



# The Dales Class Newsletter

Working together to  
*inspire nurture empower*

## Welcome Back & Updates

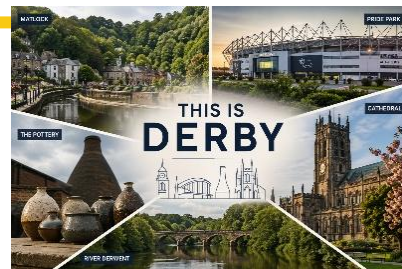
Summer 1 -2026

We hope you had a restful and enjoyable holiday break and are ready for an exciting term ahead filled with lots of engaging activities and learning opportunities.

If there are any updates or important information you need to share with us, please do not hesitate to contact us via phone call, email, or the school diary.

Each week, we will continue to share a selection of photographs and diary messages highlighting activities that your young person has particularly enjoyed and been engaged in through the EFL app. You are very welcome to upload photographs from home activities as well, should you wish to share these on EFL. These will be shared with their class peers during our chat and share sessions in school. Whole-school updates will continue to be shared via the school newsletter, so please keep an eye out for text links to these.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to a positive and successful term ahead.



## Key Concepts and Skills

This term, we are exploring the theme "This is Derby", which helps pupils develop their understanding of their local area and the key places within it. Through this topic, learners will look at important landmarks in Derby, including the River Derwent, the Cathedral and the city's industrial and cultural heritage, using photos, sensory resources and creative activities to support engagement and understanding.

As part of this learning, we are also planning an exciting educational visit to the home of Derby County Football Club at Pride Park Stadium. This trip will help pupils make real-life connections to their learning, develop their sense of place, and experience an important local landmark first-hand. Across the term, pupils will build their knowledge through exploration, discussion, and hands-on activities designed to support communication, curiosity, and confidence

## Reminders / additional information

If it is appropriate for your child to have snack, please use Arbor Pay to pay for it. We have a range of snack options, including yoghurts, crisps, biscuits and juice.

This half term our hydro days are **Wednesday morning & Thursday afternoon** but please send in your child's kit at the beginning of the week as we may take them in whenever there is a space. Please include a costume/trunks, 2 towels and some body wash/shampoo.

Please remember to send in spare clothes for your child each day, thank you.



# Home Learning Curriculum Ideas

## Skills For Life



Cooking a Bakewell pudding can be a fun and engaging home learning activity for sensory learners, as it involves exploring different textures, smells and tastes. Learners can feel the softness of the pastry, spread the sticky jam, and mix the smooth almond filling, noticing how ingredients change as they are combined. The sweet scent that fills the kitchen while baking adds another sensory experience, and tasting the finished pudding helps connect the process to a rewarding outcome. This activity supports hands-on learning, encourages curiosity, and builds confidence through simple guided steps.

[Step-by-Step 'Original' Secret Bakewell Pudding Recipe](#) – Delishably



## Health & Wellbeing

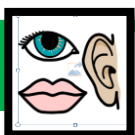


A gentle physical activity linked to a video walk around Matlock and the Peak District, or even your local area, can help children stay active in a safe and enjoyable way. As they watch the video, learners can take part in adapted movements such as stretching arms to “reach the hills,” rolling shoulders to “follow the winding paths,” or tapping their feet to mimic walking at their own pace. The activity can be done seated or supported, allowing each child to move comfortably while engaging with the scenery. This approach encourages gentle exercise, imagination, and connection to the outdoors, helping build confidence and enjoyment in physical movement.

Matlock tour

[A Day Out Walk At Matlock Bath in The Derbyshire Dales](#)

## Communication Community and Friendship



Exploring photos of Derby at home can be a simple and meaningful communication activity. Have a look at familiar local places together, talk about what they can see, and encourage learners to look thinking of memories, or feelings, using prompts like colours, sounds, or “what might happen there.” This can be paired with a sensory story about a tour around Derby, using homemade props such as fabric, small objects, or everyday items to represent different locations and bring the experience to life through touch and imagination. This approach supports communication, sensory engagement, and confidence in a relaxed home environment. If you would like a copy of the sensory story to use alongside this activity, please let us know and we will be happy to share.



## Creativity, Contributions & Choices



For creative inspiration, young people and families can explore how local artists from Derby have expressed their ideas through different materials, colours and styles. A great place to discover this is the Museum of Making, which celebrates creativity, invention and the work of artists and makers from the area. The museum is free to access and includes a “Changes Places” facility to support visitors with additional needs, making it a welcoming and inclusive environment for all learners. For more information, including opening times and resources, please visit the website:

<https://www.derbymuseums.org/museum-of-making>

## Makaton signing

This half term, we are going on our trip to derby's football ground here are some signs to help with our trip. [Learn to Makaton Sign FOOTBALL](#) 🌐 | [CBeebies Something Special #shorts](#)



football



Index finger makes forward movement, as if kicking

football