MELBOURNE INFANT & NURSERY SCHOOL

Head Teacher: Mrs C Gibbs
Email: enquiries@melbourne-inf.derbyshire.sch.uk
Website: www.melbourne-inf.derbyshire.sch.uk

Packhorse Road
Melbourne
Derby
DE73 8JE
Tel: 01332 862325

Shine brightly together and reach for the stars!

Weekly Bulletin	
Week Ending:	**Friday 13th November**

I would like to extend a big thank you and well done to our Year 2 Class Ambassadors – Bree, Arthur S, Elliot and Ivy – who represented the Infant and Nursery School at the Remembrance Parade and helped to lay the wreath on behalf of our school. All four children were very well behaved and respectful: thank you. On Wednesday, all of school took part in a one-minute silence to pay respect to the service and sacrifices that the Armed Forces make. Well done to all of the children for being quiet and respectful during the one-minute silence.

Thank you for your generous donations to Children in Need: we raised £150 for the charity.

If you have not yet had chance to do so, we would very much appreciate it if you took a few moments of your time to complete our parent/carer survey. Your feedback is very important to us, and helps us to continue to make improvements for our children and families. Please click or tap here to complete the survey, which is open until lunchtime on Friday 27th November.

Can you believe that it is only 6 weeks until Christmas?! We know just how magical and exciting the festive season is for children of infant school age, and so we try to make the lead up to Christmas in school as memorable as possible – providing a wide range of festive activities and opportunities for all children to enjoy and get involved in. Further information about Christmas activities, including our special performances and opportunities for parents and carers to join in the festive fun, is included later in this bulletin.

We recognise that the Christmas period can be particularly expensive and support is available for any families who need it. Please simply message the school office on Dojo, or pop in, and we will ensure – in confidence - that your child is included in PTA and school Christmas activities without a need for payment and/or donations.

Next week in school…

Odd Socks Day – Monday 16th November
Monday 16th November is Odd Socks Day, and all children are invited to attend school wearing odd socks to celebrate difference!



Reception – Grandparent Lunches – All Week
We are looking forward to having Grandparents in for lunch with our Reception children! All visitors should sign in at the school office at 11.55am on their booked day. Please ensure packed lunches do not contain any nuts.



STAR Student Assembly - Friday 20th November
Our next Star Student assembly will be on Friday 20th November, celebrating all birthdays from Saturday 14th to Friday 20th November.



Our school week in numbers:

Dojo points awarded for our STAR Standards:	Attendance:
1,320	**96.47%**

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Stars and Authors of the Week

A big well done to this week's Star Students and Authors of the Week:

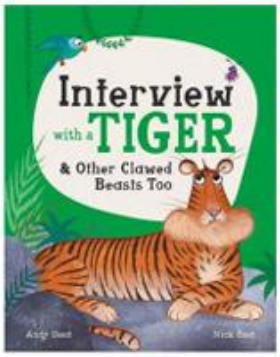
** Star of the Week**			**Author of the Week**	
Dragonfly	Alvise		*Dragonfly*	Livvy
Hummingbird	Florence		*Hummingbird*	Imogen
Salamander	Daisy		*Salamander*	Brooke
Chameleon	Isabelle		*Chameleon*	Robin
Narwhal	Arabella		*Narwhal*	Thomas
POLO	Mason		★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★	

Well done to Edith in Hummingbird class who was our Good Choice Award winner.

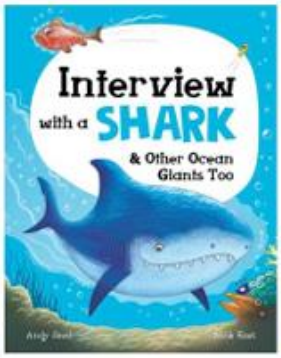
Author Visit to school – Tuesday 24th November

We have a special visitor in school on Tuesday 24th November – author Andy Seed will be visiting each class. Andy will be talking to the children about his books, Australian wildlife and running fun activities with the children in each class.

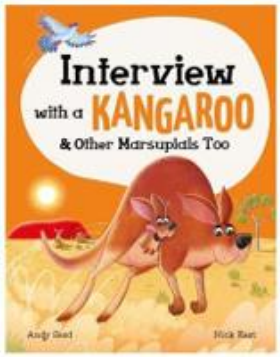
Andy will have signed books available to purchase for £10 each. These can be purchased after school on Tuesday 24th November, or in advance by completing the form (available in this bulletin, or pick up a copy from the school foyer) and returning it with cash in a named envelope to school on or before 24th November.



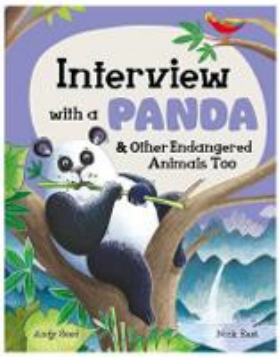
Find out all about tigers in this funny feast of wildlife facts. Includes interviews with a wolf, lion, polar bear, snow leopard and more!
Colour hardback / One of BookTrust's top 100 books of 2021
£10



Discover the world of sharks in this beautifully illustrated book of wildlife facts. Includes interviews with an orca, blue whale, giant squid, narwhal plus more!
Colour hardback, bestseller
£10



Learn fascinating facts about 10 amazing marsupials in this humorous Q&A title. Includes interviews with a koala, wombat, Tasmanian devil and many more!
Colour hardback
£10



NEW! Discover the world of pandas and other endangered animals in this fun guide to wild animals. Includes interviews with an elephant, crocodile, rhino, viper and more!
Colour hardback
£10

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Musicians wanted!

To help us share different types of music with our children, we would love to share more live music performances. If any parents/carers or family members play an instrument, are part of a band or choir, or simply have some musical skills that they would be happy performing to our children in assembly, we would love to hear from you! Please get in touch with the school office via Class Dojo, or by email (MISemail@melbourne-inf.derbyshire.sch.uk)

PTA Christmas Movie Night / Non-Uniform Day & request for donations

PTA Movie Night (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children) and non-uniform day in exchange for donations of chocolate: Monday 30th November

Please book on ParentPay by lunchtime on Friday 27th November



The PTA would also welcome donations of clean teddies and wine bottle bags for their Christmas fair. Please bring any donations to the school office: thank you!

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Christmas at Melbourne Infant & Nursery School

We know just how magical and exciting the festive season is for children of infant school age, and so we try to make the lead up to Christmas in school as memorable as possible. It is a very busy period in school, with a wide range of festive activities and opportunities for all children – and parents/carers! – to enjoy and get involved in.

For our Year 2 children, we run some extra Christmas activities to celebrate their last Christmas in school with us, before they move onto Junior school next year.

Our first few Christmas Events can be found on this page. All our Christmas activities and dates – by year group – follow straight after. Further reminders will follow in each weekly bulletin and on Class Dojo.

We recognise that the Christmas period can be particularly expensive and support is available for any families who need it. Please simply message the school office on Dojo, or pop in, and we will ensure – in confidence - that your child is included in all PTA and school Christmas activities without any need for payment or donations.

We hope you are able to join in with some of our festive fun.



CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES: NURSERY

w/c 30th November

• Non-uniform for chocolate donations (Monday 30th November) ★

👥 Children only ☆ No booking required

w/c 7th December

• Christmas Crafts (Thursday 10th Dec, 2.30pm) ★

👥 Parents/carers/siblings ☆ No booking required

- *Seahorse Nursery children who do not attend Seahorse nursery class on a Thursday are welcome to join us for Christmas Crafts, accompanied by their parent/carer.*
- *The Christmas Craft session for other Infant School children (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) starts at 2pm.*

• Christmas Jumper Day (Friday 11th Dec) ★

👥 Children only ☆ No booking required

• PTA Christmas Fair (Friday 11th Dec, from 3.20pm) ★

👥 Everyone welcome ☆ No booking required

The PTA welcome volunteers to help at the Fair; any length of time welcome! Please email melbourneinfant.pta@gmail.com

w/c 14th December

• Seahorse Christmas Songs (Wednesday 16th Dec at 2.30pm)

👥 Parents/carers/siblings ☆ No booking required

- *Seahorse Nursery children who do not attend Seahorse nursery class on a Wednesday afternoon are welcome to join us for Christmas Songs, accompanied by their parent/carer.*

• Christmas Dinner (Wednesday 16th Dec) ★

👥 All children ☆ No booking required

• Parish Church visit (Thursday 17th Dec, 1.30pm)

👥 Family helpers to walk children to/from church 🎟 Register online

• Talent Show (Friday 18th December) ★

👥 All children 🎟 Sign up online

• Non-uniform day (Friday 18th December) ★

👥 All children ☆ No booking required

🎟 Booking Required ★ Whole School Event

CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES: RECEPTION

w/c 30th November

• PTA Christmas Movie Night (Monday 30th November until 4.30pm) ★

👥 Children only 🎟 Book on ParentPay by lunchtime on Friday 27th November

• Non-uniform for chocolate donations (Monday 30th November) ★

👥 Children only ☆ No booking required

• "Experience Advent"

👥 Children only ☆ No booking required

w/c 7th December

• Christmas Crafts (Thursday 10th Dec, 2pm) ★

👥 Parents/carers/siblings ☆ No booking required

• Christmas Jumper Day (Friday 11th Dec) ★

👥 Children only ☆ No booking required

• PTA Christmas Fair (Friday 11th Dec, from 3.20pm) ★

👥 Everyone welcome ☆ No booking required

The PTA welcome volunteers to help at the Fair; any length of time welcome! Please email melbourneinfant.pta@gmail.com

w/c 14th December

• Nativity Performance (Tuesday 15th Dec at 9.30am)

👥 Parents/carers 🎟 Book on ParentPay: ticket sales open from Fri 20th Nov until 9am on Fri 4th Dec

There will be two tickets available per child; tickets cost £4 each (subsidised for families eligible for Pupil Premium). Younger siblings aged 4 and under are welcome to at no charge sitting on an adult's knee. We may be able to offer additional tickets to other family members nearer the time of the performance.

• Christmas Dinner (Wednesday 16th Dec) ★

👥 All children ☆ No booking required

• Parish Church visit (Thursday 17th Dec, 1.30pm)

👥 Family helpers to walk children to/from church 🎟 Register online

• Talent Show (Friday 18th December) ★

👥 All children 🎟 Sign up online

• Non-uniform day (Friday 18th December) ★

👥 All children ☆ No booking required

🎟 Booking Required ★ Whole School Event

CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES: YEAR 1

w/c 30th November

• PTA Christmas Movie Night (Monday 30th November, until 4.30pm) ★

👥 Children only 🎟 Book on ParentPay by lunchtime on Friday 27th November

• Non-uniform for chocolate donations (Monday 30th November) ★

👥 Children only ☆ No booking required

w/c 7th December

• Christmas Crafts (Thursday 10th Dec, 2pm) ★

👥 Parents/carers/siblings ☆ No booking required

• Christmas Jumper Day (Friday 11th Dec) ★

👥 Children only ☆ No booking required

• PTA Christmas Fair (Friday 11th Dec, from 3.20pm) ★

👥 Everyone welcome ☆ No booking required

The PTA welcome volunteers to help at the Fair; any length of time welcome! Please email melbourneinfant.pta@gmail.com

w/c 14th December

• Carol Concerts (Monday 14th Dec at 4pm AND Tues 15th Dec at 2.30pm)

👥 Parents/carers 🎟 Book on ParentPay: ticket sales open from Fri 20th Nov until 9am on Fri 4th Dec

*There will be two tickets available per **child** – not per performance - tickets cost £4 each (subsidised for families eligible for Pupil Premium). Younger siblings aged 4 and under are welcome to attend either performance at no charge sitting on an adult's knee. For the 4pm performance, a small number of seats for school-aged siblings can be booked on ParentPay from 20th November. We may be able to offer additional tickets to other family members nearer the time of the performance; look out for updates. Scallywags are unable to collect children after the 4pm performance.*

• Christmas Dinner (Wednesday 16th Dec) ★

👥 All children ☆ No booking required

• Parish Church visit (Thursday 17th Dec, 1.30pm) ★

👥 Family helpers of children to walk children to/from church 🎟 Register online

• Talent Show (Friday 18th December) ★

👥 All children 🎟 Sign up online

• Non-uniform day (Friday 18th December) ★

👥 All children ☆ No booking required

🎟 Booking Required ★ Whole School Event

CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES: YEAR 2

w/c 30th November

• Christmas Decorating (Monday 30th November, 2pm)

👥 Parents/carers/siblings of Year 2 children 🎟 Register online by 18th Nov

• PTA Christmas Movie Night (Monday 30th November until 4.30pm) ★

👥 Children only 🎟 Book on ParentPay by lunchtime on Friday 27th November

• Non-uniform for chocolate donations (Monday 30th November) ★

👥 Children only ☆ No booking required

• Add-Vent (Tuesday 1st Dec, 9am)

👥 Parents/carers/siblings of Year 2 children 🎟 Register online

🎟 Booking Required
★ Whole School Event

w/c 7th December

• Christmas Crafts (Thursday 10th Dec, 2pm) ★

👥 Parents/carers/siblings ☆ No booking required

• Christmas Jumper Day (Friday 11th Dec) ★

👥 Children only ☆ No booking required

• PTA Christmas Fair (Friday 11th Dec, from 3.20pm) ★

👥 Everyone welcome ☆ No booking required

The PTA welcome volunteers to help at the Fair; any length of time welcome! Please email melbourneinfant.pta@gmail.com

w/c 14th December

• Carol Concerts (Monday 14th Dec at 4pm AND Tues 15th Dec at 2.30pm)

👥 Parents/carers 🎟 Book on ParentPay: ticket sales open from Fri 20th Nov until 9am on Fri 4th Dec

*There will be two tickets available per **child** – not per performance - tickets cost £4 each (subsidised for families eligible for Pupil Premium). Younger siblings aged 4 and under are welcome to attend either performance at no charge sitting on an adult's knee. For the 4pm performance, a small number of seats for school-aged siblings can be booked on ParentPay from 20th November. We may be able to offer additional tickets to other family members nearer the time of the performance; look out for updates. Scallywags are unable to collect children after the 4pm performance.*

• Wednesday Club Singers (Wednesday 16th Dec, AM)

👥 Family helpers to walk Year 2 children to/from club 🎟 Register online

• Christmas Dinner (Wednesday 16th Dec) ★

👥 All children ☆ No booking required

• Parish Church visit (Thursday 17th Dec, 1.30pm)

👥 Family helpers to walk children to/from church 🎟 Register online

• Talent Show (Friday 18th December) ★

👥 All children 🎟 Sign up online

• Non-uniform day (Friday 18th December) ★

👥 All children ☆ No booking required

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Upcoming dates for your diary

The upcoming dates for our Autumn term, and our Spring term dates, can be found below.

Did you know that you can subscribe to our school calendar via our website; and this will automatically put the dates in your calendar? Please go to our website and click "subscribe". When dates are added or amended in the term, we will highlight these dates / activities in purple. These are planned dates and activities; whilst we will aim to keep changes to a minimum, dates may be subject to change, and new activities may be added during the course of the term. Our term dates and INSET dates are all available on our website.

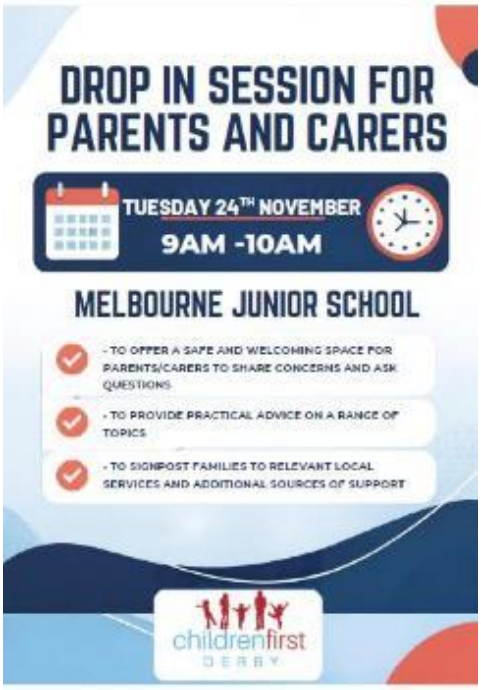
NOVEMBER

w/c 16th November
Friendship Week

Date	Activity
All Week	Grandparent Lunches – Reception children
Monday 16th November	Odd Socks Day
Friday 20th November	Star Student Assembly, 9.05am

w/c 23rd November
UK Parliament Week

Date	Activity
Monday 23rd November	Last day of Grandparent Lunches – Reception children
Tuesday 24th November	Author Visit
Friday 27th November	Star Student Assembly, 9.05am



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w/c 30th November

Date	Activity
Monday 30th November	Christmas Decorating – Year 2 children/parents/carers
	Non-uniform day in exchange for chocolate donations
	PTA Christmas Movie Night
Tuesday 1st December	"Add-Vent" – Year 2 children / parents / carers, 9am
	Experience Advent – EYFS: PM
Friday 4th December	Star Student Assembly, 9.05am



DECEMBER

w/c 7th December

Date	Activity
Monday 7th December	Last date for Monday Stay and Play After-School Club
Thursday 10th December	Christmas Crafts, 2pm / 2.30pm Nursery
Friday 11th December	Christmas Jumper Day
	Star Student Assembly, 9.05am
	PTA Christmas Fayre (more information to follow)

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w/c 14th December

Date	Activity
Monday 14th December	Year 1 and Year 2 – Carol Concert: 4pm (ticketed event)
Tuesday 15th December	Reception Nativity Performance: 9.30am (ticketed event)
	Year 1 and Year 2 – Carol Concert: 2.30pm (ticketed event)
Wednesday 16th December	Cathy Lester Music Concert (for parents/carers of children who taken part in music lessons in school) – 9.15am
	Year 2 children singing at Wednesday Club during the morning
	Christmas Dinner
	Seahorse Nursery Class Christmas Songs – 2.30pm
Thursday 17th December	Visit to Parish Church (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children) – 1.30pm
Friday 18th December	Non-uniform day
	Talent Show (children only)
	Christmas Magic Show (children only)

Premier Education will be running a holiday club at Melbourne Infants on Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd December. Please see their website for details.

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JANUARY

w/c 4th January

Date	Activity
Monday 4th January	First Day Back at school following Christmas Holiday
Friday 8th January	"Spellabrations" - Year 2 (more information to follow)

w/c 11th January

Date	Activity
Tuesday 12th January	Big Bubble Theatre Workshops (All year groups; children only)
Friday 15th January	Star Student Assembly, 9.05am (celebrating all birthdays from Saturday 12th December to Friday 15th January)

w/c 18th January

Date	Activity
Monday 18th January	Maths Event – Year 1 (more information to follow)
Tuesday 19th January	Mosque visit – Year 2
Wednesday 20th January	Mosque visit – Year 1
Friday 22nd January	Star Student Assembly, 9.05am

w/c 25th January

Date	Activity
Friday 29th January	Star Student Assembly, 9.05am
	Julia Donaldson Day – non-uniform, children can dress up as their favourite Julia Donaldson character or attend school in non-uniform

FEBRUARY

w/c 1st February

Date	Activity
All Week	Children's Mental Health Week
Tuesday 2nd February	Year 1 and 2 Ramadan Workshops
Friday 5th February	Star Student Assembly, 9.05am
	National Number Day – non-uniform, please wear something with a number on! (a top or jacket with a number on it; or an item of spotty or patterned clothing)
	PTA Bingo Night (more information to follow)

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w/c 8th February

Date	Activity
Tuesday 9th February	Safer Internet Day
	PTA Flip-A-Thon (more information to follow)
Friday 12th February	INSET Day – School Closed to children

Half Term: Monday 15th February – Friday 19th February

w/c 22nd February

Date	Activity
Wednesday 24th February	Book Fair begins
Thursday 25th February	Year 2 Trip to the National Space Centre
Friday 26th February	Star Student Assembly, 9.05am (celebrating all birthdays from Saturday 6th – Friday 26th February)
	Last day of Book Fair

MARCH

w/c 1st March

Date	Activity
Monday 1st March	Parents Evening (Date 1 of 2) – for Chameleon class only
Wednesday 3rd March	Parents Evening (Date 1 of 2) – for all classes apart from Seahorse and Chameleon class.
	South Derbyshire NeuroHub attending Parents Evening
Thursday 4th March	World Book Day
	"Booknik" - after school (more information to follow)
Friday 5th March	Star Student Assembly, 9.05am
	PTA Mother's Day Shop (more information to follow)

w/c 8th March

Date	Activity
All Week	Science week
	Mother's Day / Significant Female Lunches – Year 1 children (more information to follow)
Wednesday 10th March	Parents Evening (Date 2 of 2) – for all classes apart from Seahorse class
Friday 12th March	Star Student Assembly, 9.05am

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w/c 15th March

Date	Activity
Friday 19th March	Red-Nose Day – Non-Uniform
	Final Star Student Assembly of the term, 9.05am
	RockSteady concert – 2.30pm (for parents/carers of children who attend RockSteady)

w/c 22nd March

Date	Activity
Tuesday 23rd March	Maths Missions – Year 2 (more information to follow)
Wednesday 24th March	Maths Missions - Year 1 (more information to follow)
Thursday 25th March	Easter Bonnet Parade – 2.45pm

Easter Holidays: Friday 26th March to Friday 9th April
Sponsored read over Easter Holidays – more information to follow



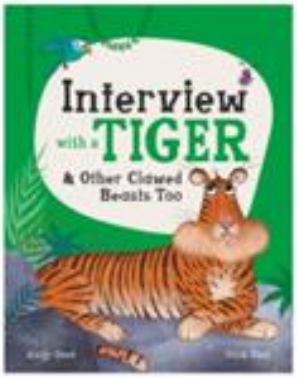
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Signed books from author Andy Seed

Children's author **Andy Seed** will be working with the children of Melbourne Infant School on Tues 24th November. Here's your opportunity to buy a **signed book**:



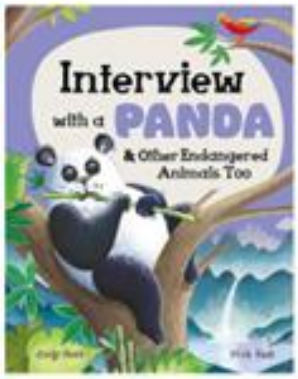
Find out all about tigers in this funny feast of wildlife facts. Includes interviews with a wolf, lion, polar bear, snow leopard and more!
Colour hardback / One of BookTrust's top 100 books of 2021
£10



Discover the world of sharks in this beautifully illustrated book of wildlife facts. Includes interviews with an orca, blue whale, giant squid, narwhal plus more!
Colour hardback, bestseller
£10



Learn fascinating facts about 10 amazing marsupials in this humorous Q&A title. Includes interviews with a koala, wombat, Tasmanian devil and many more!
Colour hardback
£10



NEW! Discover the world of pandas and other endangered animals in this fun guide to wild animals. Includes interviews with an elephant, crocodile, rhino, viper and more!
Colour hardback
£10

Why encourage your child to read?
Children who read for enjoyment make better progress in English and Maths. They have higher levels of knowledge and understanding and more imagination.

Why encourage your child to read?
Children who read for enjoyment are on average 1.3 years ahead of others by KS2.
[Sources: The Reading Agency, National Literacy Trust, The Open University]

Why encourage your child to read?
- Reading reduces stress
- It improves mental health
- It helps children build good relationships

Order form for signed books from Andy Seed

Child's name	
Class	
Total payment	

Book	Price	✓
Interview with a Tiger	£10	
Interview with a Shark	£10	
Interview with a Kangaroo	£10	
Interview with a Panda	£10	

Information about payment

There are two options:

- Children can bring payment in **cash** on or before **Tues 24th November** (money in a named envelope along with this form please).
- **Contactless payments** can also be made at a book signing **after school** on Tues 24th November

You can find out more about Andy's books at www.andyseed.com

Inclusion Support Services - Supporting ND Wellbeing

How could you use this information to support your ND community?

DERBYSHIRE County Council

Awareness leads to change. Change supports wellbeing.

Recognise Reduce Recover

Supporting Neurodivergent Wellbeing and Preventing Burnout

Notice the signs • Make supportive changes • Rest and rebuild

Different brains. Different needs. Rest is productive.

1 RECOGNISE ND BURNOUT

What is ND burnout?

ND burnout is a state of extreme physical, mental and emotional exhaustion caused by prolonged demands, masking, and trying to meet expectations that may not fit your needs. It is different from 'everyday tiredness' and can take longer to recover from.



Common signs of ND burnout

- Extreme tiredness (physical and mental)
- Difficulty concentrating (brain fog)
- Feeling overwhelmed or emotionally flat
- Loss of motivation and interest
- Increased sensory sensitivities
- Withdrawal from people and activities
- More meltdowns or shutdowns
- Feeling like everything is too hard
- Needing more time to do simple tasks
- Negative thoughts and low self-esteem

If you notice several of these signs, it may be a sign that you are experiencing ND burnout. You are not alone, and it is not your fault.

2 REDUCE THE RISK

Create a more neurodivergent-friendly environment and adjust demands before burnout happens.

Manage demands

- Prioritise what is essential
- Break tasks into smaller steps
- Be realistic about time and energy

Use supportive structures

- Proutines and visual schedules
- Checklists and reminders
- Plan rest into your day

Reduce masking

- Be yourself where possible
- Spend time with accepting people
- Give yourself permission to unmask

Adjust your environment

- Reduce sensory overload (e.g. noise, lights, crowds)
- Create a calm, organised space
- Use sensory supports

Protect your energy

- Set boundaries
- Say no to non-essential demands
- Limit draining social situations

Meet your basic needs

- Regular sleep
- Nutritious food and hydration
- Movement that feels good
- Time for special interests

Build in joy and recovery

- Do things that you enjoy
- Spend time in nature
- Make time for low-demand activities

Communicate your needs

- Let others know what helps
- Ask for adjustments
- Use tools like a 'needs card' or support plan

Preventing burnout isn't about doing more. It's about doing what works for you.

3 RECOVER AND REBUILD

Recovery takes time, compassion and reduced demands. Be gentle with yourself.

Rest without guilt

- Give yourself permission to rest
- Reduce or remove non-essential demands
- Rest looks different for everyone

Re-regulate your nervous system

- Use calming activities (e.g. deep breathing, gentle movement)
- Spend time in safe and supportive environments
- Try sensory tools that help you feel calm

Reconnect with yourself

- Return to interests and activities that bring you joy
- Be kind and compassionate with yourself
- Remind yourself of your strengths

Seek support

- Talk to trusted friends, family or professionals
- Find ND-affirming communities
- Consider support from an ND-knowledgeable therapist or coach

Take small steps

- Start with low-demand tasks
- Build up slowly at your own pace
- Celebrate progress, no matter how small

Plan for the future

- Reflect on what contributed to burnout
- Make changes to reduce the risk next time
- Keep using the strategies that help you

Remember...

- ND burnout is real.
- Rest is a valid and important need.
- You are not lazy.
- It is okay to ask for help.
- Small changes can make a big difference.



Resting helps me show up as a happier, healthier me.



A neurodivergent world is a brighter world when we support wellbeing for all.

You've got this!