



Ripley Infant School

Kirk Close
Ripley

Derbyshire DE5 3RY

Headteacher: Mrs P. Doleman BEd Hons, MA(Ed)

Telephone: 01773 743354

Fax: 01773 512638



RIPLEY INFANT SCHOOL NEWSLETTER: **Autumn Term 2 2025**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Future stars of stage & screen!

Despite the need to delay some of the performances this year (thank you EYFS parents for your understanding in this situation and apologies for any inconvenience this may have caused) the children put on two amazing Christmas plays and really showed what fantastic performers they are. The EYFS performance of 'Everyone Loves a Baby' really got everyone in the festive mood, as did the Year 1 performance of 'A Wiggly Nativity'. I am so proud of each and every child who worked so hard to learn the songs, actions and individual parts for both of the Christmas plays this year; your children are a real credit to you and the school. A special thank you also needs to go to the staff for all their hard work and dedication, preparing the children and creating the staging and props.

We will be going to All Saints church for our annual Carol Service on Monday 15th December. You are welcome to attend and staff will be looking for volunteers to walk to church with us.

Goodbye and Good Luck

At the end of this term we are saying goodbye to Miss Oakes, Ravens Class Teacher as she moves to a new school starting in January. Ravens will be taught by a new teacher, Miss Quaid, until Mrs Pywell returns from maternity leave. We are sure you will join with us in thanking Miss Oakes for her hard work during her time with us and wishing her all the very best for the future.

Sporting Success!

On Thursday 27th November we took our children to compete in the Amber Valley School Sports Partnership Handball competition at Alfreton Leisure Centre. The team played so well and finished in third place (out of 11 teams)! Their teamwork and sportsmanship were outstanding. Well done to all the participants, we are very proud of you.

Thank you to Mrs Start for coaching the team so successfully and to Mrs Coope and Mrs Gibson for giving their time and lending their support.

PTA

The PTA Christmas Fayre was a huge success. Thank you to everyone who came along in support of our school. The event raised a total of £991.90 which will go towards the projects the PTA are supporting in school, namely the development of our Forest School area. Huge thanks to the PTA committee for all their hard work. We are also very grateful to the members of the PTA who gave their time to clear the pond area on a cold damp Saturday morning in preparation for the new Forest School area.

New starters for September '26

If you have a child born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022 then you will need to apply for their infant school place between 10 November 2025 and 15 January 2026. They'll be eligible to start school in September 2026.

To apply for a school place please visit

<https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/education/schools/school-places/primary-admissions/primary-infant-and-junior-school-admissions.aspx>

If for some reason you're unable to make an application, please email: admissions.transport@derbyshire.gov.uk.

Applications must be received by midnight on 15 January 2026 and offers will be emailed to you on 16 April 2026.

Other News

- Our children made Christmas decorations for the Wren Ward, Carsington Unit, Kingsway hospital. Their decorations will be some festive cheer to the in-patients of the ward over the Christmas period.
- Our Christmas Jumper Day/Reindeer Dash will take place on Tuesday 16th December. We hope to raise as much as possible for this worthy cause.
- Christmas Party Day is Wednesday 17th December. Children are welcome to come to school in their party clothes for that day.
- Key Stage 1 had a wonderful time at 'Dick Whittington' the Derby Live pantomime at Derby Arena. The children's behaviour was excellent as always.
- Our Wednesday After School Sports Club will be Dodgeball next term. We will also be competing in the AVSSP Dodgeball competition later in the term.
- We break up for Christmas on Friday 19th December and return to School on Tuesday 6th January 2025 (Monday 5th January is an INSET day).

Can I take this opportunity to thank you all for your continuing support and wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

P Doleman

Mrs P Doleman
Headteacher

