



30th 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	93.64%	4EH	85.22%
RLC	79%	4SP	99.47%
1JB	91.11%	5GS	91.67%
1JD	80.53%	5JM	91.58%
2EP	90.42%	6CS	96.52%
2PQ	95.91%	6JW	95%
3BB	90%	Base Blue	90%
3RD	95%	Base Yellow	99.19%
Base Red	89.13%	Thrive	87.92%

Congratulations to **Base Yellow** for the best attendance this week **at 99.19%**

Whole school attendance **90.92%**

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

PAYMENT OF SCHOOL MEALS

Please be reminded that our school meal provider is a company called Dolce and therefore all payments for school meals must be made directly to them.

We are unable to accept any cash payments for school meals and kindly ask parents not to make electronic payments through the City of Sunderland website for school meals. This helps Dolce keep records accurate and ensure the correct meals are provided to the children. All payments should be made to Dolce, in advance of the meals being provided

If you have any questions or need any assistance in sending payments directly to Dolce, please speak to a member of the office staff who will be able to help you in this matter.

BOOKING PARENTS/CARERS MEETING APPOINTMENTS FOR WEDNESDAY 18TH FEBRUARY

An email has been sent out this week with information regarding how to book an appointment time for the parents/carer evening on the 18th February. If you have not received the email, or if you need any support booking appointments, please contact the school office

UCPS GIRL'S FOOTBALL TEAM NEWS

The girls' football team took part in their first night of futsal fixtures on Thursday. It was an exciting experience for the squad, with many players new to futsal and the 5-a-side format. The opening match against Biddick saw plenty of attacking opportunities, though the team found it challenging to adapt to the different size of the goals and futsal ball, resulting in a narrow 1–0 defeat. The second game, against George Washington, was played 4-a-side due to opposition numbers and produced an exciting, end-to-end contest that finished in a 5–5 draw. Futsal will recommence for its final session next Thursday (5th February) when the remaining games will be played, followed by an awards presentation.

Mrs Skeen

WHO HAS BEEN IN MY OFFICE THIS WEEK?

Marnie 1JB came to show me her fantastic sentence writing. She had written 4 sentences all about the little boy and his penguin. She had worked so hard on her letter formation and had remembered to use full stops at the end of each sentence. Well done!

Lex and Oscar in 5JM and Lucas in 5GS came to show me their completed 'hot writes' which were a section of a story written in the style of the author Guy Bass who is funny and loves to write about monsters. All three boys have worked extremely hard to produce high quality stories remembering to use all the features of their success criteria. Well done!

Valerie 6JW has been developing her use of reported and direct speech to help move a story forward and her results are superb. She is reading the unabridged version of Macbeth at home and has totally immersed herself in the language of Shakespeare. This means her writing sounds so authentic I thought she had used actual quotes from the original play. Wow Valerie I can't wait to read your version of act 2!

CELEBRATING NSPCC NUMBER DAY



We're looking forward to celebrating Number Day on Friday 6th February! Children are welcome to come to school in their own clothes, celebrating all things numbers. This could be outfits inspired by numbers, Times Table Rockstars, or Numbots. We're looking forward to a fun day full of maths, creativity, and number-themed learning across school.

SUNDERLAND LIBRARIES SERVICES

The Sunderland Library Service are excited to let you know that their libraries are running a **World Book Day Costume Exchange** again this year to help families celebrate in a fun, affordable, and sustainable way. Children and their parents/carers can donate a pre-loved costume at the Houghton & Washington Libraries throughout February and pick up something "new-to-you" for free over half term (from Monday 23rd February). It's a great way to reduce waste and make World Book Day accessible for everyone. You can find them at both Houghton Library, 74 Newbottle Street, Houghton-le-Spring DH4 4AF and **Washington Library, Independence Square, Washington NE38 7RZ**

For more information, please see the poster at the bottom of this newsletter.

RECOMMENDED READS AND NEW RELEASES

ROCK AND ROLL BY RUBY AMY THOMPSON



Rock and Roll are very different.

Rock is strong and Roll is soft.

Rock hates attention. Roll loves it.

But hang on . . .

Maybe they have more in common than we think . . .

This standout debut from Ruby Amy Thompson introduces two unforgettable characters! With bold visuals, big laughs, and a brilliantly playful layout, this is a story that celebrates connection; Rock and Roll always appear on opposite pages, yet their worlds are cleverly linked through shared experiences.

LOCAL COMMUNITY OFFER

There are a number of posters attached to the bottom of this newsletter that we have shared this week via our Facebook account. They are all from local community groups who have asked us to share upcoming events and offers that we feel might be of interest to our families!

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 2nd February~~ ~~Y4 Visit to Angel of The North (postponed new date to be confirmed)~~

~~Wednesday 4th February~~ ~~Science is my Superpower (cancelled)~~

Friday 6th February NSPCC Number Day

Monday 9th February Year 5 Bikeability week.

Wednesday 18th February Parents Evening

Friday 20th February School closes for half term

HALF TERM

Monday 2nd March School opens for all pupils

Monday 2nd March 6CS Safetyworks

Tuesday 3rd March 6JW Safetyworks

Thursday 5th March World Book Day

Wednesday 11th March Science is my Superpower (Newcastle pm)

Monday 16th March RAW Hall Hill Farm

Tuesday 17th March RLC Pizza Express

Wednesday 18th March 2026 Y6 SATs meeting for parents

Wednesday 18th March Year 5 visit to Life Centre

Friday 20th March RLC Hall Hill Farm

Monday 23rd March Rocksteady Concert 10am

Monday 23rd March RLC Library Visit

Wednesday 25th March Dance Festival

Tuesday 24th March RAW Pizza Express

Friday 27th March KS1 Easter Performance (am for Y1 parents)

Friday 27th March KS1 Easter Performance (pm for Y2 parents)

Monday 30th March Base Blue and Thrive visit to SafetyWorks (am)

Tuesday 31st March 4SP Washington Arts Centre

Wednesday 1st April 4EH Washington Arts Centre

Wednesday 1st April 5GS visit to Ouseburn

Thursday 2nd April 5JM visit to Ouseburn

Thursday 2nd April Easter Egg Competition

Thursday 2nd April Spring Term reports sent out to parents

Thursday 2nd April 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.






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

1st-4EH 2nd- 5JW 3rd-4SP



NOTICES

The little onion club
From January 2026
charges may apply

	Monday 5 pm to 6.30pm	Activity Name afterschool club age 5 +
	Tuesday 9.30 to 11am 1pm to 3pm 4pm to 5.30pm	Activity Name pre-school group knit & natter afterschool club age 5+
	Wednesday 10am to 12pm	Activity Name drop in session adult gardening
	Thursday 10am to 12pm 5pm to 6.30pm	Activity Name drop in session adult gardening afterschool club age 5+
	Friday 9.30am to 11am 1pm to 3pm	Activity Name pre-school group H'way crochet

More Info
tel: 07887770191
email: vicky@thelittleonionclub.org

Safer Concord & Sulgrave

Karen Parkinson
Community Engagement Worker
Tel/Text: 07345571888
Karen.parkinson@sunderland.gov.uk

Millennium Centre, The Oval
Concord, Washington. NE37 2QD

Community Safety Team, Locality Hub Washington
Safer Concord & Sulgrave
Sunderland City Council, Economy & Place Directorate

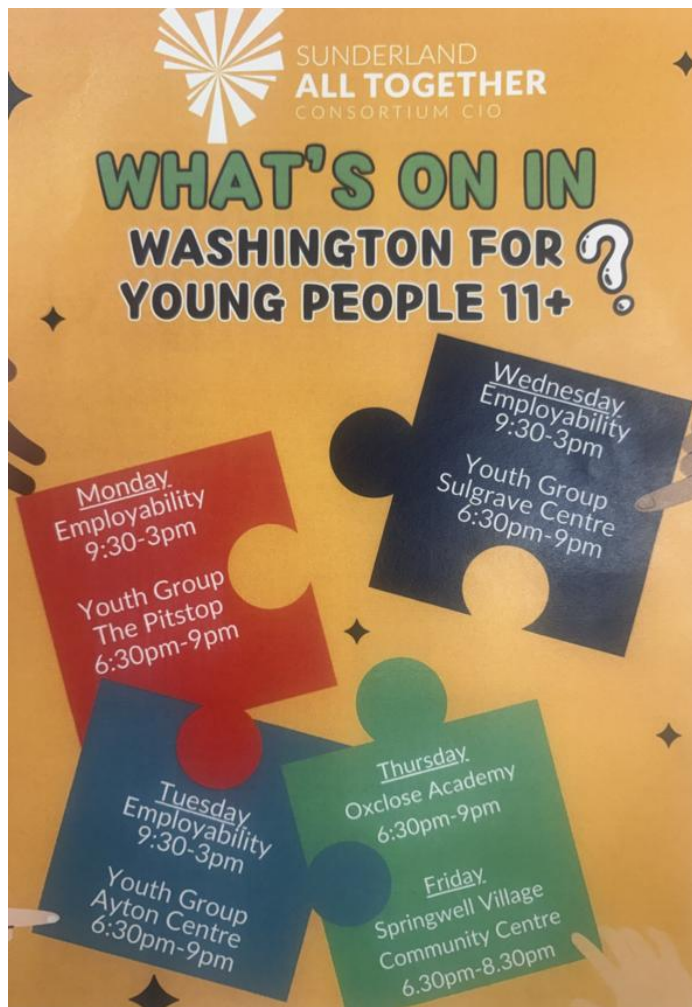
The community safety HUBs are designed to place communities at the heart of our work. This approach ensures early engagement, intelligence-led responses, and people and place-based solutions tailored to local needs. Each HUB will support effective multi-agency problem solving.

The hub will focus on the following key priorities:

- Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) and Local Priority Crime
 - Improving Environmental Quality, including fly-tipping, litter, and dog fouling
- Enhancing Feelings of Safety and Community Engagement

Getting to the heart of communities - Sunderland City Council

The Safer Sunderland Partnership - Sunderland City Council



Culture START **SUNDERLAND CULTURE**

Winter SPARKS

Come and join our FREE Winter Sparks Creative Workshops!

Monday 23 February 2026	Friday 27 February 2026
10am - 12noon	10am - 12noon
Create & Play a Musical Instrument	Painting Magical Landscapes
Explore your creative skills as we make, decorate and play your own unique instrument using recycled materials, with artist Gary Bowden.	Join artist Elizabeth Kane as you use paints and pens to dream up your own vivid landscape picture in this fun session. Wear messy clothes!

Who can book?
Suitable for children aged 5-12 years old (children under 7 should have an adult stay to help)

Where is it held?
Building Blocks Day Centre, 20 Victoria Rd, Washington NE37 2SS

How do I book?
Sessions are FREE but must be booked in advance as spaces are limited.

Book online [here](https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/88WinterSparks)
sunderlandculture.org.uk/88WinterSparks


Sunderland City Council
Supported by Washington Area Committee


BBDC
Building Blocks Day Centre


Winter Sparks is part of Culture Start, an exciting programme designed to help children and young people in Sunderland take part in free creative and cultural events.


ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND
 Exnec Fairbairn
 SUNDERLAND CITY COUNCIL
 Gillian Dickson
 University of Sunderland
 MAC Sunderland

Sunderland Culture is a Registered Charity, no 1184073









THE BOX @ BBDC

FEBRUARY HALF TERM
27th February
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Join us here at Building Blocks Day Centre with Troy Baker from The Box to take part in our half term sessions. With thanks to Washington Area Committee, we're able to run 16 FREE sessions over the school holidays until May 2026. Sessions are suitable for all aged 11-19 and will include basic training, nutrition and wellness, mental health support, and key messages from current programmes like Knives Down Gloves Up and Be Kind Anti-Bullying. Each session can be attended on its own, and you're welcome to come to as many as you like. Every session also includes snacks and drinks.

BOOK NOW

www.buildingblocksdaycentre.co.uk

Sunderland City Council
Supported by

World Book Day Costume Exchange

Donate from Monday 2 February
Collect from Monday 23 February

Sharing stories, sharing costumes! Join our free World Book Day costume swap at Houghton & Washington Libraries.

Do you have old costumes that have been outgrown or are gathering dust? Drop them at our libraries and choose another to re-home!

All sizes welcome!
Items to be clean and in good condition.

