



Main Road, Smalley Derbyshire DE7 6EF  
01332 880317

**Executive Headteacher – Mrs P Atwal**

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Once again, we have enjoyed a packed half term with our children here at Richardson Endowed Primary. It has been wonderful to see how well the children have progressed since our return in January.

Thank you to Class 2 who led a wonderful, musical assembly yesterday. It was lovely to welcome parents into school to see how proud the children were of their learning.

One of the highlights of this half term has been Forest School, which has been thoroughly enjoyed by Year 2 each Friday afternoon. We are so pleased to have seen our children thrive in outdoor learning and are very grateful for the hard work of Miss Ainsworth for running this experience for our children – thank you very much! We hope to offer a forest school club again this year to more year groups – watch this space!



Year 4 had a wonderful time at the Derby Open Centre visiting the Gurudwara, Hindu Temple and Catholic Church. The children's learning about their RE work was really brought to life and, as always, our children made us extremely proud with their respectful behaviour and curiosity about places of worship, beliefs and faiths in our wider community.

Our Year 1 children have been learning about reducing waste and showed their community spirit by collecting food to donate to the Mickleover Community Pantry. Thank you to all our families for supporting this project which is such an important opportunity for children to show their care and compassion for others. This local food bank explained how January can be a difficult time for families and our donation has given many families much-needed support. Well done Class 1!



It has been great to see the sheer fun and enjoyment that Year 1, Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5 have experienced with their golf lessons. They have made great progress with their skills and it has been wonderful to see children enjoy a new sport during their PE lessons. Our thanks to PGA Professional Danny Bursztyl for delivering these sessions. Year 2 and Year 6 will take part in their golf lessons after the half term holiday.

### **Extra-curricular Clubs and Activities**

Our extra-curricular clubs for all year groups have continued to be very popular with dodgeball, football and film club on offer this half term. Thank you for supporting your children to access these opportunities. We have also enjoyed many sports competitions within Amber Valley Sports Partnership with children from all year groups, including dodgeball, football and rowing.

Next half term will be just as exciting with the following clubs on offer:

**Monday:** KS1 Multi-Sports Club  
Year 1 -3 Singing Club

**Tuesday:** KS2 Football Club  
KS2 Art Club

**Thursday:** KS1 Dance Club

We are looking forward to a busy half term after the break, with World Book Day, the pop-up library, Red Nose Day and the International Day of Mathematics on the horizon. Key Stage 1 children will also be participating in the Easter Bonnet parade, taking place on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March. Please look out for further details in due course.

Miss Evans is busy co-ordinating Richardson's Parent and Baby Group. Please look out for more information on this group.

### **Homework projects**

We look forward to seeing you to share the children's homework projects on **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February at 3.30pm** in the hall. This is always a super way of celebrating the children's learning and to see their pride in their creations.

### **Attendance**

Our whole school attendance is at 95.9%. Our target is 95% as a school and we will contact you if your child's attendance falls below 90% as per our policy. School will write to parents where attendance falls below expectations and we will also hold meetings with you where this does not improve after a period of time. Several absences this half term have been for unauthorised holidays in term time. Each day a child misses of school has an impact on their progress and whilst I appreciate the costs of holidays sometimes drives this situation, I would urge you to ensure that your child attends school each day. We will continue to follow our attendance policy and issue notices for penalties in accordance with this. Please see our attendance policy here: [Primary Attendance Policy](#)

### **Reminder about drop-off and collection arrangements**

Please continue to drop off Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children at the main door near the Kerry Drive entrance. Children in Year 3 should use the bottom gate ideally but may also use the top gate near the main entrance and walk across the playground. Year 4, 5 and 6 may use either gate. Parents should please remain at the door or gate after waving goodbye to their children so we may adhere to our safeguarding protocols for the site. Thank you for your understanding on this matter. Collection arrangements remain the same.

### **Car parking**

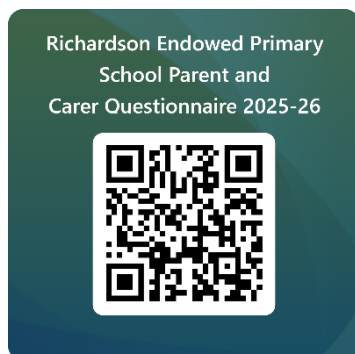
Please park with consideration of our local residents. Following concerns regarding accessibility to their homes, our local police are supporting neighbours with enforcing safe and legal parking. Thank you to the vast majority of parents who park sensibly and with consideration for others.

### **Embark folders**

Please send your child's folder back into school on their return to school after half term so that the folders may be updated and returned. It would be great to see if children are close to qualifying for their bronze awards when 40 of the awards have been achieved. These might provide some opportunities to keep your children busy over the holidays!

## Parent Survey

You will have been notified of Embark's Parent Survey via Arbor. Please do complete this survey to ensure that there are as many parent views as possible to inform our plans for next year. Our children, staff and governors will all have the same opportunity to complete feedback surveys; this will take place after half term.



I wish all our families a restful and enjoyable week off for half term, and I look forward to seeing you all on the first day back, Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026.

*Mrs P. Atwal*

Executive Headteacher

## **Key Dates – Spring Term 2026**

<b>Half Term</b>	<b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February</b>
Pupils Return to School	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February
Parents' Evening	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March (3.40pm → 6.00pm)
Parents' Evening	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March (3.40pm → 7.00pm)
Book Fair	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March to Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March
World Book Day	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March
Open Morning	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March: 9.00am → 10.00am
PTFA – Mothers and Others Sale	Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March – Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> March
Maths Parent Workshop	Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> March: 3.45pm → 4.15pm
Times Tables 'Rock Star' Day	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March
Red Nose Day	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March
Bikeability Level 1 – Year 4	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March
Bikeability Level 1 & 2 – Year 5	Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> March to Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March
Easter Parade – Reception and Key Stage 1	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March
Last Day of Term	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March
<b>Easter Holidays</b>	<b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April</b>
First Day of Summer Term	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April