



Dates For Your Diary

Friday 3rd July 2026- summer fair from 3.15pm-5.15pm

Tuesday 14th July 2026- Key Stage 2 production from 2pm-3pm (more info to follow)

Wednesday 15th July 2026- Disco from 3.15pm-4.45pm

Thursday 16th July 2026- Nursery and Reception Sports Day from 2.30pm-3.15pm

Friday 17th July 2026- Leavers' Mass and assembly at 9.15am (all are welcome)

Friday 17th July 2026- Key Stage 1 and 2 Sports Day from 1.15-2.30pm

Friday 17th July 2026- Whole school colour run from 2.30pm-3.15pm

Friday 17th July 2026- Children break up for summer holiday

Wednesday 2nd September 2026- Children return to school

Staffing Update

As we come to the end of the school year, we would like to extend our sincere thanks to Mrs Goulden for her hard work and commitment during her time with us. She has made a valuable contribution to our school community. On behalf of everyone at school, we wish Mrs Goulden every happiness and success in the future.

At the same time, we are delighted to welcome Miss Reeves, who will be joining our team in September. We look forward to her becoming part of our school family and know that she will receive a warm welcome from our pupils, families and staff.

Happy Birthday

to pupils celebrating their birthday during June



Alexis	Lorelai	Daisy	Ala	Kyden-Blaze
Toby	Joshua-John	Ava O'R	Liliana	Olivia R
Albie	Zofia	LJ	Charlie Y	Isabella Z



June Highlights

International Day Of Play

On Thursday 11th June, we celebrated International Day of Play with our very own Parents vs Children football match! The pitch was full of energy, laughter, and a healthy dose of competitive spirit as both teams gave it their all. The children showed incredible skill, teamwork, and determination—future World Cup stars in the making! But this time... the parents managed to secure the victory and were crowned champions!

Water Safety Week

From Monday 15th- Friday 19th June, we celebrated Water Safety Week. Our Student Council took the lead in a fantastic assembly focused on the importance of staying safe in and around water. They spoke confidently and shared key messages, reminding us all how vital water safety awareness is, especially as we approach the summer months. We were also lucky to welcome the Fire Brigade, who delivered an engaging and practical session. Pupils learned essential strategies for keeping themselves and others safe and even had the opportunity to see how professionals rescue someone using specialist equipment.

Refugee Week

From Monday 15th-Friday 19th June, we celebrated Refugee Week. We were honoured to welcome visitors from Syria and Ukraine, who spoke to our Key Stage 2 pupils about their home countries, their cultures, and their journeys to England. Their stories were shared with such honesty and courage, giving our children a powerful opportunity to listen, learn, and reflect on the experiences of others. Our Mini Vinnies also showed wonderful leadership by delivering a thoughtful whole-school assembly. They highlighted the lives of famous refugees who have gone on to make a significant impact on England, helping our pupils to see the positivity, resilience, and contributions that refugees bring to communities.

Primary Festival

On Tuesday 23rd June, our Year 6 pupils had a fantastic day at Emmaus Youth Village as part of the YMT Y6 Festival. The theme of the day, "Behold," reminded us to look closely and recognise God in our lives – a powerful message found over 1,500 times in the Bible. The children had an amazing time singing and dancing along with the live band and taking part in a range of engaging activities throughout the day. It was wonderful to see them building new friendships with pupils from other schools and growing in confidence.

Smile Day

On Tuesday 23rd June, Our KS1 and KS2 pupils had a fantastic time taking part in Smile Day, led by GoWell. Throughout the day, the children were introduced to new skills and techniques, including putting, and had the opportunity to try something new in a fun and supportive environment. The sessions were full of energy and enthusiasm, with everyone getting involved and giving it their best effort.



Attendance

Children are required to be at school by 9am as our core subject lessons (English and Maths) begin immediately after registration.

Appointments should be made out of school time where possible please.

Holidays should be taken outside of term time.

The Department for Education deems that if a child's attendance drops below 90%, they become known as a Persistent Absentee. All absences are monitored thoroughly.

To celebrate great attendance, children with 100% in a week receive £1 for their class piggy bank and a ticket in our termly raffle. The class with the highest percentage will also receive £20 for their class piggy bank.

Below are the percentages of attendance for each class for June.

Joseph (Nursery) - 88.4%

Matthew (Reception) – 94.9%

Mark (Year 1/2) – 91.7%

Luke (Year 3/4) – 95.1%

John (Year 5/6) – 92.4%

The government's target for attendance for primary school pupils is at least 95%.

Our whole school attendance for June was 92.4%.

A child is classed as unauthorised absence if they arrive at school after 9.30am.

2.3% of our pupils had unauthorised absences in June.



Uniform

School uniform promotes a sense of pride in the school and makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance.

If your child is not in correct school uniform, we will contact you to see if you can bring some in. If this is not possible, we will provide your child with uniform to wear whilst at school.

Our uniform is:

- Red sweatshirt or sweat cardigan
- White polo shirt
- Grey trousers or skirt/pinafore dress
- Sensible, plain black leather shoes/ trainers



Jeans and leggings are not permitted. Skirts and trousers should be grey not black.

Homework

Homework reinforces and helps your child to retain information taught in the classroom. It also develops study habits and independent learning.

For Year 1 to Year 6, we kindly ask that your child is listened to reading daily and their reading record is signed. Your child will receive a dojo for each signature in their record.

For Year 1 to Year 6, your child will also receive maths and spelling homework each Friday to be handed back in by the following Thursday.

Times tables are extremely important for children in Year 3 to Year 6. In Year 4, children take a times tables test. Every child has log in details for Times Tables Rockstars - <https://ttrockstars.com/>
We would greatly appreciate it if your child could regularly practise their times tables at home.

READING EVERY DAY...

...**CREATES** lifelong readers.

...**TEACHES** children to find adventure, ideas, and answers through books.

...**STRENGTHENS** relationships and creates memories as a family activity.

...**OPENS DOORS** through which children can learn about themselves.

...**BUILDS** a diverse vocabulary and strengthens fluency in reading.

...**ALLOWS** a child's imagination and creativity to blossom.

...**GIVES** children the tools needed to become successful students.

...**TAKES** the "scary" out of reading in the classroom.

...**HELPS** children make connections to new places, people, and concepts.

...**AWAKENS** children to the world around them.



PE

On PE days, children are to come to school dressed in their PE kit.

Mark (Year 1/2)- Monday

Luke (Year 3/4)- Monday

John (Year 5/6)- Monday

Our PE uniform is:

- Plain white T-shirt with no branding or logos from professional sports teams
- Plain black shorts or tracksuit bottoms with no branding or logos from professional sports teams



- Red sweatshirt or sweat cardigan or hoodie



- Suitable black trainers



If your child comes to school in PE kit on a day which is not their PE day, we will ask for uniform to be brought in for your child to change into.

Jewellery and Hairstyles

Wrist watches are permitted but not smart watches.

Piercings (including earrings) are not permitted.

Pupils with long hair must ensure that this does not impede their vision, cover their face or provide a health and safety risk. Long hair must be tied up during practical lessons, e.g. PE.

The following hairstyles are not considered appropriate for school:

brightly coloured, dyed hair, headwear with bold patterns or colours, excessive hair accessories.

OUR 100% ATTENDANCE **RAFFLE!**

THIS TERM'S DRAW:

THE WINNER CAN CHOOSE EITHER ...



**A FAMILY TICKET TO
ADVENTURE VALLEY**



**A FAMILY BOWLING
& RESTAURANT VOUCHER**



HOW IT WORKS

- A CHILD WITH 100% ATTENDANCE FOR A WEEK
- RECEIVES A TICKET FOR THE DRAW
- MORE WEEKS OF FULL ATTENDANCE = MORE TICKETS!

GOOD LUCK EVERYONE!

FAMILY FUN FAIR

FREE
ADMISSION
Everyone
welcome!

Come and hold
me and my friends
from Animal Story!



FRIDAY 3RD JULY

3:15PM TO 5:15PM

Join us for a fun packed
afternoon at our wonderful school...

- ✓ PETTING ZOO
- ✓ BOUNCY CASTLE
& INFLATABLE SLIDE
- ✓ FACE PAINTING
- ✓ RAFFLE
- ✓ POLICE CAR
& FIRE ENGINE*

**Depending on availability*

- ✓ SPLAT THE TEACHER
- ✓ VARIETY OF STALLS
- ✓ REFRESHMENTS
- ✓ VARIETY OF GAMES
- ✓ NERF GUN WARS



FIND US AT:

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School,
Garburn Place, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 7DE

