



# Washingwell Primary School

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Website: [www.washingwell.org.uk](http://www.washingwell.org.uk)

 @washingwellprimaryschool

**Newsletter Number: 10**

**Date: Friday 14 November 2025**

## Attendance:

	Mars Nursery	Mars Reception	Jupiter Y1	Venus Y2	Earth Y3	Neptune Y4	Saturn Y5	Mercury Y6
Weekly Attendance %	85.5%	90.7%	94.2%	99.1%	88.4%	97%	90.4%	96.9%
Whole School attendance %	93.8%							

## News

This week has been extremely busy in school starting with Odd Socks day to launch Anti-Bullying week then moving onto Remembrance Day and ending with Children in Need. All of these are important in their own right and have helped the children to explore many concepts embedded in our school HEART Values.



Our School Councillors took great pride in representing our school at Whickham Remembrance Parade on Sunday 9 November.



Our School Ambassadors helped load all of our food donations from our Harvest Festival into the Gateshead Foodbank van. They were extremely grateful for our contributions.

## This Weeks Achievers are...

### Achievement for All

School value: *Ambitious*

Theme: *Amazing writing*

**Mars:** Jaxon Clark

**Earth:** Anna Lowes

**Jupiter:** Zachary Layton

**Neptune:** Mia Rimonti

**Venus:** Zahra Howden

**Saturn:** Maddie Lazarus

**Mercury:** Fable News

## Tuck Shop - Spring 2026

The payment is now live on Parentpay for the Spring Term Tuck Shop.

This will start week commencing Monday 12 January 2026 and run through to week commencing Monday 30 March 2026.

The cost of the Tuck Shop is 60p per week for 2 items of the child's choice. The total cost for the Spring term is £6.60 per child.

Please remember that once the payment closes on Wednesday 7 January 2026 we will not be able to add or amend the list so please ensure you that you have paid by then.

## Washing machine

We have a fully working washing machine in school which we no longer require. We are happy to offer it to our school community for a small donation to school fund. If you are interested, please let us know.



## Gateshead Family Hubs

Gateshead's Family Hubs provide a welcoming space for families and the wider community.

Our Family Hubs support families from conception to the age of two to give all children the best start in life. We continue to support families of children up the age of 19 and to age 25 for young people who have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

Our hubs are also open to other members of the community who may need more help.

There are nine Family Hubs located across Gateshead. More support is available from community locations right across the borough.

We also offer a [virtual Start for Life and Family Hub](#) if you are unable to attend one of our centres.

Please click on the link to find out more information and activities that are on offer at the different Family Hub locations. <https://www.gateshead.gov.uk/article/22551/Gateshead-Family-Hubs>

## Reminders

### FUNdraisers

Our FUNdraisers are currently planning our Christmas Fayre which will take place in school on **Friday 5 December, 3.30pm**.

Funds raised from this event will go towards providing transport for our school summer trip which will cost in the region of £1,600.

Therefore, to ensure this event goes ahead, we really need your help. We need the following volunteers:

- Setting up the fayre 1.15- 3.15pm - 6 people
- Manning the stalls – 3.30pm onwards - 12 people

We would love to have face painting this year, as it is always a popular choice, so are particularly looking for two volunteers to do this.

There is also the opportunity for people to host a stall should they wish. If this is something you would be interested in, please contact the FUNdraisers via their Facebook page.

## Key Stage 2 OPAL

At lunchtimes, our Key Stage 2 children can play in our OPAL area which is on the school field. As the weather is changing, going forward, children will need to have wellies and waterproof trousers on if they wish to use this area during the winter months.

## Admissions to Reception in September 2026

If your child is due to start Reception in September 2026, the application process enabling you to choose a school for your child opened on Monday 8 September 2025. Log-on to complete the online application.

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](http://www.washingwell.org.uk)

## Parking around school ...

Please think about the safety of all and park away from the school. Thank you for your co-operation and support in keeping our streets a safe place for all.

**'Be cool, park SAFELY away from school'**

**Organised by :**  
**LIGHTING UP**  
**Whickham**

**With support from**  
**local residents**  
**and businesses**

Donations welcome:  
Lighting Up  
Whickham  
Sort code:  
60-08-45  
Account number:  
7336 3650



**Whickham Christmas**  
**Lights Switch-on**

Hosted by  
**Dame Bella Bluebell**  
and the cast of  
**Goldilocks & the 3 Bears**  
from the Little Theatre

**Church Green**  
**Tuesday**  
**November 25<sup>th</sup>**  
**3:45 p.m.**

**Everyone welcome**

## Forthcoming Events and Key Dates

Planned Staff Training and Arranged Class Cover for the week ahead.			
Staff Member	Class	Date	Cover
Mrs Erskine	Saturn	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday – am/pm	Mrs Dodds
Miss Johnson	Mercury	Thursday - pm	Mrs Dodds

### Monday 17 November 2025

Year 4 Bikeability – information sent to parents

### 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 – appointments sent out by class teachers

### Monday 24 November 2025

Assessment week in school

### Wednesday 26 November 2025

Non-uniform day – donations for Christmas Fayre

### Monday 1 December 2025

Polar Express day – more information to follow

**Tuesday 9 December 2025**

EYFS Christmas performance – 2.15pm

**Wednesday 10 December 2025**

Key Stage 2 Christmas performance – 9.30am and 2.15pm

**Thursday 11 December 2025**

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**

EYFS & KS1 – visit to St Mary's Church - more information to follow

Year 5/6 Northumbria Police – respectful relationships

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

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*A reminder that we are a Safeguarding School and in line with our policies and procedures, we have a duty to pass on any concerns to Children's Services.*

*Designated Safeguard Lead: Mrs Hall. Deputy Safeguard Lead: Mrs Tough; Mrs Erskine*