



Reminder School is closed on Monday 4th May 2026 as it is a Bank Holiday

PE Days – New for Summer 1



Nursery SG - Tuesday AM

Rec GD - Friday

Y1 TY - Monday and Thursday

Y2 FN - Thursday and Friday (for one more week then back to Wednesday and Friday)

Y3 MLK – Tuesday (swimming / PE for those not swimming) and Friday.

Y4 FWD- Tuesday (swimming) and Wednesday

Y5 BR – Tuesday and Thursday

Y6 MY – Tuesday and Friday

Forest School Sessions – Summer 1



Please ensure children wear suitable clothing and footwear for their Muddy Monsters session at the woods. Thank you

Date	AM	PM
24/04/26	Y1 TY	Y4 FWD
01/05/26	Y1 TY	Y4 FWD
08/05/26	Y1 TY	Y4 FWD
15/05/26	Y5 BR	Nursery SG
22/05/26	Y5 BR	Nursery SG

No Class news for: Reception, Year 1 TY, Year 3 MLK and Year 4 FWD

Class Newsletters

Please check the class pages on the school website for the Class newsletters and plans.



Warmer weather



Now the warmer weather is upon us please send children into school with a water bottle and suncream (labelled if possible). Then we can all enjoy the fun that the sunshine brings.

Special Visit – Author and comedian James Campbell!

On Thursday we were delighted to welcome author and comedian James Campbell into school! 📖😄. James shared his fantastic stories, humour and love of reading with our pupils, keeping everyone thoroughly entertained and inspired. It was a wonderful opportunity for our children to hear from a real-life author and experience storytelling in such a fun and engaging way.



A huge thank you to James for visiting us and making this afternoon so memorable! 🙌🌟

Coffee Afternoon

We'd love for you to join us for our next Coffee Afternoon. This half term, we'll be focusing on Zones of Regulation and Emotion Coaching—two really helpful approaches for supporting children with their feelings and behaviour.

During the session, we will:

- 👉 Explore together what the Zones of Regulation are
- 👉 Look at simple ways to support children to understand and manage their emotions
- 👉 Share practical ideas you can try at home
- 👉 Have time to chat, ask questions, and connect with other parents and carers

Friday 15th May

1:00 pm

High Spen Primary School

This is a relaxed and informal session—there's no pressure, just a friendly and supportive space. Whether you'd like to learn more, share experiences, or simply enjoy a chat and a coffee, you're very welcome.

☕ We hope to see you there!

Coffee Afternoon

Open to all parents and carers

This half term's focus is all around the **Zones of Regulation and Emotion Coaching**

Come and join me on

Friday 15th May

1:00pm

High Spen Primary School

All welcome
Relaxed and informal
A safe, supportive space

Nursery – SG – Saint George - Mrs Bainbridge

Greetings from Nursery. We have a fun and exciting term ahead of us. Our Summer 1 term newsletter and medium-term map are now available on our webpage. Please let us know if you would like a paper copy.

We are looking forward to our upcoming trip and would like to please remind everyone to turn in their form and money for our **Early Years Hall Hill Farm trip** as **Thursday, the 21st of May** is fast approaching. Also, as we head into the warmer months of the year, can we please ask all children bring a water bottle labelled with their name, a set of spare clothes in a bag and remember to wear suitable footwear (no crocs please) per our school policy on footwear, to school.

Lastly, we need your help please. We are looking to stock our mud kitchen area and were hoping any families going out for a ramble this weekend wouldn't mind collecting items like pinecones, small sticks, interesting rocks or any other natural items we can use as ingredients for our muddy pies and other delicious mud kitchen recipes. Thank you so much for all of your help and enjoy the long weekend.

Year 2 - FN – Florence Nightingale- Mrs Coates

PE – Just to remind parents that we have PE on **Thursday 7th May** as we have one more session with a basketball coach and a cricket coach on **Friday 8th May**. Please send your child into school in PE kit both Thursday and Friday next week. The following week, we will return to having PE on **Wednesday 13th and Friday 15th May**. Sorry for the changes but the children thoroughly enjoyed their time with the basketball coach.

Homework – Thank you for all of your support completing Maths booklets as part of our revision of Y2 learning so far. The children should be so proud of themselves! Just to remind parents that booklets can be completed over a few sessions and it is not expected that children complete the whole booklet all in one session! Thank you again for your support.

DT – As part of our DT unit (Pirate Paddy's Packed Lunch Problems), we are designing and making packed lunch boxes. To help with this, we would greatly appreciate it if your child could bring in boxes/tubs from home. For example, shoe boxes, cereal boxes, tissue boxes, yoghurt pots etc. Many thanks in advance for your help.

Year 5 – BR – Bobby Robson – Mr Cradock

Hello everyone 😊

Summer term homework started up this week. Please look out for your child's homework folder and help them to find time and space to complete the tasks. All tasks link to ongoing learning in Year 5 and include space to record reading at home too. Next week, we hope to reveal our next Featured Author (once Michael Morpurgo books have been returned) and get along to the library to take out new readers.

This term, we cover the units of Life Cycles and Changes and Reproduction in Science. This includes learning about how plants and animals (including humans) reproduce and grow. We're telling you now so that you can be prepared for interesting questions from curious minds over the coming weeks! This topic also links with our PSHE unit of Growing and Changing, which covers physical and emotional changes during puberty. If you'd like to know more (about our curriculum, not puberty!!!), please do ask us.

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

As you are aware the last SATs paper will be on Thursday 14th May 😊 and to celebrate this, we would like to have a small party in the classroom on Friday 15th May. If possible, can you please bring in one/two items of food, e.g. a packet of biscuits, 6 pack of crisps, fairy cakes, cooked sausage rolls, mini sausages etc for the class to enjoy.

Can all food please be brought in on Friday 15th May.

Many thanks in advance for any help!

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 2025/2026

Date	Event
Monday 4 th May	Bank Holiday
Wednesday 6 th May	Year 3 Beamish Trip – Letter to follow
Thursday 7 th May	Local election – School open all day, will be used as a Polling station
Mon 11 th – Thur 14 May	SATs week
Thursday 21 st May	EY Hall Hill Farm Trip
Friday 22 nd May	Last day of Summer Term 1
25 th - 29 th May	Half Term Holidays
Monday 1 st June	First day of Summer Term 2
Thursday 18 th June	Class Photographs
Friday 19 th June	INSET Day (School closed)
Monday 22 nd June	Occasional Day (School closed)
Monday 29 th June	Y6 Safety Works and Quayside Visit
6 th – 10 th July	Sports Week
Wednesday 15 th July	Strawberry Teas
Friday 17 th July	Last Day of Summer Term2

2026/2027 Term dates

Autumn term

Start of term	Half term	Last day of term
Tuesday 1 September 2026	26 to 30 October 20256	Friday 18 December 2026

Spring term

Start of term	Half term	Last day of term
Monday 4 January 2027	15 to 19 February 2027	Thursday 25 March 2027

Summer term

Start of term	Half term	Last day of term
Monday 12 April 2027	1 to 4 June 2027 (Bank holiday 31 May)	Friday 16 July 2027

All dates are inclusive. In addition to the above dates, schools will be closed to pupils on **Monday 3 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. These dates for **High Spen Primary** are proposed as **Tuesday 01.09.26 and Monday 21.06.27**, we do have one less Inset/Professional development day than usual this year but we do get 7 weeks summer holidays as the proposed return date is Monday 6 September 2027.

Messages from the Community

It all starts with... **ALL STARS CRICKET**

We all play at:
Greenside Cricket Club

Session dates:
Friday 22th May to 10th July

Session timings: **Ages:**
All Stars (5-8 years) 5 - 11 years
6 - 6.45pm **Contact:**
Dynamos (8-11 years) theallstars.greensidecc@gmail.com
6 - 7pm

Including a FREE personalised t-shirt, bat, ball and backpack

Sign up today at allstarscricket.co.uk

ARE YOU A PARENT OR CARER OF A CHILD OR YOUNG PERSON IN GATESHEAD?

Meeting online on Tuesday 5 May at 10.30am

Share your views of childcare in our focus group.

Receive a £25 shopping voucher for taking part.

Scan the QR code to register your interest:
<https://www.coramfamilyandchildcare.org.uk/gateshead-online-discussion-group/>



TAKE THE PLUNGE INTO WEEKLY LESSONS **50% OFF INITIAL PAYMENT**

Give your child the gift of confidence and safety in and around the water with Better Swim School.

Join weekly lessons with Better Swim School and get 50% off your first payment with code SCHOOL50.



Terms and conditions apply. Offer open to new customers only for school children aged between 4 - 12 years. Offer ends on 07/08/2026. Full terms at better.org.uk/offer-terms. Better is a registered trademark and trading name of GLL (Greenwich Leisure Limited), a charitable social enterprise and registered society under the Co-operative & Community Benefits & Societies Act 2014 (registration no. 277938). Registered office: Middlegate House, The Royal Arsenal, London, SE18 6SX. Inland Revenue Charity no. A943398.

BETTER

GATESHEAD WEST UNIFORM SCHEME

Who are we?
We are a registered charity, operating in Gateshead West since 2021. We provide good-quality preloved and brand new school uniforms to our community from our site in Blaydon (NE21 5PT). We operate on a pay-what-you-feel basis.

Proof of eligibility drop in sessions to help with paperwork to claim brand new uniform, on 9/5 and 20/6 alongside our usual Saturday markets.

May/June 2026 Markets... ALL AT BLAYDON

Friday 1st May 3:30pm - 5pm
Saturday 9th May 9:30am - 11am
Saturday 16th May 9:30am - 11am
Monday 25th May 6pm - 7pm
Friday 5th June 3:30pm - 5pm
Saturday 13th June 9:30am - 11am
Saturday 20th June 9:30am - 11am
Monday 29th June 6pm - 7pm

Enter via THE BACK DOOR of St Cuthbert's Community Hall, Blaydon NE21 5PT, next to the big blue building which is behind Morrisons.

Please check our Facebook page for any changes to market days, including additional summer markets.

www.facebook.com/gatesheadwestprelovedschooluniform
<https://www.gatesheadwestuniformscheme.org.uk>
contact@GatesheadWestUniformScheme.org.uk
and find us as gwusne on Vinted