

JANUARY
2026

Redwood News



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

We hope you have had a good Christmas break and a good new year. We have provided some information about the weeks ahead; you can also find lots of useful information on the school website www.redwoodprimary.com

SAFEGUARDING

There have been some changes to our Safeguarding Team following the retirement of Mrs Dingle at the end of last term.

If you have any concerns regarding the welfare of a child, please report this to one of our Designated Safeguarding Leads as soon as possible.

These people are:



Mrs Lyndsey Shepherd
Designated Safeguarding
Lead



Mrs Claire Kinder
Deputy Safeguarding Lead



Ms Rohanne Nicholson
Deputy Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Lesley Taylor
Safeguarding Education
Lead

One of the Safeguarding Leads is always available during school hours to speak to anyone who has concerns about the welfare of a child. You can speak to them in person or call school on **01332 767443** and ask to speak to a member of the Safeguarding Team. Out of school hours or during holidays, you can report concerns by emailing our Safeguarding team. The email address is safeguarding@redwood.derby.sch.uk

UNIFORM

It is good to see the children looking smart in their school uniforms again at the start of this term. A reminder that **school shoes must be black** – these can be trainer-style but must be predominantly black. PE kits should also be **black, grey or navy** with a **plain white t-shirt**. Please note that PE trainers do not have to be black. Jewellery is not permitted with the exception of stud earrings/watches and hairstyles should be moderate with no hair dye. Thank you for your support with this.

If anyone has any donations of old school uniform in good condition, please pass these to the Pastoral Team as we have our own hub to provide clothing to those who may need it. This includes coats, wellies, school shoes, winter hats and gloves, PE kits etc.



ATTENDANCE

Good attendance is really important if children are to do well during their time at primary school. We aim for all pupils to **have attendance of at least 95%** - this means less than 10 days absence during a school year. We know that children will occasionally be unwell with minor illnesses such as coughs and colds. Children can still attend school if they have a minor illness – we will always give you a call if your child becomes unwell or if we feel they need to be at home. If your child is unwell, you can report their absence by emailing attendance@redwood.derby.sch.uk or call the office on 01332 767443. Please do not report absence on Class Dojo as these messages can be missed.

It is also really important that **children arrive at school on time**. The gates open at 8:45am each day and registers are taken at 8:55am. Children start tasks as soon as they arrive and those arriving late miss out on important learning opportunities. Persistent lateness will be referred to the Education Welfare Officer and may result in fines being issued. Please speak to the Pastoral Team if you need any support with your child's attendance.

COLD WEATHER

With cold weather and snow expected in the next few days, it is a good opportunity to remind families about our emergency procedures for any unexpected closures. We always do our best to remain open but, in the rare event that we have to decide to close due to inclement weather, **the information will be sent by text, email and shared on Class Dojo.** In the event of closure, we aim to make a decision by 7:30am. It is unlikely we would close during a school day but messages would be sent in the same way if this were to be the case.



IMPORTANT – WE ARE A NUT FREE SCHOOL

A reminder that we have a small number of children in school with serious nut allergies so it is crucial we work together to ensure **no child brings any nut products into school.** Even minor traces of nut oils can cause dangerous allergic reactions in those with nut allergies.

Please help us by not sending in any foods containing nuts for snacks, lunch boxes or birthday treats. This includes items such as Nutella in sandwiches.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

During the first term, School Council had a very busy and rewarding time. Our highlight was delivering Christmas cards to residents in the local care homes; the children were a real credit to our school. They were extremely polite and took a genuine interest in the residents by chatting, asking thoughtful questions and playing games together. It was lovely to see such kindness and respect shown to members of our community.

The Kindness Pocket has also been a huge success and will continue this term. It has been wonderful to see children noticing acts of kindness and nominating one another.

This term, School Council is busy planning an exciting fundraising event, with more details to follow in the next few weeks. The event has been planned using the results of a whole-school online survey, ensuring that every child's voice is heard and every child has a vote.

This links closely to our British Values, particularly democracy.

We are looking forward to another busy and successful half term.



RELIEF MIDDAY SUPERVISORS

We are always in need of relief midday supervisors who can cover absence etc. You do not need any previous experience to join our friendly team of lunchtime staff – you just need to enjoy spending time with children and do your best to help them have happy and safe playtimes. So, if you are flexible and could provide lunchtime cover at short notice, please speak to a member of the office team who will be able to provide you with an application form.

STAFF NEWS

Congratulations to Mrs Kerrigan who is expecting her first baby later in the year. At the end of last term, we said a fond farewell to Miss Naylor who has decided to pursue new opportunities. Mrs Milner has also taken retirement following a long period of ill health. Mrs Shepherd (TA) has also moved on after 6 years at Redwood. We wish them all lots of luck for the future.



TERM DATES 2026-2027

It may seem a long way off but we know some families like to make arrangements well in advance so the term dates for 2026-2027 are as follows:

Autumn term (71 days)

- Friday 4 September 2026 to Friday 23 October 2026 (36 days)
- Monday 2 November 2026 to Friday 18 December 2026 (35 days)

Spring term (54 days)

- Monday 4 January 2027 to Friday 12 February 2027 (30 days)
- Monday 22 February 2027 to Thursday 25 March 2027 (24 days)

Summer term (70 days)

- Monday 12 April 2027 to Friday 28 May 2027 (34 days)
- Monday 7 June 2027 to Monday 26 July 2027 (36 days)

INSET Days will be on:

Friday 4th September 2026
Friday 27th November 2026
Monday 22nd Feb 2027
Monday 12th April 2027
Monday 21st June 2027



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DATE	EVENT
Monday 5th January	Children return to school
w/b Monday 9 th February	Mental Health week
Tuesday 10 th February	Safer Internet day
Monday 9 th February	Parents' Evening
Wednesday 11 th February	Parents' Evening
Friday 13th February	Children break up for half-term
Monday 23rd February	Children return to school
Monday 2nd March	INSET Day – school closed to pupils
Thursday 5 th March	Y1 Performance pm
Friday 6 th March	Y1 Performance am Y5 PGL weekend
Wednesday 25 th March	Y4 Performance (details to follow)
Friday 27th March	Children break up for Easter
Monday 13th April	Children return to school