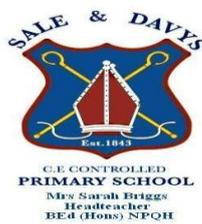


"I am able to do all things by
the one who strengthens me"

Philippians 4:13
Lexham English Bible



Growing, Believing, Succeeding

Newsletter

27th February 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,



Pancake Races

This week, the children have been learning about Lent and Ash Wednesday. We discussed how Lent is a special time in the Christian calendar when people reflect and prepare for Easter. We also explored how Pancake Day (Shrove Tuesday) links to Lent. To celebrate, the whole school enjoyed taking part in pancake races in their house teams.

School Meals

We have noticed that we are not always being informed when a child changes between a packed lunch and a school dinner on an ad hoc basis. Unfortunately, this is resulting in us either over-ordering meals, which incurs costs to the school, or under-ordering, which can cause difficulties at lunchtime. To help us manage meal numbers accurately, please ensure that you inform the school office at enquiries@saledavys.derbyshire.sch.uk if your child's lunch arrangement will be different on any given day.

World Book Day

World Book Day is on Thursday 5th March. This day is an opportunity to promote a love of reading and to celebrate our favourite books and authors. As a school, we will be marking the occasion by inviting children to come to school dressed as their favourite book character on **Friday 6th March**. We look forward to seeing the children's creativity and all of the costumes inspired by their favourite stories.

Red Nose Day

We will be taking part in Red Nose Day on Friday 20th March. This is an opportunity for our school to come together, have fun, and raise money for important causes. There will be activities and ways for children to get involved throughout the day. Full details about what we have planned will be shared in next week's newsletter.

Save the Date – Easter Service Thursday 26th March at 2.15pm

Please note that this is a change to our usual arrangements. In previous years, we have held our Easter Service on the last day of term; however, this year it will take place on Thursday 26th March at 2.15pm at St Wilfrid's Church.

Easter and Eid Celebration

On Friday 27th March we will be holding a special joint Easter and Eid celebration before the end of term to recognise two important and meaningful celebrations observed by many of our families. Children will have the opportunity to learn about the significance of both celebrations and explore the values they share.

Easter Bonnets

On Friday 27th March, the children will be taking part in our annual Easter Bonnet Parade around the village before we break up for the Easter holidays. All children are expected to take part and will need to wear a decorated Easter bonnet for the parade. Please support your child in designing and creating their bonnet at home. Prizes will be awarded for the best bonnets. This is always a lovely event and a wonderful way to celebrate the end of term. We look forward to seeing some fantastic designs.

Sponsored Readathon

The PTA challenged pupils to raise £20 in a sponsored readathon during the half term break. The money raised will go towards new picnic benches and playground equipment. Please return sponsor money by Friday 6th March.

Safeguarding Reminder: Keeping School Keep Clear Markings Free

We kindly remind all parents and carers not to stop or park on the school keep clear zig-zag markings outside the school, including during Breakfast Club drop-off. These markings are there to ensure the safety of all children at arrival and departure times. Thank you for your cooperation.

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Working Together to Address Concerns

We value open communication with our families. From time to time, parents may have concerns about children or situations at school. I would like to remind parents that any concerns should be raised directly with the school, rather than through contact with other parents. The school is responsible for investigating concerns appropriately and confidentially. This ensures that matters are handled fairly, sensitively, and in line with our safeguarding obligations. The school can only investigate concerns raised by a parent about their own child. We are not able to investigate concerns raised on behalf of another parent or on behalf of a group of parents.

Healthy Choices

This half term, we will be placing a renewed focus on making healthy choices across school. In school, we will continue to promote healthy food options at lunchtime and break time. As part of this focus, we are also asking parents to support us when celebrating birthdays. Where possible, we would really appreciate parents considering alternatives to sweets or chocolate when bringing in class treats. Options such as small non-food items, or other creative ideas are a great way to celebrate while still supporting our healthy choices message.

Homework

Homework is set for all pupils each week and this reinforces and secures learning that has taken place at school. Homework also prepares children for their next phase of learning, especially when children are moving from infants to juniors and juniors to secondary school. Insisting that homework is completed each week is very difficult for a school to enforce, however, research shows that children who work at home achieve higher grades than their peers who do not complete homework. At Sale and Davys we are very lucky to have parents who are very supportive and who want their children to do well at school. I know many parents sit with their children and help them to complete homework on a regular basis and this is extremely beneficial for your child, providing one-to-one tuition! Thank you for your continued support with homework.

Attendance

We know that being in school every day and on time gives children the best chance to succeed. We are proud that most of our pupils maintain excellent attendance, and we would like to thank parents for supporting this positive habit and helping to build resilience in their children. We also understand that children can become unwell from time to time. This is why our whole-school attendance target is set at 96%, allowing for those occasional, unavoidable absences. If your child's attendance falls below 90%, this is classified as persistent absence under government guidelines, and we are required to take appropriate action. Should this occur by the end of the term, we will contact you to discuss how we can work together to support you and your child in improving attendance. Our aim is always to ensure every pupil can fully access their learning and feel confident and settled in school.

Reporting Absence and Lateness

Please call the school to report your child's absence before 9.20 on the day of the absence and each subsequent day of absence, and advise when they are expected to return. Children will be recorded as late if they are not in their classroom for 8:50am. If your child arrives after registration closes at 9.20am this will be marked as an unauthorised absence.

Sarah Briggs
Headteacher