

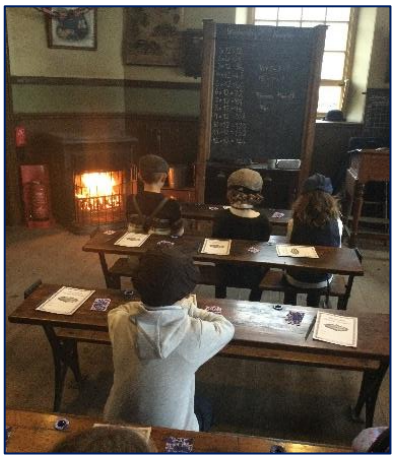
www.gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk November 27th 2026 Issue 4/7 Autumn Term 2

KS2 Beamish Trips

KS2 have had a brilliant time at Beamish museum, consolidating their learning about Victorian Britain.
Children had a chance to explore Beamish with their class, took part in a Victorian Lesson and completed a Historical Enquiry with real actors.













A big thank you to the PTFA who subsidised the trip to keep costs down for parents.
Thank you to all of the teachers and parent volunteers who made these trips a success.

Mr Hindess

Gosforth Civic Theatre Trip



Hello parents and carers,

This year **Reception - Year 4** will be going to Gosforth Civic Theatre in **December** to see their production of 'The Snow Queen of Spitsbergen'.

A magical, multi-sensory adventure through ice, light, story and sound.

We will be walking to and from the theatre and we would love to take lots of parent helpers along with us. If you would like to volunteer, please let our school office staff know by responding to the parent pay message.

We are delighted that our wonderful PTFA are fully funding this visit.

Please also ensure you provide permission for your child to attend the visit.

Thank you for your support,

Miss Bell

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

Non Uniform Day
Friday 4th December



Non Uniform Day

We will be holding a non-uniform day on **Friday 4th December** in return for donations for our Christmas hampers which will be raffled off at the Christmas performances. Please check out the poster at the end of the newsletter.

December 100 Club Winners

⭐ 1st *£85.20* number 2 - The Gibbins family

⭐ 2nd *£56.80* number 44 - The Gibson family

⭐ 3rd *£28.40* number 62 - Paul Buckingham

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

Treasurer Required!

We are still 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

Y2 Discovery Museum

Next week our Year Two pupils will be visiting the Discovery Museum as part of our Great Fire of London History Topic.

Children will have a chance to explore the museum with the classmates and teacher. They will also take part in a half-day workshop to learn about the Great Fire of Newcastle and Gateshead which will help them to compare and contrast this local historical event with the Great Fire of London.

Children will need to bring:

A water bottle

Full school uniform with school jumper or school hoodie

A big thank you to the PTFA who have subsidised the costs of this trip to keep costs down for parents.

If you have not already, please give consent via ParentPay

Many thanks

Mr Hindess

Nursery ZooLab

We are excited to welcome **ZooLab** back to Gosforth Park First School on Wednesday, to work with our Nursery children.
These animal workshops are carefully designed to spark curiosity, encourage kindness and support children's development.
Keep an eye out on Tapestry for photos!
Ms Gasper



Reception Christmas Crafts

Next Friday, we are opening our doors to our Reception families - to join us for an afternoon of Christmas Crafts! Please enter school via the **Wraparound Entrance** where Reception staff will be there to welcome you. We hope you can make it!
Miss Proudfoot & Miss Coughlan





Huge well done and thank you to our **School Council** members who have been **Christmas Tree Shopping** today! They've picked a good one and we can't wait to see it up and decorated in the school hall soon!





St Aidan's Church – Santa's Grotto

Bring your children along to our Christmas Fair Santa's Grotto on Saturday 28th November between 10am and 12pm.

For only £10, which is payable on the day, children will be able to try their hand at games and crafts, meet Santa, receive a small gift and have a hot chocolate and sweet treat.

To avoid disappointment, it's best to let us know your coming along via Eventbrite. Details can be found on our Facebook page, using the link below or QR code.

You can come along on the day without pre-booking, but if Santa has lots of children to see, those with bookings will take precedence.

There's also a great selection of stalls for adults to enjoy too and our cafe will be open.

https://www.facebook.com/Info.St.Aidans/

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2004721472891?aff=oddtdtcreator

Healthy School

With the winter months almost upon us and the weather getting colder, it can be more tempting to jump in the car to make our journey to school.

It is still important though to try to walk to school whenever we get the opportunity. Who wants to be scraping the car windows first thing in the morning, having the sun glaring in our eyes as we try to drive and worrying about adverse driving conditions!

There's nothing like a crisp winter's morning to make us feel invigorated and ready for the day. Fresh air and exercise boosts concentration and there is the added bonus of easing local traffic congestion and reducing carbon emissions in our area.

Mrs Wells

RAINBOW WRAPAROUND
@gosforthparkfirstschool

Polite Reminder

Please remember that bookings for January 2028 open on Monday 30th November and will close on Friday 11th December
Thank you!

PTFA

Wreath Making

It was lovely to see our Gosforth Park Community step into the festive spirit together, with our annual PTFA wreath making.

Thank you for everyone who attended and made the night a success!

PTFA



Our top class this week is **Mr Guest's class**! It's great to see Year 3s earning their first busker status, those are the first steps to becoming a Rock Star. Our top coin earners were **Elara, Benjamin, Keir, Hugo S and Hannah.**

This week **Mr Edwards'** class is top of the leaderboard! It is always a tough competition each week, keep it up everyone!

Our top coin earners were:

Mrs Pennington – Aroosh

Mr Edwards – Jacob C

Miss Anderson and Miss Walsh – Toby

Mr Patterson – Ava

Miss Tate – Myles

Mr Guest – Alessia

Miss Bell – No coins this week

Mr Hindess and Mrs Armstrong – Alice

Super work, Mrs Pennington

This week our Golden Welly award goes to **Mr Hindess and Mrs Armstrong's class**. They have lovely ideas together about things they might build or games they might play. They also give me lots of good ideas for new things they'd like in OPAL.

Well done Year 4's!

Ms Gasper

Attendance

Our whole school attendance to date this academic year is **97.8%**!
Our classes of the week are **Year 4 Mr Hindess & Mrs Armstrong** with **100%** followed by **Year 1 Mr Edwards** with **98.9%**
Well done everyone!
Mrs Lamb

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

Brrr… It was certainly a chilly start on the school gate this morning! With temperatures dropping and the possibility of a few wintry showers next week, Mr Brown is ready with the grit to help keep our paths and playgrounds safe. Please make sure children come to school wrapped up warmly in coats, hats and gloves – and don't forget to label everything! In more extreme weather, where it is not practical to grit the whole site, one of the following two systems will be in place.

Red Route (red dotted line on map) – this is the minimum which will be gritted in **extreme weather** (snow and ice) if school is open

- The pathway leading from the school gate down the main path into the main entrance (this will be used by Year 1 - 4)
- The pathway leading from the school gate down the main path into the wraparound entrance (this will be used by Nursery and Reception)

Staff will be at the front of school to show children where to enter school when usual doors are not accessible.

Green Route (green dotted line on map) will be gritted in addition to the red route **on typical icy days** but not in exceptional circumstances and/or extreme weather.

This will cover

- The pathway leading from the school gate down the main path, past the front entrance, round the path and through the gate onto the main playground (in approximately a 1m wide path) to the KS2, KS1, Reception and Nursery doors.
- A pathway from the car park to the main path





We will send the following messages on ParentPay to let you know which system is in operation.

Out full gritting policy can be found here:

http://www.gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk/website/policies/85462

Dear Parents

School will be open today, however, due to extreme weather, please make sure you follow the gritted pathways allowing children to enter school via the main office (Year 1-4) and Wraparound entrance (Nursery and Reception). Please do not arrive early and do not let your child play on un-gritted/un-cleared areas before or after school.

Please take extreme care on your way to school and let the school office know as soon as possible if your child is unable to attend today.

Many thanks

Dear Parents

Please make sure you follow the gritted pathways allowing children to enter school via their usual allocated doors this morning. Please do not arrive early and do not let your child play on un-gritted/un-cleared areas before or after school.

Please take extreme care on your way to and from school.

Many thanks

Dear Parents

Dear Parents

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

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

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.

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. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about GRAND THEFT AUTO VI

Grand Theft Auto 6 (also stylised as GTA VI) has been one of the most highly anticipated games of this generation, following GTA V, one of the best-selling video games of all time. Set in the fictional state of Leonida, including Vice City, it follows criminal partners Jason and Lucia as they become embroiled in a wider conspiracy. Although GTA VI is intended for adult audiences, its enormous popularity means that younger people may still encounter gameplay footage online or express an interest in playing it.

AGE RESTRICTION PEGI 18

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

EXTREMELY VIOLENT CONTENT

GTA VI is rated PEGI 18 for a reason. Players may encounter weapons like guns, knives and explosives, with violence portrayed in highly realistic ways. As in previous GTA games, players may also encounter violence involving vehicles and other characters. The game is categorically not for younger audiences, with blood, gore, and intense violence clearly identified in its official content

SENSITIVE SOCIETAL TOPICS

Like other games in the Grand Theft Auto franchise, GTA VI uses satire to explore aspects of society and contemporary culture. Its exaggerated characters and situations are fictional and may be intended to challenge or mock particular attitudes rather than endorse them. Younger viewers, however, may struggle to recognise this context and could misunderstand jokes, stereotypes, or social commentary without guidance from a trusted adult.

TALKING TO STRANGERS ONLINE

GTA Online, the multiplayer experience associated with GTA V, allows players to communicate with others online. GTA VI has been announced as a single-player experience at launch, so the same in-game chat risks should not yet be assumed. Children may still discuss the game through other online platforms potentially encountering strangers, inappropriate language and adult themes.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL USE

Throughout GTA VI's storyline, drugs and alcohol form part of the game's criminal world. The official content rating identifies the use of both, while Rockstar's character descriptions reference drug runners and dealers. Earlier titles also showed substance use affecting how characters see and move around the world. Younger viewers may struggle to understand these portrayals in the context of a fictional crime story, particularly without guidance from a trusted adult.

NUDITY AND SEX

Relationships and sexual themes feature in GTA VI, while previous GTA titles have allowed players to visit strip clubs and solicit sex workers. It should also be recognised that GTA VI's graphics aim to be realistic, meaning depictions of nudity and sexual content may be explicit. Official ratings confirm nudity and strong sexual content, although details of specific scenes should not be assumed from earlier games.

OPTIONAL IN-GAME PURCHASES

As with its predecessor, GTA VI includes optional in-game purchases that use real-world money. While these purchases are not necessary to play the game, the appeal of additional content may encourage some players to spend more. Younger players may not fully appreciate the cost or how quickly small payments add up.

Advice for Parents & Educators

PARENTAL CONTROLS

Parental controls can block age-restricted games, but they won't remove GTA VI's adult themes from elsewhere online. On PS5, go to Settings > Family and Parental Controls > Family Management, select the child and choose your restrictions. On Xbox Series X|S, use Settings > Account > Family settings, or the Xbox Family Settings app, to manage age restrictions and screen time.

LIMIT ACCESS TO BANK DETAILS

Limiting access to banking details helps prevent accidental or unauthorised purchases. Avoid storing payment details on a child's account and require approval before spending. On PS5, parents and carers can set a monthly spending limit through Family Management. On Xbox Series X|S, the Ask to Buy feature can request adult approval for purchases, helping children and young people understand their real-world cost.

COMMUNICATION RESTRICTIONS

On PS5 and Xbox Series X|S, parental controls can restrict voice chat, messages, friend requests, and communication with other players. Parents and carers can limit interactions to approved friends or prevent communication altogether, depending on the available settings. These restrictions are especially helpful for reducing children's exposure to strangers, inappropriate language and adult themes through console chats or other multiplayer games.

MAKE THIS A CONVERSATION

Even if a child is not playing GTA VI, they may still watch gameplay clips, livestreams or trailers shared by friends and content creators. It's important to talk openly with children about why GTA VI has an adult age rating and discuss its violence, crime, strong language, sexual themes, satirical lens, and other mature content. Ask what interests them about the game and what they already know. Talk about the difference between fictional behaviour and real-world consequences.

Meet Our Expert

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for 12+ years as a journalist, editor and social media expert. He's travelled the world playing video games and working with publishers and developers to fine tune their audience messaging. When he's not gaming, he can be found watching horror and sci-fi movies, TV series, listening to music or deciding which world marathon to plod around.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

See full reference list on our website

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