



**Where Every Child
Matters**



Head Teacher

Susan Allen

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Website:

www.ivyhouse.derby.sch.uk

Useful numbers:

Parent partnership:

01332 641414P

Umbrella: 01332 785658

Direct line nurses room:

01332 777927

Wheelchair services:

01332 292080/287057

Lighthouse:

01332 256995

Derby deaf children's society: contact Roslyn Chee: 07921781233

Transport: 01332 641729

SEN: 01332 640823

Playground and outside developments.

We now have our three new canopies in our outside areas to help us get out all year round for learning and our playtime, and thanks to the Funds for Fun group, we also have a wonderful new wheelchair swing to enjoy.



Christmas fayre and nativity.

Do please join us for the Christmas fayre on Friday 28th November 10.00-12.00. For parents of children in the primary department the nativity is on Thursday 11th and Friday 12th December at 2.00pm- so keep an afternoon free.

We hope you enjoy your time with us.

Governors:

Our Governing body work very hard to support everyone at school and ensure we are continuing to improve our provision even further and move forward for our pupils. Rosalind Oldham is our chair of Governors, and is frequently in school on Governor business but also supporting all our achievement assemblies. We welcomed Gareth Higgs and Cassie Holmes to the Governing body this term. We have our full Governor information going on the website next week if you would like to find out more about who they are and their roles.

Sports.



We sent a small team to the seated Volley ball competition in October. We didn't win the cup but we thoroughly enjoyed taking part and receiving our certificates.



Parent and carer questionnaires.

We would be grateful if you could return the parent questionnaires. These help us to know how we are doing or what we need to improve on for our pupils and families. Please return them by the first week of December.

Parents' afternoon:

We will be asking you in to meet the class staff this month. We will talk about the progress your son or daughter is making and some of the activities they are doing. Each class will send out their own letter with the date and times. We hope you are able to join us.

Children in need.

On Friday 14th November we will be supporting Children in Need. To join in with the fun staff and pupils can dress in a 'Onesie or appropriate pyjamas' and a contribution to children in need would be appreciated. Thank you



Pool.

Swimming at Ivy House Hydro-pool. We run a range of events in our pool including lifeguard training qualifications, family swims, swimming lessons and also splash parties.

For more information contact the team at:

ivyhousepool@hotmail.co.uk.

Information update.

Please make sure you give school any changes of telephone numbers etc, so we can amend our records for contact to ensure that you are contactable in case of emergencies. Thank you. This will be especially important if the weather is bad over the next couple of months.



Staff updates.

Pat Mitchell is officially retiring at the beginning of December. Pat has been at Ivy house School for 16 years and will be greatly missed by both pupils and staff. We can however still be cheery as she will continue to support us doing some supply cover when needed. So Au revoir Pat - not goodbye!!!!



Coffee morning.

Our next parent coffee meeting is 9th December 10.00-11.15. Please come and join the parent group, and if you wish to bring a family member or friend with you please let us know.



Clothing and laundry.

Please ensure your son or daughter bring spare clothes as required for school. Any soiled clothes during the day will be sluiced, bagged and returned home. We are not able to wash them at school for you. If school clothes are used in an emergency please return them washed as soon as is convenient. Thank you for your help with this. Please ensure all clothes are named.

Holiday authorised by school.

The Department for Education state that holidays should not be granted except in exceptional circumstances and applications must be made in advance. Please write clearly the reasons for such requests on the school forms. Families leaving the country for extended periods may return to find their child has been removed from the school register and their place has been filled.

General information.

Return to school meetings:

If your son or daughter has surgery or a prolonged absence due to illness we will want a meeting with you **before** they return to school, to ensure we have everything in place for them. Please contact us for this meeting as soon as you know they are returning to school. These meetings are invaluable to your child.

Annual reviews:

The reviews will run on Wednesdays and Thursdays this year. Please reply immediately if the allocated time is really not convenient as we struggle to swap them around last minute. We have nearly 100 meetings to run so timings are crucial, but your attendance is really important for your son or daughter. Thank you for your involvement with these.

Absence

Parents are required to ring school and leave a message or speak to a staff member on the first day of any **general** absence for their child. Thank you for your co-operation.

Website:

If you haven't yet visited our new website please do, and tell us if there is anything else you would find useful to have on there. There will be class information pages going on shortly.

Inset dates to note:

Our next inset training day when **school is closed to pupils is Monday 24th November 2014.** We have a range of activities that day and we will be exploring developing our assessment and pupil journals. In the New Year our inset date when school is closed is **Monday 16th February 2015.**

We can't change the direction of the wind, but we can adjust our sails to help reach our destinations.



Put your heart, mind, and soul into even your smallest acts. This is the secret of success.

