



Main Road, Smalley Derbyshire DE7 6EF
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Executive Headteacher – Mrs P Atwal

Friday 19th December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy term it has been at Richardson Endowed Primary School! Since half term, we have achieved so much with our school community and I am so proud of all our children for their hard work and efforts.

Festive Activities

As Christmas has drawn closer, we have seen two stunning nativity performances from our Reception and Year 1 children and 'Bethlehem Bake-Off' was a great success. We have also had the pleasure of visiting St John's church this week to sing carols and for children to explore our local church during the festive period. Thank you to our Year 2 children for a super class assembly about Christmas which they have thoroughly enjoyed performing for you all. Our wonderful vicar, Reverend Kate, has also been into school to share the meaning of nativity for Christians with our Reception children. The highlight of the term for me was to see our Key Stage 2 children perform at the Christmas Carols concert on Monday this week. Although the rain changed our plans somewhat, there was a wonderful atmosphere around the Christmas tree and it was fantastic to see so many of our school community join us. Thank you to you all; your presence at these events is always very much appreciated.



Remembrance Service

We have enjoyed many wonderful memory-making experiences, such as the Remembrance Service, which was a moving and beautifully presented event by our wonderful Year 6 children; our community groups who shared the service commented on the beautiful singing, acting and readings which were wonderful to experience.



Anti-Bullying Week & Children in Need

The children have participated and discussed their feelings during Anti-Bullying Week in November and have raised funds for Children in Need. These events support our children to learn about keeping themselves safe and supporting children who might be less fortunate than themselves and are important in our wider curriculum aims, incorporating our Embark core values of Family, Integrity, Teamwork and Success. In the future, for non-uniform events, we will collect money from each child to maximise our fundraising efforts as paying directly via Parent Pay has resulted in fewer donations to the charity than when children have brought in cash. Thank you, as always, for your support.

Class 6 School Trip

Class 6 has enjoyed a fantastic visit to the Holocaust Centre to enrich their learning about World War II. The children and staff had the best day of learning and our children made us extremely proud with their exemplary behaviour which was commented upon by the staff at the centre. Well done, Year 6!



Thank You

I would like to express my thanks to the PTFA who have put on an excellent disco and raffle, which has been so positively received by the children and our families. Thank you to all our parent volunteers who have helped to make our children's experience at school a special one. It is much appreciated!

Thank you to all of you, our families, for your ongoing support for the children's learning. Reading with your child is the single most important thing you can do to assist your child in all areas of the curriculum and we thank you for your commitment with this.

Attendance

Our whole school attendance is 95.6%. Our target is 95% as a school and we will contact you if your child's attendance falls below this. School will write to parents where attendance falls below expectations and we will also hold meetings with you where this does not improve. A large number of 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:

<https://www.richardsonendowed.co.uk/attachments/documents.asp?id=258>

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 sensible parking. Thank you to the vast majority of parents who park sensibly and with consideration for others.

Polite reminder

It has come to our attention that there have been parental disagreements during drop off and pick up times. Please remember that we are in a school environment and we would expect parents and family members to behave appropriately at all times, especially whilst on the school site. Thank you for your understanding.

Embark Award folders

Please send your child's folder back into school on their return to school by **Friday 9th January** 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!

EMBARK
Award

Please refer to our school website to find out more about the Embark Awards:

[Richardson Endowed Primary School - Embark Award](#)

I would like to wish all our families a very happy Christmas and a restful holiday period with your loved ones. I look forward to welcoming our children back to school on **Monday 5th January 2026**.

Festive greetings to you all; we look forward to seeing you in 2026!

Mrs P. Atwal

Executive Headteacher

Key Dates – Spring Term 2026

Spring Term	Monday 5th January to Friday 13th February 2026
First Day of Spring Term	Monday 5 th January
SATs Meeting for Parents – Year 6	Thursday 15 th January (3.30pm)
School Trip (Year 4)	Friday 16 th January
Safer Internet Day	Tuesday 10 th February
Last Day of the Half Term	Friday 13 th February
Half Term	Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February
Pupils Return to School	Monday 23 rd February
Parents' Evening	Monday 2 nd March (3.40pm → 6.00pm)
Parents' Evening	Wednesday 4 th March (3.40pm → 7.00pm)
Book Fair	Wednesday 4 th March to Tuesday 10 th March
World Book Day	Thursday 5 th March
Open Morning	Thursday 5 th March (9.00am → 10.00am)
PTFA – Mother's and Other's Day Sale	Tuesday 10 th March – Thursday 12 th March
Times Tables 'Rock Star' Day	Date is to be confirmed
Maths Parent Workshop	Date is to be confirmed
Red Nose Day	Friday 20 th March
Bikeability Level 1 – Year 4	Monday 23 rd March
Bikeability Level 1 & 2 – Year 5	Tuesday 24 th March to Thursday 26 th March
Easter Parade – Reception and Key Stage 1	Friday 27 th March
Last Day of Term	Friday 27 th March
Easter Holidays	Monday 30th March to Friday 10th April
First Day of Summer Term	Monday 13 th April