



Dear parents/ carers,

It's been a busy time already back at school since we started back last week. Last week was the school's STEM week. This week was filled full of activities linked to space – including the visit by Year 2 to the planetarium at St George's and a visit by Dr Robinson (a STEM Ambassador) – an expert in space who talked to all the classes and was able to show all the children a piece of moon rock and a piece of Mars!



Year 5 spent some time exploring the change in how we thought the solar system was thought to function – with the Ancient Greeks thinking that the earth was at the centre rather than the sun – they shared this in Friday's worship with the school.

Thank you Mrs Guidon for arranging this brilliant week.



Parent Survey:

To help me gain an understanding on your views of the school now I have created a short online survey – it should take no longer than about 5-10minutes to complete. I would really appreciate your time to give me your views about the school [here](https://www.stjohnfisherderby.srscmat.co.uk). It is completely anonymous. Please only complete 1 survey per household.

Thank you to the families who have already completed this. The more families who do take the time to fill this out – the wider view I get of the parent's views.

Next week is also the SLTea afternoon. Come and have a cuppa and a chat with the school's SLT from 2:45pm.

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For I know the plans I have for you; plans to give you hope and a future – Jeremiah 29:11



Catholic Life:

Also last week, we celebrated the Feast of the Epiphany (when the 3 Kings visited Jesus at the time of his birth) with a Mass at the church. This was a lovely experience to share a Mass that was led by the children with the parish.

The behaviour of the children walking to and from church, and in the Mass itself, was exceptional.

Next Friday – 24th January – the school will be marking the opening of the Catholic church's Jubilee year with an act of worship in school. The church has a jubilee every 25 years. The theme of the year's jubilee is Ambassadors of Hope. We will share more about the jubilee over the course of the year – and how we will mark this as a school within the trust and the diocese. If you want to find out more – click [here](#).



Parking:

One issue that has been highlighted on the parental surveys we have received so far is parking in the morning and after school.

To keep all of our children safe please:

- Do not pull into the driveway of the school to drop off/ pick up – or stop by the end of the drive to do this.
- Park so that the traffic can continue to flow – with respect to our neighbours.
- Do not do 3 point turns in the road – or use the driveway to turn around.
- Drive at a slower speed when around the school on Alvaston Street.

While we are very aware the school's authority ends at the gate, by all following these simple guidelines, we will make the start and end of the day safer for all of our school's children. I am aware, in the past, the school were able to put cones at the end of the drive to further encourage this, however, we are not able to block the entrance into the nursery.

Thank you in advance for your understanding.

PTFA:

The next meeting is on 23rd January at 6:30pm. This is online. Details to follow. Why not come along and see how you might be able to become involved? The next PTFA events are the disco on 13th February (details to follow) and a pop-up tuck shop after school on Friday 24th January.

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Thank you for your generosity on the non-uniform day for the gift sets.

Parents' Evening:

The next parents' evenings are on Monday 17th and Tuesday 18th March. For these meetings, bookings will be made online through Arbor. We will send more details letting you know how and when you will be able to book closer to half term!

A separate letter will come to let you know how to download Arbor if you haven't already done so. If you cannot access your Arbor account, please get in touch with Miss Willmott in the office who will be happy to help you.

Uniform:

We have noticed that some children aren't quite in full uniform. Some children are not wearing their ties in particular; others are in polo shirts. Our full uniform expectations are [here](#).

There are also still a number of children who do not have their PE kits in school. These do need to be in school every day in readiness for PE lessons.

From next week we will be sending children home with notes where uniform is not in line with the school's expectations.

The PTFA do have items of pre-loved uniform available in the school's foyer for £1 per item. If you need an item/ size that isn't on their rail, speak to a member of the PTFA and they will be able to check their stocks!

Lego:

Do you have any spare, unwanted and unloved Lego at home? If you do – we would love to give it a new home – please bring it in to the office! Thank you

Best Wishes

Graham Lobb

Headteacher



Diary dates:

Upcoming dates.

For a list of the full dates for the year – see the newsletter from 10th January. New items added in red.

Tuesday 21 st January	SLTea 2:45pm	Come for a cuppa and meet the school leadership for informal conversations.
Friday 24 th January	PTFA pop-up tuck shop after school	50p an item for crisps/ sweets
Tuesday 28 th January	SATs meeting for parents 3:30pm	All parents of Y6 welcome to discuss SATs
Friday 7 th February	Year 5 Bikeability Level 1	Details to follow
Tuesday 11 th February	Safer Internet Day	
Thursday 13 th February	PTFA Disco	3:30-4:15PM (EYFS/KS1) and 4:30-5:30om (KS2) More details to follow
Friday 14 th February	Year 5 Bikeability Level 1	Details to follow
Monday 17 th February – Friday 21 st February	Lent Half Term	School closed for all pupils
Monday 24 th February	INSET DAY	School closed to pupils.
Tuesday 25 th February	Back to school	School opens to all pupils.