



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
25/09/26	Y5 BR	Y6 MY
02/10/26	Y2 FN	Y1 TY
09/10/26	Y2 FN	Y1 TY
16/10/26	Nursery SG	Rec GD
23/10/26	Nursery SG	Rec GD

Poppy Appeal 2026

We are pleased to let you know that **Poppy Appeal items are now available to purchase from the school office.**

A range of poppies and fundraising items are available while stocks last, with all donations supporting the important work of the **Royal British Legion**. If your child would like to purchase an item, please visit the school office.



Parent Appointments

Parent Appointments will be held on Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th November 2026. A letter has been sent home with your child, please return this with your appointment choice. Thanks

High Spen family Groups

In our HS Families, we shared our experiences and learning in Chopwell Woods last week. It was touching to see children taking turns to speak and to listen, asking questions to learn more and encouraging less confident ones to join in. At the end, they said they wanted to meet up and talk together more and looked forward to the next time!



OFSTED Inspection – Thank You

Many of you will know the script by now, until the OFSTED report is quality assured and ready to share with families, we are unable to discuss the outcomes with you. This normally takes around 4wks.

However, what we are able to do is to pass on the thanks from Inspectors, Governors and our exhausted staff.

Thanks for lending your fabulous children to us every morning - their behaviour was super and they spoke with warmth about their school, learning and friends.

Thanks for your words of encouragement, your knowing smiles when you saw how late and then early the cars were in the carpark!

And finally, for those of who shared parent/carer views - wow! We don't get to see the 'free text' but inspectors were at pains to share how supportive of school your feedback was.

So, be gentle with us until we limp to the weekend - and pass on the high praise to your fab squids!



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

Just to let you know that this will be the last week for homework so please can all folders and reading books be returned next week. Thank you 😊

Year 3 – MLK Martin Luther King – Miss Murray

Hello, I'd like to pass on a huge thank you to your children for how amazing they were during our inspection. Their behaviour, attitude to learning and positivity shone through in abundance and we were unbelievably proud of them all!

There will be no folders sent home next week – enjoy a week off from homework! 😊

Year 5 – BR – Bobby Robson – Mr Cradock

Hi everyone 😊,

We had a fantastic visit from the Gateshead Libraries and Heritage Service on Wednesday. Their 'From Stone to Story' workshop about the Stone Age and archaeology was hands-on and inspiring! We've also started writing our own Stone Age stories filled with action and excitement.

There's no homework for this last week of the half term but look out for library and Featured Author (Cressida Cowell) books coming home soon.

Thank you for your support through this week's inspection. We've really appreciated it!

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

What a week! The return from Robinwood has seen some children not quite feeling themselves as they have needed to recharge their batteries. However, we have also enjoyed chatting about Robinwood and sharing some of the photos and memories we have created. Some very proud moments indeed! There are group photos and certificates on their way. We are also busy working out the best way to share some of these with you so bear with us.

On another note, it has been a different week in school as we welcomed inspectors to share in the magic we have. A huge thank you to Y6 who took the changes in their stride and showed how amazing they could be and to Mrs Lawson who stepped in and took over the reins.

DT In week 8 (w/c 19th October), we will be working on a DT project which will involve some junk modelling. We are looking for cardboard boxes of various sizes and other items of junk modelling. Please start collecting them and send them into school on Monday 19th October.

DT – On Monday 19th October (1-3pm) and Wednesday 21st October (9-10:30), children will be working on their DT project. Parents/carers are very welcome to join us as it is usually all hands to the deck. It would be lovely to see you there if you can make it.



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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Do you think your child may have

ADHD OR AUTISM

or maybe they are already on the
neurodevelopmental assessment pathway?

**Come along to one of our
Neurodevelopment support events to
talk to organisations who can help!**

Running throughout 2026, these free, drop-in
sessions offer practical advice, early help and
information from local services.

Find all dates, times and exhibitors here:



Gateshead
Council

LOCAL OFFER

FAMILY
HUBS

www.gateshead.gov.uk/neurodevelopment-support

Dates for the Diary

Date	Event
Tuesday 20 th October	Halloween Disco
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
Tues 10th, Wed 11th and Thurs 12th Nov	Parent Appointments
Wednesday 11 th November	Remembrance
Friday 13 th November	Children in Need
Thursday 19 th November	Flu Nasal spray
Wednesday 9 th December	Y1 – Y6 Panto Visit
Thursday 10 th December	Christmas jumper, dinner and bring a bottle day
Friday 11 th December	Christmas fair
Monday 14 th December	EY Dress rehearsal AM
Monday 14 th December	KS1 & KS2 Dress rehearsal PM
Tuesday 15 th December	EY Nativity AM
Tuesday 15 th December	KS1 & KS2 Nativity and songs PM
Wednesday 16 th December	EY Nativity AM
Wednesday 16 th December	KS1 & KS2 Nativity and songs PM
Thursday 17 th December	EY Xmas Party AM
Thursday 17 th December	KS2 Xmas Party AM
Thursday 17 th December	KS1 Xmas Party PM
Friday 18 th December	Christingle Service 10am
Friday 18 th December	Head Teachers Award 1pm
Friday 18 th December	Last day of Autumn term 2 – School closes 1:30pm

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 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.