



Cavendish Close Infant and Nursery School

Newsletter 6

Tuesday 11th November 2025

Wood Road
Chaddesden
Derby
DE21 4LY

662239

Dear Parents and Carers,

The second half of the autumn term is now well underway, and it's wonderful to see how quickly the children — from Nursery through to Year 2 — have settled back into their classrooms and are already immersed in their new topics of learning. Before the end of this week, I will be sharing your child's topic knowledge organisers, resource hubs, and 'Let's Quiz!' activities with you, so that you can support and enjoy your child's learning journey at home. Please continue to do all you can to ensure your child attends school every day and arrives on time — there is so much exciting learning taking place daily, and each day really does build upon the last!

This week is **Anti-Bullying Week**, and we are inviting all children to come to school wearing **odd socks on Wednesday** to help us celebrate and embrace our wonderful differences and diversity. We are so proud of the rich variety within our school community and will be reminding ourselves throughout the week about the importance of **kind words, kind hands, and kind feet**. Good manners and kindness shine through every day at our school — long may that continue!

You will also find our **Christmas plans** in the diary pages of this newsletter — please make a note of the key dates. A quick reminder not to download the Teachers2Parents app, as it does not send notifications; without the app, you'll continue to receive our messages instantly via text.

Our **annual pantomime** — a much-loved and lively highlight of our school year — is now only a few weeks away and will mark the start of our festive celebrations. If you are able to make the requested contribution, we would be very grateful, as this helps us to keep providing such joyful experiences for our children.

If you know any families with children due to start Nursery or Reception in **September 2026**, please do encourage them to visit us and apply for a place. We are so fortunate to have such polite, friendly, and caring parents and carers — your partnership and support is very much appreciated.

As always, we are available each day should you have any queries; you are welcome to speak to us in person, or contact us by phone or email. Take care, everyone — look after yourselves and your families as we move through this beautiful autumn season.

Kind regards, *Mrs C Diffin* Headteacher

Cavendish Close
Infant School (CCIS)

Our School Vision

When our children
move on from us,
we want them to
be:



Dear Cavendish Close Children,



This week is anti-bullying week. On Wednesday, come to school wearing odd socks! This is because we embrace differences and diversity. Remember to be kind to everyone. Kindness makes the world a better place 😊

Do you like the poppies on our lampposts? Have you seen my poppies? Wearing a poppy shows you care about the Armed Forces and the work they did and still do to keep us safe and promote peace across the world. We will have a one minute silence tomorrow.



Thank you for always using good manners at school 😊 Remember to say 'good morning' when you arrive at school and then, 'please' and 'thank you' throughout the day.

Best wishes from Mrs Diffin x



Please update your diaries with all the key dates for this half term.

Please note the earlier finish times on the last day of the school year.

We are holding two open evenings this half term for prospective 'Nursery and Reception 2026' families.

Monday 10th November 3:45pm to 5:00pm

Monday 1st December 3:45pm to 5:00pm

All nursery parents and carers need to apply to Derby City Council for a school place between 1st November 2025 and 15th January 2026.

If you know any family, friends, colleagues etc in the local area with nursery aged children who are due to start school in September 2026, please share these opportunities and encourage them to contact, visit and choose us.



Children should attend school every day until we break up for the Christmas holiday on Friday 19th December.

Children should not be taken out of school for a family holiday.



We are required to report unauthorised absences to Derby City Council who may issue fines to parents and carers.

Good attendance matters, please enable your child to be an Attendance HERO this autumn.

Good attendance is 96% or higher.

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children can have a 'free' school dinner every day. Daily meals are funded by the government. Our meals are cooked freshly every day and you can prepare your children for what they will choose by looking at our menus.



Children should not come to school wearing jewellery for health and safety reasons. Only small stud earrings are allowed.





Parent and Carer Communication Charter

We expect parents and carers to abide by our communication charter. We expect parents and carers to always be polite, respectful, positive and solution focused with all school staff.

Thank you to all our parents and carers who are polite and respectful towards all staff at our school every day.



Thank you for expecting your children to walk up the path as they arrive at school. This ensures that only clean shoes come into school. Your co-operation is appreciated.

Please,
**STAY ON THE
PATH**

Please do not attempt to take a shortcut up the grass as the grass is very uneven in places. Please take your time, be safe and stay on the path.



Please find time every day to read to and with your children. Enjoying reading together will help your children to develop as confident readers who choose to read. We hope that you found our recent reading workshops helpful and that you feel motivated and able to help with your children's reading at home. Help your child to be a Reading Rainbow Champion.

We're delighted with the progress that all children are making with reading. Our Little Wandle Letters and Sounds phonics programme is really effective. Please find time to support your child's reading at home regularly.



The children are loving Numbots in school. If your children can find time to access Numbots on a digital device at home, it will help with their mathematical fluency.



If you drive to school, please park safely away from school and walk. Please do not block driveways or mount pavements. Do not park on the zigzag lines. Respect our neighbours and prioritise keeping children safe.

If you drive on site to drop off or collect children, drive very slowly (5mph) and park in a designated parking space.



Thank you for expecting your children to walk up the path as they arrive at school. This ensures that only clean shoes come into school. Your co-operation is appreciated.



Please do not attempt to take a shortcut up the grass as the grass is very uneven in places. Please take your time, be safe and stay on the path.

Children are not allowed to ride bikes or scooters on our school site, this includes younger siblings on balance bikes. Please help us to keep our paths safe.

If children come to school on a bike or scooter, they must dismount at the Wood Road gates and walk on the school site.



Parents and carers who drive on site to drop off or pick up from our Breakfast Club or After School Club must drive very slowly (5mph) and park in a parking bay. Please do not use the disabled bays if you are not a blue badge holder.



After School Curriculum Clubs are continuing this half term. They all finish at 4:10pm. Parents and carers are not allowed to drive or park on site to pick up from these clubs. Thank you for your cooperation.

Bikes and scooters that are left in the bike shed unsecured are left at the owner's risk. Consider using a bike/scooter lock to secure your child's bike/scooter.

Thank you for expecting your child to dismount from their bike/scooter when they get to the Wood Road gates. This keeps our school site safe for everyone.



Every day at school counts

Enable your child to achieve their best educational outcomes by being an...

Attendance HERO.

Please do not book any term time holidays during this academic year as holiday absence will be unauthorised and parents/carers are likely to be fined by Derby City Council.

Mrs Asghar is our Attendance Leader and she will be carefully tracking children's attendance where it falls below our school target of 96%.

Here

Every day,

Ready and

On time

Every day, our children work towards our STAR expectations:



Term Dates for 2025.26

Please plan all family holidays during the school holidays and not during term time. Help your child to be an Attendance HERO.

Here Every day, Ready and On time – Good attendance is 96% or above

Autumn Term 2 2025

Monday 3rd November to Friday 19th December

Week beginning Monday 10 th November	Anti-bullying week
Monday 10 th November	NHS Flu immunisations team in school 3:45pm to 5:00pm Open evening 1 for Nursery and Reception 2026 families
Tuesday 11 th November	11:00am Remembrance silence in school
Wednesday 12 th November	Odd socks day – Children are invited to come to school wearing odd socks as we embrace diversity and differences
Monday 17 th November	3:30pm Open evening at Cavendish Close Junior Academy for Year 2 children and their families
Tuesday 25 th November	Fire Safety workshops for the Year 2 classes
Thursday 27 th November	Bagpipes musical workshops for all classes, ahead of St Andrew's day
Friday 28 th November	M&M Theatre Productions visit school to deliver a pantomime performance of Sleeping Beauty to Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children. Parents and carers are asked to contribute towards the cost.
Monday 1 st December	3:45pm to 5:00pm Open evening 2 for Nursery and Reception 2026 families
Wednesday 3 rd December	Children can wear a Christmas jumper to school with their uniform
Week beginning Monday 8 th December	Christmas performance week – Each nursery group and every school class will perform a Christmas nativity to their parents and carers

Monday 8th December	Tuesday 9th December	Wednesday 10th December	Thursday 11th December	Friday 12th December
9:30am Class 1	9:30am Class 3	9:30am Class 5	9:30am Class 7	9:30am Class 9
10:30am Class 2	10:30am Class 4	10:30am Class 6	10:30am Class 8	
2:00pm Nursery Mrs Bee's Ivy Group	2:00pm Nursery Mrs Orme's Holly Group		2:00pm Nursery Mrs Mosely's Acorn Group	2:00pm Nursery Mrs Howett's Ivy Group

Monday 8 th December	3:50pm Musical Theatre Club performance for their families in the hall
Wednesday 10 th December	Children can wear a Christmas jumper to school with their uniform
Thursday 11 th December	3:55pm Dance Club performance for their families in the hall
Week beginning Monday 15 th December	Christmas party week

Monday 15 th December	Tuesday 16 th December	Wednesday 17 th December	Thursday 18 th December	Friday 19 th December
	Reception party day (Classes 1, 2 and 3)	Nursery party day Year 1 party day (Classes 4, 5 and 6)	Year 2 party day (Classes 7, 8 and 9)	

Monday 15 th December	Santa and his helpers visit school
Tuesday 16 th December	9:30am St Mary's Church lead a Christmas assembly 2:00pm Rocksteady Club performance for their families in the hall
Wednesday 17 th December	Children can wear a Christmas jumper to school with their uniform Christmas dinner day
Friday 19 th December	Children can wear a Christmas jumper to school with their uniform 2:45pm to 3:15pm Year 2 Christmas choir sing off
Friday 19th December	Children break up for the Christmas holiday

Spring Term 1 2026	
Monday 5th January to Friday 13 th February	
Monday 5th January	Children return to school
Monday 12 th January	3:45pm to 5:00pm Open evening 2 for Nursery and Reception 2026 families
Wednesday 4 th February	NSPCC number day – Children are invited to come to school wearing a number
Week beginning 9 th February	Maths workshops for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 parents and carers Tuesday 10 th February at 2:15pm: Reception Wednesday 11 th February at 2:15pm: Year 1 Thursday 12 th February at 2:15pm: Year 2
Wednesday 11 th February	Safer internet day
Thursday 12th February	Children break up for the half term holiday
Friday 13 th February	INSET day 3: School is closed to children for staff training

<u>Spring Term 2 2026</u> Monday 23rd February to Friday 27 th March	
Monday 23rd February	Children return to school
Friday 27th March	Children break up for the Easter holiday

<u>Summer Term 1 2026</u> Monday 13th April to Friday 22 nd May	
Monday 13th April	Children return to school
Friday 22nd May	Children break up for the half term holiday

<u>Summer Term 2 2026</u> Monday 1st June to Thursday 23 rd July	
Monday 1st June	Children return to school
Friday 26 th June	INSET day 4: School is closed to children for staff training
Monday 29 th June	INSET day 5: School is closed to children for staff training
Thursday 23rd July	Children break up for the Summer holiday – Earlier finish time Nursery, Reception and Year 1 children finish at 2:45pm Year 2 children finish at 3:00pm



Contacting School 2025.26

Telephone 01332 662239

Please share any queries or concerns with us so that we can work together to keep your children safe, happy, and learning at school. Polite feedback and suggestions are always welcome.

Please be respectful with your communication and only email us on school days between 7:45am and 5:45pm.

Senior Leadership Team

leadership@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk

(Mrs Diffin - Headteacher, Mrs Howett - Deputy Headteacher and Early Years Foundation Stage Leader, Mrs Asghar - Assistant Headteacher and Key Stage 1 Leader)

School Office Team

admin@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk

(Mrs Tusa – School Business Manager, Mrs Kelly and Mrs Manners – School Business Officers)

Safeguarding Team

safeguarding@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk

(Mrs Diffin – Designated Safeguarding Leader, Mrs Leadbeater and Mrs Dearie – Learning Mentors and Safeguarding Champions)

Inclusion Leader

senco@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk

(Mrs Vincett) – Mrs Vincett is our Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO)

Year Group Class Teachers

nursery@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk

(Mrs Howett and Mrs Orme)

reception@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk

(Mrs Merriman, Mrs Wells, Miss Doxey)

year1@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk

(Mrs Carter, Miss Brown, Miss Marley)

year2@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk

(Mr Hampson, Mrs Asghar, Miss Harker)

Breakfast Club and After School Club

clubs@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk

(Mrs Roberts – Breakfast and After School Club Leader)



Keeping Cavendish Close Children Safe

The best interests of children continue to come first for our Safeguarding Team.

Keeping children safe from harm is our utmost priority.

If anyone feels concerned about the safety of a child, they should act on their concern immediately.

- Parents and carers can speak to or email the Safeguarding team to make an enquiry, to ask for help or to share information: safeguarding@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk
- **Parents and carers can ring Derby Children's Social Care directly 01332 641172 (Out of hours Careline 01332 786968) to report their concerns first hand**
- Parents and carers can use the NSPCC helpline 0808 800 5000

The Safeguarding Team

Mrs Diffin

Headteacher and **Designated Safeguarding Lead**

Mrs Howett

Deputy Headteacher and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Asghar

Assistant Headteacher and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Vincett

Inclusion Leader and Safeguarding Champion

Mrs Leadbeater

Learning Mentor and Safeguarding, Attendance and Behaviour Champion

Mrs Dearie

Learning Mentor and Safeguarding and Behaviour Champion

Mrs Carter

Safeguarding Lead Teacher

Mrs Roberts

Breakfast and After School Club Safeguarding Champion

Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility



Safeguarding is Everyone's Responsibility