.edshed.com/en-gb/login/school>

- **Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS):** Please encourage regular practice, as a strong grasp of times tables underpins many other areas of maths.

<https://trockstars.com/>

Most importantly, **please read with your child as often as possible.** Reading not only develops comprehension but also enriches vocabulary, which supports writing skills.

After the success of our whole school Readopoly initiative, we are going to continue with this again this year. Your child should have a Readopoly chart stuck into their green reading record.

Ducklings' topic task for this week is:

'Marvellous Me' Treasure Bag.

We would like you to collect physical items that represent who you are. Your child was given a small brown paper bag yesterday to store their items in. Over this week we would like you to find a maximum of 4 small items that represent you

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and/or your family and pop them in the bag. For example, a favourite small teddy, a family photo, a drawing of your pet, or a small toy. If you would prefer not to bring in the physical items, you may upload photographs of these items onto Class Dojo to share during circle time.

Please can brown bags be returned to school by Monday 21st September so that you can use your bag during Circle Time over the following week to share a bit about yourself. We understand that some children may feel a little reluctant to share with the whole class and that you may prefer to just show your bag to an adult in the classroom instead. Once shared, the bags will be returned home that day.

Puffins' topic tasks for this week are:

This week we have been finding out all about Neil Armstrong - can you make a poster about him and find out some facts about his life and landing on the moon.

In English we have been looking at instructions - Can the Puffins find any examples of instructions at home or at the library? Can they spot the title or bullets points or maybe some 'bossy' (imperative) verbs!

Owls' topic tasks for this week are:

In Science, Owls are learning about electricity and identifying common appliances that run on electrical power. The children have been discussing which items need electricity to work and where we might find them in our everyday lives.

For homework, children can create a simple Electricity Hunt poster. Around the home, they should find and list or draw 8-10 appliances that use electricity.

Encourage them to think about appliances in different rooms and to label their drawings clearly.

Challenge: Can they sort the appliances into those that are used for work, play or household jobs?

Peacocks' topic tasks for this week is:

World War One Research

Homework: This week, we would like you to find out about the start of World War One. Create a mini fact file showing what you have discovered. Try to include when the war

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began, some of the countries involved, why Britain became involved and one interesting fact. You can present your work in any way you like – handwritten, typed or as a poster.

Finally...

If you or your child has any worries or concerns, please do not hesitate to speak with us. Minor concerns can grow if left unaddressed. Your child's wellbeing and happiness are of utmost importance to us.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Tracey Marie Dixon

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