



Washingwell Primary School

Tel: 0191 4884400

Email: admin@washingwell.org.uk

Website: www.washingwell.org.uk

 @washingwellprimaryschool

Newsletter Number: 30
Date: Friday 8 May 2026

Attendance:

	Mars Nursery	Mars Reception	Jupiter Y1	Venus Y2	Earth Y3	Neptune Y4	Saturn Y5	Mercury Y6
Weekly Attendance %	95.5%	88.8%	96.9%	97.7%	91.4%	90.5%	97.4%	96.7%
Whole School attendance %	94.1%							

News

This Week's Achievers are...

Achievement for All

School value: Empowered

Theme: Self-motivation

Mars: Harlow Jackson

Earth: Max Woodhams

Jupiter: Freddie Coulter

Neptune: Ezme Arkle

Venus: Seb McCue

Saturn: Summer McCarthy

Mercury: Emily Cheng

School Uniform

Following on from last week's newsletter, we are seeking feedback about potential changes to our current uniform policy. As times have changed, and our curriculum has become more active, we feel that our uniform may not be as fit for purpose as it once was. We are considering changing our uniform to an active uniform for all children, due to the following benefits:

- Children can concentrate better because they feel more comfortable.
- Children can move freely without restrictions.
- Children can participate in spontaneous active play and sport without changing clothes.
- Children would be ready to take part in PE, Forest School, lunch time clubs and after school clubs.
- Parents would not need to be contacted if PE days change.
- Traditional uniform is becoming more expensive.
- Children can feel included in affordable and practical clothing.
- Protects the modesty of the girls, particularly in the younger years.

More information from the Active Uniform Alliance can be found here <https://activeuniform.org/>

Our active uniform would include:

- Plain white polo shirt (school badge or plain)
- Royal blue hoody or sweatshirt (school badge or plain)

- Plain black joggers, leggings, shorts or skirt
- Plain black trainers

You will receive a separate email tonight to ask you to complete a very quick feedback form. Your opinions matter and we would like to hear your thoughts before we move forward. Click on the link [School Uniform Policy Review – Fill in form](#)

Please provide your feedback no later than **9am Friday 15 May**. Once we have consulted, we will feedback as to the changes to our new uniform policy before half term, giving you plenty of time for a September start.

Themed School Lunch

Saturday 9 May is Europe Day and in response to this, our kitchen have prepared a special menu for the children on **Wednesday 13 May**. If you would like your child to participate in this menu, please book in the normal way, via Parentpay.



Menu

Swedish Meatballs in a tomato sauce with Pasta & Salad

Italian Cheese & Tomato Pizza with Parmentier Potatoes (Diced herby potatoes) & Salad

Croque Monsieur Potatoes (Jacket Potatoes topped with white sauce, ham & cheese)

Greek Salad (Tomato, cucumber, red onion, feta cheese & olives)

All options served with French Bread

Spanish Magdalenas (Lemon sugar muffins)

Year 6 SATs Week

Next week our amazing Year 6 children will sit their SATs tests. They have quietly and determinedly worked through the Year 6 curriculum producing amazing artwork, thoughtful writing and working like historians, scientists and musicians throughout. Their successes and ambition have shone throughout the year, overcoming many obstacles with pride and grit. They've already achieved so much and we simply couldn't be prouder. SATs are nothing to worry about: just another challenge that they will rise to and another opportunity to excel. See you at 8:15 am for sausage sandwiches and more Year 6. You've got this!



Prader-Willi Syndrome Day



Prader-Willi Syndrome (PWS) is a rare, complex genetic disorder which effects both males and females from birth and throughout their lives. It causes low muscle tone resulting in delayed motor development and also an insatiable, chronic appetite which, without rigorous food management and exercise regimes, leads to food seeking, stealing and life-threatening obesity.

To raise awareness of this syndrome, we will be celebrating 'Go Orange' day on **Friday 15 May**. We are asking that on this day, children come to school wearing something orange. This could be a t-shirt, socks, hairband, cap, trainers etc. Please remember that this is Flex-it Friday so all clothing must be suitable to do activities on this day.

Sporting Events

What a fantastic day at the Key Steps Gymnastic Competition at Whickham Comp on Friday 1 May. Our children were fantastic! They performed amazingly, showed great respect to others and most importantly had lots of fun 🥳 Well done Gym Club!

Our Year 3/4 tennis team had a fantastic time competing at Whickham School this week. The children represented the school brilliantly with their teamwork, sportsmanship and behaviour. Everyone enjoyed themselves, played with great enthusiasm and came away smiling after a wonderful afternoon of tennis.

Well done to our Year 5/6 football team for representing Washingwell so brilliantly at the football finals. Although we didn't come away with a medal this time, the team played exceptionally well and showed fantastic teamwork, determination and sportsmanship throughout the tournament.



Staffing Updates

You may have seen on our website that we are advertising for a teacher to join our school. This post is initially for 1 year to allow Mrs Mustard, our SENDCo, to work outside of the class and establish a range of supportive spaces which will allow us to meet the varied needs of all our children. This is a really exciting opportunity and we are greatly looking forward to expanding our teaching capacity. We will keep you updated.

Community

Pre-loved Uniform Market Dates

GATESHEAD WEST UNIFORM SCHEME

Who are we?
We are a registered charity, operating in Gateshead West since 2021.
We provide good-quality preloved and brand new school uniforms to our community from our site in Blaydon (NE21 5PT)
We operate on a pay-what-you-feel basis.

Proof of eligibility drop in sessions to help with paperwork to claim brand new uniform, on 9/5 and 20/6 alongside our usual Saturday markets.

Please check our Facebook page for any changes to market days, including additional summer markets.

May/June 2026 Markets... ALL AT BLAYDON

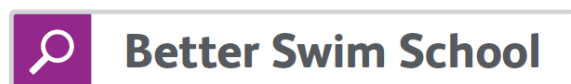
Friday 1st May 3:30pm - 5pm
Saturday 9th May 9:30am - 11am
Saturday 16th May 9:30am - 11am
Monday 25th May 6pm - 7pm
Friday 5th June 3:30pm - 5pm
Saturday 13th June 9:30am - 11am
Saturday 20th June 9:30am - 11am
Monday 29th June 6pm - 7pm

Enter via THE BACK DOOR of St Cuthbert's Community Hall, Blaydon NE21 5PT, next to the big blue building which is behind Morrisons.

www.facebook.com/gatesheadwestprelovedschooluniform
<https://www.gatesheadwestuniformscheme.org.uk>
contact@GatesheadWestUniformScheme.org.uk

Swimming

Join weekly lessons with Better Swim School and get 50% off your first payment with code SCHOOL50.



Terms and conditions apply. Offer open to new customers only for school children aged between 4 - 12 years. Offer ends on 07/08/2026. Full terms at better.org.uk/offer-terms. Better is a registered trademark and trading name of GLL (Greenwich Leisure Limited), a charitable social enterprise and registered society under the Co-operative & Community Benefit & Societies Act 2014 registration no. 27793R. Registered office: Middlegate House, The Royal Arsenal, London, SE18 6SX. Inland Revenue Charity no. XR43398.



Reminders

FUNdraisers

Our FUNdraisers will be hosting a tombola stall at Chase Park Fayre on Saturday 7 June, 1.00-4.00pm. We will be holding a non-uniform day in school on **Wednesday 20 May** in exchange for a donation for the stall. Donations can be bric-a-brac, sweets, smellies, candles etc. If you have any unwanted gifts, then please donate on the day.

Can you help?

Our children in EYFS and Key Stage 1 love playing with toys at lunchtimes, but as you can imagine, they are easily worn out. Our children would like to ask if you can help with any donations of the following to make lunchtimes more enjoyable:

Dolls & dolls clothes/accessories --- Action figures --- Construction eg Lego, Duplo, wooden blocks --- large vehicles/cars --- outdoor equipment eg skittles, skipping ropes, hoops.

If you have of the above toys that your children no longer play with, then we would gladly take them to bolster our outdoor toys. Thank you in anticipation of your support.

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

Forthcoming Events and Key Dates

Monday 11 May – Thursday 14 May 2026

Year 6 SATs – am

Friday 15 May NEW

Prader Willi Day – Go orange

Year 4– Forest School pm

Friday 15 May- Saturday 16 May 2026

Year 5 Sleepover

Monday 18 May 2026

Year 4 & 6 School Visit – Centre for Life

Tuesday 19 May 2026 UPDATE

Year 6 Cricket pm– teams to be decided

Wednesday 20 May 2026 NEW

Year 5/6 School Nurser Puberty talk

Friday 22 May 2026

Year 6 – Forest School pm

Break up for half term

Monday 1 June – Friday 5 June 2026

Year 4 Multiplication Check – *more information to follow*

Tuesday 2 June 2026

Year 4 Girls STEM Project session 1 – Mrs Dodds pm

Wednesday 3 June 2026

Year 3/4 QuadKids at Whickham School – team to be decided

New Starter Welcome Event – 3.30 -5.00pm (children starting school September 2026)

Friday 5 June 2026

Year 6 Forest School Showcase – 1.15pm - *more information to follow*

Year 5 Forest School Showcase – 2.15pm - *more information to follow*

Saturday 6 June 2026

Chase Park Fayre 1.00 - 4.00pm

Monday 8 June – Friday 12 June 2026

Year 1 Phonic Screening - *more information to follow*

Tuesday 9 June 2026

Year 4 Girls STEM Project session 2 – Mrs Dodds pm

Thursday 11 June 2026

Year 5/6 – Northumbria Police Visit – am

Year 5/6 Tennis at Whickham School - *more information to follow*

Friday 12 June 2026

Year 4 Forest School Showcase – 1.15pm - *more information to follow*

Year 3 Forest School Showcase – 2.15pm - *more information to follow*

Monday 15 June – Friday 19 June 2026

Sports Week - *more information to follow*

Monday 15 June

Great Athlete Visit – pm

Wednesday 17 June

Big Sing at Glasshouse – School Choir - *more information to follow*

Thursday 18 June 2026

Sports Day - *more information to follow*

Wednesday 24 June 2026

Year 1 Forest School Showcase – 1.15pm - *more information to follow*

Year 2 Forest School Showcase – 2.15pm - *more information to follow*

Friday 26 June 2026

Gateshead Schools Athletics Festival – Gaeshead Stadium – *trials to choose teams*

Tuesday 30 June & Wednesday 1 July 2026

Transition days – all children move up to their new classes
Year 6 visit their respective secondary schools

Tuesday 30 June 2026

Meet the teacher – parents invited to visit new class and meet teacher

Wednesday 1 July 2026

Year 3/4 Cricket – team to be decided

Tuesday 7 July 2026

Year 6 SATS Results Day
SEND Reviews – end of year reviews with current & new class teacher

Wednesday 8 July 2026

SEND Reviews – end of year reviews with current & new class teacher

Thursday 9 July 2026

SEND Reviews – end of year reviews with current & new class teacher

Friday 10 July 2026

Annual Reports issued

Monday 13 July 2026

Break the Rules Day - *more information to follow*

Tuesday 14 July 2026

Proposed whole school visit – *provisional date*

Wednesday 15 July 2026

Leavers Assembly & BBQ – Year 6 parents and family invited

Thursday 16 July 2026

Award Ceremony 9.15am – *not open to parents*

Friday 17 July 2026

Break up for summer holidays 3.20pm – No Whizz Kids tonight.

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.