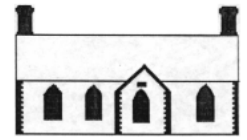


Earl Sterndale CE Primary School

Newsletter

September 2025



I am genuinely delighted to write my first newsletter as Headteacher of Earl Sterndale CE Primary School. It is a real privilege to join such a warm and welcoming school community. I have been teaching for almost 30 years, and was most recently acting Headteacher of Fairfield Infant and Nursery School. I live in Buxton with my husband and two teenage children, so I know the local area well.

Over the Summer school staff have been busy preparing for the new term, and it has been lovely to be made to feel so welcome already. My vision for the school is rooted in nurturing every child's potential. I am passionate that all pupils should thrive under our care, and am excited to get to know them over the next few weeks. If you have any concerns, or wish to discuss anything about your child, then please get in touch. I look forward to working closely with you all to ensure that Earl Sterndale continues to be a place where children are happy and feel inspired to learn.

Warm regards,

Mrs Sarah Humpleby

Please feel free to join me for a cuppa and chat on **Thursday 11th September 9-10am.**



We have been lucky enough to receive some generous donations of school uniform. These will be in the playground on Thursday and Friday at drop-off and pick-up time. Please have a look and take anything that you would like. A small donation for the Fundraising Committee is welcomed, but not expected. We have also sorted through a large amount of unwanted clothing. Please ensure that your child brings home whatever they bring in, to help us keep school tidy going forward.

Children need to be wearing **sensible footwear** in school that is safe for them to run around in. However, we understand that some children may need reasonable adjustments regarding uniform, so please discuss this with a member of staff.

Please ensure ALL clothing in school, including wellies, hats, coats etc., are clearly named.



On the days when children are doing PE, please make sure they come to school wearing their PE kit.

***Class 1 Tuesday and Wednesday**

***Class 2 Friday**

ENTRY ARRANGEMENTS

The playground opens at 8.50am (children cannot be left before this time).

Link and Class 1 doors open at 9am. Class 2 and Year 1/2 children to enter through the Link; Reception children to enter through classroom door under canopy.

From 9.10am children will be recorded as late.

At 9.20am the register closes.

Please contact the school office before 9.20am if your child is unwell and won't be in school.



HOMETIME ARRANGEMENTS

Class 1 to be collected from the gate inside the playground.

Class 2 children leave through the Link door and will be dismissed individually by staff. Please let us know if you are happy for your child to walk home alone - you do not need to tell us more than once as we will keep a list in school.

If an adult we do not know is collecting your child please let us know.

Curriculum

As part of our ongoing commitment to school improvement we are actively addressing the areas identified in the most recent Ofsted inspection. Two key areas identified were the coherence and clarity of our curriculum and pupil behaviour during structured times.

Work has already begun to strengthen our curriculum planning, including the purchase of commercial schemes and the identification of curriculum leaders within the staff team. This will help us to ensure that learning is well-sequenced and builds progressively across year groups.

We are also reviewing and refining our behaviour expectations and I will be working on specific elements of this in the first few weeks. Our aim is to create a calm, focused environment where all children feel happy and ready to learn. I will continue to keep you updated on our progress, and welcome your support and feedback as we move forward together.

Attendance

Good attendance is key to helping children thrive and make the most of every opportunity at school. If your child is finding attendance difficult, please don't hesitate to let us know. We're here to help and want every child to feel supported and confident at school. Please also help your child by ensuring they arrive on time every day.

Wraparound Care

Breakfast Club is from 8.20am-8.50am (Entry through Office door before 8.30am) **FREE**

This is currently supported by Government funding. We are expecting an update which may mean this arrangement changes, so we will keep you posted.

After School Club 3.30-4.30/4.30-5.30pm. £5 per child per hour

To book a place please email clubs@earlsterndale.derbyshire.sch.uk by **1pm on the Friday before**.

All children should bring a bag to school every day, so that they can take reading books back and forth, as well as any artwork or letters (please check their bags each day for these). Class 1 children should use a school bookbag (please ask at the office). Class 2 children are welcome to bring an alternative bag, but please ensure it is not too large. We are a small building and have minimal space. Class 2 children should NOT bring their own pencil cases. Mrs Cross will be providing them with everything they need to use in school. We also request that children do not bring in toys from home, as they are often a distraction and can easily get lost.

Fundraising Committee update

We are very grateful to our fantastic Fundraising Committee who have been able to fund the purchase of some new books. These will be used with our new Literacy Scheme, Pathways to Write.

If anyone is interested in becoming part of the committee, please let us know.

Our Leavers' Party raised an impressive £2,071 for school funds. This will be used to purchase essential resources and to subsidise trips and treats for the children. Thank you!

Class names

Our two classes are Class 1 and 2:

- * **Class 1**-Reception, Year 1 and 2
- * **Class 2**-Years 3, 4, 5 and 6



Please make sure your child has a clearly named (sensibly-sized) bottle in school every day. As part of our commitment to being a Healthy School, children should only have water in their bottles. Please let us know if you think your child will find this difficult.

Dates for the term

Mon 8th Sept	Back to school
Tues 16th Sept	First Swimming Session (Y2-6)
Thurs 16th Oct	Flu Immunisations (whole school)
Thurs 23rd Oct	Harvest Festival 2pm
Fri 24th Oct	Last day of half-term
Mon 3rd Nov	Back to school
Thurs 11th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day
Weds 17th Dec	Christmas Lunch for pupils
Thursday 18th Dec	Nativity (2pm and 6pm)
Fri 19th Dec	Last day of Autumn term

September 2025 Staff Team

Mrs Sarah Humpleby	Headteacher, SENCo, Safeguarding Lead, Class 1 teacher
Miss Dawn Clayton	Designated Safeguarding Lead, Class 1 teacher
Mrs Katie Cross	Class 2 teacher
Mrs Jen Plevey	PPA cover teacher
Miss Leanne Cartwright	Support Staff
Mrs Tracey Critchlow	Support staff
Miss Charlotte Burton	Support staff
Mrs Margaret Smith	Support staff
Mrs Annette Stainer	Support staff
Mr John De Pledge	Support staff
Mrs Cassie Hipkiss-Hicks	School Business Assistant
Janie Allen	School Cook