



Whitfield St James' CE (VC) Primary School

Headteacher: Mr Woodward Head of School: Mr Ford



Date: 12/12/2025

End of term Newsletter

Good afternoon,

The first term back at school has been absolutely fantastic, filled with exciting learning opportunities and memorable experiences for pupils, families, and staff alike. From a well-attended parents' evening to lively PTA events such as glow discos, breakfast with Santa and fairs, the sense of community has been stronger than ever.

We came together to support important causes through non-uniform day donations, Silver Cord, Odd Sock Day, and Mental Health Day, when everyone proudly wore yellow. Enriching experiences such as Outdoor Learning Day, Christmas performances, music concerts, local walks and visits, and our beautiful Well Dressing celebration helped children connect with their environment and wider community.

Our Harvest and Christmas festivals held at the church were especially meaningful, and a special visit from Pastor Zeph and Welma from Tanzania allowed children to strengthen links with our partner school, Wisdom School. These events, just to name a few, have made the first term back a joyful, busy, and truly brilliant start to the school year.

Many more experiences and opportunities are planned for the Spring term — watch this space!

Wishing you all a happy Christmas and a brilliant new year.

Mr Woodward and Mr Ford

Notices

Reception and Nursery places

Just a reminder for those parents in Nursery (or any parents that haven't applied yet) whose children will be starting in Reception in September 2026, you need to complete the online Derbyshire Admissions form to guarantee your place

<https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/education/schools/school-places/primary-admissions/primary-infant-and-junior-school-admissions.aspx> You have to apply for a Reception place even if you're in our Nursery!

We also have some Nursery places from January if you know someone whose child is over 3 years old! Get them to come and have a look at our brilliant Nursery and pick up a new starter form.

Christmas Service

It was so lovely to see you so many of you at our annual Christmas service at St James' Church on Wednesday. The children read and sang beautifully and it was brilliant to come together and celebrate Christmas.



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Christmas Jumper Day

Thank you for everyone that wore a Christmas jumper today! It has made the last day of term truly festive!

Sue's retirement

Sue in the kitchen officially retired today! We held a special assembly for her this morning where children and staff said their goodbyes and good lucks. We would like to thank her for her many years of service (36!) to our school, she will be missed and we wish her all the best for her retirement. Thank you Sue!

First day back

We are already looking forward to having the children back in school on Monday 5th January.

Social Media

Did you know we're on social media? You can follow us on **Facebook (Whitfield St James' CE Primary School)**, **Instagram (wsjprimary)** and **X (schoolwsj)** to keep up to date with news, events and celebrations from across our school and local community. We use our social media platform as a 'window' into school life and not as a communication method (please continue to use Class Dojo) We'd love for you to **follow, like and share our posts** to help spread the word.

Upcoming dates for the diary

05.01.26	Children's first day back at school
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UPCOMING EVENTS & INFORMATION

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Please be aware that these dates may change. We will keep you updated via text or Class Dojo if they do change.

Date	Event
05.01.26	Children's first day back at school
03.02.26	PTA Movie Night
09.02.26-12.02.26	Children's mental health week
10.02.26	Safer Internet Day
13.02.26	INSET
14.02.26-22.02.26	HALF TERM
23.02.26	Children's first day back
02.03.26-06.03.26	Book Week – 06.03.26 World Book Day



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06.03.26	PTA Wonka Bar
17.03.26	Parents' Evening 1
19.03.26	Parents' Evening 2
20.03.26	Red Nose Day
25.03.26	Easter Service
27.03.26	INSET Day
28.03.26-12.04.26	EASTER HOLIDAYS
13.04.26	Children's first day back
22.04.26	Spring music concert in church (provisional date)
01.05.25	PTA non-uniform day – children's tombola/gifts
04.05.26	Bank Holiday
11.05.26-14.05.26	SATs week
19.05.26	PTA Disco
22.05.26	INSET Day
23.05.26-31.05.26	HALF TERM
01.06.26	Children's first day back
09.06.26	PTA Scoot and Skate KS2
12.06.26	PTA non-uniform day – TBC
16.06.25	PTA Scoot and Skate EYFS/KS1
17.06.26-19.06.26	Y6 Residential
22.06.26	Sports Day Nursery 9:15/R-Y2 10:30/KS2 1pm
26.06.26	PTA non-uniform day - Bottles PTA summer fair
03.07.26	Transition day
08.07.26	Summer music concert in school (provisional date)
14.07.26	Y6 Leavers' play 2pm/6pm
16.07.26	Y6 Leavers' party
23.07.26	Y6 Leavers' assembly to parents 2:30pm Last day