



June 2026
Issue 2.10



Dear Families and Friends of The Duke of Norfolk,

It is hard to believe that we are in the final term of the school year. The children continue to work hard and there are lots of fun events to look forward to, and some that have already taken place. Please keep a close eye on ParentHub for regular updates, especially as the weather can sometimes interfere with our plans.

In advance we thank you for your support and look forward to seeing you at the many events we have planned this term. It is really special when our school community comes together so let's hope the weather stays fair for our upcoming sports days and PTA colour run.

With Best Wishes

Mrs. S Barker

Headteacher

Out and About—The Importance of Learning Away from Dukes

As a staff team, we believe that education extends beyond the classroom, and our trips are carefully planned to enrich the curriculum, inspire curiosity, and develop essential life skills. Plus children from across the school asked if it would be possible to take part in more school trips to support their learning experience.

These experiences are not simply optional extras — they are designed to complement classroom learning, bringing subjects to life in real-world settings. Whether it's engaging with nature, visiting museums, or participating in cultural activities, each trip is linked directly to topics your child is studying as they encourage teamwork and help foster deeper understanding and often generate excitement for the children.

Unfortunately recently a number of the trips we have offered have run at a financial loss for the school due to the lack of contributions. It saddens us as a school to say that if this continues in the future we might have to make the difficult decision to cancel the a planned trip or activity if not enough contributions are received.

We will always provide full details of each trip in advance, including costs, and any special requirements. If you have concerns or need support to enable your child to participate, please do not hesitate to contact us via the school office in confidence— we are committed to ensuring every pupil can benefit from these valuable experiences.

On the next page there is a celebration of the activities that the child from across the school have taken part in away from Dukes.

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Trip Photo-Wall

Sycamores and Chestnuts

Recently Early Years enjoyed a trip to Canon Hall. The children went to explore the farm and find out about small animals. They got the opportunity to see a range of creatures, such as pigs, sheep, goats and even meerkats. They did lots of walking and had tried legs, but had a wonderful time.



Year 3 and 4 Buxton Music Trip

Year 3 and 4 have been to Buxton Opera House to be part of a larger orchestra following their music lessons this year. I have heard that their behaviour was amazing and how fabulous the performance sounded too. Miss Redican was especially proud of you all. It was a fabulous opportunity to play with a larger group of schools from across the High Peak. Here is a report from some of the children who attend the event.



On Tuesday we went to the Octagon at Buxton. We played live with a professional orchestra using our cellos, violins and violas. In the Orchestra there were harps, flutes drums, a double bass and many more instruments. An exciting part about the trip was that we have never done this before. There were also lots of different costumes such as a rabbit, sheep and a chicken on the stage. By Jemima and Audrey.

Year 5 and 6 Magana

Year 5 and 6 recently visited Magna Science Adventure Centre. The children came back full of excitement following their day and had so much to share about the experience and interaction with a range of science experiments and ways that science impacts out day to day lives



The Year 6 Guard of Honor

As we approach the end of term, we would like to inform you that **school will close earlier than usual on the last day of term**, on Wednesday 22nd July 2026. Closing time across the whole school will be 2pm. Please ensure that arrangements are made for your child to be collected promptly, as at 2.15pm we will hold our Year 6 Guard of Honour. We know a number of families also like to be a part of this Dukes tradition, which is held at the King Edward Avenue entrance.

Allergies and Awareness

We want to make sure our pupils with allergies feel safe and protected at school. So, have been seeking advice from Natasha's Foundation to work towards becoming an Allergy Aware School. Now we're asking everyone in our school community to join us to become allergen aware too.

Why is this important?

At our school we have pupils and staff with a range of allergies including:

Nuts, fish, milk, eggs, dairy, soya, sesame, bees, penicillin

These individuals are at risk of serious harm if they have an allergic reaction, so we ask that everyone does all they can to help us keep them safe.

How can you help?

- Let us know if your child has an allergy, via the school office.
- Talk to your child about allergies and the importance of:
 - * Taking allergies seriously
 - * Washing their hands before eating
 - * Not sharing food with their friends
 - * Being supportive of their friends who have allergies
- Label your child's water bottle and lunch box with their name, to avoid any confusion
- Please avoid or do not send in food that contains nuts, soya and sesame for your child's packed lunch or snack

If you send in food for your child that is needed as part of a lesson, from now on we can only accept shop-bought food in its original packaging. This is so that we can check the ingredients list and be sure that the food is safe for all our pupils to eat.

We ask politely, as a part of our training for you to consider, when inviting your child's friends over for a playdate or party, talk to their parents/carers about their allergies and think about how you can accommodate their needs. Try your best to exclude the allergen, not the child.

If you have any questions or concerns about allergies, please get in touch with Mrs Hadfield or Mrs Barker, who have responsibility for managing allergies. Please contact them via email on

info@dukenorfolk.derbyshire.sch.uk.

MTC and Phonics

This term, Year 4 have worked incredibly hard, stayed super focused and all the children have now completed their Multiplication Tables Check. The adults are hugely impressed with how sensible and committed all the children were to doing their best with this challenge. The progress and desire to improve has been a real credit to the Year 4 children and they are all feeling proud of have completed this big milestone in their primary education journey! The results for the Multiplication Times Tale Check will be shared alongside the children's school reports.

Miss Harvey is also super proud of all the Year 1 children who have also completed their Phonics Screening Check this term. Their results will be in their school report later in the term. We also want to thank parents/carers and families with their support at home towards these national assessments.



PTA Events



The PTA will be holding a Colour Run for our summer event this year, this will take place on 3rd of July 5-7pm. This was great fun last time so we are excited to do it again. Details on how to enter will follow very soon. Hopefully you have seen our appeals for volunteers, please help us put on another great event if you can.

Thanks for all the great entries to the photo competition, the 12 best pictures will be included in a school calendar. We will update when that is available for order. The winners will be announced this week.

The Tesco blue tokens will run until the end of July, please keep choosing us when you are shopping in local stores. It's going to be a close one! This will make such a difference to the fund raising if we can get the most tokens. Please support Duke of Norfolk PTA whenever you visit the store and encourage as many friends and family to also do the same.

Staffing

We will soon be updating you all on staffing and classes for September.

However we wanted to let the school community be aware of the wonderful news that Mrs Hargreaves is expecting her first child. I am sure a number of you are already aware due to the excitement of the pupils in her class. We send Mrs. Hargreaves and her family lots of congratulations and this happy time.

Competitions

Mr English had selected a number of our year 5 and 6 pupils to take part in the local cricket tournament this week. I am proud to say they came third overall. Well done team!

Plus a group of Year 5 children will be testing their knowledge at a maths competition at Stockport Grammar supported by Mr Williams. Good luck and thank you to these children for representing school.

KEY DATES

JUNE AND JULY 2026

Friday 27th June—Sports Day

KS1 9.30am to 10.45am

KS2—1.30pm to 2.45pm

Thursday 2nd July - Little Bikers for EYFS

Friday 3rd July—Last day for class photograph orders return

Friday 3rd July—Transition day for all pupils.

Friday 3rd July PTA Colour Run

Monday 6th July—Sunflower Group

Wednesday 8th July—Year 6 performances at 2pm and 6pm

Thursday 9th July—Strawberry Tea for Chestnuts and Sycamores

Monday 20th July—Night of the stars, Year 6 families only please.

Tuesday 21st July—Leavers Service at Church at 9.30am. Year 6 families only please.

Wednesday 22nd July school closes at 2pm. Guard Honour for all Year 6 pupils at 2.15pm

INSET DATES

Thursday 23rd July
2026

Attendance Matters

Sycamores	98.3%	Chestnuts	95.3%
Apple	97.2%	Orange	97.6%
Cherry	97.6%	Holly	97%
Fir	94.3%	Pine	96.2%
Beech	97%	Willow	97.6%
Oak	96.2%	Whole School	96.7

We would like to share our May attendance information. Well done to Sycamores, what a fabulous percentage you have set the bar high for the month of June! Thank you everyone for supporting the school so that the children can make the most of so many learning opportunities. As always, this is also a polite reminder that holidays during term time cannot be authorised as we are asked to follow the guidance from Derbyshire County Council. If you need to contact school about an attendance related matter please use absence@dukenorfolk.derbyshire.sch.uk. Thank you.

