



Greenside Primary School
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Tuesday 22nd October 2024

Newsletter

Dear Parents

It has been a very busy half term with the children settling into their new year groups and enjoying the additional activities on offer. You can catch up on our website with what has been happening in each class and the children's adventures beyond the school site.

		
Year 6 Derwent Hill Residential	Year 4 Vindolanda / Housesteads	Year 2 Athletics Festival
		
Numbots Day	Times Tables Rock Star Day	Year 5 River Visit

Staffing Update

Mrs Ingram will leave us at half term to take up a curriculum consultant role on secondment with the local authority for the rest of the academic year. Mrs Ingram has given over sixteen years of exemplary service to the children of Greenside Primary School and we wish her every success as she takes on this new role. Mrs Seddon will take the lead with the Year 6 children, supported by Mrs Barnes who will join us as a teacher after half term. Mrs Newton and I will work together to support the KS2 children on our SEN register, please contact us if you have any questions.

Mrs Siddle, our lunchtime supervisor, will also leave us at half term to take up a teaching assistant position at Gibside Primary School. We wish her every success in her new role. The lunchtime supervisory assistant post will be advertised on Gateshead Council website later this week.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Mrs Moir and her husband on the arrival of their baby son, Archie. We are all looking forward to meeting the new arrival.

Curriculum Booklets

There have been some slight adjustments to the English curriculum for next half term and the updated year group curriculum booklets will be sent out next half term and added to the school website.

Arbor - Consent Update and Detail Check

Later this week, you will be asked to update your consents relating to an additional aspect of photographic permissions. We would like to update our publicity materials and need to know whether we have consent for your child to appear in these. Such materials would appear on our website but may also appear on local social media channels (such as Facebook or Twitter).

BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE

RESPECT

RESILIENCE

RESPONSIBILITY

Arbor – Parent Contact Details Check

Can I ask parents to check their own details (address / phone number / email) in Arbor and contact school if there are any changes that need to be made. It is very important that we have the correct contact details for all adults with parental responsibility, including an email address, and also the contact details of at least one or two additional family members who can be contacted in an emergency situation.

Holiday Food Vouchers and Free School Meals

Gateshead Council will again distribute holiday food vouchers this half term rather than them being administered by Edenred. The vouchers will be sent direct to the home address of the parent who has registered for free school meals. If you have any queries about the vouchers, they should be directed to: crisispayments@gateshead.gov.uk Parents can check their eligibility and apply for free school meals for their child by following this link: <https://www.gateshead.gov.uk/article/7433/Free-school-meals>. Once eligibility is confirmed, you will qualify for free school meals for your child and, when available, support from the Gateshead Household Support Fund (such as holiday food vouchers). This can be a considerable bonus, so it is worth checking and applying even if your child is eligible for free infant school meals.

Upcoming Events

Halloween Disco

The Halloween disco will take place this Wednesday, from 3:45 – 4:30 for N-Y2 and from 4:45 – 5:45 for Year 3-6. Tickets can still be purchased on Arbor.

Halloween Lunch

Gateshead School Meals are offering a specially themed lunch for Halloween this Thursday. There is no need to book for this, children just need to let the class teacher know they are staying for lunch on the day.

Diary Dates

Autumn Term		
Wednesday 23 rd October	am	Open the Book assembly
Wednesday 23 rd October	am	Reception Class Post Box visits
Wednesday 23 rd October	3:45-4:30	Nursery – Year 2 Halloween Disco
Wednesday 23 rd October	4:45-5:45	Year 3 – Year 6 Halloween Disco
Thursday 24 th October	lunch	School Meals – Halloween themed lunch
Thursday 24 th October	9:15	Reception Junk Modelling Play Session and Phonics Session (Parents invited)
Mon 28 th Oct – Fri 1 st Nov		
Half Term		
Monday 4 th November	am	No Toddler session today
Thursday 14 th November	2:30pm	Year 5/6 Football Tournament (Girls) – parents to collect from 2:30pm
Friday 15 th November	am	Reception and Year 2 Visit to the Discovery Museum
Thursday 21 st November	2:30	RISE Parent session – Supporting your child’s Emotional Resilience
Wednesday 27th November	pm	No after school wrap around or clubs – Staff Safeguarding training
Thursday 28 th November	All day	Year 3 Visit to Great North Museum
Wednesday 4 th December	am	Reception Visit to St John’s Church
Wednesday 4 th December	3:30	Christmas Fair
Thursday 5 th December	am	Reception Visit to Crawcrook Library
Wednesday 11 th December	2:00	Year 1/2 Christmas Performance (Parents invited)
Thursday 12 th December	lunch	Christmas Lunch + Christmas Jumpers / outfits
Thursday 12 th December	2:00	Nursery and Reception Christmas Crafts (Parents invited)
Monday 16 th December	pm	Year 3/4 Christmas Party
Tuesday 17 th December	pm	Year 5/6 Christmas Party
Wednesday 18 th December	am	Nursery / Reception Christmas Party
Wednesday 18 th December	pm	Year 1/2 Christmas Party
Thursday 19 th December	2:00	KS2 Church Service (TBC)
Mon 23 rd Dec – Fri 3 rd Jan		
Christmas Holidays		
Monday 6 th January	All day	Staff Training Day - school closed to children
Tuesday 7 th January	All day	Start of term for children

Further dates will be added as the term progresses and more information will be sent as needed. If any dates need to change, we will update them in subsequent newsletters and communications.

After School Activity Clubs

There will be four after school activity clubs operating next half term and places can be booked on Arbor.

- Monday: Year 1 – Year 3 Multi-skill (final session 2nd December)
- Tuesday: Year 4 – Year 6 Football (final session 3rd December)
- Wednesday: Year 1 - 3 Hockey (three weeks only – final session 20th November)
- Thursday: Year 4 – Year 6 Basketball (final session 5th December)

School Places

Secondary Applications – Deadline 31st October

The deadline for applying for a secondary place for your child is the 31st October. **Please make sure you have made an application before the deadline or you risk missing out on the school of your choice.** There are still a number of parents who have not yet applied. If you need any support with this process, please contact the school office.

Reception Applications

The deadline for applying for a place to start in Reception in September 2025 is the 15th January. Again, please ensure an application is made, even if your child is already in nursery. Parents of children in Nursery have received a letter from the local authority detailing how to apply online for a Reception school places to start in September 2025. Even if children are already attending our Nursery, you will still need to reapply for a place in the Reception class.

Nursery Applications

Nursery application information is available on our website. Applications are now open for places for the academic year 2025-26. Parents can use the same form to make a late application for Nursery places to start within this academic year.

Children attending our nursery receive a teacher-led education that prepares them well for Reception. They are part of our school community and familiar with school routines, making the transition into Reception very natural.

We offer 15 or 30 hour Nursery places. The 15 hours are normally accessed as five mornings but we also have some capacity to offer the 15 hours as 2.5 days (Mon, Tues, Wed am or Wed pm, Thurs, Fri) which some families are finding more flexible. Nursery children are also able to access all our wrap around childcare sessions too. We offer bespoke tours of school for anyone interested in Nursery or Reception places, please contact the school office to arrange this.

Baby and Toddler Group

Our Baby and Toddler groups runs every Monday morning in the school hall from 9:15 – 10:45 at £1 per session (this goes towards snack and Christmas presents). There are a range of toys to play with as well as singing and snack time. All are welcome and there is no need to book - come and join us!

Fundraising

Pumpkin Patch

The pumpkin patch has been a very popular fundraiser in the last couple of weeks. The total currently stands at £392 and the winners will be announced on Thursday.

Jolly Jars

The Jolly Jar Tombola was a hit at the summer fair and Mrs Newton has now launched Christmas Jolly Jars this week in preparation for the Christmas Fair. Look out for her email with more information. Jolly Jars can be returned to school after the half term holiday.

Christmas Fair – Wednesday 4th December

The Christmas Fair will take place on Wednesday 4th December at 3:30pm. Please contact the school office if you can offer any support in the lead up to the event or at the event.

Poppy Appeal

Poppies will be on sale in school from Monday 4th November. Children will pause for reflection on Monday 11th November.

Asda Cashpot for Schools

Our Asda Cashpot has reached £278.60. Thank you for all of your support with this.