



No Class News for: Y1 & Y4

PE Days

SG - Tuesday (Morning)
GD - Wednesday
TY - Monday and Thursday
FN - Monday and Wednesday
MLK – Tuesday and Friday
FWD - Tuesday and Wednesday
BR - Tuesday (swimming) and Thursday
MY – Tuesday (including swimming for some children) and Friday



Parent Appointments

Parent Appointments will be held week beginning the 10th November 2025. A letter has been sent home with your child, please return this with your appointment choice. Thanks

Harvest Collection

In the coming week we'll be talking Harvest with the children in school. Should you wish to make a donation of foods, please drop at the office by Thursday - 23rd October. All donations will be collected and distributed to a local charity on Fri 24th October.



Halloween Party

The Halloween Parties are fast approaching (Monday 20th) we just wanted to let you know what's available to purchase on the night. Hope all of your amazing children can attend and help us raise funds for their Christmas treats.

- * Admission £2
- * Hot dog £1
- * Cake 50p
- * Big foam glow stick £1 each
- * Small glow sticks 20p each
- * Halloween glow in dark rings £1 each

Refreshments are available free of charge. We do have DJ/entertainers coming, there will be dancing and a few games with prizes. Halloween fancy dress (optional) we just want everyone to have a fantastic night.

Early Years Open Day

Are you interested in applying for a place in our Nursery or Reception class in 2026 or do you know someone who is?

We are holding an Early Years Open day on Thursday 23rd October 2025 at 1:30pm-2pm or 4pm-5pm.

This is an ideal opportunity to visit our Early Years setting and find out more about High Spen School and what we offer.

Everyone welcome. Please share with your friends and families

Thank you

HIGH SPEN PRIMARY SCHOOL
Happy, healthy children achieving their full potential.

Places available in 2026 for

- Reception
- Nursery 3 - 4 Year olds 15 and 30 hours
- Nursery 2 year olds 15 hours

Funded and paying sessions available

EARLY YEARS OPEN DAY
Thursday 23rd October 2025
Drop in from 1:30pm - 2pm or from 4pm - 5pm

For all prospective parents, carers and children
Are you interested in applying for a place in our Nursery or Reception class in 2026?
Why not come along to our open day, where you will find out more about who we are and what we do. Bring your children along too to see our EY setting and what we offer! We would also like to invite you to look around 'big school' and get a real feel for what High Spen Primary School is all about. We are sure you won't be disappointed! ☺

HIGH SPEN PRIMARY SCHOOL
Hagar Road, High Spen, Leeds LS29 2AG
t:0113 251202
e:0113 251202
www.highspenprimary.org

Panto – Sleeping Beauty

We are excited to announce that all children from years 1 – 6 will be going to Consett Empire to see the Pantomime Sleeping Beauty on Friday 28th November 2025.



The Panto this year funded by the PTFA. The total cost will be in the region of £2400, but thanks to all the hard work, effort and fundraising from parents and carers over the years, this is something they are able to fund this year. A letter has been sent out to all children in years 1 – 6. Please complete and return the reply slip to enable your child to attend. Thanks

Nursery – SG – Saint George - Mrs Bainbridge

Greetings from Nursery. We have had a wonderful week. As a reminder, there is still time to bring in a photo or copy of a photo of family as we work to complete our display.

This next week on **Friday the 24 Oct** will be our **pupil Early Years Halloween party**, and you are welcome to **send your child in costume to school** if you wish for some spooktacular fun.

Looking ahead we look forward to our Muddy Monsters Forest School session in the next term, week 3 (21 Nov), 4 (28 Nov), and 5 (5 Dec) Friday mornings for our children in our Forest School area. More information regarding these sessions will be sent out as we are nearer the time to our sessions.

We should also have our dates soon for our EY Nativity in December and our Nursery Christmas Crafts with family day finalised and will share those so you may request time off and clear your diary. Thank you and enjoy this autumnal weekend.

Reception – GD – Grace Darling - Miss Kirkley

Hello at home. Next Friday the 24th October will be our **Early Years Halloween party for the children, and you are welcome to send them to school in costume.** please **NO** scary masks or props!!!!

Looking ahead we look forward to our Muddy Monsters Forest School session in the next term, week 3 (21 Nov), 4 (28 Nov), and 5 (5 Dec) Friday afternoon for our children in our own EYs Forest School area.

More information regarding these sessions will be sent out as we are nearer the time to our sessions.

EYFS Nativity and Christmas Craft Afternoon

Keep an eye of up-and-coming dates. We should have finalised our dates soon for our EY Nativity and our Christmas Crafts with family member in December. Keep a look out for these dates and pop them in your diary!!!

Year 2 - FN – Florence Nightingale- Mrs Coates

Forest school – On **Friday 24th October** then after half term on **Friday 7th and 14th November** will be Y2's turn to go to Forest school. Our sessions are in the morning so please send your child into school in suitable clothing and footwear for the woods. We will return to school in time for lunch but if your child wishes to bring a small snack, they are welcome to along with their water bottle. Children must wear a waterproof coat and suitable footwear for the woods. Please can your child bring a change of clothes, socks and indoor footwear so they can get changed into dry, clean clothes for the afternoon session. These clothes do not need to be uniform, just warm comfortable clothes and dry socks please!

Homework – On **Friday 17th October** we will issue the last set of homework for this half term. We aim to collect in all homework and reading folders by Friday 24th October so we can update assessments. Please can all reading folders, blue homework folders and library books be returned by **Friday 24th October**. Thank you so much for all of your support this half term with homework, we are blown away by the progress children are making, thank you.

Year 3 – MLK Martin Luther King – Miss Murray

There will be no official homework for the final week but your child will still bring a reading book home on Monday to be returned by Friday please. You may also see a library book appear (or they may have already brought this home) this can be kept over the half term and returned after that / as and when finished. Thank you for such a huge effort with helping with homework this half term, we really appreciate it!

Amazing News

Robyn in Y3 entered a competition and has won a YOTO MINI for every child in her class. Wow! The Yoto Mini's are £60 each and if you have a look on the link below it will explain all about them.

I'd like to congratulate Robyn on this wonderful achievement! The picture she entered to win the competition is fantastic. <https://uk.yotoplay.com/yoto-mini>



Year 5 – BR – Bobby Robson – Mr Cradock

Hi everyone!

We start our **Forest school** sessions next week! Hooray!

We have three dates: Friday 24th October then (after half term week) Friday 7th and 14th November. Our sessions will be in the afternoon but children can come to school dressed ready for the woods. Please consider suitable clothing including layers for warmth, waterproofs and sturdy footwear. As you will know all too well by now, they will get muddy! It might be appropriate for your child to bring alternative footwear for the morning so that they are comfortable (and don't leave trails of mud around school).

Looking ahead, we will also soon be **Cooking with Hannah!** More hoorays!

She will start after the half term holiday. There will be two sessions during which parents and carers are encouraged to come and join in the fun. Hannah always appreciates helpers from home and says that she can do so much more when there is adult help - so please don't be shy! Our cooking sessions dates are: Wednesday 12 and 19 November and will both start at 1pm in the annex. Please let the school office know which date you can make and we'll make sure your child is in that session (if you can do either, let us know and we'll confirm which one you're in after half term). Thank you 😊

Finally, Northumbria Police's Prevention Through Education Team will be visiting our school on Wednesday 22 October to deliver a session about bullying. A leaflet with additional information will be shared with you via email.

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

DT sessions - Just a reminder that our DT parent/carer drop-in sessions are Tuesday 21st October (1-3pm) and Wednesday 22nd October (9:00 – 10:30). We have discussed with children that we understand that adults at home have work commitments and so please don't feel pressured into taking time off work. If you wanted to drop in to see the projects they are making, then you are welcome to pop in before or after school so your child can show you what they are busy doing.

Junk modelling – please can all junk modelling be in school on Monday as we will start selecting the materials we will need. I have been collecting some too and now that children know the details of the project and have planned their designs they have a better idea what they are going to need.

Swimming – the Y6 children who have been attending swimming this half-term have met the standards set by the pool and the National Curriculum. A huge congratulations to them for their hard work and determination to nail this very important life skill. It also means they do not need to attend swimming after half-term.

Bullying (including cyberbullying)

Northumbria Police's Prevention Through Education Team will be visiting our school on Wednesday 22nd October 2025 to deliver sessions to Year 5 and Year 6 about bullying.

The session aims to help children understand what bullying is, how to deal with it safely, and how to get help. A leaflet with additional information will be shared with you via email.

Community News

This October half Term, the Community Physical Activity team at Gateshead Council are organising the following activities in the Rowlands Gill area as part of our holiday programme:

- Multi-Sports Activity Day at Strathmore Road Methodist Church for ages 5 - 11.
- Family Tennis at the recently refurbished tennis courts in Derwent Park.

Everyone welcome, see flyers below for further information.

Remember school is closed from Monday 27th October to Friday 31st October 2025 for Half term. All Children return to school on Monday 3rd November 2025.

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

Dates for the Diary – Autumn Term 1 and 2 2025/2026

Date	Event
Monday 20 th October	PTFA Halloween party
Friday 24 th October	Last day of Autumn Term 1
27 th October – 31 st October	Half Term
Monday 3 rd November	First day of Autumn term 2
W/B 10 th November	Parent appointments
Friday 14 th November	Children in Need
Thursday 11 th December	Christmas Jumper and Bring a bottle
Friday 12 th December	Christmas Fair
Tuesday 16 th December	KS1 and KS2 Performances
Wednesday 17 th December	KS1 and KS2 Performances
Thursday 18 th December	KS1 (PM) and KS2 (AM) Party
Friday 19 th December	Christingle and last day of Term 2

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)

Multi-Sports Activity Day for ages 5 - 11



**Strathmore Road Methodist Church,
Rowlands Gill
Wednesday 29 October
10am - 2pm**

Our activity days are packed with a combination of sports, games and challenges to keep kids entertained and active.

FREE OF CHARGE
and includes lunch.

Booking essential at:
www.gateshead.gov.uk/autumn25sports



Family Tennis Sessions



- **Thursday 30th October**
at Saltwell Park
- **Friday 31st October**
at Derwent Park
10.00am – 11.30am

An ideal introduction to the sport or a chance to develop skills, led by qualified coaches. All equipment provided.

FREE OF CHARGE.

The activity is suitable for everyone aged 5 years +. Children must be accompanied by at least one adult who is taking part in the session.

Advanced booking is required.
www.gateshead.gov.uk/autumn25sports
to reserve your places.

