

www.gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk

December 12th 2025 Issue 6/7 Autumn Term 2

Christmas Shows

Year 4 SB: doors open at 2:15 for a 2:30 – 3:00 performance

Year 1: doors open at 9:15 for a 9:30 – 10:00 performance

Year 3/4 PG: doors open at 2:15 for a 2:30 - 3:00 performance

Year 2: doors open at 9:15 for a 9:30 - 10:00 performance

Year 3 JH/SA: doors open at 2:15 for a 2:30 - 3:00 performance

Tea/coffee and biscuits will be available at the performance and raffle tickets will be on sale. The raffle will be drawn at the end of each performance.

Only **four** guests per household will be admitted. Babies in prams/pushchairs and toddlers will be admitted but will be counted as one of the four guests.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

Last Day of Term

There will be no early collections on the last day of term other that those that have been pre-approved by Mrs Lamb. Please make sure that if you have arranged for someone else to collect your child at the end of the day that you have notified the school office or your child's class teacher.



A huge well done to our amazing Nursery and Reception children who wowed us with their nativity performances. We are so incredibly proud of our amazing children and staff team. Thank you so much for your lovely comments and support.

Mrs Lamb



Wraparound bookings for January close at midday on Wednesday 17th December. Bookings after 12 noon will not be accepted and there will be no adhoc bookings in the first week of January. The whole school is at the theatre on Thursday and we have our Christmas parties on Friday. Please note school inboxes will not be monitored over the Christmas holiday.

Thank you Mrs Carrick

Reminder

The last day of term is Friday 19th December 2025. School reopens on Monday 5th January.



Dear Parents,

This year our children from Reception to Year 4 will be going to Gosforth Civic Theatre to see their production of a show called 'A Town Called Christmas'. It is sure to be a magical show filled with puppets, fairy lights, songs and dancing. We will be walking from our school to the theatre on the day and the trip is being paid for from our generous PTA.

We are still waiting for consent for 62 children. If you do not consent via ParentPay, we will not be able to take your child. Admin staff do not have the capacity to phone parents for verbal consent on the day.

Thank you Miss Bell



Christmas Parties

Christmas parties from Reception to Year 4 will take place on **Friday 19th December**. We can't wait to see you in your party clothes. Make sure you've got play appropriate shoes and warm coats for outside! Thank you so much to our PTFA who are providing juice, ready salted crisps and a bun for party snacks.

Choir Club

KS2 pupils were invited to Gosforth Golf Club to sing for the Women's team. They did not manage to get their planned tournament to go ahead but they were delighted to have the GPFS Choir lift their moods with some wonderful Christmas singing. Thank you so much to the ladies for donating an amazing £240 to school funds which will go towards some additional reading resources for the children to use.

Well done to our choir who were amazing! Mr Patterson



Huge thanks for your amazing donations to the Christmas Raffle. The hampers look absolutely amazing. Good luck!

The PTFA AGM will be held on Tuesday
27th January at 6:15pm in the community
room. We hope you can join us!
Congratulations to The 100 club bonus
month December draw winners

☆ 1st *£75.60* number 8 - The Higgins Family

2nd *£50.40* number 44 - Muriel St

☆ 3rd *£25.20* number 51 - The Costellos Many thanks
PTFA

Santa's Grotto

Our well-connected PTFA members have arranged a **special guest visitor** who will be making an important stop at our Gosforth Park Grotto on **Wednesday 17th December** to see all children before heading to the North Pole!



Thanks so much for everyone's support, raising money for our lovely lollipop lady Katie over the last 8 years.

As you're all aware these costs keep increasing year on year and we need to raise £8k per year to keep our lollipop road safety service in place.

This is a huge yearly task which is becoming increasingly difficult and hard to sustain.

We have been discussing this crossing and how to sustain this over many years with the council and we have an outcome....

Following the survey commissioned by Traffic Management in August this year, it has been established that a zebra crossing should be installed at the crossing area where Katie currently stands. In line with similar actions taken elsewhere in the city, the Council have agreed to fund the school crossing patrol until the zebra crossing facility is in place. Due to the necessary lead-in times for consultation, legal orders, and the restriction of construction within school holidays, the earliest feasible installation date is approximately April/May 2026.

The council will also improve the road safety measures and infrastructure to make this crossing and area safer, slowing traffic down and providing a safer crossing/area for children and caregivers to use.

We hope you all agree that this is huge step forward for longer term, safer crossing.

This therefore sadly means our wonderful Katie will no longer be with us from Winter 2026.

Katie is not only our lollipop lady to us but a huge part of our school community. Katie has worked on our crossing for many years, and we are so grateful for everything she has done/does.

To ensure we all have a safe, smooth transition from a lollipop service to a zebra crossing,

we do need to keep Katie, our lollipop lady in place until winter 2026.

We will therefore continue to raise money to pay for our lollipop service from May 2026/whenever the zebra crossing is in place, to Winter 2026.

We've already raised a huge £4k this year from very kind just giving donations, Be Bright Be Seen Day, disco's and jumpathons. However, we do need to raise another £2500 to make sure we keep Katie until December 2026.

Donations can still be made to the Just giving

link. https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/laura-greenhill-1?utm_medium=CF&utm_source=CL

We will receive further information early next year from the council with full plans which will be shared.

We wish Katie much love and thanks for everything she does and has done. (We have her for a while yet)!

Thank you so much from Parklands crossing team x



Well done to Nydia who played in her first ukulele concert in front of lots of people. She played her 'Mr Frog' series which are songs she composed herself with her teachers. Nydia played very confidently and really enjoyed performing!



Well done to Grayson who won the effort trophy at his Dance Club. This was across all age groups and he was awarded it for his enthusiasm and always working hard. What amazing qualities!



Pre-Loved Uniform

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

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.



This is the 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.



Eating fruit and veg in season is always a tastier option and hence more palatable for our children.

In Winter, when we think of the delicious food we enjoyed in the warmer months, such as summer berries, it can feel as if we are more limited. However, there are plenty of options still out there.

For fresh fruits think clementines, kiwi and grapefruit with late apples still around too. Frozen berries are delicious in smoothies or defrosted and mixed with plain yoghurt with a sprinkle of toppings such as granola or chocolate chips. And don't forget about tinned fruit in juice which can be eaten straight from the tin or used in a cake recipe.

Of course, root vegetables really come into their own at this time of year such as parsnips and carrots along with vegetables from the onion family, cabbages and winter squashes. Plenty of options for side dishes, stews and soups.

For some delicious winter recipes perhaps try the following sites:

https://www.deliciousmagazine.co.uk/collections/winter-recipes/

https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/occasions/winter

Mrs Wells

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.

Nursery visit dates

- ★ Tuesday 20th January 4:00pm
- ★ Wednesday 21st January 4:00pm
- ★ Thursday 22nd January 9:30am
- ★ Tuesday 27th January 4:00pm
- ★ Wednesday 28th January 4:00pm
- ★ Thursday 29th January 9:30am

Reception Applications for September 2026

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-

Middle School Applications for September 2026

place/applying-reception-places

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



Our activity on TTRS has gone down a lot this week, please keep practicing for a few minutes a day to keep those tables fresh in your heads! Congratulations to Alexander N and Finn L for becoming a Rock Star this week, what a super achievement! Finn L and Jacob A are our top coin earners this week.



Miss Tate's class are top of the leader board again! They are on a roll this half-term.

Our top coin earners this week are:

Miss Pope - Younes G

Mr Edwards – Elliot B

Miss Tate - Freddie W

Mr Patterson – Finn O-G

Mr Hindess and Mrs Armstrong — Arisa K

Mr Guest - Thomas S-L

Miss Bell - Nydia T

Well done everybody, Miss Pope.

Attendance

Our whole school attendance to date this academic year is **96.8%** which is up on last year's **96.3%**.

Our classes of the week this week are **Year** 3/4 Mr Guest with 97% and **Year 4 Miss** Bell with 96.7!

Well done everyone!





This week the Golden Welly award goes to Miss Pope's class. They have been really creative in their play, showing lots of wonderful imagination — well done!

Ms Gasper



This year Hannukah is being celebrated from Sunday 14th December to Monday the 22nd December. We would like to send you warm wishes for a bright and beautiful Hannukah.



With the festive season almost upon us, we know it's not always the most wonderful time of the year for everyone. We know that Christmas and New Year can be a challenging time for many families for many different reasons. We have pulled together some resources on a range of different topics in one handy place for you to use or share with loved ones.

- The NHS 999 and 111 services are available for emergency and urgent mental health matters, while the website also has details of care on offer
- If U Care Share The charity has a range of resources on its website, including a 24/7 confidential Crisis Messenger for anyone struggling
- <u>Hub of Hope</u> A searchable online resource which provides suggested services for a range of mental health and addiction issues based on location
- <u>The Samaritans</u> The long-running charity offers 24/7 support by phone, email or its Self-help app
- NHS Support for Domestic Violence and Abuse
- NHS Addiction Support

- Struggling at Christmas Get free, safe and anonymous support from kooth.com. We have a range of flyers from Kooth on Loneliness, Loss, Social Anxiety and Family Difficulties which we'll send out on Parent Pay.
- <u>EDNE</u> Eating Distress North East (EDNE)
 offers independent confidential services to
 people affected by eating distress across
 the North East
- Free digital mental wellbeing support for adults across the UK is also available at quell.io
- <u>Education Support</u> offers help with the mental health and wellbeing of teachers and education staff in schools, colleges and universities and can be contacted on 08000 562 561
- <u>Cruse</u> Bereavement Care (CRUSE) is a national charity committed to promoting the well-being of bereaved people. Patients may contact the national Helpline seven days a week (various times) which is run by trained bereavement volunteers who offer emotional support to anyone affected by grief, calling free on 0808 808 1677.

Wishing you a peaceful and safe Christmas from the whole GPFS Family.

Mrs Lamb



Rainbow Wrapaound

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

	Booking opens 12 noon	Booking closes 12 noon
October bookings	September 10 th	September 20 th
November bookings	October 10 th	October 20 th
December booking	November 10 th	November 20 th
January bookings	December 3 rd	December 17 th
February bookings	January 10th	January 20th
March bookings	February 10th	February 20 th
April bookings	March 10 th	March 20 th
May bookings	April 10 th	April 20 th
June bookings	May 10 th	May 20 th
July bookings	June 10th	June 20 th

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

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

Please email 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

Set Up Safe Checklist

internet matters.org

Set your child up for online safety with these simple tasks

Manage broadband & mobile networks



At home, access your broadband network and set applicable controls.



On the go, set up controls on the relevant mobile network.



See step-by-step guides to help

Prepare their device



Explore the device controls and settings to set limits on inappropriate content, screen time, spending and more.



Download and install the apps and games you're okay with your child using.



Set up controls in these apps and games to help keep your child safe while they play, browse or chat.



Install or set up additional parental control apps for further protection.

Explore step-by-step guides for social media

Talk & learn regularly

Together, learn about online safety issues that might impact your child.

Together, explore privacy and safety settings on their favourite platforms.

Ask them to teach you about their favourite online platforms to create an open environment for conversation.

Keep these conversations going for continuous support.







and video gaming





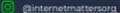














@InternetMatters_org

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SETTING UP APPS, GAMES

Millions of new phones, tablets, laptops and games consoles will be nestling under Christmas trees this year. However, even if parents and carers have gone to the trouble of setting up these new devices and enabling the safety features, there are still potential hazards in the apps, games and software that children will want to install and use. Knowing what to look for and discussing those risks with your child may help avoid any nasty surprises this Christmas. Here are our top tips for ensuring that unwrapping this year's presents doesn't unleash any unexpected dangers.

TAKE NOTE OF AGE RATINGS

FREE' ISN'T ALWAYS FREE

DISABLE IN-APP PURCHASING

CHECK THE SPECS

MONITOR IN-GAME COMMS

Voice chat with friends is part of the fun of modern gaming but danger lurks here too. Many titles have open chat systems, meaning that children could speak to strangers or hear adult language and verbal abuse when games get particularly competitive. Using a shared family area (as opposed to alone in bedrooms) for online gaming is a good way to keep an occasional ear on what's being said.

BE WARY OF GIFTS

Titles like Robiox, Minecraft and Fortnite have in-game currencies, which can be earned through progress in the game - but can also be bought with real money. A common scam is for a young player to be offered currency if they click a link, visit a certain site or contact another user directly. Warn your child about such offers; they should show you if they're in any doubt over an in-game gift.

APPS ARE AGE RATED, TOO

like games, apps in the major stores have age ratings, too – so you can see in advance whether an app's appropriate for your child. Additionally, phones' parental control settings allow you to set age limits, preventing young ones from downloading unsuitable apps themselves. These ratings aren't infallible, however: we've seen TV apps featuring adult shows with an age rating of 3, for example.

CONSIDER STORAGE

WATCH OUT FOR IMITATORS

LEGAL APPS THAT BREAK THE LAW

There are many apps that are perfectly legal but enable illegal activity — streaming apps which let people watch football matches, say, without paying for Sky or BT Sport. Prosecution for using such apps is rare, but they can lead to risky behaviour like viewing roque streams on sites teeming with maliclous links. Watch for children installing unusual apps with 'TV', 'stream' or 'sport' in the name.

IN-APP REGISTRATION

STAY UPDATED

Most games and apps are subject to regular updates, which not only offer new content and features but also provide critical security improvements. Children tend to ignore such updates — usually because they don't understand why they're important, or they simply want to get straight on with gaming. Check your child's devices periodically to make sure these updates are being installed.

arry Collins has been a technology journalist and editor for nore than 20 years, working for titles such as the Sunday Times, Which?, PC Pro and Computeractive. He's appeared regularly as technology pundls on television and radio, including on lewsnight, Rodio 5 Live and ITV News at Yen. He has two children nd has writes regularly about internet safety issues.







www.nationalonlinesafety.com







The 12 Online Safety Tips of Christm

CHILDREN WI

Christmas is almost upon us once again, and soon some lucky children will be excitedly tearing the wrapping off a new mobile phone, tablet or games console. For some of them, it will be the first time they've owned a device that connects them to the online world. Even for older children, a new device means new corners of the digital landscape to explore - and, unfortunately, new risks to be aware of.

We've put together our top tips so that you can guide your young ones in enjoying their new digital gifts safely and responsibly throughout the year to come. Merry Christmas!

ALWAYS SET A PASSWORD 3

If your child's new device has a password protection feature, use it! If I help to keep their private information safe and will deny others access to their device without permission. Your children's passwords should be something memorable to them — but something which other people can't guess (it's also a good idea for parents to write it down in case it gets forgotten!).

SET UP 'PARENTAL CONTROLS'

This really is an essential when your child gets a new device, so they're protected from the outset. Most phones, tablets and consoles a low you to customize their settings to determine which games your child can play, how they can communicate (and who with), what content they can access and so on. It will give you peace of mind that they can't inadvertently do something they shouldn't.

PAY ATTENTION 3. TO AGE RATINGS

9

One of the first things children want to do with any new device is play games and explore apps. Before they download anything or install a new console game, check its age rating. Many popular games and apps have content that's not windable for younger ages. The safest long-term solution is to adjust the device's settings so they can only download and use games and apps appropriate for their age.

18+

KEEP NUMBERS AND DEVICES PRIVATE

Make sure your child understands that they should never share their phone number with songen they don't know or accept a triend request from them. They should also appreciate that it's a good idea to mainly keep their device out of sight, never lend it to a stranger, and never put it down somewhere that other people could steal it or take it to use without asking.

HAVE THE MONEY CONVERSATION'

Before your children start using their new device in earnest, to k to them about in-app purchases and other ways that money might be spent through their device. Once they understand, you might want to agree on a spending limit and reassure them that they can come to you if they're uncertain, or if they have made a purchase by occident.

DISCOURAGE 6. DEVICE DEPENDENCY

Of course, children who've just got a new device will naturally want to spend as much time on it as possible. But whether they're zapping bad guys, watching videos or connecting with friends, it's easy for them to get attached very quickly. Certly remind them that having family time, going outdoors and getting some exercise are still fun, too. And the device will be there when they get back.

EXPLAIN SECURE WIFI NETWORKS

Your home WiFi is protected by a password that only your family knows, whereas public notworks (like those found in coffee shops, for example) can be accessed by arryons. It is important that your child grarps this difference because, if they're using a portable device on an unsecured network, then a hacker could access their personal information without them even knowing.

8. SCREEN TIME

Using a device for too long, especially just before bed, can interfere with a child's sleep quality and reduce their concentration and overal enthusiasm. I might be helpful to agree on certain times of day when they don't use their device. Most devicer's settings let you specify a screen-time limit, helping your child to stay fresh and focused in order to perform well at school.

ONLY PAIR WITH KNOWN BLUETOOTH DEVICES

Your child may want to connect to another device via Bluetcoth, so they can listen to music wire lessly or share pictures and videos with nearby friends. But if they use Bluetcoth to link with a device that they don't know, they're at risk of a stranger being able to see their personal information or having someone transmit a virus onto their device.

TURN LOCATION SETTINGS OFF

It's safest to disable the device's location services (if it's a portable device) so your child doesn't inadvertenity make other people aware of where they are. You can usually do this via the device's privacy control settings. Turning location settings off not only means your child's whereabouts can't be tracked by others, it also significantly extends hotherwise.

STAY AWARE OF THE SURROUNDINGS

It's quite common to see adults not looking where they're going while engrossed in their phone. Children are even more easily distracted. In some cases, children howe been hit by cars or cyclists because they were staring at their device and lost track of where they were. Remind your child that screens and walking don't mix. If they need to use their device, they should stop in a safe place first.

2. BE THERE IF THEY NEED TO TALK

Even when you've made a device as secure as you can, there's still a possiblity of your child seeing something that bothers them, or someone they don't know attempting to contact them. If this happens, listen to their concerns, empothise and reassure them. Once they've explained what happened, you can decide if you should take further action like blocking or reporting another user.











What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

TOYSCALPING, FAKES & SCAMS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS? Online scalping is when individuals or groups use automated software (bots) to bulk-buy high-demand items – such as gaming consoles, concert tickets, limited-edition trainers, or exclusive merchandise – with the intention of reselling them at vastly inflated prices. It's a fast-moving online trend that can frustrate young consumers and expose them to misleading practices or financial harm. As this unethical tactic grows, it's important to help children and young people understand how scalping works and how to navigate it responsibly.

FINANCIAL PRESSURE AND MANIPULATION 555

Scalpers create artificial scarcity by buying up large quantities of stock before the public has a fair chance to purchase. This drives up demand and pushes prices to extreme levels. Young people may feel intense pressure to spend more than they can afford for fear of missing out entirely.

EXPLOITATIONOF FANDOMS

Scalping often targets popular releases with strong fan bases, knowing that loyal followers are emotionally invested. Children and young people may place huge value on owning certain items linked to their favourite artists, sports teams or games, making them more likely to accept unfair prices or questionable sellers.

ACCESSING UNSAFE WEBSITES

In the rush to secure rare items, young people might click through to unverified sellers, online marketplaces with little consumer protection, or even sites designed specifically to harvest personal and financial data. This can expose them to fraud, malware, and identity theft.

NORMALISING UNETHICAL BEHAVIOUR

Some influencers and online communities present scalping as a clever money-making scheme rather than an exploitative one. This can normalise dishonest behaviour and blur the line between legitimate business and opportunistic profiteering for younger audiences.

RISK OF SCAMS OR COUNTERFEIT GOODS

Not every high-priced resale is legitimate. Fraudulent sellers may take payment for goods they never send, or ship counterfeit versions of branded items. In some cases, the product may look authentic in photos but turn out to be of poor quality or completely different from what was advertised.

REINFORCING INEQUALITY



Scalping makes already expensive items even less accessible, particularly for lower-income families. Children may feel excluded from trends or shared experiences with friends if their family cannot meet the inflated prices, which can lead to with feelings of isolation and disappointment.

O O CENUNE

Advice for Parents & Educators

TALK ABOUT ONLINE FAIRNESS

Use scalping as an opportunity to discuss fairness, consumer ethics, and how some people exploit markets for profit. Encouraging children to think critically about whether they truly need an item – and at what cost – can help them make more considered decisions.

SUPPORT INFORMED PURCHASING

Show children how to check seller credentials, read independent reviews, and verify whether a site is secure before making any payment. Knowing how to spot red flags, such as unrealistic promises or missing contact details, can prevent costly mistakes.

ENCOURAGE PATIENCE OVER IMPULSE

Teach young people to wait for official restocks or future releases instead of paying over the odds. Many products come back into circulation, and patience can save significant amounts of money while reducing the likelihood of falling victim to scams.

SET SPENDING BOUNDARIES

TOVZ-HOTDEALS.NET.RU
ULTRA CONSOLE PRO

Establish clear rules for online spending, including limits on prepaid cards, gaming gift cards, and online wallets. Discuss the real-world value of money spent on digital or collector's items so children understand the long-term impact of their purchases.

Meet Our Expert

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The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at







