

# Autumn 1 Newsletter

## Headteacher's Welcome Message

Dear Parents, Carers and Pupils,

Welcome back to South Wingfield Primary School! I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable summer break. It has been wonderful to see the children return with such enthusiasm, ready to embrace the new school year. Autumn is a season of fresh starts, golden leaves, and exciting

learning opportunities. This term, we're looking forward to exploring new topics, celebrating seasonal events, and continuing to nurture a love of learning in every child.

As always, our dedicated staff are here to support and inspire, and we're committed to making this term a happy, safe, and successful one for all. Thank you for your continued support — we're excited to see what this year brings!

Warm regards,  
**Melissa Kealy**  
Headteacher



## Staffing

- We're delighted to welcome **Hayley Summerfield** to South Wingfield Primary School!
- Hayley joins us as the new **Class 5 teacher**, bringing with her a wealth of experience, creativity, and a passion for inspiring young minds. Her enthusiasm for learning and warm approach have already made a wonderful impression on pupils and staff alike.
- We're excited to have her on board and look forward to a fantastic year ahead in Class 5!

## 🎉 Congratulations, Mrs Melrose!

- We're thrilled to share the wonderful news that **Mrs Melrose** recently got married! On behalf of everyone at South Wingfield Primary School, we send her our heartfelt congratulations and wish her every happiness in this exciting new chapter.
- May your days be filled with love, laughter, and beautiful memories. 🌸

## Start of the Day

**Gates open at 8:40am.**

Children remain the responsibility of their parents until the bell rings at **8:45am**.

Once the bell rings, **children must line up with their class.**

Class teachers will then lead their pupils into school and the doors will be closed.

After this time, children will be brought in by the member of staff on playground duty.

**🔒 For safeguarding reasons, parents are not permitted past the tree.**

Please encourage your child to be in line by 8:45 to avoid missing out on vital learning or early interventions.

The gate will be **locked at 8:55am.**

Any messages can be passed on to the member of staff on duty.

**🚗 Parking Reminder:**

We understand that traffic can be difficult in the mornings. Additional parking is available at the **Welfare** or the **Church Hall**.

**Please ensure ALL  
uniform is clearly  
labelled!**

## Diary Dates

### September

8<sup>th</sup>: First day back for children

10<sup>th</sup>: C5 Forest School **day**

13<sup>th</sup>: 150 year festival and colour run.

17<sup>th</sup>: C5 Forest School **day**

24<sup>th</sup>: C5 start swimming

24<sup>th</sup>: C4 Forest School

### October

1<sup>st</sup>: C4 Forest School

8<sup>th</sup>: C4 forest School

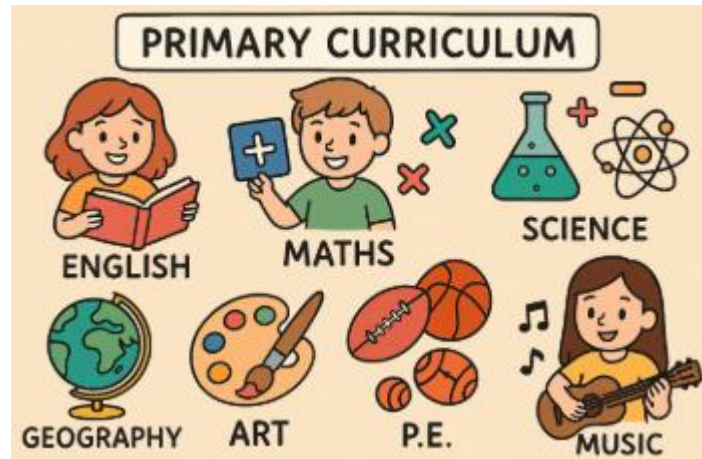
15<sup>th</sup>: C4 Forest School

10<sup>th</sup>: Harvest Service (in school)

24<sup>th</sup>: Break up for half term.

If you have any donations of games and/or puzzles they would be greatly appreciated to enhance our lunchtime provision.





We're thrilled to kick off our 150th anniversary celebrations during the first week of term! Children will be taking part in a wide range of exciting activities—from crafting scarecrows to learning from visiting artists. A special highlight will be the unveiling of our historic time capsule, alongside the creation of a brand-new one to capture memories for future generations. It promises to be a joyful and creative week full of learning, laughter, and legacy!

As part of our English curriculum, KS2 pupils have been diving into the *Place Value of Punctuation*—an engaging approach that helps children understand and name the parts of a sentence. Now in its second successful year, this initiative continues to build confidence in grammar and sentence structure, laying strong foundations for writing. It's been fantastic to see the children applying their knowledge with enthusiasm and creativity!

Children in Class 1 and 2 are embarking on a creative writing journey inspired by the delightful book *Lost in the Toy Museum*. Through imaginative storytelling and character exploration, pupils will bring toys to life in their own words, developing key writing skills while having fun. We can't wait to see the wonderful stories they create!

This term, all children across the school will be developing their map reading skills as part of our Geography curriculum. From exploring the local area to discovering Sheffield and locations around the globe, pupils will gain a deeper understanding of how maps help us make sense of the world. It's a hands-on, exciting way to build geographical knowledge and curiosity!

For further details, please refer to Class Dojo Pages.

We're continually working to improve and enrich our curriculum to ensure the best possible learning experiences for all our pupils. Look out for further communication in the coming weeks, where we'll share updates on our progress and future plans.

## PE Kit Reminder

Children must wear the **school PE kit** on their designated PE days. The kit should include:

 **Plain white t-shirt** (small logos are acceptable)

 **Black or navy shorts, joggers, or leggings**

- Please ensure all items are **clearly labelled** with your child's name. This helps us return lost items quickly and keeps our lost property box manageable!
- Thank you for helping us maintain a smart and consistent appearance across the school.

At South Wingfield Primary School, we are committed to fostering a safe, respectful, and supportive environment for all. We kindly remind parents and carers of our **Parental Code of Conduct**, which outlines our **zero tolerance policy towards any form of abuse or aggression directed at staff**.

We encourage all concerns to be raised through the appropriate channels so they can be addressed constructively. It's important that we work together in a spirit of mutual respect to support the best outcomes for our children.

We also expect all members of our school community—including parents and carers—to treat one another with **courtesy and kindness**, both in person and online. Thank you for helping us maintain a positive and inclusive school environment.

## Celebrating 150 Years of South Wingfield Primary School!

This year marks a truly special occasion — **150 years** since South Wingfield Primary School first opened its doors to the community. We are incredibly proud of our rich history, the generations of learners who have passed through our classrooms, and the dedicated staff who have shaped our school over the decades.

Throughout the year, we'll be celebrating with special events, activities, and opportunities to reflect on our journey — past, present, and future.

Here's to 150 years of learning, laughter, and legacy! 



If you would like a stall at the event please email

[mkealy@southwingfield.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:mkealy@southwingfield.derbyshire.sch.uk)

[k](mailto:mkealy@southwingfield.derbyshire.sch.uk)



Two wonderful local residents have worked extremely hard to write a book about South Wingfield Primary School. If you would like to pre-order a copy please send in your money (£10) to the school office, when we return in September. We are very grateful that all the proceeds will be donated to the school :)

To commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the founding of our village school we have written an 80-page 'Concise History of Education in South Wingfield'. We both have strong connections to the school with John's family involvement over several generations as pupils and subsequently as governors and Pat's husband's long period as Chair of the Governing Body. The publication charts the history of schooling provision for village children from its origins in the early 1700s (long before the founding of the current building) up to the present, contextualised within a brief history of the village itself from the Stone Age onwards and the main institutions which have influenced the development of education here. We are grateful to all who have helped our research and apologise in advance if we have missed out anyone in any of the sections - the archives and school logbooks are very detailed for the earlier period but are more sketchy over the past 50 years. We will launch the book at the Anniversary celebrations on Saturday, 13th September 2025 and hope that you might buy a copy (all proceeds to the school), which may well be of interest to many residents and particularly to current pupils as well as their parents, grandparents and wider family.

John Hardwick and Pat Partington

## Helping Your Child Stay Safe Online 🌐💡

The online world is full of opportunities for children to learn, play, and connect — but it also comes with risks. As parents and carers, you play a key role in guiding your child's online experiences.

### 👉 Age Limits for Social Media

Most popular platforms have minimum age requirements:

- **WhatsApp** - 16+
- **TikTok, Instagram, Facebook, Snapchat, X (Twitter)** - 13+
- **YouTube** - 13+ (with YouTube Kids available for younger children)

These age limits are in place to help protect children's safety and privacy.

### 👉 Tips for Supporting Your Child Online

- **Talk openly** - encourage your child to share what they do online, who they talk to, and what apps they use.
- **Set boundaries** - agree on screen time limits and make rules together about when and where devices can be used.
- **Check privacy settings** - make sure accounts are set to *private* and location-sharing is turned off.
- **Use parental controls** - most devices and apps let you filter or monitor content to help keep children safe.
- **Stay curious** - show interest in their online activities, games, and apps so they feel comfortable coming to you if something worries them.

### WhatsApp - What Parents Need to Know 🗨️📱

WhatsApp is one of the most popular messaging apps, but it isn't always suitable for children. Here are some key points for parents and carers:

#### 👉 Age Limit

- Children must be **16 or over** to use WhatsApp (in the UK and EU).

#### 👉 Why the Age Limit Matters

- Messages, photos, and videos can be shared instantly and are difficult to control once sent.
- Group chats may expose children to strangers or large numbers of people they don't know well.
- Location sharing can put personal safety at risk if left on.

## Keeping Our Children Safe 🍷

As parents and carers, we all want to make sure our children feel happy, safe, and supported. Sometimes, though, we might worry about a child - whether our own or someone else's - and it's not always easy to know what to do next.

If you have a safeguarding concern please speak to Mrs Kealy or Mrs Fisher who are the schools safeguarding leads.

Here are some additional places you can turn to for advice, a listening ear, or extra support:

- **Call Derbyshire / Starting Point** - ☎ 01629 533190 (available 24/7 if you're worried about a child's safety or wellbeing).
- **NSPCC Helpline** - ☎ 0808 800 5000 (confidential advice for adults concerned about a child).
- **Childline** - ☎ 0800 1111 (a safe space for children and young people to talk about anything that's worrying them).

And remember - if you ever think a child is in immediate danger, please call **999** straight away.

Together, we can make sure every child feels safe, cared for, and heard. ✨