



Lesser Lane
Combs
High Peak
Derbyshire
SK23 9UZ
Telephone/Fax: 01298 813120

Headteacher: Miss J. Sweatmore
NPQH

12th January 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome back to school. We hope you have all had a wonderful Christmas and looking forward to the year ahead.

It has been lovely to see all the children return with smiles on their faces and they have settled quickly back in to their school routine.

Just a couple of reminders and updates for this term.

Mrs Doughty

Mrs Doughty underwent an operation during the Christmas holiday period and is currently resting and recovering at home. She will be absent for this half term, and we look forward to welcoming her back at the start of the next half term. We send her our very best wishes and hope for a comfortable and speedy recovery.

Afterschool club booking

Can we please ask that if you are wanting to book your child in to afterschool club, this is done no **later** than **10:00am** the same day.

PAS will be continuing to run an afterschool club every Monday and the school staff will be taking it in turns to run an additional afterschool club another day of the week, (specified below). Both clubs will be running until 4.30pm alongside our wraparound care.

Spring 1 club on a **Tuesday** will be – Food (learning to make sandwiches and other healthy snacks).

Spring 2 club on a **Thursday** will be - Gardening

School Day reminders

Both classes will open their doors at **8.30am** and the end of the school day is **3.30pm**.

Wraparound care will continue as normal, **8.00am** to **8.30am** breakfast club and after school club **3.30pm** till **6.00pm** every day.

Registration will start **promptly** at **9.00am**. If your child arrives after **9.00am**, they will be marked as late in the register.

Attendance

Children from Reception age and upwards are required to attend school full time. If you have to remove your child for an appointment, please show a copy of the appointment card to the office. We are really trying to maintain a good attendance at Combs but equally understand that sometimes you will have to take your child slightly earlier or bring later due to a medical appointment. All holidays in school term time will **not** be authorised and will be liable for a fine from DCC. Once a term we will check whole school attendance and those children with an attendance

below 95%, will be sent a letter. This is to make parents aware and that school is there to help support them in improving their child's attendance.

Winter/Clothing

Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for this time of year. We do send children out at playtimes and dinnertimes in most weathers (within reason) so please make sure they come to school in warm clothing along with a winter coat, hat, scarf and gloves.

Please continue to write your child's name in all their clothing and additional accessories.

GEM day

GEM Day is named after a former parent of ours who sadly passed away. Gemma and her family opened a charity shop in Chapel called "The GEM Foundation and Gift Shop". With the support of Gemma's family, they are happy for us to hold this day in school annually to help raise money for Stage 4 Deserves More.

Gemma was a wonderful, outgoing, vibrant and happy woman who always made everyone smile, therefore we only feel it would be fitting to make GEM Day full of bright colours, sparkles and glitter.

GEM Day will be taking place on **Friday 30th January** this school year. We ask that children join the staff in dressing up in their most bright/sparkly/glittery clothes to bring a smile to each other and everyone around them.

There are lots of different ways that we help raise money charities and for this one, we have chosen to do a sponsored hour long "Dance-a-Thon" bringing Strictly Come Dancing to Combs. Please find a sponsor form attached to this newsletter. We ask that you return the form, with your child's sponsor money on the day of the 'Dance-a-Thon', which will be taking place in school that day.

All proceeds will go towards Stage 4 Deserves More.

Parent Teacher consultations

We will be holding parent/teacher consultations on Monday 9th March. We will be displaying the available times on your child's classroom door nearer the date for you to book your preferred slot.

Peak Wildlife Park trip

On Monday 23rd March, we will be taking EYFS and KS1 children on a trip to Peak Wildlife Park. We will be travelling there and back by coach.

More information and a permission slip will be handed out nearer the time.

Governors

The school continues to be supported by the school governors led by Nick Boden. Should you wish to contact Mr. Boden on any school matters please email

nick.boden@combs.derbyshire.sch.uk

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Kind Regards

Miss Sweatmore
Headteacher

DATES OR YOUR DIARY	
Friday 30 th January	GEM Day
Friday 13 th February at 3.00pm	Friendship Assembly
Friday 13 th February	Half term – School closes for 1 week
Monday 23 rd February	Back to school!
Thursday 5 th March	World Book Day
Monday 9 th March from 1pm onwards	Parent Consultations
Friday 20 th March	Red Nose Day
Monday 23 rd March	Peak Wildlife Park
Friday 27 th March at 3.00pm	Easter Bonnet Parade
Friday 27 th March	Half Term – School closes for 2 weeks
Monday 13 th April	Back to school!

Reminders and more information regarding individual events will be sent out nearer the time.



Online Safety Reminder



We are committed to helping you keep your child safe while they are exploring the digital world. With the rise of technology, it has become increasingly important for parents to be aware of the potential dangers online.

Here are some helpful hints and tips to keep in mind:

1. **Set boundaries**: It is important to set clear boundaries for your child when it comes to technology use. Decide on a specific time for them to use the internet and what websites or apps are appropriate for their age.
2. **Monitor their activity**: Keep a close eye on what your child is doing online by regularly checking their browsing history and social media accounts. This will help you identify any potential risks or issues early on.
3. **Educate them**: Talk to your child about the importance of online safety and the potential dangers they may encounter. Encourage them to come to you if they ever feel uncomfortable or unsure about something they see online.
4. **Use parental controls**: Most devices and apps have built-in parental controls that can help you restrict access to certain websites, apps or content. Take advantage of these features to help keep your child safe.
5. **Minimise chance of exposure**: Ensure parent mobile phones/iPads are locked, using a pin code (not known to your child)/finger print or facial recognition to prevent your child from accessing inappropriate content on an unrestricted device.

On our school website (home page – parents – online safety) you will find a list of useful websites, advice and resources that you may find helpful when navigating the issue of online safety with your child.

At the bottom of the page are resources that your child can directly access as well to help them learn about online safety.