



Ripley Infant School

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RIPLEY INFANT SCHOOL NEWSLETTER: **July 2026**

Dear Families of Ripley Infant School,

Staffing

At the end of this academic year we will be saying goodbye to Miss Saunders after 11 years of working with the children and families of Ripley Infant School. Whilst she will be greatly missed I am delighted that she has secured a promotion at her new school. We thank her for her hard work and dedication to the school during her time here.

We also say goodbye to Miss Baker, who has taught in Skylarks since November, Mr Bunting and Miss Reynolds who have supported children in EYFS and Year 2. I am sure you will join with us in saying goodbye and good luck for the future.

In September we will be welcoming the following new staff members:

Mrs Ellis – SENDCo & Skylarks teacher

Miss Whitlam – Woodpeckers teacher

Miss Hurst & Mrs Peet - SENTAs

Parking Issues

We have been asked to remind you once again that, for the children's safety, it is important that cars are not illegally parked on the pavements, blocking driveways or pedestrian access, or on the zig-zag markings outside of school. Please also be considerate to our neighbours and pedestrians when parking.

It has been lovely to see so many of you making use of our bike and scooter parking when you are cycling and scooting to school. We hope this will continue next year and maybe even increase the number of you finding active ways to come to school.

Summer Reading Challenge

Derbyshire Libraries would like to invite pupils to take part in this year's Reading Agency Summer Reading Challenge – 'Read to the Beat'. This year's theme encourages children to feel the rhythm of words and the joy of reading - celebrating the connection between storytelling and sound. The challenge begins on Saturday 4 July and ends on Saturday 12 September 2026. We hope as many pupils as possible will join the challenge, which helps support their reading during the summer holidays, and celebrates reading for pleasure. Those completing the challenge will receive a medal and certificate.

As well as the challenge, Derbyshire Libraries will be running many free activities to complement this year's theme. Please ask at your local library or visit the [Derbyshire County Council website](#) for more information.

PTA

We extend a huge thank you to the PTA committee for organising the Summer Fayre event on Tuesday 23rd June. It was very well attended and lots of fun was had by all. The total amount raised was a fantastic £725. We would also like to say a big thank you to Sarah Penny who will be leaving us after being such an enthusiastic member of the PTA over the last couple of years.

Nut Free from September

We need to inform you of an important update to our school's health and safety policy. From September we will become a nut-free school. This decision has been made to help protect members of our school community who have severe nut allergies. Even small traces of nuts can cause serious and potentially life-threatening allergic reactions, so it is essential that we minimise the risk as much as possible.

What this means:

Please do not send any food containing nuts (including peanuts) into school.

This includes items such as nut spreads (e.g. peanut butter), nut-based snacks or bars, and foods containing nut ingredients.

We also ask that you check labels carefully, as some products may contain hidden nuts or be labelled as "may contain nuts."

We understand that this may require some changes to packed lunches and snacks, and we greatly appreciate your cooperation in helping us maintain a safe environment for all pupils and staff. Our priority is the wellbeing of every child in our care, and we are confident that, with your support, we can ensure our school remains a safe and inclusive place for everyone.

Other News

- The whole school enjoyed our Sports Activity Day on Wednesday 24th June. Well done to everyone for taking part so enthusiastically and we hope you enjoyed it.
- Our school choir performed a wonderful concert for their parents on Thursday 16th July. They treated us to their version of some fantastic songs, it was a fabulous event enjoyed by all. Many thanks to Miss Saunders and Mrs Beighton for all their hard work with the choir this year.
- Our Year Two children performed beautifully at The Ripley Music Festival on Friday 17th July. They joined with other cluster schools to put on a great show and made us very proud.
- The new academic year starts with an INSET day on **Friday 4th September**, children return to school on **Monday September 7th**.

Can I take this opportunity to thank you all for your continuing support and wish you a wonderful summer break! See you in September.

Many Thanks

P Doleman

Mrs P Doleman
Headteacher