Borrow Wood Primary School Newsletter
Date w/c 12th October 2026
Issue 6

Weekly Update

ERF The children really enjoy their Drawing Club sessions in the ERF! We have seen some amazing creations this week and their use of phonics and language in their lessons and in the provision has been brilliant!

Nursery This week we have been looking at babies and what they need, and we have had two lovely visits from younger siblings and found out they need things like' buggies, bottles and bag with toys nappies when going out.

EYFS This week in Cherry Class we have been talking and babies and birthdays. We have had some young visitors to class to learn about how babies are cared for and we have loved pumping up balloons, making party hats and birthday cards and having lots of birthday fun!

Year 1 This week Pear Class have been listening to a very dramatic piece of classical music, "Mars" from "The Planets" by Gustav Holst. The children have talked about how the music makes them feel and what instruments are making the sounds and they have begun to make up some rhythms of their own inspired by the music 𝄞

Year 2 This week, in Science, Apple Class became scientists. We conducted four different investigations; Testing if materials are waterproof or not waterproof, absorbent or not absorbent. We also investigated the durability of objects and materials and if objects are transparent, translucent or opaque.

Year 3 During science this term, Year 3 have been studying the human body and learning about the skeletal system. They have worked hard to learn the names of different bones and can now identify a number of them with increasing confidence. Well done, Year 3!

Year 4 Fir class created their own classification key in Science this week linking in their knowledge of the animal groups and observable characteristics.

Year 5 In Sycamore we are getting towards the end of our class novel, The Highland Falcon Thief, and conspiracies are flying around the classroom as to who the thief could be. Only time will tell as we continue to read the book over the next couple of weeks

Year 6 Year 6 have been thinking about classification in science to help understand how different animals can be grouped together based on common characteristics.

Mrs Bartlett's Box

I can't believe we have only two weeks left of autumn 1. This term has absolutely flown by and has been jam-packed with different activities for the children to enjoy. Everyone is working hard to be their Borrow Wood BEST and I am so proud of the progress I have seen so far this year. I look forward to seeing you over the coming weeks at parents' evening, where we can share this progress with you. Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Bartlett
Head Teacher



Opal

We now have an OPAL play policy. If you would like to read this it with available on Class Dojo

Trust Vacancy

We have been asked to share a cleaning job vacancy that has come up within our trust please see details via the link below.
https://odysseycollabtrust.web11.juniperwebsites.co.uk/page/?title=Vacancies&pid=39

West Park

This morning, we received some sad news about a sudden death of a child at West Park. Spondon is such a close-knit community that we are aware this news may impact our Borrow Wood families too. If you or your child need any support, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us at school. We would also like to share this message from West Park, so that we can all be supportive of our Spondon community: 'We understand that news of a sudden bereavement can lead to questions, uncertainty and speculation, particularly online. We respectfully ask everyone in our community not to share or speculate about the circumstances of the death and to respect the privacy and wishes of the family at this incredibly difficult time'

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Swimming

Next term, the pop-up swimming pool will be returning. Children in year 3 and the ERF will have first priority with year 4 children then taking remaining spaces. There will also be after-school clubs for Year 1 and 2, Year 3 and 4 and Year 5 and 6. If your child is in year 3 or year 4, please complete the form to share your child's water confidence and swimming ability (this will also be sent on Dojo) Swimming Proficiency 26-27 – Fill out form. If your child is interested in attending the after-school club, please see attached letter.

Dear Parent/Carer,

Elite Swimming After School Club

Elite Swimming Derbyshire (School Swimming Provider) are delighted to inform you we will be running after-school swimming lessons for your children.

Monday - Year 1/2 Swimming
Tuesday - Year 5/6 Swimming
Wednesday - Year 5/6 Water Polo
Thursday - Year 3/4 Water Polo

Costs: £8.00 each session
Times: 3:30pm-4pm (Dismissal 4:10pm)

This block will start on - 2nd November 2026 (3 Weeks)

Over the lessons the children will work on different skills and fundamentals, including water confidence, basic strokes, fun games and much more. Children will need their swimming kit (attached poster) and a drink (no fizzy pop).

The group will be collected by the coaches in school, ready to begin swimming at 3:30pm. All groups will be dismissed from reception at approximately 4:10pm

If your child has a one-to-one support assistant, an individual healthcare plan, or requires any additional support, please indicate this clearly on the booking form

If you would like your child to take part, please visit the link here - to use our booking system online. https://next-level-sports.classforkids.io/

The booking system will close on the 30th October. If you would like to book your child on after this date, please email millie.nextlevelsports@gmail.com

Kind Regards,

Elite Swimming Derbyshire

Elite Swimming Kit requirements

Elite Swimming Derbyshire (School Swimming Provider) would like to share with you the recommended kit/equipment list your children need to enjoy the lessons with us.

• Swimwear such as a Swimming costume and swimming shorts	
• Swimming hat and goggles	
• All jewellery must be removed(no earrings, bracelets or necklaces)	
• A towel and spare bag	
• Flip Flops/ Crocs or Sliders	
• Hair must be tied up	
• Dressing gown/Robe	

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Friends of Borrow Wood

Thanks to everyone who has signed up to our Back to School Discos! And a big thanks to all the parents/carers/staff who have volunteered to help out! Confirmation emails have now been sent out. A quick reminder that mobile phones are not permitted during the disco and must be handed in to reception on arrival. Please message friendsofborrowwood@gmail.com with any enquiries.

Christmas card competition

Please see letter attached to original email with information about a Christmas card competition being run by the Mayor of Derby.

Rocksteady

Our rocksteady teacher George is offering a free trail lesson for students in years 4-6 on bass guitar vocals or keyboard. If your child would like to have a try, please contact the school office and we can arrange this. Unfortunately, we do not have spaces for any of the younger year groups currently.

DfE Free Breakfast Clubs: National Evaluation

Please see parent survey pack attached to original email for more information.



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BE YOUR BORROW WOOD BEST
BRAVE ENGAGED SUPPORTIVE TRUSTWORTHY

Menu week commencing 12th October 2026

WEEK 3	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Main dish	Margherita Pizza with Baked Potato Wedges	Chicken Fillet Burger with Savoury Rice	Roast Turkey with Mashed Potato and gravy	All Day Breakfast	Crispy Fish Fingers With Chunky Chips
Vegetarian Main dish	Cheese & Onion Pie	Southern Quorn Burger with Savoury Rice	Quorn Fillet with roast potatoes & Gravy	Veggie Breakfast	Quorn Nuggets with chunky chips
Pasta of the day	Tomato & Basil Pasta	Cheesy pasta	Chicken pasta	Creamy tomato pasta	Tomato and basil pasta
Accompaniments	Sweetcorn & Brocolli ..... Salad Bar	Peas & Colslaw ..... Salad Bar	Carrots & Cauliflower ..... Salad Bar	Broccoli and Green Beans ..... Salad Bar	Peas and Baked Beans ..... Salad Bar
Desserts	Lemon Muffin	Flapjack	Ginger biscuit & Fruit	Chocolate Sponge & custard	Shortbread
Fresh fruit or yoghurt	Fresh Fruit Or Yoghurts	Fresh Fruit Or Yoghurts	Fresh Fruit Or Yoghurts	Fresh Fruit Or Yoghurts	Fresh Fruit Or Yoghurts
Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection

Calander dates Autumn 1

8th September Year 6 height and weight
29th September Year 6 Magna trip
8th October Flu vaccinations
9th October PTA Reception/KS1 disco
16th October PTA KS2 disco
14th & 21st October Parents evening

Calander date Autumn 2

3rd November Maths workshop
w/c 2nd, 9th & 16th November Swimming
20th November Children in Need
23rd November Individual Photographs
26th November Wear what you want day
4th December Christmas Fair
9th December Rocksteady concert
14th & 15th December KS1 Nativity

ACADEMIC YEAR 2026 - 2027 TERM DATES

Autumn term

Friday 4th September 2026 to Friday 23rd October 2026
Monday 2nd November 2026 to Friday 18th December 2026

Spring term

Monday 4th January 2027 to Friday 12th February 2027
Monday 22nd February 2027 to Friday 26th March 2027

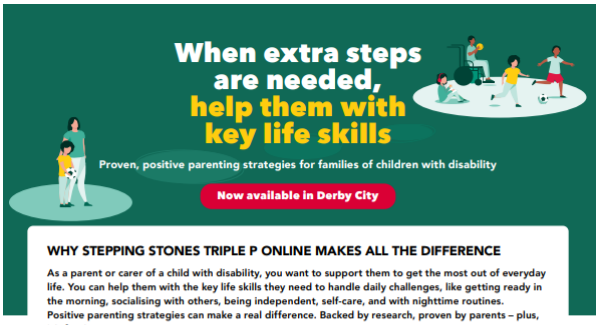
Summer term

Monday 12th April 2027 to Friday 28th May 2027
Monday 7th June 2027 to Monday 26th July 2027

INSET DAYS 2026-2027

Friday 4th September
Monday 7th September
Friday 27th November
Friday 12th February
Monday 26th July

Our Community



WHY STEPPING STONES TRIPLE P ONLINE MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE

As a parent or carer of a child with disability, you want to support them to get the most out of everyday life. You can help them with the key life skills they need to handle daily challenges, like getting ready in the morning, socialising with others, being independent, self-care, and with nighttime routines. Positive parenting strategies can make a real difference. Backed by research, proven by parents – plus, it's free!

- Manage everyday life with more ease, like daily routines, communication, mealtimes and family outings.
- Create a safe, loving environment for your child's development that suits your family's unique needs.
- Build their social skills to grow relationships at home and in the community.
- Address specific behaviours and boost everyone's emotional wellbeing.
- Make life less stressful and help the whole family adapt and thrive.
- Raise happier, more capable children who can meet life's challenges.
- Practical, simple strategies you can use straight away – based on over four decades of ongoing research.
- Join more than 100,000 families who have been helped by Stepping Stones Triple P, now available online.

Free support for your positive parenting journey

This is your complete positive parenting toolkit to choose what works best for your family. It's for parents and carers of children with developmental disability, neurodiversity or additional needs up to 12 years old. This programme supports families to encourage behaviour they like, manage daily tasks and strengthen relationships – for happier children and homes.

- Interactive, easy-to-use online programme, including videos, activities and a downloadable workbook.
- Each module takes about an hour or less to complete and you can do just a few minutes at a time.
- Available anytime, at your place, at your pace! No need to travel, be somewhere in-person, arrange childcare, or worry about waitlists. Access it on your computer, phone or tablet.

Help give your child the key life skills they need with Stepping Stones Triple P Online – for parents/carers of children with disability under 12.

START YOUR FREE PROGRAMME IN DERBY CITY TODAY

To find out more, please contact:

Best Start Family Hub - Mackworth Morley

Reigate Drive, Mackworth, Derby DE22 4EQ

Email: MackworthMorleyFamilyHub@derby.gov.uk

Tel: 01332 640040

Funded by