



# Washingwell Primary School

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 @washingwellprimaryschool

**Newsletter Number: 20**

**Date: Friday 6 February 2026**

## Attendance:

	Mars Nursery	Mars Reception	Jupiter Y1	Venus Y2	Earth Y3	Neptune Y4	Saturn Y5	Mercury Y6
Weekly Attendance %	96%	98.3%	99%	96.9%	92%	99.3%	96%	98.3%
Whole School attendance %	94.9%							

## News

**This Week's Achievers are...**

*Achievement for All*

*School value: Ambitious Theme: Improving the presentation of our work*

**Mars:** Skye Boyle

**Earth:** Joey Bennett

**Jupiter:** Josh O'Boyle

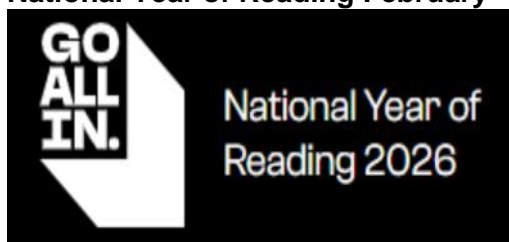
**Neptune:** Oscar Asheg

**Venus:** Remy Parris

**Saturn:** Jacob Cunningham

**Mercury:** Jack Bennett

## National Year of Reading February



Our focus for February is **Storytelling** and **Oracy**. This month, we will be celebrating the power of spoken stories and encouraging children to share their ideas confidently through storytelling. Children will have opportunities to listen to and retell stories, and explore how expression, voice, and performance can bring stories to life. Staff will also be sharing a childhood favourite story, helping to inspire children and show that stories can be enjoyed in many different ways.

## Safer Internet Day

On **Tuesday 10th February 2026**, we will be taking part in Safer Internet Day, a nationwide initiative to help children learn how to stay safe and make smart choices online. This year's theme is "Smart tech, safe choices - Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI", encouraging pupils to think critically about the technology they use. Children will be participating in assemblies and classroom activities to explore these ideas and learn practical ways to use the internet safely and responsibly.



## Children's Mental Health Week

This year, Children's Mental Health Week takes place during the week beginning **Monday 9th February 2026**. The theme for 2026 is *This Is My Place*, which focuses on the importance of belonging, connection and kindness in supporting children's wellbeing.



Throughout the week, each class will take part in age-appropriate discussions about belonging and feeling safe, as well as a creative art activity which explores what belonging means to them.

We will also be marking the week with **Inside Out Day** on **Monday 9th February**. On this day, children and staff are invited to wear an item of clothing inside out. This fun and memorable activity helps highlight the importance of talking about feelings and emotions, and shows how beneficial it can be to share what's going on inside with others.

Thank you for supporting us as we help children understand, express and care for their mental health.

## School Meals Service: Themed Days

Gateshead school meals will be hosting two themed days in February. If you would like your child to join in with these days, please book via the normal process.



## Community



Wednesdays  
4pm

SIDE BY SIDE ARTS  
**CHILDRENS  
CHOIR**

**FREE to Attend**

5 - 11 Year Olds

Side By Side Arts  
Dunsmuir Grove  
Bensham  
Gateshead  
NE8 4QL

Email  
Info@SideBySideArts.org  
For more information

MUSIC HUB Gateshead Council ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

WWW.SIDEBYSIDEARTS.ORG

### Side By Side Arts Children's Choir

**Time:** Wednesdays 4:00-5:00 (during term time)

**Location:** Side By Side Arts Studios, Dunsmuir Grove, Bensham, Gateshead, NE8 4QL

**Cost:** Free to attend

**To book:** No need to book a place, just turn up!

We have been very kindly funded by Gateshead Council to run a children's choir suitable for 5-11 year olds. This is free to attend and is a great opportunity for children to gain confidence in singing. We learn lots of different songs and play games throughout the session and for those who are feeling a bit more adventurous

we often get the mics out for children who would like to sing a solo for everyone else.

### K-Pop Demon Hunter Half Term Music Camp

**Date:** 24th February


**Time:** 10:00-3:00

**Location:** Side By Side Arts Studios, Dunsmuir Grove, Bensham, Gateshead, NE8 4QL

**Cost:** £35

**To book:** Email [info@sidebysidearts.org](mailto:info@sidebysidearts.org)

Join us for a Golden day of learning all your favourite songs from K-Pop Demon Hunters. Throughout the day you will have the chance to try different instruments and put together your very own version of Huntrix! The day starts at 10:00 and will finish at 3:00 with a performance to show off all of your skills at 2:45. Please ensure that you bring a packed lunch, and snacks will be provided throughout the day. Suitable for 5-12 year olds



**KPOP  
DEMON  
HUNTERS**

MUSIC CAMP  
It's Gonna Be Golden!

SIDE BY SIDE ARTS

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February  
10am - 3pm  
Ages 5-12 years old  
£35 per child\*

Side By Side Arts  
Dunsmuir Grove  
Bensham  
Gateshead  
NE8 4QL

To book email  
Info@SideBySideArts.org

### Reminders

#### Gateshead West Uniform Scheme



[www.facebook.com/gatesheadwestprelovedschooluniform](https://www.facebook.com/gatesheadwestprelovedschooluniform)  
<https://www.gatesheadwestuniformscheme.org.uk>  
[contactsGatesheadWestUniformScheme.org.uk](mailto:contactsGatesheadWestUniformScheme.org.uk)  
and find us as awusne on Vinted

#### School Uniform Provider

Logos Unlimited has moved premises and is now situated on the Team Valley.  
Address: Team Valley 320 C Mayoral Way, Team Valley, Gateshead NE11 0RT  
<https://logosunlimitedschoolwear.uk/Branches/>

#### 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'**



2026  
Jan/Feb Markets...

Fri 2nd Jan 3:30pm to 5pm.  
Sat 10th Jan 9:30am to 11am.  
Sat 17th Jan 9:30am to 11am.  
Mon 26th Jan 6pm to 7pm.  
Fri 6th Feb 3:30pm to 5pm.  
Sat 14th Feb 9:30am to 11am.  
Sat 21st Feb 9:30am to 11am.  
Mon 23rd Feb 6pm to 7pm.



**Wednesday 18 – Friday 20 March 2026**

Year 6 Residential to Newby Wiske

**Thursday 19 March 2026**

Year 3 Showcase 9.15am – parents invited

**Tuesday 24 March 2026**

Year 1 Showcase 9.15am – parents invited

**Wednesday 25 March 2026**

Year 5/6 Girls Regional Football Competition – more information to follow for selected children

Year 4 Showcase 9.15am – parents invited

Year 3/4 Sporting Event – 1.15pm Whickham School – more information to follow

Mars Stay 'n' Play' 1.45PM – parents invited

Gateshead Dance Festival – 6pm The Glasshouse

**Thursday 26 March 2026**

Year 3 & 4 Road Safety training – for four consecutive weeks

**Wednesday 1 April 2026**

Spring Assembly 9.15am – Parents invited – more information to follow

**Thursday 2 April 2026**

School closes for Easter holidays 3.20pm

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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, Mrs Mustard, Mrs Gardner.*