



Washingwell Primary School

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 @washingwellprimaryschool

Newsletter Number: 31
Date: Friday 15 May 2026

Attendance:

	Mars Nursery	Mars Reception	Jupiter Y1	Venus Y2	Earth Y3	Neptune Y4	Saturn Y5	Mercury Y6
Weekly Attendance %	93.4%	97.6%	94.7%	98.7%	95.6%	99.3%	98.4%	98.3%
Whole School attendance %	95.1%							

News

This Week's Achievers are...

Achievement for All

School value: Ambitious

Theme: Enthusiasm

Mars: Matilda Bennett

Earth: Saskia Armstrong

Jupiter: Lola-Rose Greenwell Bingham

Neptune: Jax Morrison

Venus: Ernie Horne

Mercury: Hannah Armstrong

School Uniform

Thank you to all those who have contributed to our School Uniform consultation. We have had 96 responses which means we have a good representation of parental views. We will now analyse and discuss the outcomes with Governors with the aim of updating you all in next week's newsletter.

Non-Uniform Day

Our FUNdraisers will be hosting a tombola stall at Chase Park Fayre on Saturday 6 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. Please place your donations in the trolley on the Key Stage 1 yard. Thank you.

Sensory Aids

In September, we sent this message out to all parents:

Whilst we recognise that fidget toys may be useful for some children, we ask that toys from home are not brought into school. The decision as to whether a child needs a fidget toy in school will be decided by the class teacher and/or SENDCo and will be discussed with the parent first. If fidget toys are deemed as an effective strategy of support, school will provide the appropriate toys. This is also the case for sensory ear defenders.

Additionally, we have been informed by our Health and Safety Team that there are a number of unsafe products on the market with harmful materials and/or chemicals in. Therefore, with immediate effect, any fidget toys from home will be removed and the class teacher will contact parents to inform them of this. Class teachers are aware of which children should have a sensory aid and will issue one to use whilst in school. Thank you for your support in keeping our staff and children safe.

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.

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.

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

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.

BETTER

Reminders

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
Mrs Erskine	Saturn	Monday 18 May – am/pm Wednesday 20 May - am	Mr Graham
Mrs Mustard	Venus	Tuesday 19 May – am/pm	Mr Graham

Forthcoming Events and Key Dates

Monday 18 May 2026

Year 4 & 6 School Visit – Centre for Life

Tuesday 19 May 2026

Year 6 Cricket – whole class to attend

Wednesday 20 May 2026

Year 5/6 School Nurse 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

Thursday 2 July 2026

Mars Stay & Play – 2.00pm – parents invited

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

Whole school visit - South Shields Beach

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.