



Washingwell Primary School

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 @washingwellprimaryschool

Newsletter Number: 25
Date: Friday 20 March 2026

Attendance:

	Mars Nursery	Mars Reception	Jupiter Y1	Venus Y2	Earth Y3	Neptune Y4	Saturn Y5	Mercury Y6
Weekly Attendance %	91.4%	94.2%	94.7%	95.1%	94.2%	97%	97.4%	92.3%
Whole School attendance %	94%							

News

This Weeks Achievers are...

Achievement for All

School value: Empowered

Theme: Having a go

Mars: Ivy Armstrong

Earth: Anna Lowes

Jupiter: Isla Bailiff

Neptune: Olivia Green

Venus: Sinead Pearson

Saturn: Layton Mountain

Mercury: Brody Hudson

Glow in the Dark Day

We are hosting a sporting event 'Glow in the Dark' in school on **Monday 23 March 2026**. Each class has an allocated slot and therefore all children need to wear their PE kit on Monday.

Non-uniform Day

Our FUNdraisers will be holding an Easter Raffle at our Spring Assembly. In order to buy raffle prizes, we will be holding a **non-uniform day** in school on **Tuesday 24 March** for a donation of **£1.00**. Children can come to school in their choice of clothing; please remember that the clothing must be suitable for what they will be doing in school on that day. The no jewellery rule still applies.

Spring Assembly

This year, our Spring Assembly will be held on **Wednesday 1 April at 9.15am**. All parents are invited but, due to hall capacity, only one adult per family can attend. We will also be running our Easter Egg Competition this year. All children are invited to decorate an egg and bring it into school on **Tuesday 31 March** for judging, with winners being announced in assembly.

The sign-up sheet for this event is open on ParentPay.



Branches Out of School Club

Ofsted will be visiting school on Tuesday 24 March with our new out of school provider, Branches, for the final stage of the transition process. Once this visit is completed and, there are no issues, Branches will become our new breakfast and after school provider after Easter.

Once we have firm confirmation from Ofsted that all is good, we will send out formal confirmation and full communication of how the club will run moving forward, including the new booking system.

Fingers crossed there are no hiccups!

Active Travel: Big Walk and Wheel 16th-27th March

Big Walk and Wheel is the UK's largest walking, wheeling, scooting and cycling challenge. It inspires pupils to make active journeys to school, improve air quality in their neighbourhood and discover how these changes benefit their world. Active travel is a great way to build physical activity into children's daily routine. It helps them arrive to school more relaxed and alert, and is great for their mental wellbeing. In 2025, pupils at 2,024 schools made 2,840,575 journeys to school by foot, wheelchair, scooter and cycle. This meant that 4,550kg of nitrogen oxide and 2,880 tonnes of CO2 was avoided.

When children come into class each morning, teachers will take a survey to ask children how they travelled to school. We will be able to compare our results with local and national data. Please encourage children to use active travel if possible

Community



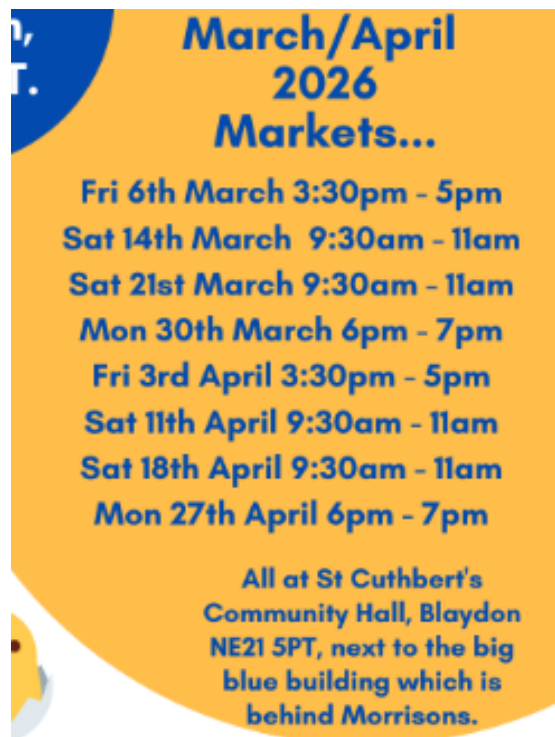
EASTER KIDS CAMP
8 DAYS
7TH-10TH & 13TH-16TH APRIL

FUN - GAMES - SPORTS - DRAMA - CRAFTS

FREE ACTIVITIES for Gateshead School children on benefits related FREE SCHOOL MEALS
10am - 2pm daily at MARLEY HILL COMMUNITY CENTRE

REGISTER NOW USING YOUR E-VOUCHERS AT
WWW.HOLIDAYACTIVITIES.COM (search for Nice Swan Kids Camp)
PAID SPACES AVAILABLE BY CONTACTING KIDSCAMP@NICESWAN.COM

Gateshead West Uniform Scheme



March/April 2026 Markets...

Fri 6th March 3:30pm - 5pm
Sat 14th March 9:30am - 11am
Sat 21st March 9:30am - 11am
Mon 30th March 6pm - 7pm
Fri 3rd April 3:30pm - 5pm
Sat 11th April 9:30am - 11am
Sat 18th April 9:30am - 11am
Mon 27th April 6pm - 7pm

All at St Cuthbert's Community Hall, Blaydon NE21 5PT, next to the big blue building which is behind Morrisons.



Previous attachment



[facebook.com/gatesheadwestprelovedschooluniform](https://www.facebook.com/gatesheadwestprelovedschooluniform)
<https://www.gatesheadwestuniformscheme.org.uk>
contact@GatesheadWestUniformScheme.org.uk
and find us as gwusne on Vinted



Reminders

Class Photos

Should you wish to purchase this photograph please follow the instructions in the pack and return to school by **Monday 23 March, 9.00am**. For each photograph sold, we make a small profit for our school fund.

FUNdraisers

Easter Raffle tickets will be on sale in the Key Stage 1 yard on the following days:

Monday 30 & Tuesday 31 March 3.00pm -3.30pm.

Then on the morning of the Spring Assembly, **Wednesday 1 April.**

Donations of unwanted/pre-loved gifts for the stall for Chase Park Fayre can be dropped at the school office.

Thank you for your support

Be part of something special! Join *The Parents Lottery* and help us create a thriving school community. Every ticket you buy funds vital projects, from library books to new playground equipment, helping to enrich the lives of our children.



Each £1 ticket also gives you the chance to win £25,000 every Friday along with a selection of other prizes.

The Parents Lottery is a simple yet powerful way for parents, grandparents, friends and neighbours to come together and invest in the future of our children. Your weekly ticket funds essential resources, from stocking the library with the latest titles to providing vital classroom technology and supporting a wide range of extracurricular activities.

We understand that everyone is busy, and finding time to support your school can be challenging. That's why The Parents Lottery makes it so easy to make a real difference. Purchase a ticket online in just a few easy steps and you'll be automatically entered into the draw. Every ticket sold, helps us provide the enriching educational experiences our children deserve. Play *The Parents Lottery* today and help us empower the next generation:

<https://www.theparentslottery.org/school/washingwell-fundraisers1772790710>

School Meals

Gateshead Meals Service will be increasing the price of school lunches as of Wednesday 1 April 2026 to:

- Pupil Meal £3.10
- Nursery Meal £2.45

Whizz Kids booking system

A polite reminder that all children need to be booked into breakfast club in advance. Recently we have had an increasing number of children turn up when parents have believed them to be booked in but they aren't. When booking breakfast club, we have a limit of 20 spaces. If you book, you must ensure the date turns green. If it does not it means you are not booked in and that there are no spaces available. To avoid any future confusion, please check your booking has been accepted and don't just assume it has gone through. This ensures we can meet the needs of all our children safely and do not go over our limit. Thank you in anticipation of your support with this matter.

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'

Planned Staff Training and Arranged Class Cover for the week ahead.			
Staff Member	Class	Date	Cover
Mrs Erskine	Saturn	Monday – Wednesday	Ms Thompson

Forthcoming Events and Key Dates

Monday 23 March NEW

Glow in the Dark Day – PE kit to be worn

Tuesday 24 March 2026

Non-uniform day - £1.00 donation for FUNdraisers

Year 1 Showcase 9.15am – parents invited

Wednesday 25 March 2026

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 Change of date

Year 5 Showcase 9.15am – parents invited

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

Monday 30 March, Wednesday 1 & Thursday 2 April 2026 NEW

Year 5 Bikeability – for those who have signed up

Tuesday 31 March 2026

Year 1 & 2 School visit to Locomotion Museum

Wednesday 1 April 2026

Spring Assembly 9.15am – Parents invited

Thursday 2 April 2026

School closes for Easter holidays 3.20pm

No after school Whizz Kids session.

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.