

# Youlgrave, All Saints' Primary School Newsletter



Dear Parents, Carers and Families

Welcome to the first newsletter of the summer term. I hope you have all had a wonderful Easter break. The children have returned to school full of energy, well-rested and raring to go with this term's learning. Thank you.

The summer term is always a very exciting time in school. This morning, reception and Year 1 were having great fun on the playground in their balance bike session with Rural Derbyshire School Sport Partnership. Right now I can look out of the window and see Key Stage 2 starting their first practise of this year for maypole dancing. Glorious!

Thank you to Class 2, Mrs Houghton and Mrs Oldfield for giving us a stunning finale to last term with the Easter play in church. The children's singing filled the church and it was brilliant to see such an inspiring example of teamwork and responsibility to deliver a really moving Easter celebration. Well done everyone! Thank you too to all families, friends and community who came to join us to make this time extra special.

Also in this newsletter is an important press release from the Governing Body about their decision to open a consultation on the way forward for our ongoing close collaboration with Biggin C of E Primary School. The Governing Body and myself are very keen to hear your opinions. There are opportunities to do this at drop-in sessions and by using a consultation response form, however I would also encourage you to pop in and talk to me if you have any questions, comments or concerns. We really want to hear your views.

Here's to a very exciting and enjoyable summer term

Best wishes Teresa Nicholls and the Youlgrave All Saints team

**Attendance:** Well done Class 2 for the best overall attendance so far this year!

As you know the Summer term is a very important one for consolidating the year's learning and for statutory testing. Thank you for your continued support for maintaining strong attendance throughout this term.

If you ever need help or information on issues relating to attendance please contact me by popping in to school to make an appointment or email:  
tnicholls@youlgraveallsaints.derbyshire.sch.uk

## Dates for the diary:

- **Week 20th April– Scholastic Book Fair**
- **22nd April– Class 1 trip to a farm, wellies needed**
- **22nd April– Compass Managing Emotions Class 2**
- **23rd April– Class 2 trip to Arbor Low/ Nine Ladies**
- **29th April– Compass Managing Emotions Class 2**
- **6th May– Compass Managing Emotions Class 2**
- **Week 11th May– SATs**
- **11th May– PCSO Boswell 'Anti-social behaviour'**

## INSET Days and Holidays 2026

- **4th May- May Day Bank Holiday**
- **25th May to 29th May- Half Term**
- **22nd July- Last day of Summer Term**
- **July 23rd- Inset Day**

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Whole School
95%	97%	96%	97%	98%	96%	95%	96%

# Roving Reporter

Reported by Chloe, Phoebe and Jaxson for Class 1

This week's roving report comes from Class 1, brought to you by Chloe, Phoebe and Jaxson, who took on the role of investigative journalists. They asked pupils what they enjoyed learning last term and what they're excited to explore next.

Class 1 loved the Easter Bunny visit, measuring in Maths, and creating their Toy Museum. Class 2 enjoyed learning about the Neolithic period and baking banana cookies, while Class 3 particularly liked studying the human body and baking.

Looking ahead, Class 1 is keen to learn Portuguese, Class 2 is eager for more problem-solving, and Class 3 is excited to build outdoor dens. Let's see what happens next!



# School Highlights

**Class 1-** At the end of term Class One enjoyed a heartwarming visit to the preschool, where pupils spent valuable time with younger learners and reunited with old friends. The children showed kindness, confidence and growing independence, supporting early learning goals through play, conversation and shared activities. Laughter and excitement filled the room as relationships blossomed across ages. The visit culminated in a joyful Easter egg hunt, with teamwork and perseverance on display as excitement mounted and treats discovered. This enriching experience strengthened communication, social development and a sense of community, reflecting our commitment to nurturing every child's early outcomes for all learners in school and beyond.



**Class 2- An Amazing Visit from Severn Trent Water!** We welcomed Phil from Severn Trent Water for an engaging and informative visit that our pupils absolutely loved! The session was packed with hands-on activities and interactive discussions, helping children learn where our water comes from, how it is cleaned, and why it is so important to use it responsibly. Pupils were fascinated to discover how water travels to our homes and what happens after it goes down the drain.

A key part of the visit focused on the importance of the Three Ps – pee, poo and (toilet) paper. Children learned that only these three items should ever be flushed down the toilet, helping to prevent blockages and protect our environment. This message was delivered in a fun and memorable way.

Class Two enjoyed a specially tailored workshop based on the water cycle, where they explored how water moves through evaporation, condensation and precipitation. The session linked perfectly with their science learning and helped deepen their understanding through practical, engaging activities.

Phil presented everything in an age-appropriate and enthusiastic manner, and it was wonderful to see how involved and curious the children were throughout the day. Visits like this really bring learning to life and encourage pupils to think about how their everyday choices can make a positive difference.

We would like to say a huge thank you to Phil and the Severn Trent Water team for giving their time and providing such a valuable and enjoyable learning experience. Ask your child about the Three Ps or the water cycle- it's learning they're sure to remember!

**Class 3-** We have had a short but busy half term. We loved learning about World War 2 in topic, and it was lovely to see ideas inspire Year 5 non-chronological reports and Year 6 blogs. In science, we discovered how the heart works and how to keep it healthy. In PE, we enjoyed developing our netball skills and were proud to earn an award for respect and sportsmanship at our tournament. We ended on a creative note, sewing mini cushions in DT and making Easter gardens inspired by RE. Well done, Class 3, for such a happy, hardworking half term.



## Congratulations to Our Bright Plate Winner

We were delighted to present our prestigious award to one of our youngest of learners, Elsie. As a staff team, we carefully considered how Elsie has embraced our school motto 'We Care' in all aspects of her beginning her school journey. We are so proud of you Elsie! Elsie shows our school motto 'We Care' in everything she does.

Since September we have watched as Elsie worked hard to develop new friendships and face challenges with a brave heart. When taking part in activities, she approaches everything with enthusiasm and a willingness to try her best. Elsie makes sure that others feel included and part of our school community.



## Collective Worship

### **Collective Worship Theme: Service**

This term, our new collective worship theme is Service. Through worship, reflection, and discussion, we will be encouraging pupils to think about how they can serve others in their daily lives and within our wider community.

Our *Words of Wisdom* for this theme come from the Bible:

“Serve one another in love.” – Galatians 5:13

Throughout the term, pupils will explore what it means to live this message in practical, meaningful ways. We will be focusing on several key ideas, including:

- Using our talents to serve – recognising that everyone has unique gifts and abilities that can be used to help others.
- Receiving as well as giving – understanding that allowing others to help us is also an important part of service.
- Giving with no strings attached – serving others out of kindness rather than expectation of reward.
- Looking at the heart – focusing on attitudes and intentions, not just actions.
- Living for others – considering how small acts of service can make a positive difference in everyday life.

We hope this theme will encourage pupils to reflect on how they can show care, kindness, and love to friends, family members, and the wider community. Service does not always involve big gestures; often it is found in simple acts of thoughtfulness, patience, and generosity. We would love for these ideas to be discussed at home too. You might like to talk together about ways your child already serves others, or consider small, everyday opportunities to “serve one another in love” as a family.

Huge thanks and well done to Maria and Clara who played a fantastic part in the Festal Eucharist for Easter Day at All Saints, Youlgreave.

The service was led by the Bishop of Derby's chaplain. Maria and Clara shared the reading and both sang "The Servant King".

After they read the Gospel splendidly from the pulpit, the bishop's chaplain, invited the congregation to applaud - definitely not the convention in a Church of England service - and the congregation enthusiastically did so. Further applause came after they gave a wonderful rendition of The Servant King.

There were 107 in the congregation, including family and friends of the Bishop of Bath and Wells, staying this week at Middleton, who said - along with many others - how much they had enjoyed and welcomed the contribution to the service from Clara and Maria.

## **Press Release : Youlgrave and Biggin Schools explore options for federation**

The Chairs of Governors for Youlgrave All Saints' and Biggin C of E Primary Schools are announcing that both governing bodies have jointly begun to explore the possibility of forming a federation between our schools.

A federation is a formal partnership in which two or more schools share a single governing body and leadership structure, while each school continues to operate on its own site and maintain its distinctive character and ethos. As Church of England schools, both of our Christian identities and parish links would remain central to who we are.

Our current position of sharing a headteacher between the two schools, as well as some initial collaboration between the schools, has opened up the potential opportunities of a federation. At this stage, we want to assure you that no decisions have been made.

### **Why we are exploring this**

Both governing bodies recognise the increasing challenges faced by small rural schools, including leadership capacity, recruitment, workload, and long-term sustainability. Exploring federation will allow us to consider whether working more closely together could:

- strengthen leadership across both schools,
- support staff development and collaboration,
- improve resilience during staff absence or recruitment difficulties,
- enable further collaboration and financial savings through shared resources,
- enhance curriculum delivery and workload sharing, and
- help secure the long-term sustainability of both schools.

### **What happens next**

The two governing bodies have agreed to form a joint committee with representatives from each school's governing body, as well as our headteacher, and representatives from both the Diocese of Derby and Derbyshire County Council (LA), to explore the options and develop a proposal. Through this joint committee the governing bodies will gather information and evaluate the potential benefits and risks, seek advice from governance, HR and legal specialists through the Local Authority and the Diocese, and hold a full and open consultation in which all staff, parents, carers, and stakeholders will have the opportunity to share their views.

### **Safeguarding:**

This month PCSO Boswell will be talking to all the children about anti-social behaviour. This is an increasingly important topic in our busy village.

Following last term's road safety workshops and as the children are out and about more with the lighter nights and summer evenings, here are some resources which may help you if you wish to continue to talk about this at home:

<https://capt.org.uk/resource-topic/road-safety/>

<https://www.rospa.com/siteassets/pages/road-safety/road-safety-resources/free-road-safety-information/parents/teaching-road-safety-a-guide-for-parents.pdf>

### **The Designated Safeguarding Leads are:**

Teresa Nicholls      [tnicholls@youlgrave-allsaints.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:tnicholls@youlgrave-allsaints.derbyshire.sch.uk)

Julie Collier         [jcollier@youlgrave-allsaints.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:jcollier@youlgrave-allsaints.derbyshire.sch.uk)

If you believe that a child or an adult is at immediate risk of harm and in need of protection then you should call the Police- **999**, straight away.

If you'd like to take part in our Healthier Futures programme you can [sign up to book a chat](#) with one of our friendly team.

We support parents and carers to improve family health and well-being by:

- identifying strengths
- exploring areas for extra support
- setting achievable goals

Topics families often focus on:

- positive parenting
- building parenting confidence
- healthy meals and snacks
- creating calmer mealtimes
- conversations about positive body image
- moving more as a family
- improving sleep
- creating healthy routines
- how to help with fussy eating

**Live Life  
BETTER  
DERBYSHIRE**

**Get in Touch**

**Contact our team**

We're here to help you say yes to more.

Tel: [0800 085 2299](tel:08000852299)

Or: [01629 538 200](tel:01629538200)

Email us: [ASCH.LLBD.Info@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:ASCH.LLBD.Info@derbyshire.gov.uk)

