



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

October 23<sup>rd</sup> 2025 Issue 8/8 Autumn Term 1



On Monday we held a whole school assembly to introduce our local Junior Parkrun event: Town Moor Parkrun. We also enjoyed a fun (but tiring!) parkrun warmup!

You may already be familiar with Parkrun events- it was lovely to hear from several pupils who have already attended some events themselves!

If you haven't heard or been before, junior parkrun is a free community event where you can walk, jog, run, volunteer or spectate. The event is dedicated to 4-14 year olds and their families and friends of all ages, and is positive, welcoming and inclusive- there is no time limit and no one finishes last. Everyone is welcome to come along!

We are encouraging as many people as possible to come along to Town Moor Junior Parkrun every Sunday. It will be an amazing experience to walk, jog, run or even take part as a volunteer at the event!

Details of the event are here:

**Address:** The address for the event is Town Moor Park, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE2 4PZ.

Town Moor Park is a lovely outdoor space with a brilliant Junior parkrun course, and not too far from our school!

**Time:** The start time is 9.00 every Sunday morning. There is a fun warmup delivered by a volunteer that will start at around 8.55.

**Length:** The course is 2km. Average finish time is around 15 minutes!

Parkrun is a free event for everyone, but in order to receive a barcode and a time, plus work towards the wristband milestones, your child will need to register on the course page: the link to this is below, or you can scan the QR code here.



Registration is very quick and easy to do, and you will only ever need to register once. Once registered, your child will receive a scannable copy of their own barcode to use at each event.

Please come along and take part, whatever your pace or experience! I'm looking forward to hearing about how you get on, and maybe even issuing some school prizes for regular participants!

If you have any questions about Town Moor Junior Parkrun, please get in touch.

Thank you  
Mr Guest

Information about the Town Moor Junior Parkrun event can be found at this page:

<https://www.parkrun.org.uk/townmoor-juniors/>

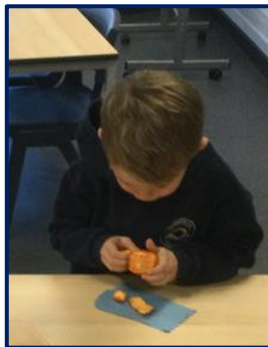
The page to register your child for junior parkrun, where they can receive their own barcode, is at this page:

<https://www.parkrun.org.uk/register/?eventName=townmoor-juniors>

## Year 1 Food Tech

In Year 1 this week we made fruit kebabs!  
We had to wash, peel, chop and thread the fruit to make them.

Miss Pope



## 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 close today **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October at 6pm**. We will send out an email via parent pay detailing where to enter exit and how and where you can see children's books.

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.**



**PTFA**

Huge thanks for your donations – we raised an incredible £215.91 at last Friday's bake sale!



### Looking for a fun activity this half term?

Enchanted maps of Gosforth are available to buy at YumLush in Gosforth Central or at Hospcotch and they take you on a trail around Gosforth, although Gosforth is not quite what it seems!

The map is enchanted, find the clues, break the spell and then collect your free finishers certificate from Yumlush and pop your name on a star on the window to say you completed the trail!

All money raised from the sale of the maps goes to the Gosforth Play park charity.

A great half term activity, fancy dress encouraged! Wands at the ready let's go!

Check out the poster at the end of the newsletter!



Healthy School

VEGPOWER

There is a fantastic resource online with a wealth of information and supportive advice on how to introduce more veg and beans into family mealtimes and how to encourage our children to eat them. They have a "steps to better" theme which is a gradual approach, showing how you can make small tweaks or simple swaps to make every day meals healthier.

The website has expert advice on how to guide the fussiest of eaters to widen their tastes, talking about the pace you introduce new flavours and textures. They advise on and how to add in veg and beans, make more homemade items and get the children involved in the kitchen. They have a huge section on how to make family favourites even healthier with a step by step approach to adapting each recipe and how to engage the children.

Find out more on

<https://simplyveg.vegpower.org.uk/step-by-step> clicking on the "Improve your family favourites" link to view the recipe ideas in more depth.

Mrs Wells

## TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS

Thank you for all your hard work this half-term everyone! Hopefully you're feeling more secure with your times tables already. **Mr Guest's class** have been our most active class this week! Or top coin earners are **Patrick B, Alexander H, Laurie G-R** and **Zara C**. Keep working towards that Rock Star or Rock Legend status over the break everyone!



My class (**Miss Pope's class**) was the most active class this week! Keep up the hard work over the break everyone and upgrade your robots with all the coins you earn.

Our top coin earners this week are:

- Miss Pope – **Hazel T**
- Mr Edwards – **Elliot B**
- Miss Tate – **Nour I**
- Mr Patterson – **Evelyn H**
- Mr Hindess and Mrs Armstrong – **Teddy O**
- Mr Guest – **Rowan G**
- Miss Bell – **Gerard C**

Have a brilliant break everyone, Miss Pope.



Our Golden Welly award goes to Miss Bell's class this week. Lots of the boys and girls have been helping to set up our new sand play area – thank you so much!

Our Opal challenge winner this week is Jumana from year two. She found all of the letters around our playground, and correctly solved the anagram, spelling the word 'conker'.

We all really appreciate the sand toys that have been donated in our donation box over the last couple of weeks, if you're having a clear-out over half term we'd love more construction toys or plastic kitchen utensils.

Thank you!

Ms Gasper

## Attendance

Our whole school attendance to date this academic year is **97.3%** which is up on this time last year (**97.1%**).

Our classes of the week this week are **Year 4 Miss Bell** with an amazing **99.3%** and **Year 2 Miss Tate** with **97.3%**!

We hope everyone has a happy and healthy half term after all of the bugs that have been doing the rounds!

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



# 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)

# Magic is in the air!

## GET YOUR ENCHANTED TREASURE MAP NOW!



A giant goat has been  
spotted on top of  
Gosforth Central !!



A huge snail carrying a  
house is moving down  
Church Road?!!

**On Sale NOW! £4.99**

Get yours from Yumlush,  
and Hopscotch

Help us break the spell!



All proceeds go to the Gosforth Play Park Charity



# 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



# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about FORTNITE

AGE RESTRICTION  
PEGI  
12

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

With over 650 million registered users, Fortnite remains one of the most played and discussed online games globally. Known for its vibrant graphics, fast-paced gameplay, and cultural crossovers with everything from music artists to superhero franchises, the game continues to capture the attention of young people. This guide outlines the risks trusted adults need to know about, including game updates, and offers practical safety tips to help address them.

### ALWAYS ONLINE

There's no single-player, offline mode in Fortnite; it can only be played online. Internet access can sometimes be an issue when you're out and about, both in terms of connectivity and using up data. You may find that dedicated, young Fortnite players are often less enthusiastic about family time or trips away – such as days out and holidays – than you might expect.

### IN-GAME COSTS

Fortnite is free to download and play, but it does offer various additional purchases – limited-time cosmetic 'skins', music tracks, LEGO items, and battle passes. Children can feel pressured to spend money on V-Bucks – the in-game currency – to avoid missing out, particularly as exclusive items rotate frequently. Some items may not return to the store for years, while Battle Pass rewards are often "gone when they're gone".

### VIRTUAL VIOLENCE

There's no avoiding that Fortnite is about shooting other players to eliminate them from the contest. That said, there's no blood or gore. The violence is rendered in a cartoonish style, and there are frequent comical touches to lighten the mood, such as mini-games and emotes. Guns and other weapons often look and behave realistically, so discretion is advised. Past seasons have introduced characters and references from mature franchises like The Witcher and Halo.

### CROSSPLAY AND PARTY CHAT

Fortnite is popular with many gamers of various ages. Crossplay allows friends to play with each other, regardless of whether they're on an Xbox, PlayStation, Nintendo Switch or PC, while the Party Chat feature allows them to talk to each other during the game. This can put youngsters at risk of exposure to strangers, inappropriate language, and cyberbullying.

### FREQUENT UPDATES

Seasonal releases introduce new map changes, gameplay mechanics, and cosmetics. Ongoing updates can increase screen time and potential for obsession as children try to unlock rewards before the season ends. These regular renewals help to hold players' interest, but also give young gamers plenty of reasons to keep coming back. Seasons often change thematically.

### POP CULTURE REFERENCES

Part of Fortnite's appeal is its ongoing crossovers with other popular franchises, ranging from films and TV shows like Power Rangers and Avatar: The Last Airbender, to comic book characters including Batman. Other collaborations with series, artists, and influencers may expose children to music, language, or ideas that are more suitable for older audiences.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### DISCUSS SAFE SOCIAL INTERACTION

Talk with children about who they're playing with online. Coordinate play time with the child's friends for socialisation and safety in numbers. Encourage them to avoid private voice chats with strangers and remind them not to share personal information. Use real-life examples to explain potential risks, and remind them that if they see something concerning, they should tell a trusted adult.

### SET SPENDING LIMITS

Fortnite's rotating store is a not-so-subtle mechanism for coaxing players into buying sought-after items before they disappear for weeks or months. This could lead to surprise transactions on bank cards if children are tempted into an impulse purchase. Parents could consider getting a prepaid card for the child or ensuring that purchases require adult authorisation. This can be done through parental settings on a console or account settings in the Epic Games app on PC.

### ENJOY FORTNITE TOGETHER

Fortnite also offers split-screen gameplay, meaning that two people can play simultaneously on the same console or computer. This can be a good option for siblings or for when a child's friends visit, but it also offers an opportunity for parents to do something fun with their child, while making sure they're playing the game safely. Who knows? You might even teach them a thing or two!

### BE WARY OF SCAMS

The immense popularity of Fortnite with younger audiences – that are generally more trusting – means there's no shortage of scammers looking to fraudulently obtain passwords and other personal data through techniques like phishing. As the developers point out on many of Fortnite's loading screens, they never ask for a player's account password outside of the game. Make sure any young player knows this.

### Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is an experienced freelance writer and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for seven years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College