



KEY DATES FOR PARENTS/CARERS 2026-2027

Welcome to a new school year! We hope you have had a great Summer; it's been lovely to see the children return to school today and to hear their holiday news. A big welcome also to our new Reception and Nursery pupils.

To help you plan ahead, we thought it would be useful to inform you of key dates for the coming year. More details about these events will be given nearer the time. We will try to keep to these dates, however circumstances may alter our plans as we progress through the year and we will keep you informed of any changes. Please note that this year County Durham schools have been asked to take **five** training days within term time.

Our 'Welcome to the New School Year' meeting for parents/carers is on Monday 21st September from 4.30pm to 5.30pm. This gives you the opportunity to:

- meet your child's teacher
- hear about how the class have settled in so far
- find out about the work and topics your child will be covering this year
- find out about homework and organisation for the year ahead
- meet other parents/carers in your child's class (especially useful for new Reception/Nursery parents!)
- ask any general questions. Please note that this meeting is just to give general information about the year ahead. We also have parents/carers evenings later this term where you will be able to find out how your child is doing/progressing and discuss your child individually.

Please note that this meeting is for parents/carers only ideally. Children should not attend, wherever possible, unless you have no other childcare at this time. Let us know if you have any issues with this as we may have spaces available in our Kidz Club during the meeting.

If you have more than one child in school, it is useful if two parents/carers are able to attend as the meetings happen at the same time. If this is not possible and/or if you have more than two children, you can still meet with your child's class teacher briefly following your first meeting and receive all the information needed.

As we start a new school year we would also like to share the following information and reminders:

- If Year 5 and 6 pupils who walk home alone wish to bring a mobile phone into school, the sheet sent home this week should be completed by parents/carers and returned to school.
- Children will be asked to come to school on their PE day in their PE kits. Please note that we expect all children to wear the school PE uniform which is a white t-shirt and black shorts or jogging bottoms. Class Teachers will let you know your child's PE day. Where children come to school in PE clothing that is not our PE uniform, we will contact you and ask you to bring their correct uniform to school.

It is really important that children continue to look smart and part of our school community on PE days also and do not stand out because they are wearing different items of clothing. It also removes the pressure to keep up with current trends/wear more expensive and/or designer items.

- A reminder about healthy packed lunches. Chocolate, sweets and fizzy/high sugar drinks **should not** be included in lunch boxes. Please try to include fruit and vegetables and keep crisps and biscuits/cakes to a minimum. We have children in school with nut allergies so please be vigilant and do not include nuts/nut products in packed lunches.
- End of day collection times can be busy so please ensure that you are looking out for your child when the teacher brings them out and stand near to the collection area rather than at a distance. It is really difficult for teachers to spot parents/carers on a busy yard, particularly on rainy days with the added disguise of raincoats and umbrellas!
- Please ensure also, that children are supervised by parents/carers when waiting for older siblings to come out. Children should not be running around on the grass in front of the offices and near the car park. They should also not be running onto the school fields. Children are not permitted to ride bikes/scooters within school grounds or use the Timber Trails before and after the school day. They will be told by staff members to stop doing this if seen.
- Please complete the Health/Medical Information sheet sent out as soon as possible and return to school.
- Children do not need to bring their own pencil cases and stationary into school. Individual pencil cases and pencils, rulers, pens etc are provided by us.
- Please note that pupil attendance is closely monitored and where this drops below the expected level, we will need to contact parents/carers to discuss this issue and how it can be resolved.

- Please ensure that children in Reception to Year 6 arrive at school on time, ready to start the school day by 8.55am. Once the doors close at 8.55am, parents/carers need to bring their children round to the main entrance and we will need to record your child as a late entry. Where our records show that this is a regular occurrence, we will need to contact parents/carers to discuss this issue and how it can be resolved.
- A reminder that earrings should not be worn in school. Where ears have only just been pierced and parents/carers feel they cannot be removed at this time, children will need to wear a plaster to cover these. These need to be provided by parents/carers.
- The majority of our After School Clubs will start from October onwards but one or two will start in September. We will send more information out later this month which gives details about the clubs that will be on offer for your child this year.
- For parents/carers who use Kidz Club - when you arrive to collect your child either at the office or at the gate (if pupils are outside on the yard), please press the bell/buzzer as usual and wait at the door/gate. The staff member will then collect your child and their belongings and bring them to you.

We are looking forward to another exciting and successful year. We're sure our children will settle back into school really well and we will send a newsletter in the coming weeks with further information and news about school events so far. In the meantime, please contact us as usual if you have any questions or concerns.

Best Wishes,

Mrs Lavelle and Mrs Wise

Head Teachers (Mrs Wise Mon - Tues/Mrs Lavelle Wed - Fri)



KEY DATES FOR PARENTS/CARERS 2026-2027

SEPTEMBER

1st: Training Day - School Closed

2nd : New Term starts

21st : New School Year meetings for parents/carers, 4.30pm.

24th and 25th : School Photographer in - classes, individual/siblings

30th: Book Fair Week

OCTOBER

8th : Flu Immunisations

12th : Harvest Festival Week. Pupils may bring in Harvest donations

16th: Year 3 Harvest Assembly at 9.10am for Year 3 Parents/Carers

16th: Reception/KS1 Harvest Assembly at 2.30pm for Reception and KS1 parents/carers

23rd: Year 6 (Mr Storrar) Class Assembly and end of half-term

NOVEMBER

2nd : Back to school

9th : KS1 and EYFS Parents Evening (2.30-5pm)

10th: KS1 and EYFS Parents Evening (3.30-6pm)

16th : Anti-Bullying Week. Theme- Break the Silence

16th: KS2 Parents Evening (2.30-5pm)

17th : KS2 Parents Evening (3.30-6pm)

20th: Friendship Friday - end of Anti-bullying week. Children may wear non-uniform - bright colours.

DECEMBER

Tues 8th pm - KS2 Show (Year 3 and 4 parents/carers)

Wed 9th pm - KS2 Show (Year 5 parents/carers)

Thurs 10th am - KS1 Show (Year 1 and 2 parents/carers)

Fri 11th am - Reception/Year 6 Show (Reception and Year 6 parents/carers)

14th: Christmas parties this week

14th : Nursery Christmas Show pm for Nursery parents/carers

15th: Christmas Lunch Day (children/staff can wear Christmas jumpers, hats etc)

18th : End of Term.

19th : KS2 Choir singing at NSPCC Carol Concert, Durham Cathedral, 11am

JANUARY

4th : Training Day - School Closed

5th: Start of Spring Term for pupils

FEBRUARY

9th : Safer Internet Day

12th: Year 5 (Miss Allen) Class Assembly at 9.10am, Year 2 (Mrs Baum) Class Assembly at 2.30pm and end of half term.

22nd: Back to School

22nd : One Britain Week

MARCH

4th and 5th: Mothers' Day Breakfasts

4th : World Book Day

8th : EYFS/KS1 Parents Evening, 2.30 -5pm

9th : EYFS/KS1 Parents Evening, 3.30 -6pm

15th : KS2 Parents Evening, 2.30 -5pm

16th : KS2 Parents Evening, 3.30 -6pm

17th : Easter Coffee Afternoon - Performances for Nursery and Reception Parents/Carers

22nd/23rd: Egg decoration!

23rd : Pinocchio Theatre Production for pupils in Years 1 - 6

25th: Year 3/4 (Mrs Turner) Class Assembly at 9.10am and Year 1 (Mrs Dadswell) Class Assembly at 2.30pm. End of Term

APRIL

12th April: Back to School

30th April: **Training Day - School Closed**

MAY

3rd : May Day Bank Holiday - School Closed

10th: Year 6 SATS Week

28th : Year 3/4 (Mr Walsh) Class Assembly at 9.10am/ Year 1 (Miss Carroll) Class Assembly at 2.30pm and end of half term

JUNE

7th: Back to school

7th : Year 4 Multiplication Check within next two weeks

7th : Science Week

14th: Year 1 Phonics Screening this week

16th : New Nursery parents/pupils open evening, 4.30pm

17th : Fathers' Day Breakfast

17th : KS2 Sports Day pm

18th : Training Day - School Closed

24th : KS1/EYFS Sports Day pm

JULY

5th : Careers and Enterprise Week

5th : Class Transition Morning

7th : New Reception Parents/Carers and pupils meeting, 4.30pm

8th : Ouston Art Gallery, 3.30-5pm

12th : Year 5/6 Disco 4.45pm-6pm

15th : Summer Fair and Family Picnic, 3.30pm

16th : EYFS 'Teddy Bears Picnic' pm to share reports with parents/carers.

16th : Reports to all Parents/Carers.

19th: Year 6 Bowling Trip pm

20th : Year 6 Leavers Lunch

20th : Year 6 Leavers Assembly 2pm

20th End of Term for pupils

21st: Training Day - School Closed