

Thursday 18th July 2024

Newsletter

Final Day!

The children and staff have enjoyed the final day of the year in school, which has included a surprise visit from the Ice Cream Van!

We wish all of the children leaving us the very, very best as they head off to new schools to start new adventures. They will always be 'Greensiders' and we look forward to hearing about their success in the future.

Thank you so much to our whole school community for your support this academic year. We all hope you have a lovely summer and we look forward to seeing the children back in school in September for the start of a new academic year.



Performances

The KS2 performance last week was wonderful. It was amazing to watch the children's confidence when singing and performing.

The Year 6 Leavers' Assembly yesterday was a lovely celebration of the children's time in school.

It was also lovely to have so many parents and friends in school for these events.



School Fair – Final Total

The final total for the school fair was £2882.99 which is a fantastic new record! Thank you all so much for your support – the money from our fundraising events makes such a difference to what we are able to provide as extras for the children. The Flower Wall raffle was drawn in assembly this morning to great excitement and all prizes are headed home tonight.

Reminders

Uniform

Saturday 20th July is the final date for placing an order with SALTO (www.saltouk.com) to guarantee delivery of logo items before September. There is no need for children to have items of clothing with the logo on, but we do ask that children wear our uniform colours, which can be sourced in most supermarkets or through the Gateshead West Uniform Scheme.

BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE

RESPECT

RESILIENCE

RESPONSIBILITY

School Meals

In September, school meals will be £3.00 for children in Year 3-6 and £2.35 for children in Nursery. All children in Reception to Year 2 will continue to receive free lunches as part of the universal Infant Free School meal scheme.

If payment is required, meals should be paid for in advance by loading credit on the Arbor system, please contact the school office if you need any support with this.

Even if your child is eligible for a universal free school meal, I would recommend checking your eligibility for free school meals by following this link: <https://www.gateshead.gov.uk/article/7433/Free-school-meals>. Once eligibility is confirmed, you will not only qualify for free meals for your child but will also be eligible for any holiday vouchers that are issued from the household support fund. This can be a considerable saving, so it is worth checking. Eligibility also generates a little bit of extra funding for school too which also helps.

Holiday Vouchers

Gateshead Council are distributing holiday food vouchers in a different way this summer. Instead of them coming as vouchers from Edenred, the council is sending them direct to the home addresses of eligible children.

If you have any queries about the vouchers, they should be directed to: crisispayments@gateshead.gov.uk

There are still a couple of unclaimed vouchers in the Edenred system from previous holidays. These will be reissued today and should be claimed as soon as possible as they have expiry dates.

Greenside Café Church have also been provided with some additional food vouchers that they have been asked by Gateshead Council's Household Fund to distribute to families. All names have been put in a hat and Mrs Cowen will be contacting families to let them know who has been fortunate enough to receive these.

Earrings

A reminder that newly pierced ears take six weeks to heal. If you are considering this, please do it at the very start of the holiday so that they can be removed prior to return to school, allowing children to take part in all activities.

New Website

Our new website will launch over the summer. Recent events in school will be added to the new site, ready for September. The archived material that is on the current website will no longer be available so parents should check the website within the next few days to access or download any photographs they wish to keep.

Summer Holiday Contact

Staff are not able to access the school email address in the holidays. If there is a need to share any information with school during the break, please leave an in-app message in Arbor.

September Organisation

First day of school – Tuesday 3rd September

The children will return to school on Tuesday 3rd September. Staff will be in school on Monday 2nd September for a training day if you need to contact school on that day.

Timings of the School Day 2024-25

The timings of the school day in September will be the same as this year. In line with the Department for Education requirement, we will operate a 32.5 hour week for children in Reception to Year 6. We will continue to operate a slight stagger to support parents who have children entering and leaving school from different yards.

Nursery children are funded and entitled to either 15 or 30 hours. Nursery hours will be 8:55am – 11:55am (mornings) or 8:55am – 2:55pm (full days).

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Reception and Year 1: 8:55am – 3:25pm.

Nursery, Reception and Year 1 children will enter and exit through the lower yard doors. Doors will open at 8:50am and close at 8:55am.

Year 2 – Year 6: 9:00am – 3:30pm.

Year 2 – Year 6 children will enter and exit through the upper yard doors. Doors will open at 8:55am and close at 9:00am.

Registers will be taken at 8:55am in N-Y1 and at 9:00 in Y2-6. Children who are not present in the classroom when the teacher starts the register will be marked late.

If parents are late at the end of the day, children will be placed in wrap around and a charge may be made where this is a frequent occurrence.

Class Organisation

Early Years (EY) and Key Stage 1 (KS1)		Key Stage 2 (KS2)	
Nursery / Reception	Mrs B. Newton and Mrs C. Innes	Year 3	Miss J. Old
		Year 4	Mr A. Taylor
Year 1	Mrs S. Pearce and Mrs J. Kelsall	Year 5	Miss R. Millman
Year 2	Mrs S. Skitt	Year 6	Mrs A. Ingram and Mrs L. Seddon

Arrival and Departure of Children 2024-25

As part of our safeguarding procedures, all children from Nursery to Year 4 should be brought to school and collected by an adult (person over 18). Depending on your circumstances, you may still prefer to accompany Year 5 and Year 6 children to and from school or you may choose to give permission for them to walk home alone or with a sibling from secondary school. If this is the case, please contact the school office.

Children from Nursery – Year 4 should not be left unaccompanied on the school yard before the start of the school day. Year 5 and 6 children should arrive just before the doors open as the yard is not supervised before school.

At the beginning of the new school year, staff are just getting to know parents from new classes and it will take us a little longer to see the children away. We ask that parents are patient with this as it is important that we take the time to see the children away securely at the end of the day. Please note, the upper yard can get very busy; younger children should remain close to the adult caring for them at all times.

Wrap Around 2024-25

We are able to extend our wrap around offer next term to extend our offer to 5:30pm Monday to Thursday. To cover the increased costs of wrap around, there is a slight increase in session charges, and this also aligns our hourly rate across all sessions.

Wrap around will operate from 8:00am every morning at a charge of £4. After school wrap around will be Monday to Thursday to 5:30pm for a charge of £8. Wrap around will start from 8:00am on Tuesday 3rd September.

There will be an additional wrap around provision available for Nursery children from 2:55 – 3:25pm at a charge of £2 per session to bridge the gap between the end of the day and wrap around for any parents who need this.

All wrap around sessions can be booked through your Arbor account. If you wish to use tax-free childcare vouchers for payment, please contact the school office to arrange this. If a session is full, it will not be possible to book. If this is the case, contact the school office as we may be able to accommodate additional children if we have advance notice.

Please note, there will be no after school wrap around on Wednesday 18th September due to staff safeguarding training.

Activity Clubs will start from the second week of term and will be available for booking from Tuesday 3rd September.

School Term and Holiday Dates 2024-25

	Start of term	Half term	Last day of term
Autumn	Tuesday 3 rd September 2024	Mon 28 th Oct – Fri 1 st Nov	Fri 20 th December 2024
Spring	Tuesday 7 th January 2025	Mon 24 th – Fri 28 th February	Friday 11 th April 2025
Summer	Monday 28 th April 2025	Mon 26 th May – Mon 2 nd June	Thursday 17 th July 2025

School will be closed on Monday 5th May 2025 (Bank Holiday). In addition, school will be closed for three training days across the year (Monday 2nd September, Monday 6th January and Monday 2nd June) and one occasional day (Friday 18th July).