



SPORTS WEEK WB 7TH July 2025



Next week the children can wear appropriate sports clothing all week. Just a reminder, particularly for some of our older children in school, that this does not mean hot pants and spaghetti strap tops which are just not safe should a child fall over. So, Mr Firth is requesting sports clothes, not fashion shows please! 😊

Please ensure all children bring a jacket, water bottle, hat and sun cream to school so we are prepared for all weather conditions. Throughout the week, we are lucky to have NUFC football coaches in for a football session with all children and Eagles coaches in for basketball sessions too. It's sure to be a fun week for all.

Parents are invited to spectate the events below.

- **Sports day – Wednesday 9th July** afternoon – approx 1.30 start at the field.
This will run as it traditionally has done with parents and carers seated/standing in the center of the field or on the bank. Children will be able to go home from the field if with an adult, all other children will be walked back with staff, to be collected at normal time.
- **Athletics Festival Thursday 10th July** at the field
This is a trial for 2025. A nod to a competitive style of sports day. Children will have the option of competing or supporting by signing up for the events they would like to take part in. The children will be given 1st 2nd 3rd places and times and distances will be recorded for history – displayed in school to create a Leaders Board, celebrating sporting excellence in the same way we celebrate great art, writing by displaying in school.
We appreciate it will not be possible for all grown ups to attend twice in a week – so this is a guilt free, come and watch if you are free. In the past it was run without families present – so much more low key, children won't be expecting their grown ups.
Year 3 , 4, 5, and 6 will be at the field during the morning –
 - 9.30 start for Y3 and 4
 - 10.30 start for Y5 and 6.
 - Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be at the field in the afternoon approx 1.30 start.

Sometimes news from school can be sad and exciting at the same time - this is one of those occasions

After 17yrs of dedicated service to Team Spen, Mrs Newbegin will be taking early retirement this summer. She'd like me to point out it is **VERY** early retirement! Whilst we are sad to see her go, we share her excitement in what opportunities retirement will hold - knowing her - most of it in the sunshine. Mrs Newbegin has been one of our most flexible friends over the last 17yrs, supporting teaching in Reception, KS1 and KS2. Never happier than when passing her passion for growing plants on to others, she has made school a brighter place to be. More recently, she has been the KS2 poster girl for programmes to support reading, specifically for children who - like me - find/found reading tricky. I wish I had had a Mrs Newbegin to support my reading in primary school.

So it is with sadness, excitement (and a fair bit of fear about who will keep us right when looking for hi-viz jackets!) that we say the fondest of THANKYOUS and send the warmest of wishes to a much valued member of Team Spen.



Nursery – SG – Saint George - Mrs Bainbridge

Greetings from Nursery. We are sending a friendly reminder that the colour for our 'rainbow hamper' for the Strawberry Teas raffle this year is **red** and any food or non-food items donated are much appreciated.

Next week our Nursery Children are included in some of the greater school activities for sports week and we will be doing in-class sports events as well. Children are encouraged to wear sports clothes or clothes they can run/move in for the entire week, including trainers for running.

We hope you have enjoyed our Nursery Sports for our morning children this past week and keep an eye on the SG Nursery webpage for a slideshow of our morning.

Also, grownups of children going to Reception in the Autumn, please feel free to email in a baby photo of your child, if you would like but not required, for a graduation/end of year project we are working on.

A note for morning parents of 15-hour children for Strawberry Teas on the 16th of July in the afternoon along with our 30-hour children. They will attend their normal morning session and are invited back to join us in the afternoon that day in our song/dance, so please feel free to bring them in and they are welcome to join us.

Enjoy the weekend and we will see you for more fun next week.

Reception – GD – Grace Darling - Miss Kirkley

We are sending a friendly reminder that the colour for our 'rainbow hamper' for the Strawberry Teas raffle this year is **red** and any food or non-food items donated are much appreciated.

Strawberry Teas - Please can children bring in to school their Strawberry Teas outfit in a bag. Staff will get children changed after their lunch.

Strawberry Teas outfit - All black clothing (it doesn't matter what your child wears as long as it is all black) or an old Halloween costume if they have one and suitable shoes for dancing in. We are dancing to 'One Way or Another' from the film Hocus Pocus 2.

Year 1 – TY – Thomas Young – Mrs Halliday/Mrs Cowie

Strawberry Teas- Please can children come dressed in bright, colourful clothing and accessories for our Strawberry Teas dance to 'Hawaiian Roller Coaster Ride' from Lilo and Stitch. Please ensure your child is wearing appropriate footwear for dancing (not sandals or flip flops).

Homework- This will be the last week of homework. After this we will be collecting all homework and reading folders. Thank you as always for your support with homework and reading this year, we really appreciate it :)

Library books- please can all library books be returned by Friday 11th July. If you are unsure of the title of your child's book, please catch a member of staff who will give you information on books your child has at home.

Year 2 - FN – Florence Nightingale- Mrs Coates

Strawberry Teas – Please can children come dressed in bright, colourful clothing and accessories (if they wish) for their strawberry teas dance to 'Can't stop the feeling' from the movie Trolls. Please ensure your child is wearing shoes that they can dance in (not sandals or flip flops).

Homework – This week is the last week for homework as after this, we will be collecting in all folders. Please return all blue folders and reading folders as we recycle these. Thank you so much for all of your support with homework this year; your support has made a huge impact on pupils' progress.

Library books – please can all library books be returned by Friday 11th July. If you are unsure of the title of your child's book, please catch a member of staff who will give you information on books your child has at home.

Year 3 – MLK Martin Luther King – Miss Murray

Strawberry Teas is on the final Wednesday of this term. For our dance, I've asked children to wear a school style outfit – ideally grey shorts / leggings / skirt with a white t-shirt or polo shirt and if possible a striped tie. Think 'Matilda the Musical.' Please label any ties as they may or may not be getting thrown up in the air and I'd like to make sure you get your correct ties back! Any shoes suitable to dance in will be fine. The outfit doesn't need to be in school until the final Monday of the term - for the dress rehearsal - in a labelled bag. Thank you!

Homework folders – next week will be the last homework of Y3! Thank you for a fantastic effort with this throughout the year. Please return all homework folders / reading books and reading records by Friday the 11th of July. Feel free to keep the blue homework books for reference of key skills / spellings etc.

Library books – please can all library books / featured author books also be returned by Friday 11th July.

Year 4 – FWD – Fredrick William Dobson – Mr Fumoleau

Its almost that time again, Strawberry Teas is closing in. As always, the Year 4 dance is celebrating the children's individuality and ownership, so children are asked to wear something that represents them, their favorite outfit/comfy clothes. Clothes, however, must be appropriate to dance in, and children should wear comfortable shoes.

Homework reading books should be returned to school next week, so have a look around the house for any books that children have been reading.

Year 5 – BR – Bobby Robson – Mr Cradock

It's not long now until Strawberry Teas and we 'll be dancing to All Star's Smash Mouth from Shrek the Movie! For our outfits, we've gone for a black with yellow/gold colour theme. Cool, light-weight clothes for dancing are best but please don't feel like you need to go out buying things especially. Caps/baseball caps might also work well if your child has one and would like to wear it.

We have Forest School next week on Friday afternoon (11th June). On that day, please can children come into school in outdoor clothing for the woods (long sleeves and trousers/leggings) have waterproofs with them and bring suitable footwear to change in and out of. Hopefully, the sun will be shining so sun protection and a water bottle will be a good idea too.

Finally, a call for all reading and library books to be returned to school please so that we can account for them all before the end of term. Thanks everyone!

Year 6 – MY – Malala Yousafzai – Mrs Heron/Mrs Lawson

On Monday, we are off to Safety Works and the Quayside for a spot of geography fieldwork. Please can children wear their school PE kit this day so that all children are easily identifiable and so that they are dressed ready to join in with the NUFC football sessions when we return to school.

On Wednesday morning, we will be holding our Y6 puberty talks. Girls and boys have opted to be separated but both groups will receive the boys and girls puberty talks so everyone will be well informed! We will share a powerpoint with you afterwards so that you can see what we have been discussing.

Hopefully, see you at Sports Day Afternoon!

As we are getting closer to the end of the year, please can we ask that all reading and library books are returned. Thank you.

If you would like a paper copy of this letter for your fridge please call to the office and collect one.

School Uniform

School uniform with our new school logo can now be ordered direct via our uniform supplier, logos unlimited via the link below.

[High Spen Primary School - Logos Schoolwear](#)



Logos Newcastle
1, Sands Industrial Estate,
Swalwell, Newcastle upon
Tyne NE16 3DJ
0191 488 4300
sales@logos-unlimited.co.uk
www.logos-unlimited.co.uk



Messages from the Community



Strathmore Road Methodist Church

We are holding 2 styles of holiday clubs at the church this year. One is a sports based club on some Wednesdays with lunch for the children too. This replaces our old holiday fun DFE club which was targeted towards pupil premium children.

The other is a bible based week long holiday club during mornings of the week of the 28th July.

I have attached the poster. Please contact the school office for a form if you would like to join.

Thanks

Ruth

Ruth Hallatt

Children and Families' Pastor

Strathmore Road Methodist Church

Whickham school

I am delighted to advise that Whickham School will be delivering a Sports & Activities Camp during the summer holidays again this year.

This will run Monday 21st to Thursday 24th and Monday 28th to Thursday 31st July. Each session will be from 10:00am to 3:00pm for ages 5 to 11 years.

The camp will include sports and activities based on a summer theme including all the children's favourites; cooking, arts and crafts and team sports with crash mat rounders and dodgeball being top of our games programme! Lunch is provided each day from a menu choice (decided each day upon arrival)

Funded places for children in receipt of means tested free school meals;

Subsequent to previous years the booking format for those in receipt of means tested free school meals has changed and this is completed using an e-voucher received from your child's school via email to be redeemed on the holidayactivities.com website.

E-vouchers are being distributed by email from your child's school on Wednesday 25th June.

Please note Whickham School is only in charge of distributing e-vouchers for children who attend this school.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch should further signposting information be required or assistance needed to redeem your e-voucher using hafprogramme@whickhamschool.org.

Paid Spaces;

Paid spaces are £20 each day and registering interest can be done so by completing the form; [Summer 2025 Sports Camp Registration Form](#) Following receipt of the completed form confirmation will be made via email for space availability. Where places are available a link will be shared to make payment via Parentpay.



Dates for the Diary – 2025

Date	Event
Monday 7 th July 2025	Y6 Safety Works and Quayside Fieldwork
Monday 7 th – Friday 11 th July 2025	Sports Week
Wednesday 9 th July 2025	Sports Day
Thursday 10 th July 2025	Athletics Festival
Tuesday 15 th July 2025	Nursery Graduation
Wednesday 16 th July 2025	Strawberry Teas
Friday 18 th July 2025	Year 6 Leavers assembly
Friday 18 th July 2025	Last day of Summer 2
21 st July – 29 th August 2025	Summer Holidays – School Closed
Monday 1 st September 2025	INSET Day - School Closed to Children
Tuesday 2 nd September 2025	1 st day of Autumn 1 term - Children return to School

2025/2026 Term dates

Autumn term

Start of term	Half term	Last day of term
Monday 1 September 2025	27 to 31 October 2025	Friday 19 December 2025

Spring term

Start of term	Half term	Last day of term
Monday 5 January 2026	23 to 27 February 2026	Thursday 2 April 2026

Summer term

Start of term	Half term	Last day of term
Monday 20 April 2026	25 to 29 May 2026 (Bank holiday 25 May)	Friday 17 July 2026

All dates are inclusive. In addition to the above dates, schools will be closed to pupils on Monday 4 May 2026 (Bank Holiday).

Two days within the above terms are to be used for professional development for staff. These dates are to be determined and agreed by individual school governing bodies. (01.09.25 and 19.06.26)

In addition, one occasional day within the Summer Term 2026 is to be utilised for the purpose of closure for possible election purposes, this day to be used near the end of the summer term and agreed by individual school governing bodies. (22.06.26)