

Wirksworth Junior School Newsletter- July 2025



It always amazes me how quickly we come around to July again. June has been another month packed full of activities and learning, which we all enjoyed with the sun continuing to shine. Below we have a beautiful picture of the Year 6 out sailing



We are Creative.

Last month, the Y3/4 entertained the whole school when they performed on the Samba drums. Thank you to Mrs Kirk for helping us learn the Samba drums. We will be seeing her again next year when she gets to teach the new Year 3s woodwind instruments.



Whilst in Y5/6, they have been learning about different colour blending, ready to use in their painting of a Frida Kahlo-inspired artwork. This is a personal favourite of mine, and I look forward to seeing the end products.

We are Curious.

This month, the children were given an opportunity to learn about different cultures and faiths as Sabina, Abi and Shamar came in from the Open Centre in Derby, to share their beliefs on Sikhism, Hinduism and Islam, answering questions about what they believe and why. The children were very respectful and inquisitive, and we look forward to the Autumn term, where a trip has been arranged to visit the Mosque and the Mandir.



Creative. Curious. Caring. We make every moment count

As well as learning about different world religions, the children went to St Mary's church to meet Bishop Malcolm of Repton. He told us about the Lord's Prayer, and we got to ask him a few questions about his role as a bishop and what his aspirations were for the future. The children were also given a gift of a bookmark and a piece of string, which they have brought home in their bags; it may still be there if you have not seen this. The string is to create a knot, like a friendship, which they can tie around their wrist to remind them they have people who care about them.

Both of these experiences, were a great way to discuss our aspirations and what we would like to be when we grow up.

We are Caring.

A small group of children have been working very hard over the past month, weeding, growing and caring for the school allotments, at the gardening club. We have runner beans, pumpkins, sunflowers and tomatoes which we hope to harvest in the coming weeks.

We make every moment count.

Sports day was a fabulous success, and we would like to thank Mrs Cooke for organising this. It ran



very smoothly with all children taking part, smiling and enjoying being physically active together. At the same time, we would like to thank all those children who came along to Darley Dale school and competed in the South Peak Sports event. They showed a real team spirit, togetherness and perseverance to do their best. I am so proud of all of them. A special thanks goes out to Mrs Bradbury, Oleg and Mrs Peach who supported us, and of course, a huge well done to Esme's brother Connor in year 2, who filled in the numbers and ran in the y3 relay. What a star!

These events demonstrate the school's drive to improve the amount of physical exercise in school, and we are also pleased to announce for the second year running, we have won the

School Games Gold Award. This award is only given to schools that are giving children an opportunity for all children to take part in competitive and sporting events and take part in 60 minutes of exercise a day, along with other sporting criteria. We are immensely proud of this award and your children in taking part in these events.



Classes for next year

Just a reminder, transition day is on Wednesday, 9th July. All children have been told who their teachers are and the new classrooms they will be in. We have two new teachers for September. Miss Sloane in Y3 and Mr Brooks in Y6. The Y4/5 children will be taught again by Mrs Cooke and Mrs Potter.

Attendance figure

In June, the attendance figure for the whole school was **95.81%** which is below the school target of **96.5%**.

Currently, our attendance for the whole school year is 95.7% and we are ranked 126th out of 352 schools in Derbyshire, and nationally we are ranked in the top 20-30% of schools. This is excellent news, and we thank you for your efforts to get your children into school consistently. However, we cannot get complacent as we are in the bottom 10-20% of schools nationally attendance for children for have SEND and have free school meals.

Please do contact the school if you are finding it hard to get your child into school and need support, Mrs Davies will help work with you on the barriers to coming into school, and we may be able to signpost you to support



Creative. Curious. Caring. We make every moment count

School disco

Another successful disco was run by the PTFA, a great event which helped to raise £395.56. Thank you for everyone's continued support.



Summer Fair

What a great summer fair, the sun shone, and we had lots of smiling faces. The first one in over six years. Thank you for supporting us and thank you to the staff and PTFA for organising this. Between the PTFA & school we managed to raise a total of £326.50 from this event.

Year 6 maths roadshow.

Year 6 took part in a maths roadshow this month, which has been organised by some of the teachers at Anthony Gell. The children had to use their maths knowledge, logic and perseverance to solve problems!

Important dates

- Wednesday 9th July – Transition Day
- Wednesday 9th July – Group of children to AGS for Tri-golf finals 13:00pm
- Tuesday 22nd July - Year 5/6 production starting at 6:30pm.
- Thursday 24th July - Year 6 leaver's service at 9:30am at school.
- Thursday 24th July – Last day of term
- Monday 8th September – First day back to school



Reminder of INSET days 2025-2026

Our INSET days for the next school year will be as follows:

- 4th and 5th September 2025
- 24th October 2025
- 23rd February 2026
- 26th June 2026

** 2026-27 – Friday 4th September 2026 – first day of term **

Wirksworth Junior School, Wash Green, Wirksworth, Derbyshire, DE4 4FD

Tel/Fax: (01629) 822457

Email: office@wirksworth-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Isabel Webb

Chair: Wilma Hyde

Creative. Curious. Caring. We make every moment count