



USWORTH COLLIERY

Weekly Newsletter



12th September 2025

ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

This week's class attendance figures:

Classes with 96% and above are in the **green zone!**

Classes with 90% and below are in the **red zone!**

RAW		4EH	93.27%
RLC		4SP	98.25%
1JB	93.41%	5GS	98.77%
1JD	94.48%	5JM	99.35%
2EP	93.78%	6CS	97.6%
2PQ	98.42%	6JW	95.85%
3BB	99.47%	Base Blue	100%
3RD	99.47%	Base Yellow	86.44%
Base Red	87.8%	Thrive	100%

This week's winner of the 100% attendance certificate and Just Eat voucher is **Anya** in **4SP**
Congratulations to **Base Blue** and **Thrive** for **100% attendance** and to **Y3** for **99.47%** - the best attendance this week!

Whole school attendance **96.02%**

What a great first week for attendance Well done!

WELCOME BACK!

I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone back to school for our new academic year. The children all look so smart in their uniform. It has been great fun catching up with them all this week and finding out about their holidays. It has also been a pleasure chatting with some of you this week in the yard.

This year we start the year with a couple of staffing changes. We would like to welcome: Mrs Quinn who will be teaching in one of our Y2 classes and Miss Clapperton who is joining our Y5 team as a teaching assistant. I am sure you will give them a warm welcome and I know they will be happy with us.



I would like to take this opportunity to remind all parents and careers that myself, Mrs Moore and Mrs Thubron try to be available at the start of the school day so feel free to catch us then. However, if you would prefer to make an appointment don't hesitate to contact me. You can contact me via the school email address. You can also contact Mrs Tubron (our Family Liaison Officer) via the School Office. Please make sure that you keep the office up to date with your new contact details, especially email addresses and mobile telephone numbers so that you

can keep abreast of what is happening. I know we will be able to work together to make your child's time at Usworth Colliery a happy one. Here's to another exciting year!

WHO HAS BEEN IN MY OFFICE THIS WEEK?

Darcy 6CS has been telling me all about her football achievements. Even though she is relatively new to competitive football, Darcy started to play with the Black cats at Washington Athletic. Before the summer holidays she was invited to football trials at both Sunderland and Newcastle Football Academies and this summer was offered a place with Sunderland training Academy. She now tells me she is playing for another team Leam Rangers, with training during the week and matches at the weekends. Well done Darcy! I can't wait to hear how your football career progresses.



MEET THE TEACHERS!

Over the next fortnight, class teachers and TAs would like to catch up with you, explain more about some of the class routines and the things your children will be learning this year.

For **Years 1, 2 and 3**, these catch-up meetings will start at **2:15pm in the main hall**. After the meeting you will then be invited to visit the classroom to see your child in their lessons and can take them home from their classroom from 3:00pm if you wish. Siblings in other classes will not be released earlier from their classes and should be collected from their usual door at their usual time of 3:15pm.

For **Years 4, 5 and 6**, these catch-up meetings will start at **9:15am in the main hall**, however you are welcome to come in to the hall straight after school drop off for refreshments. After meeting the staff, you will then be invited to visit the classroom to see your child in their lessons.

Dates are as follows:

Tues 16th Sept - Year 1 (Miss Davison and Miss Brown) 2:15pm

Wed 17th Sept - Year 2 (Mrs Prinn and Mrs Quinn) 2:15pm

Thurs 18th Sept - Year 4 (Mrs Henderson and Mr Pearson) 9:15am

Thurs 18th Sept - Year 3 (Mrs Dixon and Mrs Burrell) 2:15pm

Mon 22nd Sept - Year 5 (Mr Millett and Miss Skeen) 9:15am

Wed 24th Sept - Year 6 (Mr Warner and Mrs Swinburn) 9:15am

If your child is in any of the Base or Thrive provisions your child's class teacher will be in touch about meetings across the year.

It would be wonderful to see you all but we understand that the timings may not suit everyone. There will be other opportunities throughout the year to celebrate you children's achievements in school. We also have official parent meetings planned for Wednesday 22nd October from which run from 1:15pm - 6pm.

YEAR 6 PARENTS

All year 6 parents should have received an email from school this week with information about how to apply for secondary school places for your child. Here is a brief outline of the information sent out.

Applying online is the simplest option. Go to www.sunderland.gov.uk/admissionsonline to complete your application. You can apply on a variety of devices including a phone, tablet and PC or alternatively you can visit City Hall where there are facilities to apply on line. The online facility is open during the preference period - 8 September to 31 October 2025. Please note that we use the Family Portal which parents/carers may have previously used to apply recently for school places or Free School Meals or the 2 year old offer for any children within your family, therefore you will already have log-in details. When you apply online you will receive an email confirmation once your application has been submitted. **You will also receive an email notification regarding your child's school place on 2 March 2026 if you apply online.** If it is not possible to access or submit an online application, a paper application form can be obtained by emailing school.admissions@sunderland.gov.uk or by telephoning **0191 520 5553**. If you apply on a paper application form, you will be informed of your child's school place by letter, which will be posted second class on 2 March 2026.

WASHINGTON CARNIVAL 2025 THIS WEEKEND

The Washington Carnival returns this Saturday 13th September 2025 from 10am until 4pm at Albany Park. It is **FREE ENTRY** and this year includes:

- 🎤 Washington's Got Talent live on stage
- 🎡 Traditional fairground rides
- 🎨 Arts & crafts, face painting & balloon modelling
- 🍔 Delicious food & drink stalls
- 🚗 Vintage vehicles & traders
- 🏠 Heritage tent & outdoor games
- 🎵 Family entertainment all day long

**see the poster at the bottom of this newsletter
for more info!**

IT'S ALL GREEK IN YEAR 5!

Yesterday, Y5 began their new history and geography topics in style with a Greek afternoon. The children were offered the chance to dress up as an ancient Greek person, which many of them chose to do, to fully engage in the afternoon's activities. We started off looking at how to say hello and goodbye in Greek before using Google maps to explore what modern Greece looks like. We could have spent hours on this alone, marvelling at the beauty of the mountains and coastal regions as well as the many different islands. After this, we started to explore some of the Greek beliefs, focussing on the different gods. The children used some sources to identify how we know about the Greek gods before choosing the one they found most interesting to research and present to the class. A bit of Greek democracy was then used to vote for the favourite god. The weather put paid to our mini-Olympics but this was not missed as we tasted some traditional Greek food. Most of it went down very well such as the feta cheese and baklava. Less so -the houmous and olives, although all the children did seem to discover some new food that they enjoyed. It was an excellent start to our new topics and we are all eager to dive further into them as the term progresses. **Miss Skeen and Mr Millett**



UNIFORM RECYCLING THANK YOU!

Thank you so much to everyone who has brought in preloved uniform so far this term. Our station has been stacked high this week and although I have seen lots of families using it we still have a lot of stock. I am so proud of our uniform donation station and so pleased that as a community we are supporting each other and doing our bit for the environment!

Items we can recycle include:

Navy sweatshirt or cardigan

Gold or yellow 'polo' shirt

Navy, black or grey skirt or pinafore

Navy, black or grey trousers

School summer dresses/skirts in either blue or gold/yellow checks.



RECOMMENDED READS AND NEW RELEASES OAK, THE LITTLEST LEAF GIRL BY LUCY FLEMING



An enchanting story from the creator of Ella's Night Lights and Lily the Pond Mermaid about facing change, learning to voice difficult emotions and taking a leap into the unknown. Oak is a mythical little leaf girl who lives with her leaf parents on the branch of an ancient oak tree. She loves nothing more than exploring and playing with the creatures and insects of her tree world. But as the weather shifts and the slow season begins, Oak realizes that she and her family must leave the tree. It is time for them to float down to the ground where they can nestle into their winter acorn home, and see out the cold until spring returns once more. But Oak refuses to move - she doesn't understand why they have to go and she's afraid of what's next. Why does change feel so hard?

AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS

Your child will have brought home an after-school club letter. This needs to be handed in no later than Wednesday 10th September. After this date you will receive a text informing you which club your child has been allocated. Clubs will start week beginning 15th September

Day	Club name	Staff	Year Groups	Max number	Location
Monday	Forrest school	Mrs Walker/Mrs Prinn	Rec-2	20	Forrest school
Monday	Art Club	Miss Coxon	Rec-2	15	RLC classroom
Monday	Book club	Miss Brown	3-6	15	2JB classroom
Monday	Lego Club	Mrs Edmunds/Mrs Green	1-6	20	Art Room
Monday	Board Games	Mrs Calcutt	Rec-6	15	KS2 intervention room
Tuesday	Choir	Mrs Moore	3-6	20	TBC
Tuesday	Jewellery Making	Mrs Dixon	3-6	15	3 RD classroom
Tuesday	Mindful Colouring	Mrs Henderson	3-6	20	4EP classroom
Tuesday	Boxing club	Mr Pearson	5-6	10	Hall
Tuesday	KS1 Homework	Mrs Quinn	1-2	20+	2PQ classroom
Tuesday	KS2 Homework	Mrs Swinburn	3-6	20+	6CS classroom
Thursday	Boxing club	Mr Pearson	3-4	10	Hall

AUTUMN TERM DATES

Events next week New dates added

Monday 8 th September	Years 1-6 back to school
Monday 15 th September	Reception half days
Monday 15 th September	4SP Newcastle Quayside
Tuesday 16 th September	4EH Newcastle Quayside
Tuesday 16 th September	Year 1 Parents meet the teachers and visit the classroom (2:15pm)
Wednesday 17 th September	Year 2 Parents meet the teachers and visit the classroom (2:15pm)
Thursday 18 th September	Year 3 Parents meet the teachers and visit the classroom (2:15pm)
Thursday 18 th September	Year 4 Parents meet the teachers and visit the classroom (9:15am)
Thursday 18 th September	Headteacher from Oxclose visiting Y5 and Y6 Pupils
Friday 19 th September	Y3 Visit to F Pit
Monday 22 nd September	Reception classes start full days
Monday 22 nd September	Year 5 Parents meet the teachers and visit the classroom (9:15am)
Wednesday 24 th September	Year 6 Parents meet the teachers and visit the classroom (9:15am)
Wednesday 24 th September	Science is my Superpower (Newcastle pm)
Wednesday 8 th October	6CS Lindisfarne
Friday 10 th October	6JW Lindisfarne
Tuesday 21 st October	Y5 Great North Museum (Newcastle)
Wednesday 22 nd October	Parents Meetings
Friday 24 th October	Reception Open Morning for 2026-27 parents 9-11am
Friday 24 th October	Last day of this half term
Monday 27th October to Friday 31st October - HALF TERM HOLIDAY	
Monday 4 th November	Children back to school
Monday 24 th November	School Photos day
Wednesday 26 th November	Reception Open Afternoon for 2026-27 parents 1-3pm
Monday 1 st December	Start of Derwent Hill residential week
Wednesday 3 rd December	Science is my Superpower (Newcastle pm)
Friday 12 th December	Reception Christmas performances (am performance no pre-school children pm performance all welcome)
Friday 12 th December	Autumn Term reports sent out to parents
Tuesday 16 th December	Year 3&4 Christmas performance (am performance no pre-school children pm performance all welcome)
Wednesday 17 th December	Christmas fair

Friday 19th December

Last day of Autumn Term

Children return to school on Monday 5th January

DATES FOR THE YEAR

At the bottom of this newsletter, I have attached our 2025/2026 term dates starting in September.

Any dates that are circled are **Teacher Training Days** and children **will not** be attending school that day.

Please do not book holidays within term time

If you require any further information, please contact the school office.

SUPERSTARS

Remember to check out this week's **SUPERSTARS!** These are shared on our school Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/people/Usworth-Colliery-Primary-School/61572535178981/#>

Alternatively, you can also use the School Facebook link at the top of the school website.

Please note the school Twitter account, @UCPrimary, is no longer in use.

HOUSE POINTS

Check out our house point counter at <https://www.usworthcolliery.co.uk/children/house-point-counter>. Children are awarded points throughout the week for demonstrating our school values and following the Colliery Code.

This week's classes with the most house points are:

1st-3RD 2nd-5GS 3rd-4EH

Mrs Alison Forster

Headteacher

Manor Road, Sulgrave, Washington, Tyne and Wear, NE37 3BL

www.usworthcolliery.co.uk

Tel: (0191) 417 8888

info@usworthcolliery.co.uk

[@UCPrimary#](https://twitter.com/UCPrimary#)

Accreditation -
Supportive Level
**Speech and
Language UK**



**Problem-solving
School**
Enriching maths



**GOLD
Active
Sunderland
School 2024-25**



**Artsmark
Silver Award**
Awarded by Arts
Council England

NOTICES

TERM DATES 2025/2026

AUTUMN TERM 72 DAYS First Half Term: 37 days Second Half Term: 35 days	SEPTEMBER 2025 19 Days S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	OCTOBER 2025 18 Days S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	NOVEMBER 2025 20 Days S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	DECEMBER 2025 15 Days S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
	JANUARY 2026 20 Days S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	FEBRUARY 2026 15 Days S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	MARCH 2026 22 Days S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	April 2026 2 Days S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4
	APRIL 2026 9 Days S M T W T F S 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	MAY 2026 15 Days S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	June 2026 22 Days S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	July 2026 16 Days S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
	SUMMER TERM 62 DAYS First Half Term: 24 days Second Half Term: 38 days Total Days: 193			

**Sunderland
City Council**
Improving lives
through better services

**Community
Opportunities**

Community Opportunities

PRESENTS...

WASHINGTON CARNIVAL

SATURDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER 2025

**ALBANY PARK
NE37 1UP**

10AM - 4PM

FREE ENTRY

STAGE AND 'WASHINGTON'S GOT TALENT'
OUTDOOR GAMES | TRADERS | HERITAGE TENT
VINTAGE VEHICLES | FAIRGROUND RIDES
ARTS & CRAFTS | FOOD & DRINK | FACE-PAINTING
BALLOON MODELLING AND MUCH MORE!

For more information or to sign up to
our Washington's Got Talent show, call:

0191 5373231



Community Opportunities - YOUTH & PLAY



