CHURCH GRESLEY INFANT & NURSERY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Believe, Achieve, Succeed



Dear Parents & Carers

This is our final newsletter of the academic year 2025-2026 and it's incredible to think another year is nearly over!

Can I offer my sincere thanks to all of you, for your patience and support over the last few weeks when we have had such extremes of temperature. The children have been brilliant at listening to instructions, staying out of the midday sun and drinking plenty of water. They have made our jobs much easier. For such young children they have shown great maturity and I am really proud of them.

Thank you also, for your incredible support on Sports Day. Thank goodness we were able to run it second time lucky! I know that it meant many of you had to change your working days at short notice, but it was so lovely to see so many supporters up at the event. Thank you so much to the committee at the Old Hall. They have always been very accommodating to us and we love having the event up there! We are already looking forward to next year (although I think Miss Johnson may need some sleep first!).

Just a reminder that next Wednesday 22nd July is our last day in school. We are having a party as normal, but children have their special instructions for the day. If you are unsure what these are, please contact the office and Miss Cotton and Mrs Cowie will help.

It just remains for me to say have a wonderful summer, enjoy family time 😉 together. Good luck to our amazing year twos leaving us for more exciting adventures and we all look forward to welcoming you back on 7thSeptember for a new term!

Mrs Cripps

ATTENDANCE

Current attendance up to 10th July

	Attendance %	Total number of absences
Nursery	90.93%	1159
Reception	95.79%	1319
Year One	94.7%	1540
Year 2	94.81%	1664

Well done to Reception who have consistently had the highest attendance through the current year. Our target is 96%. Absence is closely monitored and you will get a letter if your child's attendance drops below 96%.

Attendance Matters			
Attendance during one school year	Equals approximate days absence	Which is approximately weeks absence	Which is approximately lessons missed
95%	9 days	2 weeks	40 lessons
90%	19 days	4 weeks	80 lessons
85%	29 days	6 weeks	120 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	160 lessons
75%	48 days	10 weeks	200 lessons
70%	57 days	11.5 weeks	230 lessons
65%	67 days	13.5 weeks	270 lessons

Punctuality Matters		
Minutes per day during the school year		Approximate number of days teaching lost in a year
5 mins	=	3 days
10 mins		6 days
15 mins		9 days
20 mins		12 days
30 mins		18 days

If you need help or guidance regarding attendance please refer to our school website under Key Information/Attendance. You will find lots of helpful information about your legal responsibilities, what to do if your child is ill and what other support we may be able to give you to help if you find it difficult to get your child to school. Please do not hesitate to contact either Miss Grimes or Mrs Cripps for further information.



Goodbye and Good luck!!

It's always sad when we have to say goodbye to a member of our wonderful CGINS family and this year we are saying goodbye to four people! We will miss you!



Mrs Leigh has worked at the school since 1993 and is the longest serving member of Church Gresley staff. She has worked in all year groups and has expertly led Art across school for many years. Her passion has always been Early Years. She is retiring, but knowing Mrs Leigh she won't be relaxing! Her husband is also retiring and I know they are looking forward to holidays in Yorkshire and spending time with their two beautiful daughters! Mrs Leigh's youngest daughter is also a teacher and she is going to be volunteering at her school !



Mrs Edwards has worked at the school since 1994 and has worked in many roles during her time here. She started as a teaching assistant and then went on to be a HLTA, before becoming our Child and Family Support Worker and over the last few years she has supported Mrs Hackett with Special Needs, working 1:1 with children supporting their wellbeing, running our Social Understanding of Language Programme and helping in Friendship club as well covering many of the classes. She is a multi-talented lady and we are all going to miss her, the children especially. She is also retiring but not necessarily relaxing! She has two beautiful daughters and three wonderful grandsons and I know she will be spending more time with them when she leaves!



Miss Johnson is one of our wonderful 1:1 teaching assistants and over the years has worked with several children who have needed extra support in the classroom. She has always been a powerful advocate for them and is passionate about SEN. She has also been one of our MDS team and we will miss her on the playground! She is moving onto Stanton primary School in a new TA role there. We will miss her but wish her lots of luck. Stanton better look after you Miss Johnson!



Mrs Shephard is another one of our wonderful 1::1 teaching assistants. She has worked with the CGINS team since 2010 and is also passionate about supporting children with additional needs in the classroom. She has often been their voice and their advocate although she always works them very hard! She is always full of energy and mischief and the school will be quieter without her. She has also worked long hours with Miss Mee helping to keep our wonderful sensory garden 'Julia's Garden' tidy and full of lovely plants. I can't imagine Mrs Shephard slowing down any time soon, and know that she will spend time with her son and daughters and her wonderful Grandchildren!

Exceptional Achievement Award



Last Friday I was very proud to attend the John Taylor MAT Exceptional Achievement Award ceremony, with Phoebe D, one of our amazing year two students. The following is a citation from her very proud Mum:

'In February 2026, she was selected to represent the East Midlands region in Acrobatic Gymnastics at a regional competition held at Herewood Academy in Leicester. Competing in the Grade 2 (7–8 years) category, she performed an acrobatic routine as part of a duo partnership against some of the strongest gymnasts from across the Midlands region. Although she and her partner did not place in the competition, being selected to compete at this level was a significant achievement and reflected the hard work, determination, and commitment she has shown to her sport. In addition to this accomplishment, she has recently been selected to represent the East Midlands Regional Squad in Tumbling Gymnastics for Grade 2 Tumbling. This is another great achievement and will provide her with opportunities to compete in future regional competitions.

Her commitment to gymnastics is exceptional for her age. She trains three times a week at Sharecroft gymnastics club in Swadlincote and is a member of both the Tumbling Competition Squad and the Acrobatic Gymnastics Squad. Entry into both squads is by invitation only and is reserved for gymnasts who demonstrate a high level of ability, dedication, and potential'.

Phoebe was the youngest student at the ceremony and I am sure you will agree she definitely deserved it! Phoebe, we are all so proud of you!



We are soon to welcome another new baby to our ever growing Church Gresley Family. Mrs Cordin in Giraffes is leaving to have a baby and we are all very excited! The baby has been very convenient , as it is coming during the summer holidays! Good luck Mrs Cordin, we can't wait to meet the newest member of your family . We will keep you up to date with how Mum and baby are doing in the new year.

Derbyshire Term Dates

4th September-23rd October 2026

2nd November-18th December 2026

4th January-12th February 2027

22nd February-25th March 2027

12th April-28th May 2027

7th June-26th July 2027

INSET Days (when school will be closed to pupils)

Friday 4th September 2026

Monday 7th January 2027

Monday 7th June 2027

Friday 2nd July 2027

Monday 26th July 2027

Please do not book holidays during term time. No holidays during term time will be authorised and you may face a fine or penalty notice

Things to remember for next week:

We are back to wearing school uniform for Monday and Tuesday please with black shoes.

Year Two Leavers Service 9.15am Tuesday morning. Two tickets per family, unless there are exceptional circumstances. We expect separated parents to share the tickets as the hall will be crowded. The PTFA have kindly paid for an ice cream van for the Year Two children after their leaver's service.

On Wednesday we are having a special day. Please see previous letter about instructions on what the children should wear Wednesday. If you have not received this, please contact the office who will explain what to do.

Children should bring a disposable drink, a cake and a bag of crisps in a small, named plastic bag. Please remember not to send anything containing nuts.

SH Active Summer Holiday Club

SH Active who deliver our after school clubs, are running a holiday club for four weeks during the holiday period at school. The children should have come home with a leaflet detailing costs and booking procedures. Places have to be pre-booked but children do not need to come for full days. If you are interested and want more information please contact SH Active directly.

Alternatively, Mrs Cowie or Miss Cotton can provide you with the information you need.

We are looking for some pallets so that we can make a stage in the playground for the children. If you have any we would be very grateful for them. Please contact the office if you can help out.



Kindred, who are our cleaning contractors, are looking for a cleaner for school. The hours are 6.00am-8.00am daily with some hours in the summer holidays. We have a lovely team of cleaners who work hard to keep the school clean and we really appreciate them. It is an ideal job for Mums or Dads that want something to fit in with the school run. Details below.

Scan the code below to see the full job and apply directly