



Washingwell Primary School

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 @washingwellprimaryschool

Newsletter Number: 26
Date: Friday 27 March 2026

Attendance:

	Mars Nursery	Mars Reception	Jupiter Y1	Venus Y2	Earth Y3	Neptune Y4	Saturn Y5	Mercury Y6
Weekly Attendance %	95%	97.8%	92.2%	94.8%	96.8%	98%	96.2%	92.7%
Whole School attendance %	95%							

News

This Week's Achievers are...

Achievement for All

School Value: Respectful

Theme: Being Honest

Mars: Tommy Bone

Earth: Ewan Armstrong

Jupiter: Theo Hooper

Neptune: Daisy Miller

Venus: Isaac Martin

Saturn: Maddie Lazarus

Mercury: Keira Saul

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. A link was sent out on Arbor on Wednesday, so you can inform us which adult will be attending. This link will close **Tuesday 31 March at 12pm**.

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.

FUNdraisers will be selling Easter Raffle tickets in the Key Stage 1 yard on **Monday 30 & Tuesday 31 March 3.00pm -3.30pm**, then on the morning of the Spring Assembly, **Wednesday 1 April**. The raffle will be drawn at the end of the assembly.



Branches Out of School Club

Unfortunately, there has been a slight hold up with our change over to Branches Out of School Club. Whizzkids will continue as normal after Easter, and we will update you about the change over as soon as we can.

KS1 Forest School

With the weather finally starting to warm up, after the Easter holidays children will no longer need to come into school wearing their Forest School clothing. As of the first week back, please send your child to school wearing their usual Flex-it Friday uniform and their waterproofs and wellies in a bag to remain at school.

North East Festival of Languages

This half term, KS2 have been celebrating and participating in the North East Festival of Languages. Year 3 have made origami butterflies covered in Spanish words and pictures related to friendship, love and caring for the planet, for the 'Together we Fly! World Friendship Art Project'. These butterflies will be hung on display in the Newcastle Civic Centre. The centre is open Monday to Friday 8:30-4:30 (except Bank Holidays). Year 5 have been inspired by International Mother Language Day (21st February). Pupils who have a language other than English in their heritage have been taking turns each week to share with the class a bit about their language. This has given rise to some fantastic work for the Mother Tongue Other Tongue project, in which pupils write something in or about their language and explain what it means to them. Year 5 and 6 also made calligrams, which are pictures made of words. Pupils drew pictures and filled or surrounded these pictures with Spanish words and phrases. More information can be found at <https://expressyourselfne.com/> A big thanks to Senorita Juby for giving our children such valuable experiences in their Spanish lessons.

Road Safety

Year 3 and 4 have now started their Schools Go Smarter Child Pedestrian Training Programme. They enjoyed their first session yesterday, which was classroom-based and introduced some important road safety skills. Over the next few weeks, the children will continue building their confidence and learning how to stay safe when out and about.

You can really help at home too! Children learn a lot by watching adults, so setting a good example near roads makes a big difference. We've been reminding them of the Green Cross Code:

Stop – stand behind the kerb

Look – check for traffic (right, left, then right again)

Listen – be aware of traffic you may hear before you see

Think – is it safe to cross? If so, walk straight across while continuing to look and listen

Thank you for helping us reinforce these important life skills.



Showcases

Thank you so much to all of the adults who have been able to join us for our Showcases over the last few weeks. It has been so lovely to see the children enjoying a variety of arts and crafts with their adults – we've had everything from cave painting to bridge building, and lots in between.



Sporting Events



Glow in the Dark Day

Everyone had great fun at our Glow in the Dark sports day on Monday. Each class got the opportunity to play a variety of ball games and party games – all while glowing in the dark!

Dance Festival

On Wednesday night, children from Years 1-6 represented our school at the annual Gateshead School Sports Partnership Dance Festival at the Glass House. They put on a fantastic show full on energy, enthusiasm and team spirit, and they were an absolute credit to the school. Well done to everyone that took part!



Year 3/4 Sports Festival

Earth and Neptune classes attended the Literacy and Numeracy Through Sport event at Whickham School on Wednesday and had a fantastic time. The children took part in a range of engaging indoor and outdoor activities that developed their literacy and numeracy skills through sport, showing great teamwork and perseverance throughout.



Football

On Wednesday, our Year 5/6 Girls Football Team represented Gateshead FC Foundation at the National League U11 Regional Tournament. The standard of competition was high – with teams from as far as Halifax represented. They gave their all, scoring 5 goals in total and showing the fantastic sporting attitude that we've come to expect from our teams. It was an incredible achievement to qualify to represent Gateshead and we are very proud!



On Thursday, our Year 5/6 Mixed football team competed at Fellside Primary School in the school league. They played really well, highlighted by an impressive 6-0 win. Great effort and teamwork from all the players!

Community

Gateshead Council Spring Festivals

Gateshead Council are hosting a series of Spring Festivals. Spring Festivals brings together everything we love about our local communities: laughter, music, food, and the chance to discover the amazing organisations that support our neighbourhoods. Spring Festivals will take place at:

- Saltwell Park - Saturday 28 March, 12noon - 4pm
- Oliver Henderson Park - Saturday, 4 April, 12noon - 4pm
- Barmoor Hub - Saturday 11 April, 11am - 4pm

For more information visit: <https://www.gateshead.gov.uk/article/30055/Gateshead-events>

Money Max

In Gateshead there are millions of pounds of benefits that go unclaimed every year. Gateshead Council can help you boost your income by claiming benefits and other discounts that you might be entitled to. Fill in their simple self-referral form and either the council, Citizens Advice Gateshead or Age UK Gateshead will contact you. They will discuss with you how you can apply for money or discounts that you could be missing out on. It's important to know that not all benefits are out of work benefits. You can still claim certain benefits even when you are in work.

More information can be found here: [Money Max - Gateshead](#)



Easter Camps

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

DANCECITY D
DANCE FOR THE NORTH EAST

Easter Dance Camp
Street and Break, Bollywood, Contemporary and Musical Theatre!

13-17 April
9am-5pm
Ages 5-15

FIND OUT MORE & BOOK YOUR PLACE HERE

0191 261 0505 | dancecity.co.uk
Dance City, Temple Street
Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE1 4BR

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

<https://www.gatesheadwestuniformscheme.org.uk>
contact@GatesheadWestUniformScheme.org.uk
and find us as gwusne on Vinted

Reminders

Clothing

We have an increasing amount of lost property without names, or children who can't find their clothing because it isn't named. Please make sure that any clothing your children bring into school is labelled with their name – especially jumpers, cardigans and hoodies which are taken off and left lying around regularly.

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.

FUNdraisers

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>

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

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

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
Mrs Pattison	Mars	Wednesday AM	Miss Hughes

Forthcoming Events and Key Dates

Monday 30 March, Wednesday 1 & Thursday 2 April 2026

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.

Monday 20 April 2026 **NEW**

School re-opens for all pupils

Tuesday 21 April 2026 **NEW**

SEND Review Meetings – Invites sent by class teachers

Wednesday 22 April 2026 **NEW**

SEND Review Meetings – Invites sent by class teachers

Thursday 23 April 2026 **NEW**

Y5/6 Mixed Football League: Round 3 – Invited pupils only

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.