



PE Days – New for Autumn 1

Nursery SG - Wednesday AM

Rec GD - Friday AM

Y1 TY – Monday and Thursday

Y2 FN – Monday and Wednesday

Y3 MLK – Wednesday and Friday

Y4 FWD - Tuesday and Wednesday

Y5 BR – Tuesday (swimming / PE for those not swimming) and Thursday

Y6 MY – Tuesday and Friday



Forest School Sessions – New for Autumn 1

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



Date	AM	PM
04/09/26	MLK	FWD
11/09/26	MLK	FWD
18/09/26	BR	MY
25/09/26	BR	MY

Healthy Choices Reminder

A reminder to all families that children should bring **water only** in their drink bottles for use throughout the school day. We also ask that break-time snacks are **healthy choices**, such as fruit, vegetable sticks, cheese, or other nutritious alternatives. Please avoid sending high-sugar items, including cakes, biscuits, chocolate bars and crispy cake treats, for morning break. These simple changes help us to promote healthy lifestyles and support children's wellbeing and concentration in school. Thank you for your continued support.



School applications

Applications for places in Reception and Secondary school 2027 are now open and can be done via the Gateshead Council Website. [School admissions - Gateshead Council](#)

The deadline to apply secondary school admissions is 31st October 2026.

The deadline to apply for Reception admissions is 15th January 2027.

After School Clubs - Places Still Available!

We still have places available in the following after-school clubs:

- Cricket Club – Tuesdays for Year 3, 4 and 5 pupils
- Basketball Club – Thursdays for Year 5 and 6 pupils

Both clubs will run for 6 weeks at a total cost of £18. These are great opportunities for children to develop new skills, stay active and have fun with friends.

To request a place or for further information, please see the flyers below. Places will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Thank you



EARLY YEARS OPEN EVENING

Thursday 22nd October 2026
Drop in 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 2027?

Why not come along to our open day, where you will find out more about who we are and what we do. Bring your child(ren) 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 😊

Places available in 2027 for

Reception

Nursery
3 - 4 Year olds
15 and 30 hours

Nursery
2 year olds
15 hours

Funded and paying sessions available



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01207 542373
www.highspenprimary.org

Head Lice and Nits

We have had some cases of head lice and nits in school, please ensure you check your child's hair regularly and treat if necessary. Further information on this can be found online here: [Head lice and nits - NHS](#)

Individual school photographs



Individual school photographs will be taken at school on the morning of Wednesday 23rd September. If you would like a photograph of siblings together (or with siblings not in school) please arrive at school for 8.30am, we will do them on a first come first served basis, and will start individual photos after these.

Sibling photographs will not be taken as a blanket group unless requested beforehand.



Message from PTFA

Our AGM will be held on Tuesday 15th September at 9am, everyone welcome.

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

Hello. What a wonderful week. Team TY has blown our socks off with how well they have settled into Year 1.

Each day we have introduced a **Lucky Duck**. This is a secret and staff keep an eye out to make sure Y1 are making good choices and trying their best. If your child is the **Lucky Duck** for the day, they will come with a coloured resin mini duck to keep. The duck is small and all children have been reminded that it must be kept out of their mouths and stored in a safe place at home.

Your child's Homework (blue) and Reading (clear) folder has been sent home. Please return all folders on Thursday please.

We kindly ask parents and carers to return their reading books to school. Returning books allows us to share our reading resources with other classes and children across the school, ensuring everyone has the opportunity to enjoy a wide range of books. Thank you for helping us to encourage a love of reading!

Thank you. Any questions, please come and ask 😊

Year 2 - FN – Florence Nightingale- Mrs Cowie and Mrs Lawson

We have had an amazing first full week of Year 2! Y2 will be going on an adventure to the woods on Thursday 17th September for the morning. Please send children in wearing their uniform, but in appropriate footwear/coats in case it is muddy. This is a surprise for the children linked to our English unit so please don't tell them... shhhh 😊

DT project- Thank you for all the shoe boxes that were brought in on Monday 😊. We still need more! If you have any at home, please bring them into school. Thank you in advance for your help!

Year 3 – MLK Martin Luther King – Miss Murray

Just a reminder that we have now finished our forest school sessions and next Friday will be back to PE. 😊

Thank you - Miss Murray

Year 5 – BR – Bobby Robson – Mr Cradock

Hi everyone 😊

Well done to all of Y5 for another super week! Swimming at Prudhoe went really well and our sessions will continue on Tuesdays until the end of term.

Today, we hope to get along to the school library so look out for **books coming home** to read and share this weekend. Homework will start proper next week. We will be holding a **school councillor hustings and vote** next week so your child (if they are putting themselves forward) could prepare a few things to say. In particular, they could think about why they would like the role and why they think they'd be good at it.

Finally, it's our turn for **Forest School next Friday** – hooray! Please make sure your child comes with appropriate clothing (long sleeves and trousers/leggings) plus a waterproof and suitable footwear. They may also like to bring a water bottle and healthy snack.

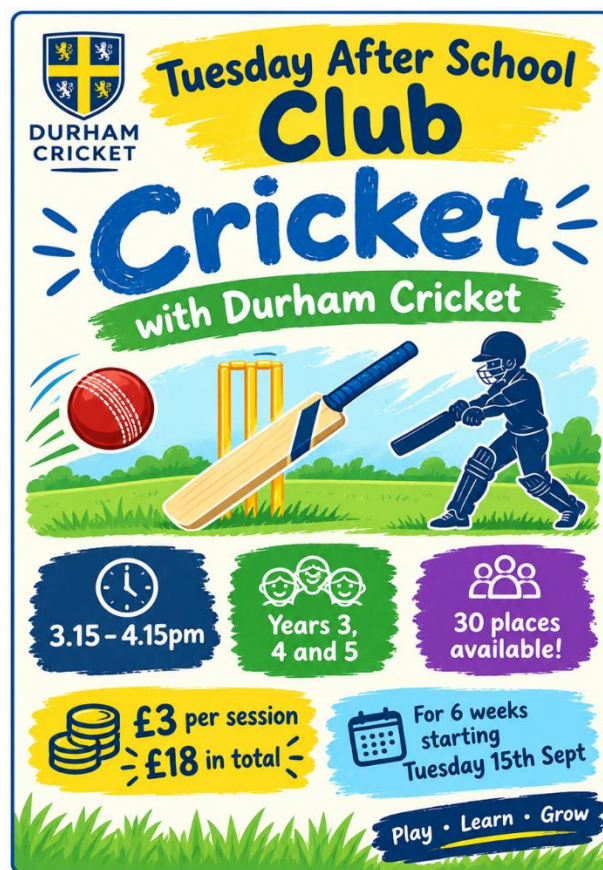
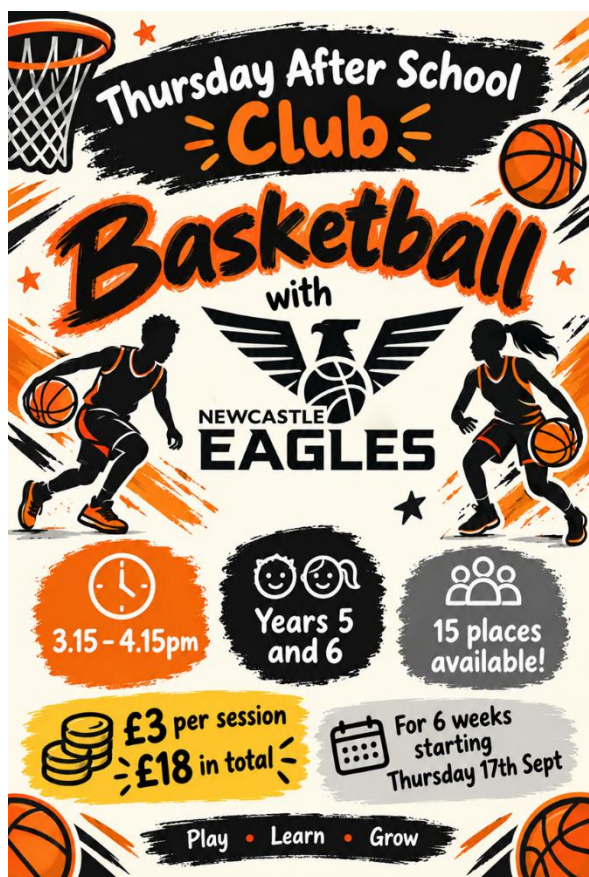
Year 6 – MY – Malala Yousafzai – Mrs Heron/Mrs Lawson

Swimming - Children who went to swimming at Prudhoe this week were excellent ambassadors for the school. We wish them all the best in working towards achieving their swimming goals.

Secondary School places - Your child should have brought home a letter explaining how to apply for their secondary school place. Thought it was worth a mention incase it didn't quite make it home! The deadline is October 31st. Each secondary school will share their opening evenings in different ways but checking the school website would be a good starting point.

Forest School – Next Friday afternoon (18.9.26) and the Friday after (25.9.26) class MY will have their forest school sessions with Phil. Please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather. Your child can bring a drink and healthy snack to enjoy in the woods. Thank you.

Robinwood - Thank you to the parents/carers who were able to attend the Robinwood meeting. It was lovely to meet you. The presentation and clothing/souvenir lists will be sent to all parents this evening. For those parents/carers who were unable to attend the meeting, please feel free to pop in and see me with any questions 😊.



I'd like to my child _____ in Year _____ to attend after school club on Thursday 17th September with **Newcastle Eagles**

[] I understand the payment of £18 will be added to my gateway and will need to be paid before the club starts.

Signed _____

Name _____

Relationship to child _____

I'd like to my child _____ in Year _____ to attend after school club on Tuesdays with **Durham Cricket**.

[] I understand the payment of £18 will be added to my gateway and will need to be paid before the club starts.

Signed _____

Name _____

Relationship to child _____

Dates for the Diary 2026

Date	Event
Wednesday 2 nd September	1st day of Autumn 1 term - Children return to School
Tuesday 15 th September	PTFA AGM 9am
Wednesday 23 rd September	Individual school photos
Wednesday 7 th Oct – Fri 9 th Oct	Robinwood Trip
Thursday 22 nd October	Early Years open Evening 4pm-5pm
Friday 23 rd October	Last day of Autumn Term 1
26 th – 30 th October	Half Term
Monday 2 nd November	First day of Autumn term 2
Friday 18 th December	Last day of Autumn term 2

2026/2027 Term dates

Autumn term

Start of term	Half term	Last day of term
Tuesday 1 September 2026	26 to 30 October 2026	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.