

www.gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk November 13th 2026 Issue 2/7 Autumn Term 2

BBC Children in Need

We have had a brilliantly spotty day today raising money for the Children in Need appeal. Everyone has enjoyed some Pudsey-themed activities, and we even had a surprise visit from the famous bear himself!












Thanks to your generosity, we have raised **£568** so far!
Mrs Lamb

Anti-Bulling Week

Monday 16th November

Next week is **anti-bullying week** and this year's theme is 'Break The Silence.' The week will kick off with Odd Socks Day on **Monday 16th**, with adults and children being encouraged to **wear odd socks** to celebrate what makes us all unique. We hope that Anti-Bullying Week will encourage open conversations about bullying and help create environments where children and young people feel safe to speak and are supported when they do.
Many thanks
Miss Tate

Our popular **Christmas Eve Bags** are making a return again this year! Everything you need for family fun this Christmas. Please see attached poster at the end of the newsletter for more information!
You can order your bags from the link below:
https://www.zeffy.com/en-GB/ticketing/christmas-eve-bags-2
All money raised goes towards school.
Many thanks
PTFA

KS2 Beamish Trips

A reminder about the KS2 trips planned:

We are dressing up as Victorian children but please remember a **warm winter coat and appropriate footwear**. Children will also require a packed lunch (no nuts or glass bottles please).

Many thanks!
Mr Hindess



Remembrance Day 2026

Children across school took part in a period of silence on Wednesday at 11am to reflect on the service and sacrifices of the armed forces. Thank you to everyone who has donated to this year's Poppy Appeal.

Mrs Lamb

Treasurer Required!

We are on the look out for a **new treasurer** to manage our PTFA financial records. If you have the required knowledge of finances and are able to kindly give up some time to support our school, please speak to Mrs Lamb



Book Fair 2026

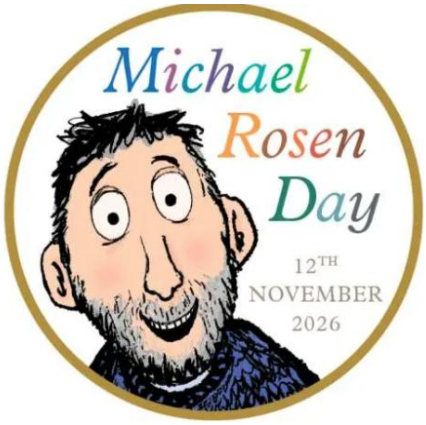
The Scholastic Book Fair is coming to our school!

From **Thursday 26th November** to **Tuesday 1st December** our community room will be transformed into a pop-up bookshop filled with hundreds of fantastic titles. This is a wonderful opportunity for your child to explore new stories, discover exciting non-fiction, and find books they will truly love to read.

Every book purchased at the fair earns rewards for our school, allowing us to stock our classrooms and library with brand-new learning resources for all our students.

- **When:** Thursday 26th November- Tuesday 1st December 15:30- 16:00
- **Where:** The Community Room (Entrance via main office)
- **Payment:** We are a cashless book fair. All payments will be made by card.

We look forward to seeing you there!
Thank you,
Miss Bell



On Thursday, children across school took part in an online session with one of our favourite authors, Michael Rosen!
Michael is well known for his story, 'Going on a Bear Hunt,' as well as his brilliant poetry.

There are an abundance of videos on his website: www.michaelrosen.co.uk and we would highly recommend, 'Chocolate Cake!'

Mr Patterson

Nursery 2027

Parents are able to visit the school on the following dates in January 2027 for our Nursery 2027 intake. Please phone the school office to book a place.

- Tuesday 19th January 4:00pm
- Wednesday 20th January 4:00pm
- Thursday 21st January 9:30am
- Wednesday 27th January 4:00pm
- Thursday 28th January 9:30am

Reception 2027

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

- Wednesday 18th November 5:00 – 6:00pm

Mrs Lamb



We're looking forward to celebrating the festive season with our delicious Christmas Dinner on **Wednesday 9th December**!

If your child usually brings a packed lunch but would like to join us for Christmas Dinner, please book their meal through ParentPay **by Friday 20th November**. This will give our school chef plenty of time to order everything needed for our festive feast!

School meals cost **£3.20**.

Our Festive Menu

Main Course

Roast Turkey or Quorn Fillet

Pork Chipolata Sausage or Vegetarian Chipolata Sausage

Stuffing and Gravy

Brussels Sprouts, Fresh Carrots and Garden Peas

Roast Potatoes or Creamed Potatoes

Festive Desserts

Festive Ice Cream Tub

Seasonal Festive Biscuit

Fresh Fruit Salad

We're looking forward to a lovely festive lunchtime together!

Healthy School

I recently read an interesting article called, "What makes a picky eater?" which includes talking about the language we often use on this subject. We are at risk of the phrase, "picky eater" and similar terms being adopted as labels, which can be self-reinforcing for a child. Instead, it discusses how to drop these labels and choose language that shifts the emphasis from the individual to new foods.

The article goes on to discuss how you can encourage your child to become interested in food and hopefully try new foods, or previously refused foods, in their own time without it becoming 'a big thing'.

There is also a link to some easy 5-a-day recipes at the bottom of the article.

Find out more at https://goodfoodeveryday.substack.com/p/what-makes-a-picky-eater

Mrs Wells

Our most active class was **Mr Hindess and Mrs Armstrong's**! Our top coin earners were **Elara, Liam and Annie.**

Well done to **Mr Hindess and Mrs Armstrong's** class who are also our most active class on NumBots this week! It's great to see a Year 4 class topping the leaderboard as addition and subtraction fluency is just as important as times tables fluency.

Our top coin earners were:

Mrs Pennington – Aroosh

Mr Edwards – Sophie

Miss Anderson and Miss Walsh – Daniel

Mr Patterson – Rupert

Miss Tate – Martha

Mr Guest – Finn

Miss Bell – No coins earned

Mr Hindess and Mrs Armstrong – Fionntan

Well done, Mrs Pennington

This week our Golden Welly award goes to **Mrs Pennington's class**. They are always so keen to help when setting up or tidying away equipment. They also have lovely imaginative ideas when playing.

Well done Year Ones!

Ms Gasper

Attendance

Our whole school attendance to date this academic year is **97.7%**!
Our classes of the week are **Year 4 Miss Bell** with **99.6%** followed by **Reception Miss Coughlan** with **98.6%**
Well done everyone!

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

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

GPFS PTA PRESENTS OUR

Wreath Making Workshops



Saturday 21st November

GPFS Community Room

Adults Only

Family and friends are very welcome to join the fun!

£40pp including all materials and a festive treat

Book via the following links...

2 - 5pm

https://www.zeffy.com/en-GB/ticketing/gpfs-wreath-making-2pm

5 - 8pm

https://www.zeffy.com/en-GB/ticketing/gpfs-wreath-making-5pm

Join us for
Birty's 5th Charity Quiz Night

Friday 27th November
7.00pm arrival
(Quiz starts at 7.30pm)

Northern Football Club
McCracken Park, Gosforth,
Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE3 2DT

£10 per brain

max. 6 per team

Book early to avoid disappointment!

Text or phone Philip (Birty's Dad) on 07854324963 or buy on the door

Find us on Instagram: @birtys_brigade

RAFFLE

Please bring some cash for our raffle - LOTS OF GREAT PRIZES TO BE WON

In memory of Ian 'Birty' Birtwistle
Event arranged by "Birty's Brigade"



In support of:

Children's Cancer North

Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

Registered charity no. 1189748

bright red

Fighting blood cancer for a brighter future

Christmas Fayre

Little Elves' Workshop

Join us for our Christmas Fayre with festive stalls, family activities and our Little Elves' Workshop!

Santa's Post Office

Write your letter to Santa

Mrs Claus' Baking Team

Help Mrs Claus decorate her Christmas treats

Elves' Crafts Station

Get creative with a range of festive crafts

Bauble Creation Station

Design and make your own bauble

Hot Chocolates and Treats Available

Festive Stalls

Including Squishies • Fidget Toys • Toys • Gifts and much more!

Saturday 12th December

12.00pm - 3.00pm

St Francis Church, Newcastle NE7 7QH

GPFS PTFA

CHRISTMAS EVE BAGS

AVAILABLE TO BUY ON
HTTPS://WWW.ZEFFY.COM/EN-GB/TICKETING/CHRISTMAS-EVE-BAGS-2
UNTIL FRIDAY 4TH DECEMBER

EVERYTHING YOU NEED FOR FAMILY FUN THIS CHRISTMAS!

STILL ONLY £5

REINDEER FOOD | CHRISTMAS SWEET TREAT | TREE DECORATIONS | CHRISTMAS ACTIVITY SHEET | CHRISTMAS PENCIL | CHOCOLATE LOLLY

AVAILABLE TO COLLECT AT CHRISTMAS PERTORMANCES

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about WHATSAPP

AGE RESTRICTION 13+ In the UK

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

WhatsApp is a free messaging app owned by Meta, that allows users to send messages, share multimedia, make calls, and participate in group chats. In September 2026, WhatsApp announced new optional parental controls for teenagers, including privacy settings, group notifications, and restrictions on AI content, which parents and educators should be aware of.

GROUP CHAT PRESSURES

Group chats help young people stay connected, but they can also leave them feeling excluded or overwhelmed. Negative comments can escalate quickly, and frequent notifications can create a sense of needing to be constantly available. WhatsApp's new parental controls notify parents when teenagers join or leave groups, or when a group grows significantly in size.

HARMFUL CONTENT ON CHANNELS

WhatsApp Channels allow users to receive updates from public figures, organisations, and content creators; however, some Channels may expose young people to misinformation, harmful ideologies, or age-inappropriate material. New optional parental controls allow adults to restrict which Channels teenagers access, including limiting them to approved Channels.

SCAMS TARGETING YOUNG USERS

Scammers may use WhatsApp to trick young people into sharing personal information, sending money, or sharing security codes. They may impersonate friends or family members, using convincing stories about emergencies or urgent requests for help. New parental controls can help manage who contacts teenagers; however, they cannot prevent all scams or fraudulent messages.

UNWANTED CONTACT AND LOCATION SHARING

WhatsApp allows users to share their live location, profile information, and Status updates. Without appropriate privacy settings, this information could expose young people to unwanted attention or reveal their whereabouts. New parental controls enable adults to manage certain privacy settings, including who can view account details and add teenagers to groups.

DISAPPEARING AND HIDDEN MESSAGES

WhatsApp features such as disappearing messages and Chat Lock can make conversations harder for adults to identify. Although these tools are designed to protect privacy, they may also make it harder for adults to recognise inappropriate exchanges or harmful behaviour. WhatsApp's new parental controls do not give adults access to teenagers' private messages or calls.

COMMERCIAL AND AI CONTENT

WhatsApp includes advertising in parts of its Updates section and offers Meta AI, an integrated AI assistant. Young people may encounter sponsored content, misleading AI responses, or information which is unsuitable for their age. New parental controls offer a stricter 'Limited Content' setting for Meta AI; however, this cannot guarantee that every response will be accurate or appropriate.

ONLINE

Advice for Parents & Educators

EXPLORE NEW PARENTAL CONTROLS

WhatsApp's new optional parental controls are being rolled out gradually, giving families more ways to manage teenagers' privacy and interactions. Teenagers will need parental approval using a parent-set PIN to relax any protected settings. Keep the conversation open and set up the controls together, remembering that parents can adjust or switch them off at any time.

MANAGE CHANNELS AND AI

Explore the new settings for Channels, Status updates, and Meta AI. Parents can restrict Channels to approved selections or prevent teenagers from viewing them. They can also choose Meta AI's stricter 'Limited Content' option, which restricts certain topics. Remind young people that AI can produce inaccurate information and encourage them to question responses rather than accepting them at face value.

MONITOR GROUP ACTIVITY SAFELY

New parental controls notify adults when teenagers join or leave groups, or when a group grows significantly in size. These alerts can help identify potentially concerning interactions without revealing private messages. Encourage young people to discuss unfamiliar groups, uncomfortable conversations, or pressure from other members and that they can leave, mute, or report if they feel uncomfortable or unsafe.

PRIORITISE TRUST AND COMMUNICATION

Parental controls should support conversations about online safety, not replace them. Explain that WhatsApp's new features do not give adults access to private messages or calls, helping teenagers understand that their privacy remains protected. Reassure young people that they can speak openly about upsetting content, unwanted contact, or pressure from other group members.

Meet Our Expert

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



See full reference list on our website

#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 11.11.2026

Non Uniform Day

Friday 4th December



Please help us to create our colourful prize hampers by coming to school in non uniform and donating an item of food/drink/toiletries etc. in that colour.

These hampers will then be raffled off at the corresponding Christmas Performances.

We appreciate all donations, thank you!



Please note any alcohol should be taken to the main office or handed straight to a member of staff and this will be a normal day of lessons for the children so no high heels and please also be wary of sending your child in expensive designer clothing which could become marked as a result of activities and play.