



Washingwell Primary School

Tel: 0191 4884400

Email: Admin@washingwell.org.uk

Website: www.washingwell.org.uk



@washingwellsch



@washingwellprimaryschool

Newsletter Number: 1

Date: Friday 5 September 2025

Attendance

	Mars Nursery	Mars Reception	Jupiter Y1	Venus Y2	Earth Y3	Neptune Y4	Saturn Y5	Mercury Y6
Weekly Attendance %		94.3%	100%	95.8%	90.3%	96.7%	97.5%	88%
Whole School attendance %	94.6%							

News

Welcome!

Welcome back to all our pupils, parents and staff and a very warm welcome to our new children and families who join us across school. We have had a super first week with all children settling well and engaging fully in school life. We have a busy term ahead so please check out our [Forthcoming Events and Key Dates](#) section at the end of the letter.

General Information

As we have a 'free-flow' entry system at the beginning of day and collection system at end of day, we are conscious that you may not always be able to speak to a teacher regarding your child. If you need to pass on information, ask questions or inform teachers of anything at all to do with your child, you can contact them using the following email:

Mrs Pattison	Mars@washingwell.org.uk
Mr Phillips	Jupiter@washingwell.org.uk
Mrs Mustard	Venus@washingwell.org.uk
Miss Tweedy	Earth@washingwell.org.uk
Mr Sayers	Neptune@washingwell.org.uk
Mrs Erskine/Mrs Bridger	Saturn@washingwell.org.uk
Miss Johnson	Mercury@washingwell.org.uk

Urgent and daily queries should still be directed to the school office via admin@washingwell.org.uk or by telephone on 0191 4884400.

The following forms can now be found under **Forms** in our **Parent** section on our school website. Please click on the relevant link to complete.

[Administration of Medication](#)

[Request for Leave of Absence during Term Time](#)

[Medical Appointment](#)

[Reporting Pupil Absence](#)

[Dietary Requirements 2025-2026](#)

[Medical Needs 2025-2026](#)

Whizz Kids

Whizz Kids bookings must be completed via ParentPay. This is done daily with a **6.00pm** deadline for next day bookings. To ensure a guaranteed place we recommend that you book on a weekly basis. If you need to book your child in after that then please use the dedicated email Whizzkids@washingwell.org.uk. This email will be checked each morning between **7.30am – 8.30am** and a reply sent. We can only guarantee available places for those children who have booked through the correct procedure. Anything requested outside of the daily deadline of **6.00pm** will not be guaranteed.

We will now be operating a 3 weekly snack menu for our after school provision.

School Uniform

Please click on the link <https://www.washingwell.org.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=189&type=pdf> to ensure you have all the necessary uniform and equipment your child needs to allow full participation in all school learning opportunities and activities.

As part of our policy, for health and safety reasons, we request that hair should always be tied back once it approaches shoulder length. The wearing of jewellery – earrings, necklaces, rings and bracelets is not allowed. If your child comes to school wearing any of these jewellery items, they will be asked to remove them. The items will be returned to the parent at the end of the school day. Watches can be worn as long as they are not wi-fi enabled.

Attendance and Punctuality

Our school day is 8.50am - 3.20pm

Our school gates open at 8.30am and 3.00pm. All parents and children must wait on the Key Stage 1 yard until Mrs Hall and Mrs Tough come out at 8.40am. Once they are out, Key Stage 2 children will be directed to go into school via the car-park gate. **Children must not be left on the school yard unsupervised prior to 8.40am.**

Any child arriving after 8.50am will have to enter the school via the main entrance and will be classed as late. Can I ask that you arrive on time so as to ensure that your child does not miss vital learning time. It is important that they start the school day in a positive light, not anxious because they are late.

Please ensure that you report any absences by 9.15am on the day of absence by telephoning school on 0191 4884400 or alternatively complete the form [Reporting Pupil Absence](#) in our Parent Section (Forms) on our school website.

Our **Attendance Policy**, can be found on our school website in the **Key Information** section under **Policies** or by clicking on the link <https://www.washingwell.org.uk/policies> Please ensure that you read and respond accordingly.

Water Bottles

It is vital that each child is provided with a named water bottle to bring in to school each day to ensure they remain hydrated. Bottles should be filled with **water only** (no juice) and if required, can be refilled during the day from stations around school.

Playtime Snacks

Our children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 all receive a daily snack provided through the Government Schools Fruit Scheme therefore they do not need to bring in a snack from home.

Children in Key Stage 2 can, if they choose, bring in either a piece of fresh fruit or vegetables. As we have children and adults in school with **severe nut allergies**, if a child brings in anything other than this then they will be asked to keep it until hometime.

Similarly, if a child brings in any product that may contain nuts in their packed lunch, this item will be removed from the child, an alternative provided if needed and parents informed. I trust I have your full support in following these guidelines so as to ensure our whole school community remains safe.

PE

Our school is an active school and children are encouraged to take part in daily physical activity as well as their two hour weekly entitlement during PE lessons.

All children should come to school on a Friday in their Flex-it Friday uniform (blue hoodie, navy jogging bottoms and trainers).

PE sessions will also take place on the following days and children must come to school dressed in their PE/Flex-it-Friday uniform.

	P.E.
Jupiter	Monday & Wednesday
Venus	Monday & Wednesday
Earth	Tuesday & Friday
Neptune	Thursday & Friday
Saturn	Friday & Tuesday (Swimming)
Mercury	Tuesday & Friday

Homework

Homework will commence on Friday 12 September. Information regarding this will be sent to all parents from individual class teachers.

Social Media

You may be aware that we use Facebook to keep you up to date with your child's learning and to send information/notifications about our school. We warmly welcome positive, and informative comments on the posts that we add.

Should you have any questions or queries about our school or your child's education, please contact your child's class teacher so that we can discuss it directly with you.

Admissions to Reception / Year 7 in September 2026

If your child is due to start Reception or Year 7 in September 2026, the application process enabling you to choose a school for your child will open on Monday 8 September 2025. Logon to complete the online application.

The Year 7 Secondary School Deadline is 31 October 2025.

The Reception Primary School Deadline is 15 January 2026.

Prospective Parents for Nursery/Reception 2026

If you know of parents who have children who will be starting either Reception or Nursery in September 2026, school tours can be arranged via our school website; www.washingwell.org.uk

Tuck Shop

Tuck Shop will recommence next week:

Key Stage 2 on Thursday lunchtime,

Early Years & Key Stage 1 on Friday lunchtime.

House Captains

Our House Captains for this year will be:

Atlantis

Poppy & Jacob

Columbia

Isaac & Scarlett

Endeavour

Travis & Zara

Discovery

Joey & Sebastian

School Councillors

Congratulations to the following children who have been elected to represent their class on this year's School Council. This year, Mr Sayers will be leading School Councillors.

School Ambassadors

Aria & George

Mars

Luke & Isabella B

Jupiter

Logan & Everleigh

Venus

Kali & Nakai

Earth

Darcey & George

Neptune

Olive & Rayne

Saturn

Jacob & Summer

Mercury

Brody & Heidi

Parking around school ...

As the new school year begins, please can I ask that we start on a positive note with parking and show consideration for both pedestrians and our neighbours. We have already had one complaint about cars blocking a driveway and I have also been made aware of an incident which involved one of our parents hitting a resident's car.

So, going forward, as always, can I ask all parents to park on Broom Lane and not to drive down Bucks Hill View when children are entering school in the mornings or leaving at the end of day. Those parents using our out of school provision, especially the morning session, please do not park in front of the garages or on the zig-zag lines outside of the school gates.

Thank you for your co-operation and support in keeping our streets a safe place for all.

'Be cool, park SAFELY away from school'

Forthcoming Events and Key Dates

Planned Staff Training and Arranged Class Cover for the week ahead.			
Staff Member	Class	Date	Cover
None			

Monday 8 September 2025

Primary & Secondary Admissions open

Friday 12 September 2025

Year 4 Forest School session - pm

Friday 19 & 26 September 2025

Year 5 Forest School session - pm

Monday 29 September 2025

PE Taster day: KS1 Capoeira, KS2 American Football – children to wear PE kits

Wednesday 24 September 2025

Reception Vision Screening 9.00am – consent forms sent out

Wednesday 1 October 2025

Gateshead Cross Country event KS2 at Watergate Park – pm – team to be chosen after trials

Thursday 2 October 2025

National Poetry Day

Friday 3 October 2025

Y5/6 Girls football at Gateshead Power League 12.30pm – team to be selected

Year 6 Forest School session – pm

Tuesday 7 October 2025

Year 6 Tag Rugby – at Winlaton RFC 12.30pm

Friday 10 October 2025

Year 6 Forest School Session - pm

World Mental Health Day – more information to follow

Monday 13 October 2025

Cycle to School week – House Challenge - more information to follow

Poetry week in school

Tuesday 14 October 2025

Year 6 Transition event, Whickham School – Music 1.15pm

Thursday 16 October 2025

School photographs – individual and family groups

Year 5/6 Sportshall Athletics – 12.30pm – team to be selected

Tuesday 21 October 2025

Harvest Assembly 9.15pm – parents welcome (more information to follow)

Friday 24 October 2025

School closes for half term

Tuesday 4 November 2025

8.40am – school reopens to all pupils.

Monday 10 November 2025

Anti-bullying week in school & Odd Socks Day – more information to follow

Learn to Ride your bike Course (Year 3 – 6) – more information to follow

Monday 10 November & Tuesday 11 November 2025

Parent consultation evenings 3.00 -6.00pm

Friday 14 November 2025

Children in Need – more information to follow

Tuesday 18 November 2025

Year 6 Transition event, Whickham School – German 1.15pm

Wednesday 19 November 2025

Music Workshop in school - am

SEND review meetings

Monday 24 November 2025

Assessment week in school

Monday 1 December 2025

Polar Express day – more information to follow

Wednesday 10 December 2024

Key Stage 2 Christmas performance – 9.30am and 2.15pm

Thursday 12 December 2025

Early Years & Key Stage 1 Christmas performance – 9.30am and 2.15pm

Friday 12 December 2025

Neptune Christmas party 1.15pm

Monday 15 December 2025
Earth Christmas party 1.15pm

Tuesday 16 December 2025
Jupiter Christmas party 9.15am
Venus Christmas party 1.15pm

Wednesday 17 December 2025
Mars Christmas party 9.15am
Saturn Christmas party 1.15pm

Thursday 18 December 2025
Mercury Christmas party 1.15pm

Friday 19 December 2025
Carols around the Christmas tree 2.00pm – parents invited
School closes for Christmas holidays 3.20pm - No Whizz Kids after school session

Monday 5 January 2026
School re-opens to all pupils 8.40am

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