



Washingwell Primary School

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Newsletter Number: 20

Date: Friday 7 February 2025

Attendance

	Mars Nursery	Mars Reception	Jupiter Y1	Venus Y2	Earth Y3	Neptune Y4	Saturn Y5	Mercury Y6
Weekly Attendance %	92.9%	95.5%	100%	93.8%	99.6%	91.9%	97%	97.2%
Whole School attendance %	96.1%							


News

Children's World Mental Health Week: 3 – 7 February

This week we have all been focusing on how we **'Know ourself, grow ourself'** by recognising the importance of understanding our feelings; what they feel like, what they look like and how we can learn to recognise and build strategies to help us cope with these feelings.

This is not something new to us or the children, as understanding our self is something we build upon continually in our every day interactions with each other, supporting them to become confident, resilient and independent learners.

TIPS FOR FAMILIES




1 Encourage journaling
Just like Riley, encourage your older children and young people to express their emotions and thoughts through journaling. It can be less confronting than speaking out loud and is a helpful way to process what is going on.

4 Practice mindfulness
Try mindful activities, and quiet family time, to enjoy being in the present moment. This can help children and young people be aware of their thoughts and emotions and learn a useful new coping technique.

2 Make space for reflection
When children and young people reflect on their different emotions, it can help them better understand themselves and what they need.
Go for a walk, drive, or try some mindful colouring or baking together.

5 Communicate
Feedback is crucial for helping us see our blind spots and gain greater insight. Children and young people are no different. Creating safe and supportive ways to share your own experience with your child can help them understand themselves and their impact on the world around them.

3 Be visual
Use imagery, such as emojis or flashcards to help children and young people recognise and label their feelings.



This week's achievers are....

Achievement for All

School Value: Respect

Theme: Excellent behaviour

Mars: Lula Kristiansen

Earth: Daisy Miller

Jupiter: Nakai Eke Matsika

Neptune: Charlie Spence

Venus: Lily-Rose Potts

Saturn: Fable News

Mercury: Harry Kavanagh

A few reminders

Packed lunches: Please remember that our school is a nut-free school. We have noticed that some children have been having food in their packed lunches which do contain nuts ie Nutella sandwiches, Bueuno bars and pesto sauces. All these foods contain 'hidden' nuts and therefore should not be brought into school.

School Uniform policy: Our policy on hair and jewellery is as follows.

- Hair should always be tied back once it approaches shoulder length. *This is applicable for both boys and girls.*
- Pupils should use discrete, plain bobbles and hairbands with school uniform colours. *This means that hairbands with ears, head scarves etc. should not be worn.*
- For reasons of health and safety, the wearing of jewellery of any form is not allowed. *Watches can be worn, but these must be simple digital or analogue watches – no SMART watches that have phone or camera accessibility*

Thank you for your continued support in these areas - I hope this clarifies our school expectations.

Can you help?

We are re-stocking our dressing-up boxes for outdoor play and lunch times. We have plenty of outfits for Key Stage 1 but have a very limited selection for Key Stage 2. If you have any larger dressing up outfits, age 7 upwards, wigs, hats, scarves etc. that you no longer have a use for then, we would really appreciate if you could donate them to school. Thank you.

Reminders

Tax Free Childcare

Did you know, you can get up to £2,000 a year for each of your children to help with the costs of childcare, if you're a working parent or in receipt of certain benefits? This goes up to £4,000 a year if they have a disability. To claim this, you'll need set up an online childcare account for your child. For every £8 you pay into this account, the government will pay in £2 to use to pay your provider. You can then use this account to pay for approved childcare, such as childminders, nurseries and after school provision.

To check your eligibility and find out how to get started, follow this link <https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>

Parking around school ...

Please be considerate when parking so as to ensure it is safe for both pedestrians and vehicles. Thank you for your co-operation and support in keeping our streets a safe place for all.

'Be cool, park SAFELY away from school

Previous attachment

SEND
LEGO
CLUB

Tuesday 11th February

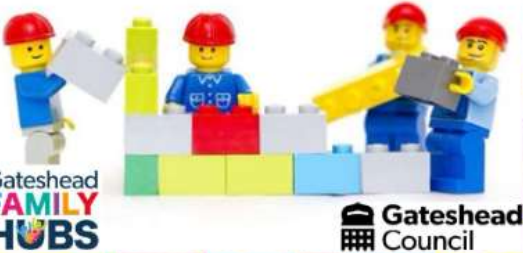
4:00-5:00pm

Blaydon Winlaton Family Hub

Children under 12 with additional needs - come along
and join a LEGO building session!
Parents, carers and siblings welcome

Contact: familyhubs@gateshead.gov.uk

Tel: 0191 433 5579



Gateshead
FAMILY
HUBS

Gateshead
Council

Forthcoming Events and Key Dates

Planned Staff Training and Arranged Class Cover for the week ahead.

Staff Member	Class	Date	Cover
Miss Johnson	Mercury	Wednesday 12 February - am	Ms Carr
Mrs Mustard	Jupiter	Wednesday 12 February - pm	Mrs Ellison

All dates can be found on our school website Calendar tab: <https://www.washingwell.org.uk/>

Tuesday 11 February 2025

Jupiter Showcase – 9.15am

Wednesday 12 February 2025

Year 5/6 Mini Hockey at Whickham School– 12.30pm – more information to follow

Thursday 13 February 2025

Year 3/4 Bikeability in school – consent forms emailed to parents

Wednesday 19 February 2025

Gateshead Schools' Swimming Gala – 12.00pm – invited children only

Thursday 20 February 2025

Earth Showcase – 9.15am

Thursday 20 February 2025

Year 1 Cricket Festival at Gateshead Stadium– 9.30am – more information to follow

Friday 21 February 2025

School closes for half-term holidays – 3.20pm

Monday 3 March 2025

Staff training day – school closed to all pupils

Tuesday 4 March 2025

School re-opens to all pupils 8.40am

Year 3 Quicksticks Hockey at Whickham school– 12.30pm – more information to follow

Year 6 Transition at Whickham – Science pm

Wednesday 5 March 2025

Music Workshops – am

Wednesday 5 – Friday 7 March 2025

Year 4 residential visit to Newby Wisje Hall

Thursday 6 March 2025

World Book Day – more information to follow

Monday 10 March 2025

Parent consultations – 3.30pm – 6.00pm all year groups

Tuesday 11 March 2025

Neptune Showcase – 9.15am

Parent consultations – 3.30pm – 6.00pm Year 1 – 6

Wednesday 12 March 2025

Parent consultations – 3.30pm – 6.00pm Nursery & Reception

Tuesday 18 March 2025

Class photographs

Wednesday 19 March 2025

Mercury Showcase – 9.15am

Thursday 20 March 2025

Mars Stay & Play – 9.15am

Wednesday 26 March 2025

Spring Assembly 9.15am – more information to follow

Monday 31 March 2025

Venus Showcase – 9.15am

Tuesday 1 April 2025

Y6 Transition at Whickham – Art pm

Wednesday 2 April 2025

Saturn Showcase – 9.15am

Thursday 3 April 2025

Key Stage 1 Girls Football at Gateshead Stadium -9.30am – more information to follow

Friday 11 April 2025

School closes for Easter holidays 3.20pm - No Whizz Kids after school session

*A reminder that we are a Safeguarding School and we have a duty to pass on any concerns to
Children's Services*