



16th January 2026

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	91.36%	4EH	90.43%
RLC	91%	4SP	95.79%
1JB	93.33%	5GS	91.67%
1JD	92.11%	5JM	88.95%
2EP	88.38%	6CS	95.65%
2PQ	94.09%	6JW	94.17%
3BB	90%	Base Blue	98.18%
3RD	87%	Base Yellow	86.89%
Base Red	93%	Thrive	96%

Congratulations to **Base Blue** for the best attendance this week at **98.18%**

Whole school attendance **92.11%**

No classes with 100% this week. Remember every school day counts!

ATTENDANCE AND SICKNESS UPDATE

This year we are placing a strong focus on improving attendance and supporting children to be in school every day. Regular attendance is vital, as it allows children to make the most of their learning, build strong foundations for the future, and develop important social skills such as forming and maintaining friendships. The link between attendance and attainment is clear: the more time children spend in school, the greater their opportunity to achieve their full potential. We therefore encourage all families to prioritise daily attendance wherever possible.

However, we would also like to remind parents to follow NHS guidance when children are unwell. In cases of vomiting and/or diarrhoea, children should be kept off school and should not return until at least **48 hours after symptoms have stopped**. Most cases resolve without treatment, but if symptoms persist, please seek advice from your GP.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us keep children healthy, happy, and ready to learn.

Lauren Thubron (FLO)

WHO HAS BEEN IN MY OFFICE THIS WEEK?

Thomas from Base Blue was using his colourful semantics to help him to write full sentences about Pip-Pip, a penguin who was frightened of the ocean. He wrote 3 full sentences and remembered to use capital letters and full stops in all of them. Well done Thomas Keep working hard

Peyton, Nicole, Sophia and Noah 1JB have all been writing super sentences. They were tasked with writing a sentence using adjectives to describe their nouns and not only did they all write independent sentences but they could identify the nouns in each sentence and the word they had picked to describe the noun. Absolutely fantastic work from all of them. Well done!

FREE ALL STAR'S CRICKET CAMP

Durham Cricket Foundation have another FREE All Stars Camp during February Half Term. Giving children the opportunity to play some cricket before the summer.

Venue - Beacon of Light

Date - Friday 27th February

Times - 9:30 - 12pm

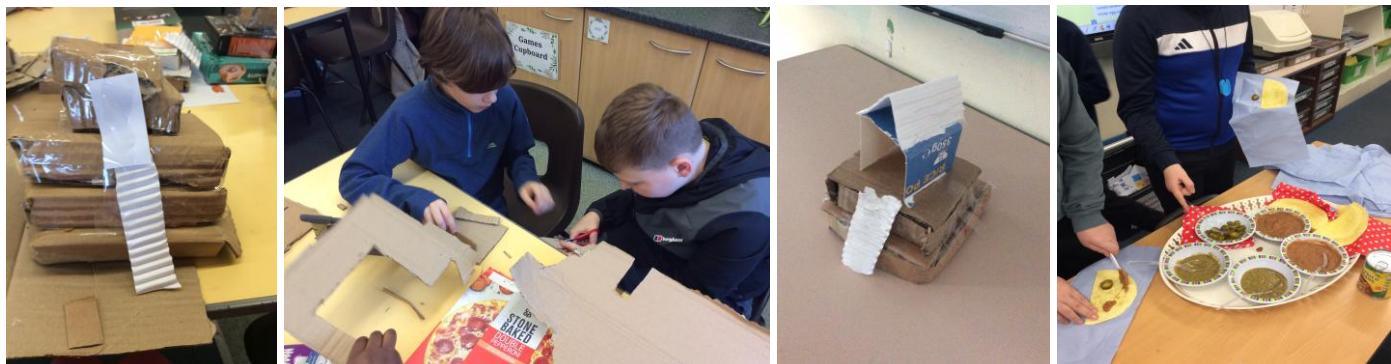
To book or for more information follow this link- <https://ecb.clubspark.uk/Book/3bc29833-396f-4ece-b083-765beb9ab89b?venue=DurhamCricketBoardLtdCCB>

Voucher Code - **TNA8L**



ANCIENT MAYA DAY FOR Y6

On Tuesday, Y6 took part in an Ancient Maya Day! They were asked to come into school dressed in bright colours or animal print, reflecting the dress of the priests, nobles and royalty of the era. We became archaeologists and studied some Maya artefacts, questioning what they were made from, what they were used for and who might have owned them. In the afternoon, we tasted some Mexican food (tortillas, guacamole, jalapenos and refried beans) as well as tasting some authentic Maya hot chocolate - it was very spicy! Finally, we learned what a ziggurat was - an ancient Maya pyramid - and attempted to construct our own with cardboard. A fabulous day! We hope the children enjoyed it and have learnt some interesting facts about the Ancient Maya. **Mrs Swinburn and Mr Warner.**



YEAR 1 LITTER PICK



Year 1 have been learning about how we can look after nature and how sometimes humans have a negative impact on nature and our environment, through their actions. We talked about littering. We realised that it is our responsibility to either put our rubbish in the bin or recycle it and to look after our local environment. We had a visitor, from Groundworks NE, who supported us to do our very own litter pick.

DON'T FORGET OUR FREE BREAKFAST CLUB!

As we start the New Year and the new term, I would like to take this opportunity to remind you about our **free Breakfast Club**, which is **available to all pupils** and is a great way to start the school day.

Children can attend Breakfast Club from 8:00am (last entry 8.30am), where they will be offered a healthy breakfast including a variety of cereals, yoghurt, fresh fruit, toast and fruit juice each day. There is **no charge to attend** and **no need to pre-book**.

The only requirement is that a consent form must be completed before your child's first visit. Even if your child does not currently need to attend Breakfast Club on a daily basis, we strongly encourage all parents to complete the consent form. This ensures that should an emergency arise, or if you need the provision on an ad-hoc basis, your child will always be able to access Breakfast Club on the day without delay.

If you are unsure whether you have already completed a consent form, please email info@usworthcolliery.co.uk and a member of staff will be happy to check and get back to you. We look forward to welcoming more children to our Breakfast Club.





RECOMMENDED READS AND NEW RELEASES

THE NIGHT I BORROWED TIME BY IQBAL HUSSAIN

A funny, heart-breaking and uplifting tale about family, bravery and living in the here and now, perfect for fans of Time Travelling With a Hamster and Wonder. I'm going back in time to save this family. Eleven-year-old Zubair is a seventh son. This means a LOT of big brothers. But when Zubair's granny arrives from Pakistan and gives him a mysterious amulet, he discovers it means something else, too: he has inherited a gift. The seventh sons in his family have the ability to time-travel. With his dad a shadow of his former self since his car accident, and his mum always tired and angry, Zubair has a genius idea. He'll use time-travel to fix things between them. But each trip comes at a cost. If he changes something small in the past, it can have a huge effect on his future. And if he gets it wrong, the results could be devastating...

SPRING TERM AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS

Please could all parents use the gates on the KS2 (Year 6) yard when collecting the children from After School Clubs.

Day	Club name	Staff	Year Groups	Location
Monday	Forrest school	Mrs Walker/Mrs Prinn	Rec-2	Forrest school
Monday	Construction Club	Mrs Jones	Rec-6	Yellow Base
Monday	Book club	Miss Brown	3-6	2JB classroom
Monday	Lego Club	Mrs Edmunds/Mrs Green	1-6	Art Room
Monday	Jigsaw and Games	Mrs Calcutt	Rec-6	KS2 intervention room
Tuesday	Jewellery Making	Mrs Dixon	3-6	3 RD classroom
Tuesday	Film Club	Mrs Henderson	2-6	4EP classroom
Tuesday	Skipping Club	Mrs Burrell	3-6	Hall
Wednesday	Creative Sparks	Culture Start (external provider)	3-6	Hall or Art Room

SPRING TERM DATES

Events next week New information added

Monday 19 th January	EYFS PSED stay and play 2.30pm
Monday 26 th January	Phoenix Project (Monday Tuesday and Wednesday)
Monday 2 nd February	Y4 Visit to Angel of The North
Wednesday 4 th February	Science is my Superpower (Newcastle pm)
Monday 9 th February	Year 5 Bikeability week.
Monday 16 th February	RLC Library Visit
Wednesday 18 th February	Parents Evening
Friday 20 th February	School closes for half term
	HALF TERM
Monday 2 nd March	School opens for all pupils
Monday 2 nd March	6CS Safetyworks
Thursday 3 rd March	6JW Safetyworks
Wednesday 11 th March	Science is my Superpower (Newcastle pm)
Monday 16 th March	RAW Hall Hill Farm
Tuesday 17 th March	RLC Pizza Express
Wednesday 18 th March	2026 Y6 SATs meeting for parents
Wednesday 18th March	Year 5 visit to Life Centre
Friday 20 th March	RLC Hall Hill Farm
Monday 23rd March	Rocksteady Concert 10am
Monday 23rd March	RLC Library Visit
Wednesday 25th March	RAW Library Visit
Tuesday 24th March	RAW Pizza Express
Friday 27 th March	KS1 Easter Performance (am for Y1 parents)

Friday 27th March
Monday 30th March
Tuesday 31st March
Wednesday 1st April
Wednesday 1st April
Thursday 2nd April
Thursday 2nd April
Thursday 2nd April
Thursday 2nd April

KS1 Easter Performance (pm for Y2 parents)
Base Blue and Thrive visit to SafetyWorks (am)
4SP Washington Arts Centre
4EH Washington Arts Centre
5GS visit to Ouseburn
5JM visit to Ouseburn
Easter Egg Competition
Spring Term reports sent out to parents
School closes for the Easter Holidays

Children return to school on Tuesday 21st April

SUPERSTARS

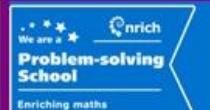
Remember to check out this week's **SUPERSTARS!** These are shared on our school Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/people/Usworth-Colliery-Primary-School/61572535178981/#>
Alternatively, you can also use the School Facebook link at the top of the school website.

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.

Mrs Alison Forster Headteacher

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Artsmark Silver Award
Awarded by Arts Council England