



St Andrew's Academy Family Update Newsletter

Spring Term 2

6th March 2026

Headteacher's Welcome



This academic year is flying by-we can't believe we're in March already!

Our young people (and staff!) thoroughly enjoyed World Book Day this week. The 'Reading Pets' display was a great focus point in the school entrance hall and everyone had a great time on the Book Hunt around school and designing their own book covers. It was great to see so many staff and students dressed up as their favourite book characters! Some of our sixth form students also wrote their own stories and created their own books. A big thank you to Shirley and her team for all their hard work with creating such an enjoyable day. Reading is a key part of our curriculum offer and sharing books and reading stories continues to be a focus.

Following on from last week's newsletter, a quick reminder about the Holiday and Food (HAF) Club that we are piloting this Easter. This is funded by Derby City Council and funded for students in years 7-11 with eligibility criteria. For the parents that are eligible, **please remember to check your emails for further information.**

David Braybrooke - Headteacher

World Book Day

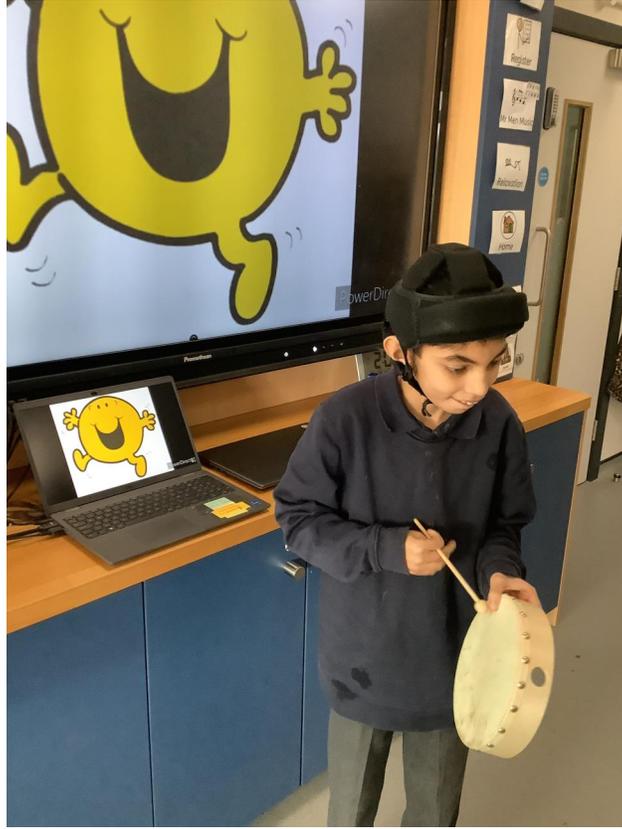
At St Andrew's we had a wonderful time celebrating World Book Day. Each class chose a different book and planned activities based on the theme of the book. We baked, made magical potions, created characters, read stories and dressed up! It was great to see all of the students and staff in their wonderful costumes!

We held a 'Reading Pets' challenge where staff took photo's of their pets reading, placing clues as to their owners in the photos, and students and staff then had to figure out which pet belonged to who.

Students also took part in a book hunt, looking for featured texts of the day around school.

We'd like to say a big 'thank you' to all of you who went all out to create costumes for our students and helping them to celebrate world book day with us and join in the fun!





Spring SEND event- this Sunday!

A colorful poster for a Spring Family SEND Event. At the top, five stylized figures in colorful headscarves (orange, green, yellow, purple, pink) stand against a blue sky with butterflies and flowers. Below them, the event title "Spring Family SEND Event" is written in a mix of blue and pink fonts. The date "Sunday, March 8th" is on a blue banner, and the time "10am till 3pm" is in a pink starburst. The text describes the event as a marketplace at the Museum of Making, offering information, connection, and fun for the whole family. A QR code is provided for more information. At the bottom, there are social media icons for Facebook and Instagram, and an email address: derbysendvoice@gmail.com. The background features a brick building with a tower and a garden with flowers.

**Spring Family
SEND Event**

Sunday, March 8th

10am
till
3pm

Join Derby SEND Voice
for a SEND marketplace at the
Museum of Making!
Enjoy a day of information,
connection, and fun for the
whole family!

Museum of Making



 For more information please email
derbysendvoice@gmail.com 

Coffee Morning- Solicitor information morning- 10-11am- Next Wednesday



We are delighted to welcome Lizzie Connolly from Freeths LLP who is Court of Protection solicitor. Lizzie will be speaking at the coffee morning on 11th March 2026 about how the Court of Protection can support families in making important decisions for children and young people who may lack capacity to manage their property and finances as they move into adulthood. With experience working alongside families of children and young adults with special educational needs and disabilities, Lizzie will explain when the Court of Protection becomes relevant, what the process involves, and how parents and carers can prepare for the future. This session is designed to provide practical guidance, answer common questions, and help you feel more confident about the legal steps ahead.

Please feel free to submit your questions to Nabila.Talit@ses.set.org in advance.

Home to School Travel Service- A message from Derby City Council



Home to School Travel Service School/College Newsletter – March 2026

Hello!

Welcome everybody to the Home to School Travel Service Newsletter.

It's March already, and we are in full swing with planning for the September 2026 intake!

Our application window opens soon, so please encourage all parents to complete their applications during this window to allow us sufficient time to plan routes etc., ready for September. Please see below details of who will need to apply/re-apply.

Applications for Travel Assistance for 2026-2027

**The on-line application for travel assistance for 2026-2027 opens on 01 April 2026.
Applications received before this date, will be automatically refused.**

Who needs to apply?

A new application must be completed if any of the bullet points below apply:

- ❖ Family is applying for travel assistance for a child for the first time.
- ❖ A child is starting school in Reception class in September 2026.
- ❖ A child is starting a new school in September 2026.
- ❖ A child is moving into Year 3 in September 2026 (Infant to Junior Schools only).
- ❖ A child is moving into Year 7 in September 2026.
- ❖ A child is moving into Year 12 in September 2026 (e.g., sixth form or college).
- ❖ A student is currently in post 16 or post 19 education and will be continuing in education in September 2026 (post 16 learners and adult learners must apply every year).
- ❖ Applying for a bus pass for a child for academic year 2026-27.



Derby City Council

- ❖ Moving to a new home address before September 2026.

Please note: If none of the above apply, and a child already receives travel assistance, this will remain in place for academic year 2026-27.

How to apply?

The on-line application window is open between 01 April 2026 and 31 May 2026. Families can apply by using the link below. If an application is received after 31 May 2026, it will still be processed, but travel assistance arrangements may not be in place for the start of the autumn term. Before making your application, please read our policy at: -

<https://www.derby.gov.uk/media/derbycitycouncil/contentassets/documents/education/send/travel/hst-assistance-policy-2025-2026.pdf>

<https://www.derby.gov.uk/media/derbycitycouncil/contentassets/documents/education/send/travel/hst-assistance-post-16-policy-statement-2025-2026.pdf>

If a student wishes to apply for travel assistance, independently of a parent or carer, they must be age 18 or over.

Supporting documents e.g., Education, Health, and Care Plan (EHCP), medical evidence, proof of free school meals, proof of baptism will need to be included with the application.

Families who do not have access to the Internet should visit a local library or the Council House for free computer and Internet access to complete the online application.

Please note: Responses provided on the online application form MUST be in relation to the school that a child will be attending from September 2026.

If you have any questions, please contact the team via email: schooltravel@derby.gov.uk, or by telephone 01332 642716.

For more information about the Home to School Travel Service please see [Home to School Travel Assistance - Derby City Council](#)

Home to School Travel Service Update:

We have welcomed Lynne onto the team! Lynne joined us in January 2026 and is supporting the team by making sure our systems are all working. Lynne also oversees our appeals process and is the Clerk at Stage 2 appeal hearings.

For information about the whole team, please go to the end of this newsletter.



Derby City Council

Mileage Allowance and Post -16 Personal Travel Budgets Update:

The summer term payment is due to be paid to parents during Easter 2026. Email requests for attendance data have already been sent to schools. Due to the way Easter falls and the Council's financial closedown, please provide the attendance data for the spring term by no later than 11 March 2026.

Detentions:

We have had some recent experience of students who are on Council Organised Transport receiving after school detentions. If school is giving this sanction, they must contact the transport provider and cancel the transport as the crews cannot wait until the detention is over. The responsibility for collecting a child following after school detention is with the parent/carer.

NEW: Designated safeguarding inbox for schools

The Home to School Travel Service have created a new inbox for schools to use in the case of safeguarding incidents/concerns.

Please use this inbox instead of the general school travel one for anything related to safeguarding. The email address is safeguarding.htst@derby.gov.uk

Please **DO NOT** give this address to parents.

Meet the Team (Snapshot of Duties):

Carole:

Carole is the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead. Please contact Carole for any safeguarding concerns.

Matthew:

Matt is responsible for processing travel assistance applications. Please contact Matt if you have any queries about your application. Matt is also the Presenting Officer at Stage 2 appeals.

Lauren:

Lauren is responsible for making the mileage allowance payments and post-16 PTB payments. Please contact Lauren if you have any questions about your payment.

Amelia:

Amelia is responsible for supporting Matt with processing applications. Please contact Amelia if you have any queries about your application.



Derby City Council

Lynne:

Lynne is responsible for making sure our systems are all working. Lynne also oversees our appeals process and is the Clerk at Stage 2 appeal hearings.

Helen:

Helen is the Designated Safeguarding Lead and is responsible for the day to day running of the team.

Tom:

Tom is the Commissioning Manager and the strategic lead for the Home to School Travel Service. He is responsible planning, policy development, performance and quality.

Contacts:

General Enquiries:

Schooltravel@derby.gov.uk

Telephone: 01332 6427416

Designated Safeguarding Concerns:

safeguarding-htst@derby.gov.uk

Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to working with you over this next half-term.

Reminder- **Allergy and Dietary forms**

Dear Parents/Carers,

You will recently have received **Allergy and Dietary forms** to complete for your young person. **Please complete and return these as soon as possible**, if you have not already done so. We have sent out forms in student's diaries this week to those who have not yet returned their forms. If you have any questions or need any assistance, please call the school office.

St Andrew's Spring Fayre



Enterprise Week



KS3

Barra class have been learning about 2D shapes through a fun and practical activity. We made gingerbread men, using shape cutters to create different 2D shapes. The students worked on identifying and naming each shape correctly, including circles, squares, rectangles, and triangles.

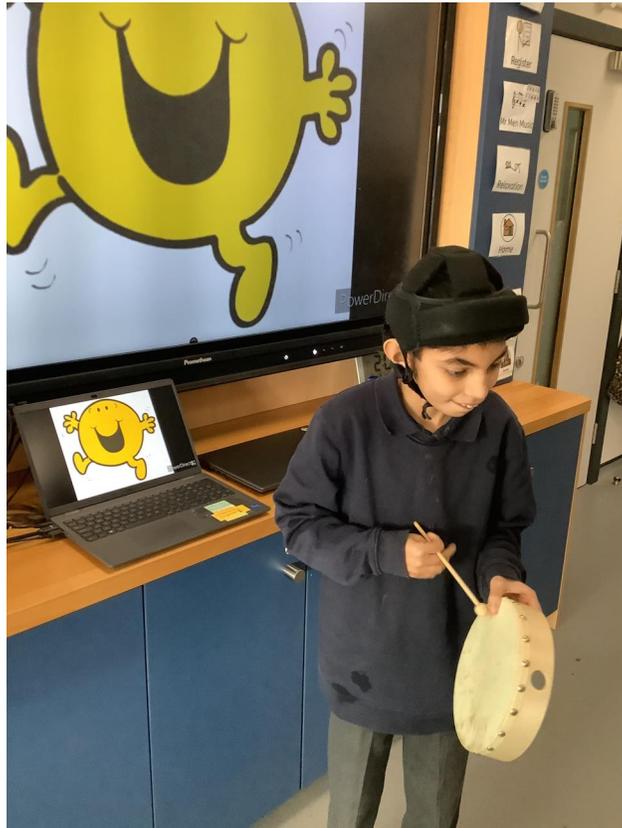
They then used the shapes to build and design their own gingerbread characters, thinking carefully about which shapes to use for the head, body, arms and legs. The students were fully engaged throughout the activity, enjoyed the hands-on learning, and were very proud of their finished creations.

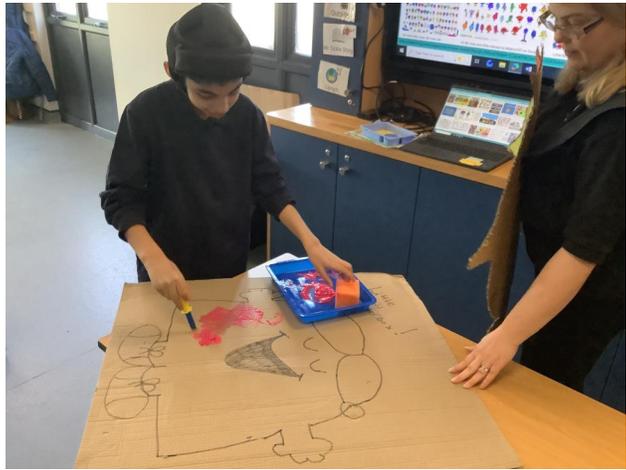


The Glens

Skye students enjoyed engaging with World Book Day yesterday. Our class theme was Mr Men and Little Miss. Activities included painting characters, a Mr Tickle sensory story, music activities to theme songs, and sharing favourite books.







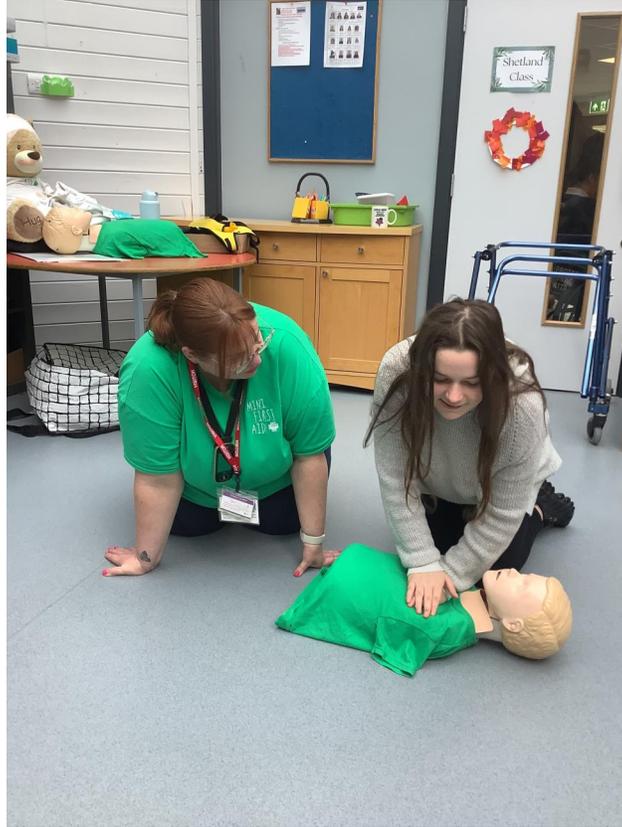


KS4

KS4 students recently took part in a mini first aid course, where they learned essential life-saving skills and how to respond confidently in emergency situations. During the session, students were introduced to basic first aid techniques such as CPR, dealing with minor injuries, and understanding how to assess a casualty. The course gave students valuable practical knowledge and helped build their confidence in knowing how to help others if an emergency were to occur.

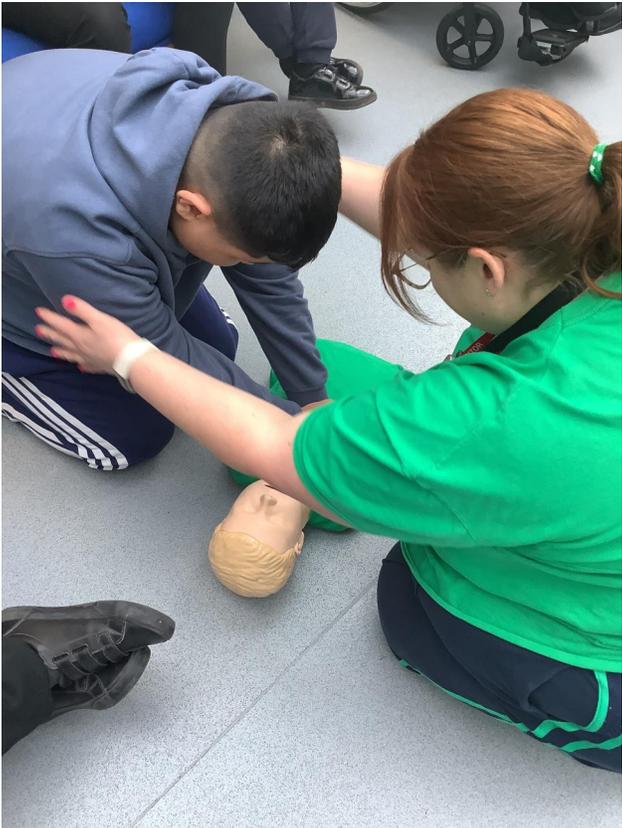


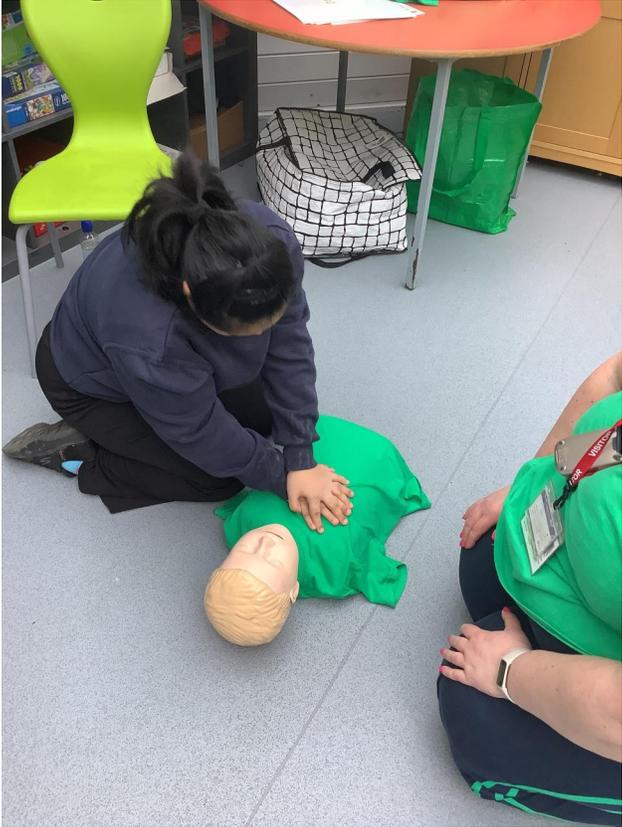
















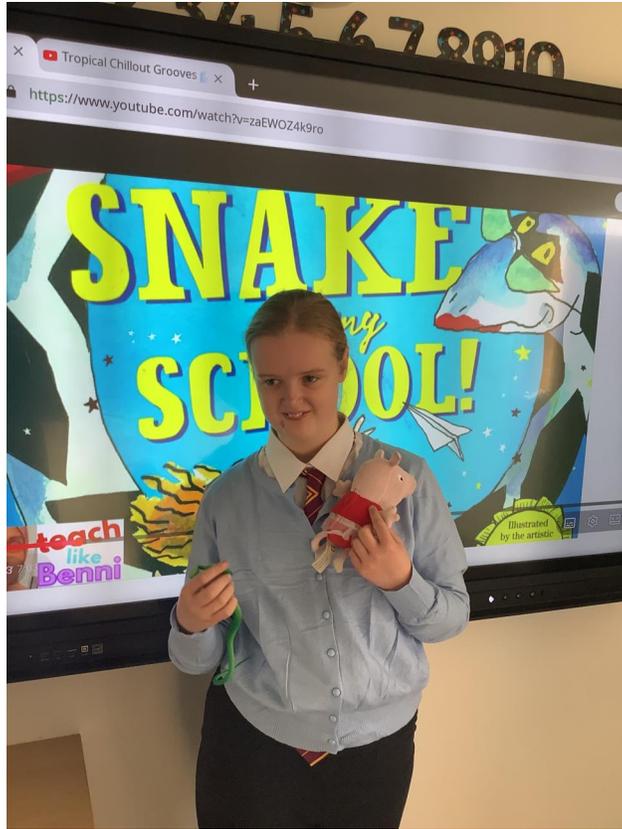


The Highlands

This week in Taransay students have been making pancakes on a Trangia. Students have been learning about the safety around hot objects and when it's safe to touch. Also this week we have been celebrating World Book Day with 'There's a snake in my school'.

This week in Jura Class we celebrated World Book Day. The students enjoyed listening to the funny Professor Poopypants names from Captain Underpants. The silly names such as 'zippy hamster nose' made students and staff laugh and the students showed their enjoyment through smiles, looking, and spending time with staff during the activity. We also designed our own underpants, choosing colours and patterns and decorating them in different ways. The students were able to make simple choices and take part in the activity with support. It was a fun way to celebrate books together. 📚







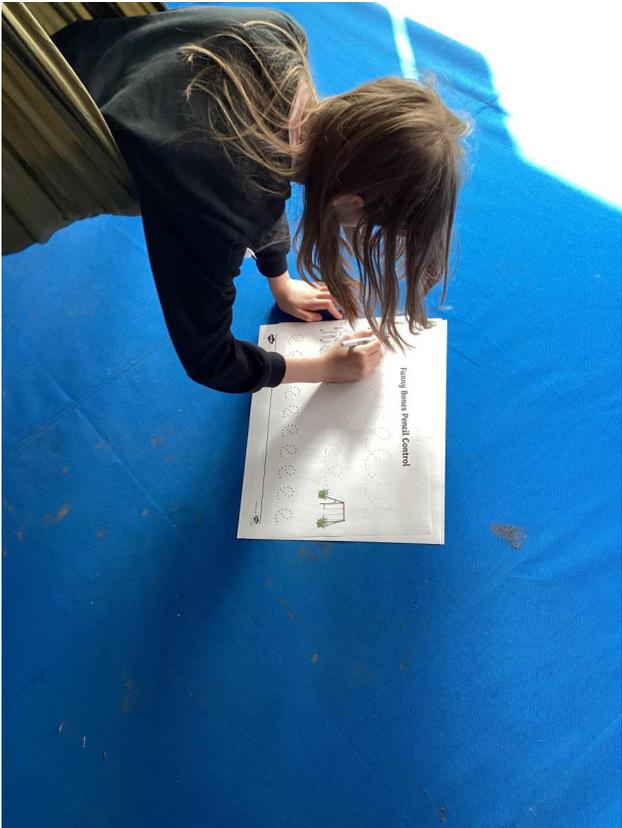
Therapy Input



In celebration of World book day, the therapy room chose Funny Bones as their book. Students enjoyed completing various tasks and exercises which linked with the story through out the day.







LOST PROPERTY

We currently have 4 coats in our lost property box, belonging to students (2 navy blue, 1 grey and 1 khaki green).

If you believe that any of these belong to your child, please contact the school office and we can hopefully reunite you with your lost items!

It would be really helpful if you could label your child's clothing (especially jackets and coats), to ensure they are sent home with the correct child at the end of the day.

Thank you!

Tips for Reading with your Young People at home

ST. ANDREWS ACADEMY

St Andrew's Academy

WEEK 7: 'SOUND IT OUT' AND BLEND TOGETHER

THIS WEEK, WE'RE SUPPORTING STUDENTS TO HEAR THE BUILDING BLOCKS OF WORDS.

ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILD TO BREAK WORDS INTO INDIVIDUAL SOUNDS LIKE C-A-T AND THEN SLOWLY BLEND THEM TOGETHER TO READ THE WHOLE WORD.

REMEMBER: CELEBRATE THE EFFORT AS MUCH AS THE ACCURACY. EVERY TRY BUILDS CONFIDENCE!

Makaton- Sign of the week



School Term and Holiday Dates


St Andrew's Academy
School Term and Holiday Dates
2025-2026

Autumn Term	Summer Term	Bank Holiday (Shut to all)
Spring Term	School Holiday	Inset Day (Shut to students)

September 2025 (19 days)							October 2025 (18 days)							November 2025 (20 days)						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30
29	30																			

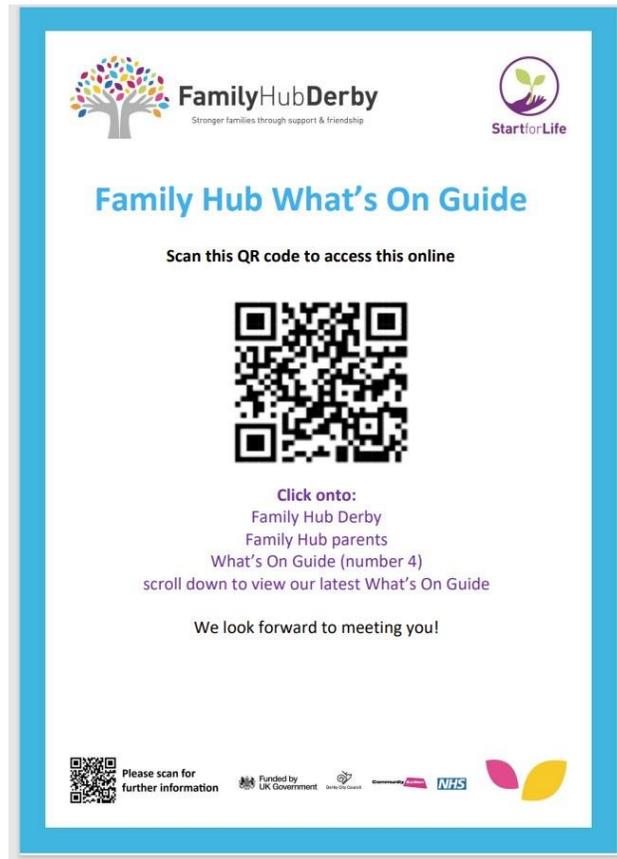
December 2025 (15 days)							January 2026 (20 days)							February 2026 (15 days)						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4							1
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	

March 2026 (20 days)							April 2026 (14 days)							May 2026 (15 days)								
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S		
						1				1	2	3	4	5						1	2	3
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31		

June 2026 (22 days)							July 2026 (17 days)							August 2026							
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4	5	31					1	2
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
29	30						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	

195 Days – including up to 5 days to be taken as professional development days for teaching staff.

Family Hub QR Code



 **FamilyHubDerby**
Stronger families through support & friendship

 **StartforLife**

Family Hub What's On Guide

Scan this QR code to access this online



Click onto:
Family Hub Derby
Family Hub parents
What's On Guide (number 4)
scroll down to view our latest What's On Guide

We look forward to meeting you!

 Please scan for further information

Funded by UK Government   

Go and Follow our Social Media Pages!



 St Andrew's Academy

 Show Education Trust

DON'T FORGET TO FOLLOW US!

WE POST WEEKLY

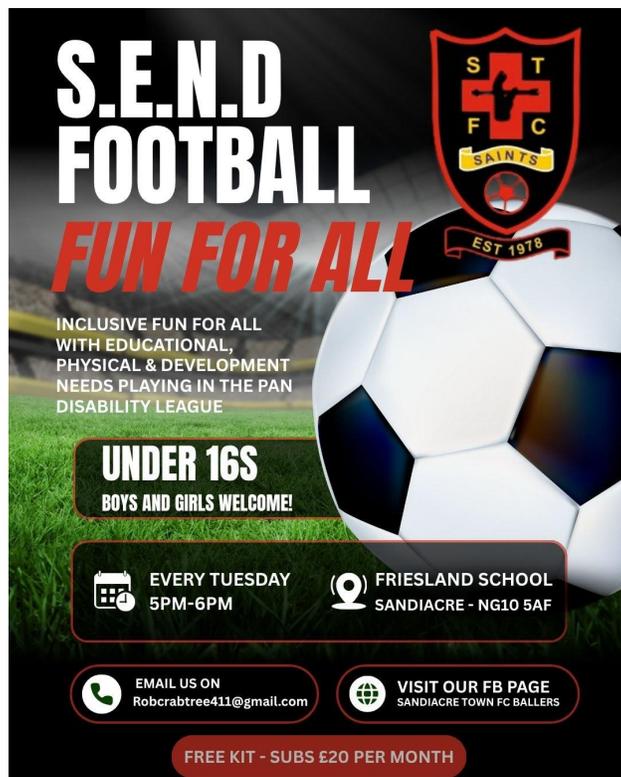


Facebook - [St. Andrews Academy](#)

Instagram - [Standrews.academy](#)

LinkedIn - [St. Andrews Academy, Derby](#)

SEND Football



**S.E.N.D
FOOTBALL**
FUN FOR ALL

INCLUSIVE FUN FOR ALL
WITH EDUCATIONAL,
PHYSICAL & DEVELOPMENT
NEEDS PLAYING IN THE PAN
DISABILITY LEAGUE

UNDER 16S
BOYS AND GIRLS WELCOME!

EVERY TUESDAY
5PM-6PM

FRIESLAND SCHOOL
SANDIACRE - NG10 5AF

EMAIL US ON
Robcrabtree411@gmail.com

VISIT OUR FB PAGE
SANDIACRE TOWN FC BALLERS

FREE KIT - SUBS £20 PER MONTH

The poster features a large soccer ball on the right side. The background is a dark, blurred image of a football pitch. The text is primarily white and red. The club crest is in the top right corner, featuring a shield with a cross and the letters S, T, F, C, and the word SAINTS below it, with EST 1978 on a banner.

Contact Us

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