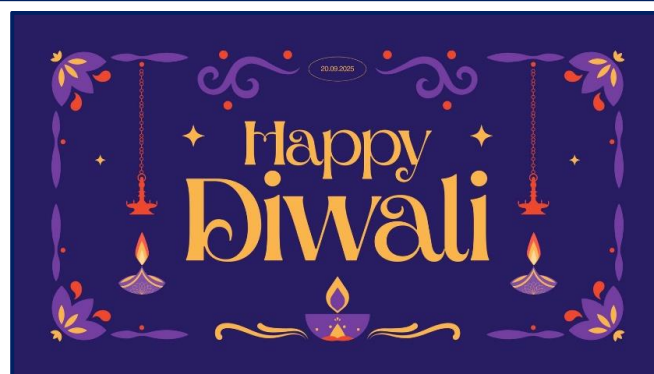




[www.gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk](http://www.gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk)

October 17<sup>th</sup> 2025 Issue 7/8 Autumn Term 1



This year, Diwali falls on the 20<sup>th</sup> of October! We wish a joyful and prosperous Diwali to all of our families who are celebrating.



Thank you so much for your Harvest Festival Donations. These were gratefully received by The People's Kitchen on Monday.

## Reminder

We break up on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October for half term. Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October is a staff training day. We return to school on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November

## Staff Training Days

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

- Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2025
- Monday 1st June 2026

Please see the dates for your diary below and the school calendar for 2025\_2026

## Parent Consultations

We will be holding our parent consultation meetings from Nursery to Year 4 during the week beginning 3<sup>rd</sup> November. Bookings open on **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October at 7am** and are to be made via School Cloud **by Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October at 6pm**.

Please visit

<https://gosforthparkfirst.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

to book your appointment.

Telephone appointments will be held on the afternoon of **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November** and face to face appointments will be held on the evenings of **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November** and **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November**.

Thanks

Mrs Lamb



Our wonderful teachers have volunteered to give up part of their lunch hour to run clubs for children after half term, **starting in the second week back**. These will be allocated on a **first to sign up** basis. Any children who don't get their choice of club for the Autumn term will be put on the waiting list for Spring. Keep an eye out for the link which will come via Parent Pay next week. **The final deadline for signing up will be Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November.**

## City of Newcastle Pipe Band

City of Newcastle Pipe Band has launched a free junior bagpiping and drumming teaching programme.

For more information, contact Alan Jamieson, 07824 167 397

<https://www.facebook.com/CityofNewcastlePipeBand>



There is a great opportunity to join a **free** bagpiping and drumming teaching programme.

Please follow the link for more information or contact Alan Jamieson.

<https://www.facebook.com/CityofNewcastlePipeBand>

Thanks, Mr P

## Bikes and Scooters

Please remember to dismount any bikes or scooters at the main gate and walk them on to the school site to avoid any bumps with pedestrians. Please also remind children to walk them out of the school site.

Many thanks

Mrs Lamb

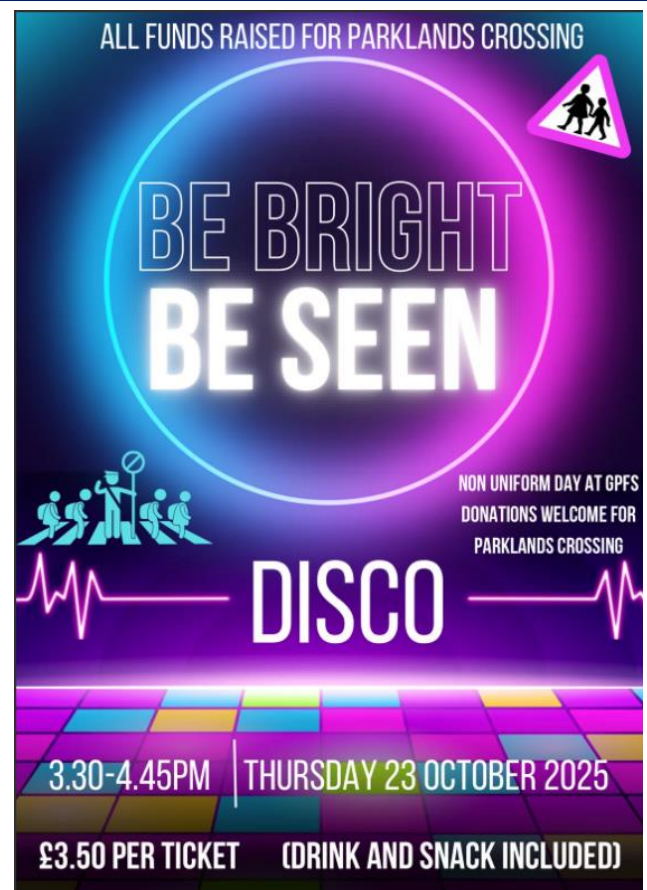
## Parking

Please remember

- not to idle and to switch engines off
- to be considerate of our neighbours
- not to park on double yellow lines
- leave the disabled bay free for disabled users and remember not all disabilities are visible
- to drive slowly

Many thanks

Mrs Lamb



We are very much looking forward to the upcoming Be Bright Be Seen Disco.

**Children not attending the disco:** can be picked up from classrooms at the usual time and location. Any children not attending the disco and using Wraparound will be taken to Wraparound as usual.

**Children attending the disco:** will be taken to the disco by school staff who will be on hand throughout. Children will then return to classrooms to be collected at the usual location at **4:45**.

Children attending Wraparound after the disco will be taken there to be collected as per your Wraparound booking.

We know that the loud music can be a little overwhelming for some children so we'll also have some quieter rooms available if needed.

Mrs Lamb



Reception had a great time at Beamish as part of our All about Me topic. We visited the school, compared the houses, went to the 1900's town and even got to go on a tram! We then took part in a toy workshop where we got to explore different toys from the past too. We had a brilliant first school trip!

Miss Coughlan and Miss Parsons-Munn



## Healthy School



We need to eat more beans! Not only are they good for our health, they are also good for the planet and are excellent for bulking out meals, helping the family budget to go further.

Along with lentils and pulses, these little power houses of energy are packed with protein, fibre and essential nutrients that support healthy development and digestion.

There are lots of fun and engaging ways to teach children about the benefits of beans. Getting them involved in simple cooking activities using beans is a great start — think bean chilli, wraps, hummus or even your own tastier version of beans to go on toast.

You can also grow beans together in the garden or on a windowsill, helping children see where their food comes from.

These hands-on experiences can help children build positive habits and a better understanding of the foods that fuel their bodies.

Mrs Wells

# Congratulations!



Congratulations to Alfie and Rosie who both competed in skiing races at their Polar Bear Ski club at Silksworth on Saturday. They both came first place in their category, and were very excited to win medals and sweets. Well done!



Well done to Oonagh who achieved her level 5 at gymnastics this week! Congratulations!



Our Golden Welly award goes to Mr Patterson's class this week. They have been working really well in a team to build dens. Well done!

Our Opal challenge winner this week is Anna S from year four. She found all of the letters around our playground, and correctly solved the anagram, spelling the word 'Autumn'. I think this word was a bit tricky for some of us!

We have a donation box in our main entrance for any wooden or plastic kitchen utensils for our mud kitchen. The children also love small world toys, like dinosaurs, cars etc. so if you have any you no longer use at home, they would be very much appreciated.  
Thank you!  
Ms Gasper

## Pre-Loved Uniform

| PRE-LOVED ITEMS WE CAN SELL     |       | PRE-LOVED ITEMS WE CAN NOT SELL |
|---------------------------------|-------|---------------------------------|
| OFFICIAL SCHOOL JUMPERS/HOODIES | £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 |                                 |

Items are sold from 1 Park Drive, Melton Park NE3 5QB, with a drop off box in front of the garage. Please only drop off items on the list that can be resold.

Please REMEMBER items 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.



Please remember that there is also a pre-loved uniform drop off area in the main entrance to help us to reuse, recycle and re-love uniform for the benefit of our children and community.

## TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS

Miss Bell's class are our most active class this week! Well done to Emilia T who is our first new Rock Star this year – what a super achievement for Year 3! Our top coin earners this week are: Jesse P, Darcy C and Fionntan M.



Our activity on NumBots was down this week from the brilliant start we have had so far so please login for just 10 minutes a week to improve your fluency skills. Our most active class was Mr Edwards' class!

Our top coin earners this week are:

Miss Pope – **Lola R**

Mr Edwards – **Jasper O**

Miss Tate – **Iman I**

Mr Patterson – **Enzo H**

Mr Hindess and Mrs Armstrong – **Teddy O**

Mr Guest – **Finn L**

Miss Bell – **Gerard C**

Miss Pope.

## Attendance

Our whole school attendance to date this academic year is **97.9%** which is very slightly down on this time last year (**98%**).

Our classes of the week this week are **Year 2 Mr Patterson** with an amazing 99.1%! This week we have three classes tying for second place - **Reception Miss Parson-Munn**, **Reception Miss Coughlan** and **Year 2 Miss Tate** all with 98.9%!

Well done everyone!  
Mrs Lamb

# Starting School in September 2026!

## Applying for Places

**Nursery Application forms for places in September 2026** will be available on the school website and from the office from Friday 9th January 2026.

The closing date for applications is 27th March 2026 at noon.

Offer letters will be emailed out on Wednesday 1st April 2026.

The deadline for accepting a place is Friday 24th April.

## Reception Applications for September 2025

Applications open: 1st September 2025

Applications close: 16th January 2026

National offer day: 16th April 2026

Further information can be found at <https://www.newcastle.gov.uk/services/schools-learning-and-childcare/apply-school-place/applying-reception-places>

## Reception 2026

We've already had lots of enquiries regarding visits for our Reception 2026 intake. Parents are able to visit the school on the following dates. Please phone the school office to book a place.

- Tuesday 21st October 9:30 – 10:30am
- Wednesday 22nd October 9:30 – 10:30am
- Wednesday 6th November 9:30 – 10:30
- Wednesday 6th November 5:00 – 6:00
- Tuesday 11th November 9:30 – 10:30
- Wednesday 12th November 5:00 – 6:00

## Transferring school in 2026

Essential information about making an application to transfer to middle, secondary or high school.



Find out more and apply online at [www.newcastle.gov.uk](http://www.newcastle.gov.uk)

The closing date is 31 October 2025.

## Middle School Applications for September 2025

Applications open: 1st September 2025

Applications close: 31st October 2025

National Offer Day: 2nd March 2026

Further information can be found at [Applying for Transfer places | Newcastle City Council](#)

Mrs Lamb

# Important Dates 2025-26

New additions will be added in red.

## Autumn One

|                                    |                                                 |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October | Y4 Playground Leaders Training                  |
| Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October  | Be Bright, Be Seen Day and after school Disco   |
| Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October  | Reception Halloween Craft afternoon 2:00 – 3:00 |
| Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October    | Training Day                                    |

## Autumn Two

|                                    |                                                              |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November    | School re-opens                                              |
| Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> November | School Photos (individual and sibling)                       |
| Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> November | Y3 + Y3/4 trip to Victoria Tunnel + Northern Print Workshops |
| Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December   | Y4 trip to Victoria Tunnel + Northern Print Workshops        |
| Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> December  | Y2 trip to Discovery Museum                                  |

## Christmas Performances and Events

|                                     |                                                                                       |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December | Reception to Year 4 Flu Vaccinations                                                  |
| Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December | Nursery - doors open at 9:15 for a 9:30 – 10:00 performance                           |
| Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December | Santa Dash Daily Mile                                                                 |
| Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December | Christmas Jumper Day                                                                  |
| Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December | Christmas Dinner Day                                                                  |
| Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> December  | Reception Miss Coughlan - doors open at 9:15 for a 9:30 – 10:00 performance           |
| Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> December    | Reception Miss Parsons-Munn - doors open at 9:15 for a 9:30 – 10:00 performance       |
| Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> December    | Year 4 Miss Bell - doors open at 2:15 for a 2:30 – 3:00 performance                   |
| Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December   | Year 1 Miss Pope and Mr Edwards - doors open at 9:15 for a 9:30 – 10:00 performance   |
| Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December   | Year 3/4 Mr Guest - doors open at 2:15 for a 2:30 – 3:00 performance                  |
| Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December | Year 2 Mr Patterson and Miss Tate - doors open at 9:15 for a 9:30 – 10:00 performance |
| Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December | Year 3 Mr Hindess & Mrs Armstrong - doors open at 2:15 for a 2:30 – 3:00 performance  |
| Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December  | Whole School trip to Gosforth Civic Theatre                                           |
| Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December    | Reception to Year 4 Christmas Parties (wear party clothes!)                           |

## Spring One

|                                   |                                   |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January    | School re-opens                   |
| Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January | Year 2 Pants are Private sessions |

## Spring Two

|                                                            |                     |
|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February                           | School re-opens     |
| Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> March | Year 4 to Robinwood |
| Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April                               | Bank Holiday        |

# Important Dates 2025-26

| Summer One                      |                                                   |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April   | School re-opens                                   |
| Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May      | Bank Holiday                                      |
| w/b 4 <sup>th</sup> May         | Year 4 Swimming Lessons (PM all week)             |
| w/b 11 <sup>th</sup> May        | Year 4 Swimming Lessons (PM all week)             |
| Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May     | 'That History Bloke' Ancient Greeks Workshops KS2 |
| Summer Two                      |                                                   |
| Monday 1st June                 | Training Day                                      |
| Tuesday 2nd June                | School re-opens                                   |
| Tuesday 2nd June                | 'That History Bloke' Ancient Greeks Workshops KS2 |
| w/b 22 <sup>nd</sup> June       | Sports Week                                       |
| w/b Monday 6th July             | Transition Week                                   |
| Thursday 9th – Friday 10th July | Year 3 Onsite Residential Sleepover               |
| Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> July  | Year 4 Leaver's Assembly (more info TBC)          |
| Friday 17th July                | Final Day of 2025-26                              |



**ST AIDAN'S CHURCH  
FAMILY HALLOWEEN EVENT**

**FRIDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER : 3.30PM - 5PM**

**FACE-PAINTING, BOUNCY CASTLE, DISCO, GAMES, LIGHT CRAFTS,  
STORY, HOT FOOD AND MORE**

**SUGGESTED DONATION £2 - TICKET VIA QR CODE**





# Rainbow Wraparound

Bookings must be made during the booking window which opens on the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month and closes on the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month, for the following month.

|                          | <b>Booking opens<br/>12 noon</b> | <b>Booking closes<br/>12 noon</b> |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>October bookings</b>  | September 10 <sup>th</sup>       | September 20 <sup>th</sup>        |
| <b>November bookings</b> | October 10 <sup>th</sup>         | October 20 <sup>th</sup>          |
| <b>December booking</b>  | November 10 <sup>th</sup>        | November 20 <sup>th</sup>         |
| <b>January bookings</b>  | December 3 <sup>rd</sup>         | December 17 <sup>th</sup>         |
| <b>February bookings</b> | January 10 <sup>th</sup>         | January 20 <sup>th</sup>          |
| <b>March bookings</b>    | February 10 <sup>th</sup>        | February 20 <sup>th</sup>         |
| <b>April bookings</b>    | March 10 <sup>th</sup>           | March 20 <sup>th</sup>            |
| <b>May bookings</b>      | April 10 <sup>th</sup>           | April 20 <sup>th</sup>            |
| <b>June bookings</b>     | May 10 <sup>th</sup>             | May 20 <sup>th</sup>              |
| <b>July bookings</b>     | June 10 <sup>th</sup>            | June 20 <sup>th</sup>             |

Parents must make their own bookings on the school cloud system. The only exception to this is families using vouchers. If you are emailing dates for voucher bookings, you must include

- Your child's name
- The day and date
- The sessions required (breakfast, until 5pm, until 6pm).

If you would like to, you can book sessions in advance for the entire school year.

If you do wish to book the same sessions for the entire school year, please email Mrs Carrick at [wraparound@gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk](mailto:wraparound@gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk)

Block bookings can only be made via email or through school cloud (not text message).

Please email [wraparound@gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk](mailto:wraparound@gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk) for any wraparound queries, **NOT the admin inbox or Mrs Carrick directly, as this will delay any response and may result in you missing the booking window.**

**Please ensure all block bookings are made/requested before the booking window closes. We cannot guarantee any block bookings after this date.**

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Thanks

Mrs Carrick

[wraparound@gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk](mailto:wraparound@gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk)

GPFS PTA PRESENTS OUR

# Wreath Making Workshops



**£40pp**  
including all materials  
and a festive treat.

Available to  
book via  
ParentPay

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November  
GPFS Community Room  
2 - 5pm or 5 - 8pm

ALL FUNDS RAISED FOR PARKLANDS CROSSING



# BE BRIGHT BE SEEN



NON UNIFORM DAY AT GPFS  
DONATIONS WELCOME FOR  
PARKLANDS CROSSING

## DISCO

3.30-4.45PM

THURSDAY 23 OCTOBER 2025

£3.50 PER TICKET

(DRINK AND SNACK INCLUDED)

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MEMES

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Memes may look like simple jokes, but, for many teenagers, they form a shared cultural language. Quickly created and reworked, they spread across social media platforms as images with text or short videos. Nearly eight in ten teenagers share memes (79%, YPulse), making them part of daily life. While memes encourage creativity and participation, they can also spread misinformation or reinforce harmful stereotypes.

### SPREADING MISINFORMATION

While memes help to communicate complex topics, they can also spread misinformation. Memes may sometimes include content presenting false facts or biased viewpoints, especially around health, politics, or current events and, as they're designed to be shared quickly, young people may not question their accuracy.

### EXPOSURE TO INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Memes are widely circulated, and not always age-appropriate, meaning young people may encounter explicit language, sexual content, or graphic imagery, even without searching for it. As memes spread fast on platforms like Instagram, TikTok, or WhatsApp, it's nearly impossible to filter them completely.

### MASKED MESSAGES

Some memes are designed to be confusing or layered with hidden meanings, making them hard for parents, and, sometimes, other young people to understand. Online groups often create these memes to look like inside jokes, but they can sometimes conceal offensive, harmful, or misleading content.

### HIDDEN HARMS & LOSING SENSITIVITY

When serious topics like violence, racism, or mental health are turned into jokes, children and young people may become less sensitive to these issues over time. While a funny meme may seem light-hearted, it can carry messages that belittle certain groups, encourage risky behaviour, or mock personal struggles. Repeated exposure through memes can make harmful behaviour seem normal or less important. Over time, this can blur their understanding of what is funny versus what is discriminatory, harmful, or damaging to themselves and others.

### PERMANENT DIGITAL FOOTPRINT

Unlike spoken jokes, memes leave a trail. Created or shared memes can resurface later and be misunderstood, even if intended as harmless. Once online, memes may be copied, saved, or spread beyond a young person's control - digital actions can follow them into their future, shaping how they are perceived by peers, teachers, or even employers long after the original meme has been shared.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Talk regularly with young people and try to understand their online world - discuss what they find funny about the memes, and why. By listening without judgement, you build trust, making it easier for them to come to you if they see something harmful. Open conversations also help children and teens think critically about the messages behind memes rather than simply accepting them at face value.

### MODEL HEALTHY BOUNDARIES

Show children and teens positive online behaviours, such as taking breaks from screens, avoiding late-night scrolling, and engaging in offline activities. Setting clear routines around screen time at home can help to reinforce healthy boundaries and reduce the risks of overuse. By modelling balanced technology use, adults can help children and young people see that digital entertainment, including memes, should be just one part of life.

### TEACH DIGITAL LITERACY

Help children and young people learn to question where information comes from and whether it's reliable - developing media literacy skills prepares young people to understand and navigate through their future online lives. Show them how memes can sometimes exaggerate or misrepresent facts for laughs, and encourage them to check credible sources when memes claim to present truth.

### FOSTER EMPATHY ONLINE

Remind children and young people that memes should never come at someone else's expense. Encourage them to think about how a meme might make another person feel before sharing or creating it. Highlight examples of positive memes that celebrate creativity without hurting others. Fostering empathy, respect, and kindness in digital spaces will help them become more aware of promoting a safer, more supportive online culture.

### Meet Our Expert

Dr Cristina Moreno-Almeida is a Senior Lecturer in Digital Culture at Queen Mary University of London. She specialises in memes, online networks, and youth culture, examining how digital spaces shape identity and everyday life.



The National College®

See full reference list on our website

X @wake\_up\_weds

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yt @wake.up.weds

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