USWORTH COLLIERY
Weekly Newsletter

13th November 2026

ATTENDANCE TO CELEBRATE THIS WEEK

Classes with 96% and above who were in the green zone this week

2EP	97.37%
3BB	99.03%
4GS	97%
5RD	97.39%
6JW	97.78%

Five classes made it into the green zone this week for attendance.
Congratulations go to **3BB-** winners of the attendance trophy this week.
Whole school attendance this week was **93.92%**
Remember every school day counts

WHO HAS BEEN IN MY OFFICE THIS WEEK?

Georgia, Hannah and Lilly from 5RD came to show me their fantastic problem-solving work. They had been given a problem involving money that they had to solve by eliminating answers that didn't work, leaving them with the only possible correct answer. As they worked so well as a team, they were then challenged to answer a problem where this time they needed to collect all the possible answers and again eliminate ones that couldn't work because you can't divide certain amounts by three without using copper coins. They were absolutely superb at explaining their thinking processes. Well done girls this is very impressive mathematical thinking and explaining!

YEAR 2 GIRL'S FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT



Year 2 had a fantastic time visiting Ford Hub to take part in a football tournament. Some of our girls proudly represented the school, showing excellent teamwork, determination and sportsmanship throughout the day. We competed against other schools and enjoyed the challenge of playing different teams. The children learned new football skills, including passing, dribbling and working together effectively. They encouraged one another, celebrated successes and never gave up. We are very proud of how well they represented our school and the positive attitude they showed throughout the tournament. Well done, girls!

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

This week, we observed Armistice Day with our yearly Service of Remembrance. We were thrilled to welcome members of our community into school to hear about the learning children had done about remembrance and its importance, even today. We had members of each year group from Year 1 to Year 6 come to recite poetry and share their artwork. It was a lovely event and a very important one





BOOKS AND BREAKFAST IN YEAR 1!



Year 1 welcomed parents and carers into their classrooms for a lovely Books and Breakfast morning!
The children thoroughly enjoyed sharing stories with their families and parents had the opportunity to see a snapshot of a phonics session in action. It was wonderful to see the children proudly showing off their reading skills, and parents were very impressed!
We had a fantastic turnout and a wonderful morning together. A huge thank you to everyone who joined us! ***Miss Brown and Mrs Barella***

SO COME AND JOIN US FOR MORE BOOKS AND BREAKFAST



We are delighted to continue our Books and Breakfast sessions for Reception & KS1 families. Parents and carers are invited to join us from 8:45am through the classroom doors to share books and stories with their child while enjoying some light refreshments. During each session, staff will provide a short demonstration of a reading or phonics activity that we use in school, along with ideas for how these can be supported at home. We are also excited that our KS2 Reading Ambassadors will be joining the classes to help celebrate a love of reading. Sessions will finish at 9:15am. Please see below for your child's year group date – we look forward to welcoming you! ***Reception Friday 27th November***
Year 2 Wednesday 2nd December

CHILDREN IN NEED



Today, children were invited to come to school in non-uniform or wear something Pudsey-themed and bring a small donation to help raise money for this worthwhile cause. The children came to together as a school community to support children and young people across the UK while having some fun along the way and I am pleased to announce that so far we have raised £189.50 for this worthy cause.

POLITE REMINDER

We would like to remind all parents and children that **bikes, scooters**, and **similar wheeled items** must not be ridden anywhere on the school grounds at any time.
This helps to keep everyone safe, particularly during busy drop-off and collection times when there are large numbers of children, parents, staff, and visitors moving around the site.
If your child travels to school by bike or scooter, they must dismount before entering the school grounds and walk their bike or scooter until they have left the site.
It is also illegal to ride an **E-scooter** on public land (roads and pavements) and therefore should not be on school grounds.
Thank you for your support in keeping us all safe.

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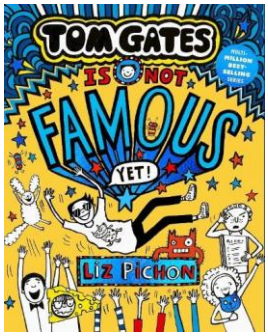
SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

On Monday 23rd November Phototronics are visiting school to take individual and sibling photographs of your children. They are also able to take family photos before school starts if you would like younger siblings, not at our school, to be included in the photograph. Please see the link below to consent for your child to have their photograph taken and also to request the kind of photograph you would like them to take (individual/sibling/family) There is no expectation for you to purchase any photographs taken but without your consent via this form, your child will not have their photograph taken by Phototronics on this day.

School Photography GDPR Consent – Fill in form

RECOMMENDED READS AND NEW RELEASES

TOM GATES IS NOT FAMOUS (YET) (BOOK 25) - BY LIZ PICHON



The brand new feel-good, laugh-out-loud Tom Gates story featuring LOADS of doodles, starry-eyed dreams and some diva behaviour from Marcus. From Liz Pichon, the multi-million copy bestselling author and illustrator.
It's SHOWTIME at Oakfield School and RUMOURS are FLYING around that the local theatre group 'DramaLamaDingDong' are coming to visit with a... REAL LIFE celebrity. The whole school is buzzing with excitement. Whose play will IMPRESS the most? Could this be a LIFE-CHANGING moment for one of the kids? Tom's written a comedy with roles for all his friends, but limelight-hogging Marcus is more annoying than ever. Will everyone realize that friendship is more important than being famous? Written in diary form. Every page STUFFED full of laughs, stories, doodles and creative FUN.

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AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS

Please remember all children must be collected from after alcohol clubs until the start of the summer term due the darker nights

Day	Club name	Staff	Year Groups	Location
Monday	Choir	Mrs Barella	Y2-Y6	Class 1CB
Monday	The Story Studio - Creative Writing Club	Miss Brown	Y3-Y6	Class 1JB
Monday	KS1 Sports Club	Mrs Prinn	EYFS KS1	Main Hall
Monday	Lego Club	Mrs Green and Mrs Edmonds	Y1-Y6	Art Room
Monday	Film Club	Mrs Jones	Y1-Y6	Base Blue
Monday	Girls' Football	Mrs Skeen	Y5 & Y6	Field
Tuesday	Games Club	Mrs Calcutt	Y1-Y6	KS2 Intervention Room
Tuesday	STEM Club	Mr Warner	Y5 & Y6	Class 6JW
Tuesday	Forest School Club	Miss Coxon and Miss Rodden	EYFS KS1	Forest School
Wednesday	Creative Sparks Club	Sunderland Culture	KS2	Main Hall/ Art Room
Thursday	Mindfulness Colouring Club	Mrs Quinn	Y2-Y6	Class 2PQ
Thursday	Playdoh Club	Mrs Burrell	Y1-Y4	Class 3BB
Thursday	Jewellery Club	Mrs Dixon	Y3-Y6	Class 5RD

AUTUMN TERM DATES

Events next week New dates added

Monday 16th November	EYFS Art Studio Visit
Wednesday 18th November	RLC Intofilm Festival
Friday 20th November	EYFS Art Studio Visit
Monday 23rd November	School Photos by Phototronics
Monday 23rd November	Y6 YDAP Sunderland Drug and Alcohol Talk
Wednesday 25th November	RAW Intofilm Festival
Wednesday 25th November	School Nurses visiting Y2 Dental Hygiene Workshop
Thursday 26th November	EYFS Intergenerational Visit to Care Home
Friday 27th November	Reception Books and Breakfast (8:45-9:15am)
Friday 27th November	STEM/Science Family Moring (9:30am -11am)
Monday 30th November	EYFS Art Studio Visit
Wednesday 11th November	Remembrance Tea for Senior Citizens
Monday 23rd November	School Individual/Family Photographs
Monday 30th November	Start of Derwent Hill residential week
Wednesday 2nd December	Year 2 Books and Breakfast (8:45-9:15am)
Thursday 3rd December	RLC Northern Stage Christmas Show
Monday 7th December	Staff Training (INSET) Day (school closed to children)
Wednesday 9th December	RAW Northern Stage Christmas Show
Friday 11th December	School Nurses visiting Y5 Personal Safety Workshop
Friday 11th December	Autumn Term pupil attainment reports sent out

Friday 11th December	Reception Christmas performances (am performance no pre-school children pm performance all welcome)
Wednesday 16th December	EYFS Intergenerational Visit to Care Home
Monday 14th December	Year 3&4 Christmas performance (am performance no pre-school children pm performance all welcome)
Wednesday 16th December	Christmas Fair
Thursday 17th December	School Christmas Dinner
Thursday 17th December	Senior Citizens Christmas Dinner
Friday 18th December	**Last day of Autumn Term**

Children return to school on Monday 4th January

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.

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 House point winners are

1st RAW **2nd 4GS** **3rd 3RL**

PATHWAY TO… Lawyer!

This week, our **Pathway to…** focuses on **lawyers** and the different routes into the profession. Lawyers need a range of skills including, communication problem-solving, confidence and listening carefully to others. There is more than one route into this career. Alongside studying Law at university, people can take an alternative route through a solicitor apprenticeship, combining paid work with professional training and gaining valuable experience along the way.
We hope this has inspired our children to think about their future possibilities and remember that there are different pathways to achieving their ambitions. We might even have some future lawyers here at Usworth Colliery!



Mrs Alison Forster Headteacher

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NOTICES

E-scooters, EAPCs, E-bikes, and Motorcycles

Information for parents & carers

NORTHUMBRIA POLICE

Road safety law is there to protect riders and other road users. In the event of a collision, the physical consequences can be devastating, life-changing and can ultimately result in the loss of life. Make sure that when your children ride on the roads they are doing so legally and safely with protective equipment such as helmets. Visit THINK! Road safety and Road safety - Police.uk for more information.

What does the law say?

E-scooters

NOT ROAD LEGAL for ANYONE to use

It is illegal for ANYONE to ride a private e-scooter on public land – roads, pavements and cycle paths included. In law, they are treated as motor vehicles and, because they have no number plate, often don't have rear lights or signalling ability, **they cannot be used legally in public.**

Read more here about penalties and offences.

EAPC
(electrically-assisted pedal cycle)

ROAD LEGAL for those aged 14 and over. Helmet use is advised but optional

An EAPC must have pedals meaning that the bike can be used with or without the motor, and the fitted motor must cut off at a top speed of 15.5 mph (the speed of an average pedal cyclist)

Read more here and here

Electronically powered motorcycle – "E-bike"

Whether or not these are road legal depends on certain conditions (see below)

To be road legal an E-bike must have :
- A number plate
- Brake lights
- Indicators

An E-bike without these is NOT ROAD LEGAL

Also, the rider is subject to the same licence requirements as those for a moped/scooter/motorcycle (see column to the right), and they must have insurance.

Mopeds, scooters and motorcycles

ROAD LEGAL for those aged 16 and over with a motorcycle licence. Helmet use is mandatory

A provisional driving licence is required and compulsory basic training (CBT) must be completed. The age limit will depend on the type of motorcycle – visit this link for details

What's the difference between a moped and a scooter? Basically, it's all about engine size, but read more about it here

Why are rented e-scooters road-legal?

- Renters must have at least a provisional driving licence which has category Q or P/M entitlement
- The rental company provides insurance for the rider as part of the rental agreement
- They must be ridden in approved areas and only on the road

Read the following article for tips on how to protect your motorcycle, moped or scooter from theft