



USWORTH COLLIERY

Weekly Newsletter



16th October 2026

ATTENDANCE TO CELEBRATE THIS WEEK

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

Base Yellow	99.29%
6JW - Mr Warner	98.89%

Only two classes made it into the green zone this week for attendance.
Congratulations go to **Base Yellow** and to **6JW** - winners of the attendance trophy.

Whole school attendance this week was **92.96%**

Remember every school day counts

YEAR 6 VISIT TO LINDISFARNE

This week, Year 6 enjoyed a memorable visit to Holy Island as part of their history and geography topics. The children learned about where Brother Highbald stood when he first encountered the Viking attack on Lindisfarne, bringing their classroom studies to life. They also used their geography fieldwork skills to navigate around the island, visiting the Priory and making their way up to the iconic Lindisfarne Castle. On the beach, the children worked creatively to build rock sculptures while enjoying the beautiful (but very windy)

surroundings, and then they walked through the Lime Kilns. Throughout the day, they were exceptionally well behaved, represented the school brilliantly and were a real credit to themselves, their families and our school community. We hope they enjoyed this fascinating and experience.



MATERIAL WORLD EDUCATION ROADSHOW VISITS USWORTH COLLIERY

Year 5 and Year 6 had a fantastic time on Monday afternoon when Altru Drama visited school to perform their Material World Education Roadshow. The children enjoyed an exciting mix of scientific exploration, audience participation and plenty of laughs along the way. Through engaging demonstrations and interactive activities, the show brought science to life and inspired curiosity about the world around us. We hope all of the children thoroughly enjoyed the experience and took away lots of new knowledge and memorable moments from the day. **Mrs. Swinburn**



WHO HAS BEEN IN MY OFFICE THIS WEEK?

Ranay in 5JM came to show me her English work where she has been learning about subordinating conjunctions. She had been adding conjunctions and clauses to stem sentences to expand the sentences and add detail. She did this very well using ideas from the class text, 'The Lighthouse'. Well done Ranay!

COUNT ON YOUR COMMUNITY – FAMILY MATHS FUN FAIR!

As part of Number Confidence Week this November, we're excited to invite you to our Family Maths Fun Fair on **Friday 6th November from 9:30am**.

There will be lots of exciting games to try, number challenges and our very own Maths Tombola, where children can follow number clues to win prizes. Families will have the chance to play together, solve puzzles and discover that maths is all around us.

You don't need to be a maths expert to take part – just come along, have a go and enjoy learning together! We can't wait to see our school community counting on each other and having fun with maths.

TEACHER/CARER PARENT MEETINGS

It was great to see so many of you all on Wednesday at our Autumn Term Parent and Carer Teacher Meetings. Hopefully you were able to chat with your child's teacher and find out how they are settling into their new class and how they are progressing through the primary curriculum. If for any reason you were unable to attend and would like the opportunity to speak with your child's class teacher, please contact the school office.

REMINDER- UPCOMING VISITS ARBOR

Please can we remind parents of these upcoming educational visits. Parents and Carers will need to consent to children attending the visit **on Arbor** as soon as possible so that we can ensure visits can go ahead and all children can attend.

Thank you for your support

Visit Date	Trip / activity	Class / Group	Consent Deadline
Tuesday 20 th October 2026	Vindolanda	4GS	Fri 9th Oct
Wednesday 21 st October 2026	Vindolanda	4KB	Fri 9th Oct
Wednesday 21 st October 2026	Soft Play Visit	Base Yellow	Fri 9th Oct
9th , 16 th , 20 th or 30 th Nov	Small-group Artist Sessions	RAW and RLC	Fri 6th Nov

RAINBOW CENTRE HALF TERM EVENTS

BEST START IN LIFE Rainbow Best Start Family Hub half-term timetable Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October 2026 Family.hubwashington@togetherforchildren.org.uk Postcode: NE37 3AE Telephone: 0191 561 3995				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Time for Rhyme - drop in (0 - pre-crawlers) 9.30 - 10.15am Move to Rhyme - drop in (Crawling- pre-walkers) 10.30-11.15 Play Space - drop in (0 - 5 years) 9 - 11.30am, 1 - 3pm Sensory Room - drop in (0 - 5 years) 9 - 11.30am, 1 - 3pm Busy Bodies - drop in (Walking - 5 years) 1.30 - 2.30pm Breastfeeding Support - drop in 1 - 3pm	Play Space - drop in (0 - 5 years) 1-3pm Sensory Room - drop in (0-25 years with parents/carers) 1-3pm Boo and play (0 - 8 years) Bookable 10-11.15 Antenatal Programme 3.45 - 5.45pm To book call 03000 031552	Sensory Room - drop in (0 - 5 years) 9 - 11.30am Welfare Rights 9.30 - 11.30am To make an appointment please speak to Family Hub reception Review & Development Clinic 10 - 11.30am Please speak to your Health Visitor for an appointment Boo-nes park Event - bookable (Barnes Park) 0-5 years 11am - 2pm Birth Registrations - bookable Book via Sunderland City Council website Play Space - drop in (0 - 5 years) 1 - 3pm	Stay & Play - drop in Marlborough Park (Sulgrave flats) (0 - 5 years) 9.15 - 10.15am Growing Healthy - drop in (Under 2) 10 - 11.30am Story Time - Room on the broom (0- 5 years) 1.30 - 2.15pm Bread & Butter Thing 2 - 2.30pm To reserve a bag text 07507237311 Play Space - drop in (0 - 5 years) 1 - 3pm Sensory Room - drop in (0 - 5 years) 1 - 3pm	Outdoor Play @ Building blocks Day Centre (NE37 2SS) - drop in (0-5 years) 9.30 - 10.30am Play Space - drop in (0 - 5 years) 9 - 11.30am and 1 - 3pm Sensory Room - drop in (0 - 5 years) 9 - 11.30am and 1 - 3pm Baby Pumpkin Stay and Play-drop in (0-1 yrs) 1.30-2.30pm Introduction to Solids - bookable (around 6 months) 1 - 2pm To book call 0300 0031552

Social media

Please check www.linksforlivesunderland.co.uk/familyhubs
Follow Sunderland Family Hubs on Facebook and Instagram.

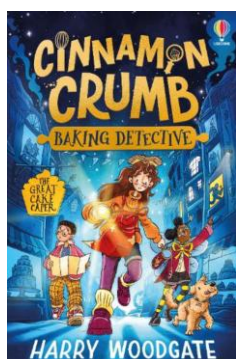
Parenting Support

From pregnancy to age 19, our Parenting and Relationships Team is here to help with free advice and support.
Call 0191 561 7005 or email citywideparentingreferrals@togetherforchildren.org.uk



RECOMMENDED READS AND NEW RELEASES

CINNAMON CRUMB, BAKING DETECTIVE BY HARRY WOODGATE



An irresistible new detective series from award-winning Harry Woodgate, this is Wonka meets The Great British Bake-Off with lashings of secrets and sabotage and illustrations on every page!

Meet Cinnamon Crumb. In the town of Marzipan, home to bakers of near-magical talent, Cinnamon burns toast. She's no baker - but she is about to become a baking detective. Because all is not sweet between Marzipan's two rival superstar bakers, Victoria Sponge and Madeleine Macaron.

They will stop at nothing to win the coveted Twelve Tier Crown at the Great Cake Carnival - even sabotage. So, when Victoria sets Cinnamon a mission to spy on Maddie, Cinnamon reluctantly agrees. But when Maddie asks Cinnamon to spy on Victoria too...well, Cinnamon is in a situation stickier than sticky toffee pudding.

AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS

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 19 th October	Phoenix Programme
Tuesday 20 th October	4GS visit to Vindolanda
Wednesday 21 st October	4KB visit to Vindolanda
Thursday 22 nd October	EYFS Intergenerational Visit to Care Home
Friday 23 rd October	Last day of this half term

Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October - HALF TERM HOLIDAY

Monday 2 nd November	Staff Training (INSET) Day (school closed to children)
Tuesday 3 rd November	Children back to school
Thursday 5 th November	Police Anti-Social Behaviour Workshop Y5 and Y6.
Friday 6 th November	Maths Fair (for parents/carers and children)
Monday 9 th November	EYFS Art Studio Visit
Friday 13 th November	Children In Need
Monday 16 th November	EYFS Art Studio Visit
Wednesday 18 th November	RLC Intofilm Festival

Friday 20th November	EYFS Art Studio Visit
Monday 23 rd 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 26 th November	EYFS Intergenerational Visit to Care Home
Friday 27 th November	STEM/Science Family Moring (9:30am -11am)
Monday 30th November	EYFS Art Studio Visit
Wednesday 11th November	Remembrance Tea for Senior Citizens
Monday 23 rd November	School Individual/Family Photographs
Monday 30 th November	Start of Derwent Hill residential week
Thursday 3 rd December	RLC Northern Stage Christmas Show
Monday 7 th December	Staff Training (INSET) Day (school closed to children)
Wednesday 9 th December	RAW Northern Stage Christmas Show
Friday 11th December	School Nurses visiting Y5 Personal Safety Workshop
Friday 11 th December	Autumn Term pupil attainment reports sent out
Friday 11 th December	Reception Christmas performances (am performance no pre-school children pm performance all welcome)
Wednesday 16 th December	EYFS Intergenerational Visit to Care Home
Monday 14 th 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 18 th 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 6JW

2nd 4KB

3rd 4GS

PATHWAY TO... Builder

As part of our *Pathway to...*, we're exploring the exciting world of construction and finding out how builders help shape the world around us. From building homes and schools to creating hospitals and communities, builders use practical skills, problem-solving and teamwork every day. We're helping our children discover the different routes into a career, including college courses and apprenticeships, and understand the skills and qualifications they might need along the way. Who knows – we might have some future builders here at Usworth Colliery Primary School!

Pathway to...

Exploring careers, skills and
the journeys that get us there.

Aspiration
Resilience
Care
Safety

Builder



What do they do?

Builders work on construction sites, helping to build and repair homes, schools, hospitals, roads and more. They use their skills, tools and teamwork to turn plans into real buildings and safe places for people to live, work and learn.



Build
homes,
communities
and a
brighter
future!



What you need

- ✓ Good GCSEs (especially Maths and English) – usually grades 4/5 or above (varies by area).
- ✓ Some employers offer apprenticeships so you can earn while you learn.
- ✓ Practical skills, problem solving and attention to detail.
- ✓ Good teamwork and communication skills.
- ✓ A positive attitude and willingness to get stuck in!



Why choose this career?

- ✓ You can be part of exciting projects and see your work make a real difference.
- ✓ There are lots of different areas to specialise in (e.g. bricklaying, carpentry, plumbing, electrics, project management).
- ✓ It's a hands-on job with great opportunities to learn and progress.
- ✓ You can help build stronger, safer communities.



The journey to get there



1. GCSEs

Build a strong foundation in English and Maths (and other subjects).



2. College (or an apprenticeship)

Gain practical experience and industry knowledge.



3. Training

Learn hands-on skills and get qualified (e.g. NVQ or T Level).



4. On the job

Start your career and build your experience.



5. Progress

Specialise, take on more responsibility and move into leadership roles.



Did you know?

- Builders can work in lots of different areas – from new homes to historic buildings.
- You can start with an apprenticeship and still go on to university if you want to.
- The construction industry is always growing, so there are plenty of job opportunities.

Real
skills.
Lasting
builds.



Skills you'll need



Problem Solving

Find solutions to challenges on site.



Teamwork

Work well with others to get the job done.



Communication

Share ideas and follow instructions.



Physical Fitness

Be active and comfortable working outdoors.



Attention to Detail

Keep things safe and get the job right.



Big dreams start with small steps...

What will your pathway look like?

Mrs Alison Forster

Headteacher

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

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Accreditation -
Supportive Level

**Speech and
Language UK**



enrich
We are a
**Problem-solving
School**
Enriching maths

Eco-Schools
Award
2022-2023

SCHOOL GAMES
BRONZE
2023 / 24

GOLD
Active
Sunderland
School 2024-25

Sunderland Mental Health
Charter Mark

ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND



Artsmark
Silver Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England