



www.gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk

September 29th 2023 Issue 4 Autumn Term 1



In assembly on Monday we read a beautiful book about how harvest is celebrated around the world. Our wonderful children decided that they'd like to help people less fortunate than themselves by collecting food for others. We will welcome donations for the People's Kitchen which provides hot meals and support for anyone who, for many different reasons, finds themselves struggling. This is a critical time for this excellent charity, which is based near St James' Park, because it is when the warehouse is replenished with goods to sustain it through the year to come. The charity provides a 'Harvest Wish List' for all who are willing to give. This includes **tinned meals, vegetables, fruit and soups, cooking ingredients; tea, coffee and instant drinking chocolate; household items such as dishwashing cloths, pan scrubs, freezer bags, laundry wash tablets and general toiletries are also welcome.** Please note that fresh fruit and vegetables are not required because it is not necessarily possible to use them immediately.

Please send any donations in with your child on or before Friday 13th October.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs Lamb

Reception 2024

We've already had lots of enquiries regarding visits for our Reception 2024 intake.

Parents are able to visit the school on the following dates. Please phone the school office to book a place.

- ✓ Monday 9th October 9:30 – 10:30am
- ✓ Tuesday 17th October 9:30 – 10:30am
- ✓ Monday 23rd October 9:30 – 10:30am
- ✓ Tuesday 24th October 9:30 – 10:30am
- ✓ Wednesday 18th October 5:15 – 6:15pm
- ✓ Wednesday 25th October 5:15 – 6:15pm
- ✓ Wednesday 15th November 5:15 – 6:15pm



Little Wandle Books Home

As you know, we are currently trialling sending our Big Cat phonics reading books home in Reception and KS1. Thank you so much to everyone who returned the reading diaries, books and folders to school on time on Monday. We only had 5 books missing out of over 100 sent out and they turned up the next day after a gentle reminder!

Please keep the home learning sheets in the diary and feel free to write on them and let us know how your child is getting on via a comment in their reading diary. Remember we need all three – reading folder, diary and reading book.

Feel free to return the "reading for pleasure" book until later in the week.

Thank you so much for your continued support,

Mrs Lambert

Applying for Places

Please apply on time to avoid disappointment. We are currently full with waiting lists in all year groups.

Nursery Application forms for places in September 2024 will be available on the school website and from the office from Friday 12th January 2024

The closing date for applications is 15th March 2024.

Offer letters will be emailed out on 22nd March 2023.

The deadline for accepting a place is Friday 19th April.

Reception Applications for September 2024

Applications open: 1 September 2023

Applications close: 15 January 2024

National offer day: 17 April 2024

Further information can be found at

<https://www.newcastle.gov.uk/services/schools-learning-and-childcare/apply-school-place/applying-reception-places>

Parents are able to visit the school on the following dates. Please phone the school office to book a place.

Monday 9th October 9:30 – 10:30am

Tuesday 17th October 9:30 – 10:30am

Monday 23rd October 9:30 – 10:30am

Tuesday 24th October 9:30 – 10:30am

Wednesday 18th October 5:15 – 6:15pm

Wednesday 25th October 5:15 – 6:15pm

Wednesday 15th November 5:15 – 6:15pm

Middle School Applications for September 2023

Applications open: 1 September 2022

Applications close: 31 October 2022

National Offer Day: 01 March 2023

Further information can be found at

<https://www.newcastle.gov.uk/services/schools-learning-and-childcare/apply-school-place/applying-transfer-places>

Year 4 parents should have all received booklets today regarding this from the Local Authority..

Mrs Lamb



Healthy School



Healthier Together

Improving the health of babies, children and young people throughout North East and North Cumbria

The NHS have launched a new “Healthier Together” mobile app aimed at reducing worries for parents and care givers of young children. You can create a secure profile for each of your children and check symptoms and get advice on what to do if you are worried about an aspect of their health. Some GP services offer a direct link through the app where you can inform them of your child’s symptoms and they can contact you directly. The app also stores contact links to local services which it may recommend you contact, either urgently or for further guidance.

Follow the links here to download the app:

[Healthier Together | Mobile app \(nhs.uk/healthiertgether\)](https://www.nhs.uk/healthiertgether)



Mrs Wells



It’s our PTA meeting on Monday in the school hall from 6:15pm. We’d love to see you there!

Congratulations!



Well done to Xander who gained his 200m swimming certificate this summer and has finally got his certificate and badge!

Pre-Loved Uniform

PRE-LOVED ITEMS WE CAN SELL		PRE-LOVED ITEMS WE CAN NOT SELL
OFFICIAL SCHOOL JUMPERS	£2.50	NON – OFFICIAL JUMPERS
OFFICIAL SCHOOL CARIGANS	£2.50	NON – OFFICIAL CARIGANS
OFFICIAL SCHOOL POLOS	£1.50	NON – OFFICIAL POLOS
GIRLS CHECKED DRESSES	£1.50	GREY BOYS TROUSERS
GREY PINAFORES	£1.50	GREY TAYLORED GIRLS TROUSERS
GREY SKIRTS	£0.50	GREY BOYS SHORTS
GREY GIRLS SOFT TROUSERS	£0.50	DAMAGED OR MARKED ITEMS
SCHOOL BAG (NEW STYLE)	£2.50	
SCHOOL BAG (OLD STYLE)	£1.50	
OFFICIAL PE T-SHIRT/SHORTS	£0.50	

Items are sold from 1 Park Drive, Melton Park NE3 5QB, with a drop off box at the front door. Please REMEMBER items, particularly red, must not be marked as they are unable to be sold on. You can text me Natasha Davy (Parent) on 07736276653. All money made comes back to school to be spent on playground equipment for our wonderful children.

TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS

We've got some new superstar coin earners this week on TTRS! Well done to Sophia Bull, Toby Smith, Alexa Dixon and Alanna Turnbull for earning the most coins this week. At the moment we have just 18% of children active this week, it would be great to see that average go up next week.



Wow we've had a super 76% of children active on Numbots since last Tuesday, keep it up! It has been great to hear so many of you tell me about your robot upgrades and certificates earned over the past week. Well done to **Yellow** class for having the highest coin average this week!

Our top coin earners this week are:

Blue – Alexander Tucker

Violet – Joshua Spedding

Indigo – Toby Smith

Yellow – Arthur Watkins

Orange – Anna Spedding

Green - Benjamin Mokhtary

Keep up the brilliant work!

Miss Pope

Attendance

Our whole school attendance to date this academic year is **98.2%** up on **97.8%** last year. Our class of the week with **98.9%** is **Reception Miss Parsons-Munn** followed closely by **Yellow Class** with **98.4!** Well done everyone!

Advanced Notice of Dates 2023-2024

Updates will be added in red

Summer Holiday	
Monday 2nd October	PTFA meeting 6.15pm in the school hall
Tuesday 10 th October	Flu Vaccination
Thursday 26 th October	Reception Halloween Craft Afternoon – parents welcome 2:00 – 3:00pm
Thursday 26 th October	Last Day of Term
Friday 27 th October	Training Day
October Half Term	
Tuesday 7 th November	Parent consultation appointments
Thursday 9 th November	Parent consultation appointments
13 th – 17 th November	Scholastic Book Fair in school
Wednesday 15 th November	School Photographer in school (individuals and siblings)
Friday 17 th November	Children in Need (Pudsey)
Wednesday 13 th December	Nursery Christmas Assembly 9:30 – 10:00 (up to 4 guests per family)
Thursday 14 th December	Reception to Year 4 Aladdin at The Exchange Theatre
Tuesday 19 th December	Reception Miss Coughlan Christmas Assembly for Parents 10:45 – 11:15 (up to 4 guests per family)
Tuesday 19 th December	Reception Christmas Assembly for Parents 2:30 – 3:00 (up to 4 guests per family)
Wednesday 20 th December	Green Christmas Assembly for Parents 9:30 – 10:00 (up to 4 guests per family)
Wednesday 20 th December	Orange Christmas Assembly for Parents 10:45 – 11:15 (up to 4 guests per family)
Wednesday 20 th December	Yellow Christmas Assembly for Parents 2:30 – 3:00 (up to 4 guests per family)
Thursday 21 st December	Blue Christmas Assembly for Parents 9:30 – 10:00 (up to 4 guests per family)
Thursday 21 st December	Violet Christmas Assembly for Parents 10:45 – 11:15 (up to 4 guests per family)
Thursday 21 st December	Indigo Christmas Assembly for Parents 2:30 – 3:00 (up to 4 guests per family)
Friday 22 nd December	Last Day of Term
Christmas Holiday	

Staff Training Days

Staff Training Days for GST schools this academic year will be:

- Friday 27th October 2023
- Monday 3rd June 2024

Advanced Notice of Dates 2023-2024

Updates will be added in red

	Christmas Holiday
Monday 8 th January	School reopens
Tuesday 6 th Feb	Safer Internet Day
Friday 16 th February	Last day of term
	February Half Term Holiday
Monday 26 th February	School reopens
Monday 11 th –Friday 15 th March	Science Week
Friday 15 th March	Red Nose Day
Wednesday 20 th March – Friday 22 nd March	Year 4 Robinwood
Thursday 28 th March	Last day of term
	Easter Holiday
Monday 15 th April	School reopens
Monday 6 th May	May Bank Holiday
Friday 24 th May	Daft Day
Friday 24 th May	Last Day of Term
	May Half term Holiday
Monday 3 rd June	Training Day
Thursday 11 th – Friday 12 th July	Mr H Onsite Residential for Year 3 children
Friday 19 th July	Last day of term



Rainbow Wraparound

Please contact us via wraparound@gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk or for any ad hoc bookings
Rainbow Wraparound: 07926 946 565.



If you don't already, please give us a follow on Twitter. Our school account is @GosforthPark1st

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION
13+



Snapchat is an instant messaging app which allows users to send images, videos and texts to people in their friends list. One of Snapchat's unique features is that pictures and messages 'disappear' 24 hours after they've been viewed; however, this content isn't as temporary as many believe - with some users saving screenshots or using another device to take a photo of their screen. This year, Snapchat added 'My AI': a customisable chatbot with which people can chat and share secrets, as well as asking for advice and suggestions of places to visit.

CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS

Even if your child only connects with people they know, they may still get friend requests from strangers. The Quick Add option lets users befriend people the app recommends - but these 'friends' are merely a username, which could have anyone behind it. Accepting such requests reveals children's personal information through the Story, SnapMap and Spotlight features, potentially putting them at risk from predators.

EXCESSIVE USE

Snapchat works hard on user engagement, with features like streaks (messaging the same person every day to build up a high score). Spotlight Challenges tempt users into spending time producing content in search of cash prizes and online fame, while it's easy for children to pass hours watching Spotlight's endless scroll of videos.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some videos and posts on Snapchat aren't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's 'disappearing messages' feature also makes it easy for young people (teens in particular) to share explicit images on impulse - so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.



ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

My AI is Snapchat's new chatbot, which replies to questions in a human-like manner. However, the software is still in its infancy and has significant drawbacks, such as biased, incorrect or misleading responses. There have already been numerous reports of young users turning to AI for medical help and diagnoses, which could be inaccurate and therefore potentially dangerous.

ONLINE PRESSURES

Although many of Snapchat's filters are designed to entertain or amuse, the 'beautify' effects on photos can set unrealistic body-image expectations - creating feelings of inadequacy if a young person compares themselves unfavourably with other users. Snapchat now also has 'priority' notifications (which still get displayed even if a device is in 'do not disturb' mode), increasing the pressure on users to log back in and interact.

VISIBLE LOCATION

Snap Map highlights a device's exact position on a virtual map which is visible to other users. There are options to restrict who can see this information: all friends, only you (Ghost Mode) or selected friends. Snapchat also has real-time location sharing, which is intended as a buddy system to ensure friends have reached home safely - but which could also be used to track a young person for more sinister reasons.

Advice for Parents & Carers

TURN OFF QUICK ADD

The Quick Add feature helps people find each other on the app. This function works based on mutual friends or whether someone's number is in your child's contacts list. Explain to your child that this could potentially make their profile visible to strangers. We recommend that your child turns off Quick Add, which can be done in the settings (accessed via the cog icon).



CHOOSE GOOD CONNECTIONS

In 2021, Snapchat rolled out a new safety feature; users can now receive notifications reminding them of the importance of maintaining connections with people they actually know well, as opposed to strangers. This 'Friend Check Up' encourages users to delete connections with users that they rarely communicate with, to maintain their online safety and privacy.



DISCUSS AI

Although My AI's responses can often give the impression that it's a real person, it's essential that young people remember this certainly isn't the case. Encourage your child to think critically about My AI's replies to their questions: are they accurate and reliable? Remind them that My AI shouldn't replace chatting with their real friends, and that it's always better to talk to an actual person in relation to medical matters.



CHAT ABOUT CONTENT

It may feel like an awkward conversation (and one that young people can be reluctant to have) but it's important to talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting. Remind your child that once something's online, the creator loses control over where it ends up - and who else sees it. Likewise, it's vital that children understand that some challenges which become popular on the platform may have potentially harmful consequences.



KEEP ACCOUNTS PRIVATE

Profiles are private by default, but children may make them public to gain more followers. Snap Stories are visible to everyone your child adds, unless they change the settings. On SnapMaps, their location is visible unless Ghost Mode is enabled (again via settings). It's safest not to add people your child doesn't know in real life - especially since the addition of My Places, which allows other Snapchat users to see where your child regularly visits and checks in.



BE READY TO BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger does connect with your child on Snapchat and begins to make them feel uncomfortable through bullying, pressure to send explicit images or by sending sexual images to them, your child can select the three dots on that person's profile and report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user (annoying or malicious messages, spam, or masquerading as someone else, for example).



Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



NOS National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

Sources: <https://help.snapchat.com/en-gb/browse/000090058932-what-is-my-ai-on-snapchat-and-how-does-it-work> | <https://uk.es.snap.com/en-gb/wake-up-wednesday-terms-and-conditions> | <https://www.nos.gov.uk/parents-and-carers> | <https://help.snapchat.com/en-gb/browse/0000408464>

@natonlinesafety

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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 17.05.2023



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www.StarStrikeSoccer.co.uk



2023 - 2024 SOCCER CAMPS

DETAILS

VENUE: BLUE FLAMES, BENTON. NE12 9SF

CAMP 1

MONDAY 30TH OCTOBER, TUESDAY 31ST OCTOBER,
WEDNESDAY 1ST NOVEMBER, THURSDAY 2ND NOVEMBER

CAMP 2

WEDNESDAY 3RD JANUARY,
THURSDAY 4TH JANUARY, FRIDAY 5TH JANUARY

COST:

1 DAY - £17.50

2 DAYS - £35.00

3 DAYS - £50.00

4 DAYS - £55.00

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Contact Graeme Doyle for Details
or register your child on **07887 766 460**
info@starstrikesoccer.co.uk
www.starstrikesoccer.co.uk

Star Strike Soccer have been conducting soccer courses for the past 25 years, all our coaches are experienced and F.A. Qualified and are D.B.S. checked. Our courses provide a fun, relaxed atmosphere for all children to learn and enjoy their skills and make new friends.

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- All coaching indoors and outdoors
- Girls and Boys welcome

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PAYMENT CAN BE MADE ON FIRST DAY OF THE COURSE
TO BOOK A PLACE TEXT CHILD'S NAME TO 07887 766 460







SCHOOL DISCOUNT

Access discounted tickets for our Premiership Cup fixtures vs Sale Sharks and Caldy RFC.

SCAN HERE FOR TICKETS




Special announcement to be made at Caldy game, along with fairground and community activities!





SALE SHARKS | 22.09.23 | 19:45 KO
CALDY RFC | 08.10.23 | 14:15 KO





SALE SHARKS | 22.09.23 | 19:45 KO
CALDY RFC | 08.10.23 | 14:15 KO

With the Men's Rugby Union World Cup currently in full swing, and the Women's Rugby Union World Cup taking place in the UK in 2025 with fixtures being hosted in Sunderland we thought it would be an excellent opportunity to invite you to come watch some live rugby!

Our Friends at Newcastle Falcons have this great offer for £5 tickets for both adults and children for all schools within the NorthEast.

To access your offer please [click here](#), you will have to create an account in order to book and access pricing. Please can you share the following offer throughout the school.

If you are interested or would like to find out more about the programmes we provide within schools and would like you get involved please email falconscommunity@newcastle-falcons.co.uk

Hope you can join us for a great day of rugby.

Falcons Community – Newcastle Rugby Foundation





[Unsubscribe](#)

Newcastle Falcons | Kingston Park | Brunton Road | Kenton Bank Foot | Newcastle upon Tyne | NE13 8AF

GPFS PTFA



Wreath Making

Saturday 25th November
5-8pm
Gosforth Park School Hall
£40 pp including all materials
and a festive treat.

(Limited spaces, book early to
avoid disappointment. Family
and friends welcome.)

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/gpfs-ptfa-wreath-making-workshop-tickets-691529211487>



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