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July 17th 2026 Issue 7/7 Summer Term 2

Year 4 Leavers Assembly 2026



Wow! We were treated to such an amazing show from our Year 4 Leavers yesterday afternoon. The children were simply brilliant (and hilarious!) We are so incredibly proud of all of our GPFS children and everything they have achieved this year.

We wish all of our children in Nursery and Year 4 who are moving on to new schools all the very best for the future. We are so honoured to have been a part of your learning journey. Your wonderful children are an absolute credit to you all.

I know you will join me in saying a huge thanks to our wonderful staff team. We also thank our parents, families and our school community for all of your support. We are feeling very proud and incredibly lucky. I hope you all have a great summer holiday and we look forward to welcoming you all and our new families to school in September.

Mrs Lamb

Together we make a difference!



Please see below for the staffing structure for next academic year:

Nursery Ms Gasper, Mrs Wells Mrs Dunn, Mrs Dodds, Mrs Sarder
Rec Miss Proudfoot
Rec Miss Coughlan
Reception Support Team Mrs Matthewson, Mrs Dodds, Mrs Sierkova, Miss Smith
Year 1 Mr Edwards
Year 1 Mrs Pennington (née Pope)
Year 1 Support Team Mrs T Lamb, Miss Matson
Year 2 Mr Patterson
Year 2 Miss Anderson/Miss Walsh
Year 2 Support Team Miss Bolton, Miss Curtis
Year 3 Miss Tate
Year 3 Mr Guest
Year 4 Miss Bell
Year 4 Mr Hindess/Mrs Armstrong
KS2 Support Team Miss Smith, Mrs Watson (née Sedgwick), Mrs Lucas, Miss Bradshaw, Mrs Dlay

School Closed

School will be **closed to all pupils on Monday 31st August** (bank holiday) **and Tuesday 1st September** for whole school staff training.

We reopen on Wednesday 2nd September



Summer Festival Thank You!

Dear Families,

Thank you so much for your incredible support at the PTFA Summer BBQ on Monday. We were truly overwhelmed by the turnout and enthusiasm!

We hope you all had a wonderful time, and we're so grateful for your generosity—whether through purchasing raffle tickets, enjoying food and drink, or taking part in the many fun stalls. It was fantastic to see so many smiles, especially from those who went home with cuddly toys—giant ones included!

This year we raised an incredible **£2131.67** for our PTFA!

Your support means the world to us. Thank you again for making the event such a success.

Mrs Lamb & the PTFA



KS1 and KS2 have produced some wonderful rainforest artwork to celebrate Sir David Atteborough's 100th birthday. This is now on display in the Gosforth Shopping Centre for anyone who wishes to go and have a look.

Thanks

Mrs Armstrong



Meet the Teacher

Please see below for the dates/times of **Meet the Teacher** parent information sessions:

Reception:

Wednesday 16th September 3:45 – 4:15

(Mrs Lamb will look after any children/siblings in the Early Years garden)

Enter via external classroom doors

Year One:

Tuesday 15th September 3:45 – 4:15

(Mrs Lamb will look after any children/siblings in the Early Years garden)

Enter via external classroom doors

Year Two:

Tuesday 15th September 3:45 – 4:15

(Mrs Lamb will look after any children/siblings in the Early Years garden)

Enter via the double red doors under the Rainbow canopy.

KS2:

Monday 14th September 3:45 – 4:15

(Mrs Lamb will look after any siblings in the spare year 4 classroom)

Enter via the KS2 cloakroom doors

These meetings are a chance for you to get to know your child's class teacher and to ask any questions that you have about the year ahead.

Please do not worry if you are unable to attend – we will be sending out our yearly class letters with all of the most important information.

Mrs Lamb

New Topics 2026/27

Below are the topics that our children will be studying when they arrive back with us after the summer holiday:

Reception – All About Me



All About Me enables our children to build relationships, get to know their new teachers and foster new friendships. Children build on their prior knowledge of the school environment, their local area and the wider community.

Year One – Pirates



Pirates is an engaging and exciting Geography based topic which introduces children to map work, compass directions and the 4 countries that make up the UK. We love our trip to the Royal Navy Museum where we get to explore real ships!

Year Two – Gosforth is Great!

Gosforth is Great introduces our children to their local area through describing physical and human characteristics of their environment. Our map skills and fieldwork knowledge are enhanced though exploring the wider locality. This builds on our prior learning from our Year 1 experiences.



KS2 – Rivers

Rivers takes our children on a journey from source to mouth! Pupils learn about the geography concept of *processes* by studying the different features and courses of rivers. We also take a look at our own River Tyne and how the quayside has been recently regenerated.

Please feel free to explore our school website **Geography Curriculum** page to find out more!

Mr Hindess



Staying Safe Around Water

As we look forward to the summer holidays—a time for fun, adventure, and family—we also want to remind you that this time of year can come with unexpected dangers, particularly around water.

Water safety is a key part of our curriculum, and children explore this topic in school as well as during their visits to *Safety Works!* However, a timely reminder from home can make all the difference.

Please take a moment to speak with your child about the potential risks associated with rivers, lakes, ponds, and even paddling pools. Understanding how to stay safe near water is essential.

For practical guidance, we've included a Top 10 Water Safety Tips poster at the end of this newsletter. We encourage you to read through it with your child and keep the conversation going throughout the summer. Wishing all our families a safe and enjoyable break!

Mrs Lamb





Kenton Foodbank Partnership

A massive thank you to Loree and Maureen from Kenton Foodbank, who came to school to deliver an assembly on Monday.

We talked about the important work of the foodbank and the positive impact it has on our local community.

We have some exciting opportunities planned for working with Kenton Foodbank next academic year. Loree and Maureen will be back in October to deliver some smaller group sessions.

Mr Hindess



Children's Cancer Run

It was a great turn out in May for the children's cancer run. In total, across all 11 schools the Gosforth Schools' Trust raised

£36,817.53!

What an unbelievable achievement!

Mr Guest



Dates for your Diary

We have been working hard to compile some important dates for the next academic year to give our parents as much notice as possible. Please see the diary at the end of this newsletter for some dates for your diaries

Mrs Lamb



Summer Holiday Reading

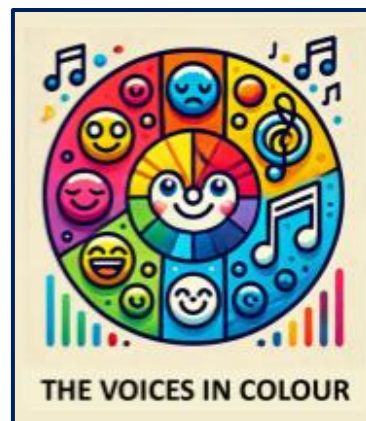
Reception and Year 1, please remember that you can use **Big Cat Collins Hub** over the summer to read all the amazing Little Wandle books that you have read this year. I have assigned them all week by week as you have read them. **Your login details are stuck in your reading records- please make a note of them!**

Thank you,
Mr Patterson





Our Year 2 children had a wonderful time singing on stage for the Voices in Colour SEMH concert. They sung their hearts out to Golden and We Will Rock You. We even got asked to go back on stage to perform the body percussion piece. That took some great confidence! We are very proud of you all! Well done. Mr Patterson



Thank you to parents and carers for your lovely feedback following the event.
Mrs Lamb

Pre-Loved Uniform

PRE-LOVED ITEMS WE CAN SELL (please donate)		PRE-LOVED ITEMS WE CAN NOT SELL
OFFICIAL SCHOOL JUMPERS/HOODIES	£2.50	OLD LOGO OR NON-BRANDED ITEMS
OFFICIAL SCHOOL CARIGANS	£2.50	TROUSERS/SHORTS
OFFICIAL SCHOOL POLOS	£1.50	PINAFORES/SKIRTS
GIRLS CHECKED DRESSES	£1.50	SHOES
SCHOOL BAG (NEW STYLE)	£2.50	DAMAGED, MARKED OR STAINED CLOTHING

Items are sold from 1 Park Drive, Melton Park NE3 5QB, with a drop off box in front of the garage.

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.



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.

Many thanks

Natasha Davy

Uniform Reminder

Year R – Year 4:

- White Polo Shirt - either completely plain or with school logo
- Navy round neck sweatshirt or cardigan completely plain or with school logo
- Plain grey or black trousers, shorts, skirts, pinafores.
- During the Summer Term, navy gingham dresses may be worn
- Sensible fitting smart black shoes, trainers or boots. Shoes with a heel are not permitted.
- Plain grey, black or white tights or socks.

PE

To be worn on PE days

- White Polo Shirt or round neck t-shirt - either completely plain or with school logo
- Navy shorts, joggers or leggings.
- Navy jumper or hoodie completely plain or with school logo
- Trainers

Jewellery

- Small earring studs and a wrist watch may be worn (**smart watches are not allowed**); however these must be removed for PE. If earrings cannot be removed, they must be covered.
- Navy books bags are recommended (plain or with the school logo). We do not have space in school to store any bags larger than this, such as back packs.
- Coats can be of any type or colour. We play out in any weather. Please sure your child brings a coat every day.

September Drop off and Pick Up



Nursery



Reception Miss Coughlan, Reception Miss Proudfoot



Year 1 Miss Pope, Year 1 Mr Edwards



Year 2 Miss Anderson/Miss Walsh, Year 2 Mr Patterson



Year 3 Mr Guest, Year 3 Miss Tate



Year 4 Miss Bell, Year 4 Mr Hindess/Mrs Armstrong

New reception parents, there will be tea, coffee and biscuits in the community room after drop-off.

Mrs Lamb

Summer Reading Challenge



Hello parents,

This year's summer reading challenge will soon be upon us.

The challenge officially launches on the 20th July and this year's theme is 'Read to the Beat'.

If children visit their local library at any point during the summer holidays they will be given a summer reading challenge sheet. If they collect 7 stickers, they will be entered into a prize draw to win lots of amazing prizes such as Pantomime tickets, Disney on Ice tickets, Electric keyboard, Lego and more!

Local libraries will have lots of fun, free activities and events such as: author and illustrator visits, dance and music workshops, treasure hunts and themed crafts - from K Pop Demon Hunters to Blaydon Races.

I would love to see lots of children from Gosforth Park taking part!

Thank you,

Miss Bell

NOVUM Festival 2026

The Novum Festival is returning to Newcastle city centre from 7th–9th August, bringing three days of exciting arts and cultural events for all ages. Best of all, the festival is completely free, offering families the chance to enjoy a wide range of performances, creative activities, installations and entertainment across the city. It's a fantastic opportunity to explore Newcastle, experience something new and celebrate creativity together this summer. Find out more here:

<https://novumnewcastle.com/>



Congratulations to **Freddie** who was awarded his Yellow belt for martial arts at the weekend. Well done – we are very proud of you!



Healthy School

This year seems to have flown by and with the summer holidays now upon us, remember to stay active and have fun! From the Peter Rabbit Trail, Newcastle parks, local beaches and our fantastic local network of cycle trails there are plenty of local things to do as well as further afield.

Don't forget you can access the many resources shared over the year in our newsletters, available to view on our website. Maybe do some healthy cooking together like trying out some of the healthy breakfasts from the Breakfast in Colour campaign.

Whatever you decide to do, we hope you have some wonderful quality time together and we'll see you refreshed and ready to go in September!

Mrs Wells



Huge well done to **Miss Tate's class** who have been awarded our last Golden Welly Award of the year. We were amazed by your creative play, the way you invite other children to come and play with you and your amazing tidying up!

Ms Gaper



Well done everyone for another fantastic year on TTRS. Keep practicing over the Summer, don't let your recall speed slip away! **Miss Tate's class** was our most active class this week! Our top coin earners were **Finley R, Gerard C** and **Jacob A**.



Miss Tate's class were also the most active class on NumBots too! They will definitely be ready for their Year 3 curriculum next year.

Our top coin earners were:

Miss Coughlan – **Felicity C**

Miss Parsons-Munn – **Sophia A**

Miss Pope – **Toby B**

Mr Edwards – **Aaima H**

Miss Tate – **Nour I**

Mr Patterson – **Martha H**

Mr Hindess and Mrs Armstrong – **Hugo H**

Mr Guest – **Violet C**

Keep practicing over Summer and well done for all your hard work this year!

Miss Pope

Attendance

Our final whole school attendance this academic year is 96.8% only slightly below our target of 97% - well done everyone for understanding the importance of coming to school every day! I know we will hit 97% next academic year.

Our classes of the week this week are **Y4 Miss Bell** with **99.2%** and **Y3 Mr Hindess & Mrs Armstrong** with **100%**!

Well done everyone!
Mrs Lamb

Reception Intake 2027

For our **Reception 2027** intake, parents are invited to visit the school on any of the following dates:

Please phone the school office to book a place.

- Tuesday 6th October 5:00 – 6:00pm
- Tuesday 13th October 9:30 – 10:30am
- Tuesday 20th October 9:30 – 10:30am
- Wednesday 21st October 9:30 – 10:30am
- Wednesday 4th November 9:30 – 10:30am
- Tuesday 10th November 9:30 – 10:30am
- Wednesday 11th November 5:00 – 6:00pm
- Wednesday 18th November 5:00 – 6:00pm

Nut Free School



Please remember (including informing anyone else who may prepare food for your child) that nuts, nut butters or any other product containing nuts are not permitted in school at any time, including in packed lunches, cake sales or lunches for school trips.



Rainbow Wraparound

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
September bookings	June 26 th	July 10 th
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	November 30 th	December 11 th
February bookings	January 10 th	January 20 th
March bookings	February 10 th	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 10 th	June 20 th
Summer Holiday	June 10 th	July 2 nd
September bookings	June 28 th	July 9 th

Wraparound will close at 5pm on Friday 18th December, Thursday 25th March and Friday 16th July.

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

Family Fun Day!

Join us for a free, fun-packed day for the whole family. There'll be food and great activities including:

- Face painting
- Glitter tattoos
- Hook a duck
- Tug of war
- Pizza making
- Cookie making
- Stocks
- + much more

No need to book - just turn up!

When?

**Thursday 23rd July
10am - 2pm**

Where?

**The Haven, Kenton
NE3 3RX**



**children & families
NEWCASTLE**

COME
& HAVE
A TRY!

GOSFORTH RFC



Another
**FREE
TRAINING
SESSION**

FOR UNDER 6's, 7's, 8's & 9's

SUNDAY 19TH JULY - 10AM

**IF YOU ARE NEW TO RUGBY WHY NOT COME
ALONG AND GIVE IT A TRY.**

CONTACT COACH SHAUN ON: 07505 993672 TO FIND OUT MORE



7:45AM – start of school day – £5.85

End of school day – 5:00PM – £7.60

End of school day – 6:00PM – £12.25

Holiday Full day 8:00AM – 6:00PM £26.00

Holiday Half day (until or from 1:00PM) £13.00

Phone: 07926 946 565

Email: wraparound@gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk

**Please note the following late fees apply for after-school club.
This is because of staffing and overtime incurred:**

–£5 for every 15 minutes late after 5 o'clock

–£10 for every 15 minutes late after 6 o'clock

**Pricing and fees will be reviewed at least annually by the Staffing and Finance Committee
Prices from September 1st 2026**

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

STAYING SAFE AROUND WATER

Enjoying time in, on, and around water plays a vital role in a young person's overall development, offering a healthy and exhilarating way to have fun. This guide outlines essential safety advice, based on the Royal Life Saving Society UK's Water Safety Code, to help ensure children can enjoy swimming and similar activities safely and responsibly.

1 STICK TO LIFEGUARDED AREAS

It's never advisable to enter unsupervised bodies of water, especially alone. Instead, it's considered best practice to accompany children to places with lifeguards, as they will be trained to respond swiftly in emergencies and provide first aid when needed.



2 LEARN SIGNS AND FLAGS

When going to a new environment, it's important to research the local area and make children aware of safety signage before entering the water. If visiting the seaside, make sure children are always supervised by an adult and that they know what different beach flags mean, so they're knowledgeable of where and when they can enter the sea.



3 STOP AND THINK

Young people should be cautious before entering water, as it's difficult to know what hazards could be underneath. Use the Water Safety Code and encourage children to ask themselves questions such as, "Is the water too deep or too shallow? Are there currents, tides, or underwater objects?" Make sure children know never to enter water from a height, as what lurks below could cause serious injuries.



4 CONSIDER WATER TEMPERATURE

Even on hot days, water can be deceptively cold. Tragedies strike when young people experience cold water shock. Never let children enter water quickly; instead, ensure that they enter slowly and carefully to allow their bodies to adjust to the temperature or exit easily if needed.



5 INFLATABLE SAFETY

Although inflatables may seem like a fun idea when visiting locations like the beach, they can float further out from shore and into more dangerous water. It's advisable only to use inflatables in spaces like appropriately managed swimming pools, where they're used in more controlled and supervised environments.



6 SUPERVISION IS KEY



For young children, and particularly those under the age of five, it's important for them to be supervised at home, outside and at the pool at all times. It's essential for parents and educators to understand that young children can drown quickly and silently; therefore, anyone supervising them must maintain constant watch in case they get into difficulty.

7 DON'T GO TOO FAR



When swimming, especially in open water, it's best to teach children to stay within a safe depth. Share advice with them such as only entering water up to a standing depth, and in the case of visiting the beach, swim parallel to shorelines. This will allow a child to stay in control and get out of the water easily.

8 KEEP POOLS AND TUBS DRAINED



For parents of young children, a simple way to protect them at home is to keep outdoor spaces and bathrooms tidy after playtime. This includes removing water from paddling pools after use and turning them over, returning lids to hot tubs and taking toys out of baths, so all water can be fully drained from the tub.

9 FLOAT AND CALL 999



If a child gets into difficulty in the water, they should try to float on their back, stay calm, and call for help. If a young person sees someone else in trouble, they should dial 999 or 112 immediately, then shout to reassure their friend, encouraging them to float on their back, and letting them know that help is on the way. Children should never enter the water to attempt a rescue or retrieve belongings.

10 TEACH WATER SAFETY



Beyond swimming lessons, children should be educated in school on water safety. Use RLSS UK's accredited programme, 'Water Smart Schools', which offers free lesson plans and resources on how to be safe on, near and around water by following the Water Safety Code.

Meet Our Expert

The Royal Life Saving Society UK (RLSS UK) is a national water safety charity that gives children the chance to enjoy a lifetime of fun in the water, safely. Water safety education provided in schools is vital and, in some instances, could be a child's only opportunity to learn about the water.



The National College®

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

SKIN BETTING

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

'Skin betting' is the term used when players gamble using virtual in-game items, such as weapon 'skins' or character cosmetics. Although these items appear purely decorative, some can hold significant real-world value. Research suggests that children as young as 13 have engaged in this type of betting, often on sites with limited age checks or safeguards, blurring the line between gaming and gambling.

UNREGULATED PLATFORMS

Skin gambling typically takes place on third-party websites that are not licensed or regulated. These platforms often lack age verification, making them easily accessible to children. By linking their gaming accounts, users can deposit skins, place bets, and withdraw winnings as cash or higher-value items – often without adults being aware these activities are happening.

REAL-WORLD VALUE

Skins may look like simple cosmetic upgrades to in-game items and characters, but some are worth hundreds or even thousands of pounds. They can be traded or sold on online marketplaces, meaning they function much like real money. When young people bet with skins, they are risking items of genuine financial value, even if no physical cash is exchanged directly.

INFLUENCER PROMOTION

Some gaming influencers and streamers have promoted skin betting sites in their content. This can make the behaviour appear normal or even desirable, potentially encouraging younger audiences to engage in these activities without fully understanding the risks involved.

SOCIAL STATUS PRESSURE

In games such as Counter Strike: Global Offensive (CS:GO) and Fortnite, rare skins can act as status symbols. Young players may feel the pressure to own high-value items to fit in with peers. This can lead them to take risks – such as using gambling sites – to obtain desirable skins, similar to how branded goods can influence behaviour offline.

LIMITED OVERSIGHT

Skin betting can take place both in-game and on external websites that parents and educators may not be familiar with. Because skin betting does not always resemble traditional gambling, it can go unnoticed until significant losses have occurred, in both items or money.

GATEWAY BEHAVIOURS

Skin betting mirrors many aspects of traditional gambling, including chance-based outcomes, reward systems and excitement. Early exposure to these mechanics can normalise betting behaviours before children and young people even reach legal gambling age. Research indicates that this may increase the likelihood of developing unhealthy habits later, particularly if early wins create a false sense of control or skill.

Advice for Parents & Educators

UNDERSTAND IN-GAME ITEMS

Familiarise yourself with the games young people are playing and learn whether they include tradable or sellable items. Titles like CS:GO and Rust are known for skin marketplaces, but similar systems are increasingly common across games.

DISCUSS VALUE AND RISK

Help children and young people understand that cosmetic items like skins can carry real-world value. Explain that losing them through betting is comparable to losing money, therefore reinforcing the connection between in-game actions and real financial consequences.

LOOK FOR WARNING SIGNS

Be alert to changes in behaviour, such as secrecy around gaming, a strong focus on acquiring specific skins, or a sudden loss of in-game items. These could indicate involvement in skin gambling and provide an opportunity to start a conversation about it.

USE CONTROLS AND SAFEGUARDS

Make use of parental controls and platform settings to restrict trading, purchases, and access to external websites. Where possible, disable marketplace features on games and monitor young people's account activity to reduce the risk of unauthorised transactions.

Meet Our Expert

Nathan David is Head of Foundation and Programme Lead for Esports Coaching at the University Campus of Esports.

Bubba Gaeddert is a Senior Lecturer and Head of Events at the University Campus of Esports, as well as President and Co-Founder of the Videogames and Esports Foundation.



See full reference list on our website



Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 15.07.2026



NEWCASTLE MUSIC SERVICE

Gosforth Voices & Band

All rehearsals take place on Wednesdays, 3:45-4:45pm.

Voices rehearsals are held at Regent Farm First School, Gosforth, NE3 3PE.

Band rehearsals are held at Archibald First School, Gosforth, NE3 1EB.

Autumn Term	
1	Wednesday 23 September [V]
2	Wednesday 30 September [B]
3	Wednesday 7 October [V]
4	Wednesday 14 October [B]
5	Wednesday 21 October [V]
HALF TERM: NO rehearsal Weds 28 October	
Wednesday 4 November	
6	Wednesday 11 November [B]
7	Wednesday 18 November [V]
8	Wednesday 25 November [B]
9	Wednesday 2 December [V]
10	Wednesday 9 December [B]

Spring Term	
1	Wednesday 13 January [V]
2	Wednesday 20 January [B]
3	Wednesday 27 January [V]
4	Wednesday 3 February [B]
5	Wednesday 10 February [B]
HALF TERM: NO rehearsal Weds 17 February	
6	Wednesday 24 February [V]
7	Wednesday 3 March [B]
8	Wednesday 10 March [V]
9	Wednesday 17 March [V]
10	Wednesday 24 March [B]

Summer Term	
1	Wednesday 21 April [V]
2	Wednesday 28 April [B]
3	Wednesday 5 May [V]
4	Wednesday 12 May [B]
5	Wednesday 19 May [V]
Wednesday 26 May	
HALF TERM: NO rehearsal Wednesday 2 June	
6	Wednesday 9 June [B]
7	Wednesday 16 June [V]
8	Wednesday 23 June [B]
9	Wednesday 30 June [V]
10	Wednesday 7 July [B]

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July 2026

Message from the Chair

As another school year draws to a close, we look back on the achievements of all our schools. Our schools continue to provide a wonderful happy environment for all our children to thrive in, as well as providing an excellent standard of education. I would like to thank all our families for their support of our schools. Good education is about a partnership that builds and develops in strength as our children grow and flourish on their education journey. We couldn't do it without you, thank you.

The start of the school year saw the launch of a new Ofsted framework and new report format. The new report is more like a report card. School leaders have been getting to grips with the new requirements as well as how Ofsted gathers the evidence upon which they base their judgements.

Two of our school were visited by Ofsted this year. Congratulations to Dinnington First School on their successful Ofsted report. We are still waiting for the report from Grange First School, who were inspected right at the end of this term and in the middle of a heat wave.

Exciting times for Regent Farm First School as their new build is completed. We all share their anticipation and excitement as they prepare for their big move from their old school to the state-of-the-art new school. I'm sure it will make a huge difference to everyone.

As is often the case at this time we say farewell to two head teachers who have served their communities with dedication and commitment. Thank you to Mrs Armstrong from Brunton First School and Mr Stout from Gosforth East Middle School. We wish them a happy and healthy retirement, and we hope that they will enjoy their well deserved rest. We congratulate Mrs Appleby and Mr Adcock who succeed them.

We have so much to celebrate and shout about in our family of schools. The GST are so very grateful for the leadership of our schools during this school year and for all the hard work that the head teachers and the staff have done, often going above and beyond to support our children and families.

I hope you are all able to enjoy time with family and friends over the summer break especially in this glorious weather. I look forward to working with you all in the next school year.

Karen Elliott

Chair of GST