



USWORTH COLLIERY

Weekly Newsletter



9th October 2026

ATTENDANCE TO CELEBRATE THIS WEEK

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

Base Yellow	96.43%
3BB	97.27%
4GS	98.56%

Only three classes made it into the green zone this week for attendance.

Congratulations go to **4GS** - winners of the attendance trophy for the second week running with attendance of **98.56%** which is also an improvement on their score last week

Whole school attendance this week was **92.36%**

Remember every school day counts



🚀 YEAR 5 REACH FOR THE STARS!

On Monday, Year 5 had an amazing day at Sunderland Culture House, taking part in a series of exciting workshops exploring the links between space, the ocean and art. They worked with Space for a Better World and Ocean Culture, where they had the opportunity to meet an astronaut, ask questions and discover how closely our oceans and space are connected. To start the day, they headed outside to create artwork using their bodies, working together to create the Moon and stars. 🌙 ★ The children also became artists, creating their own artwork inspired by space and our planet. Even more excitingly, some of their artwork will be sewn into an astronaut suit, while other pieces will be displayed on a billboard in Piccadilly Circus, London! 🌍 🚀 It was a brilliant day of creativity, curiosity and inspiration, and a fantastic reminder that big dreams really can start with small steps! ★



WHO HAS BEEN IN MY OFFICE THIS WEEK?

Kaleb in 1JB came to tell me about how resilient he had been in explore time. He had worked so hard to complete a very tricky puzzle. He worked on his own but when others came to see what he was doing he let them help him. but when they gave up or lost interest, Kaleb continued on until the whole puzzle was finished. Miss Brown was so proud of him. Well done Kaleb!

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR IS HERE!

From Thursday 8th October to Wednesday 14th October, we will be holding our Scholastic Book Fair in school. The Book Fair will be open each day from 3:15pm–3:45pm. On Wednesday 14th October, it will also be open during Parents' Evening, giving families extra time to browse and buy books.

The Book Fair is a fantastic opportunity to discover exciting new authors, genres and stories. Every book purchased also helps us to earn FREE BOOKS for our school!

We look forward to seeing you there! 📖

TEACHER/CARER PARENT MEETINGS NEXT WEEK

We are looking forward to seeing you all on Wednesday afternoon and after school next week for our Autumn Term Parent and Carer Teacher Meetings.

These meetings will provide an opportunity for you to chat with your child's teacher and find out how they are settling into their new class, if you have not already had the chance to do so. It will also be an opportunity to have a look at their work so far this year.

Appointments have been booked through the Arbor app, and you should have received a notification confirming your appointment time. If you have not already booked an appointment some slots are still available to book on the app.

Base staff will be contacting parent and carers directly to arrange appointments.

We look forward to meeting with you.



SHOW RACISM THE RED CARD DAY THIS FRIDAY!

Remember that this Friday coming (16th October), we are inviting all children and staff to wear something red to support **Show Racism the Red Card Day**. This important event helps raise awareness of racism and promotes kindness, respect and equality for everyone.

By taking part, we can help teach our children the importance of celebrating diversity, challenging discrimination and creating a school community where everyone feels valued, included and safe. We look forward to seeing a sea of red as we stand together against racism.

POLITE REMINDER ABOUT DROPPING OF AND PICKING UP CHILDREN BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL

We kindly ask all parents and carers to be mindful of others when waiting at the school gates at the beginning and end of the school day.

To help ensure that everyone can enter and leave the site safely, please avoid gathering directly in front of gate entrances and keep pathways clear for families, children and those using pushchairs.

We would also like to remind everyone that smoking and vaping should not take place at the school gates or on school grounds.

We are proud of our school community and appreciate your support in helping to create a welcoming, safe and respectful environment for all. Thank you for your cooperation.

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
Monday 12th/Tuesday 13 th October 2026	Year 6 Holy Island	6CS and 6JW	Mon 5th Oct
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

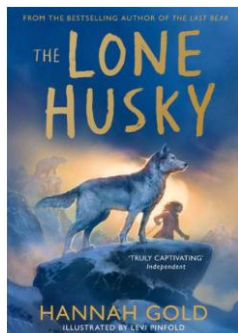
We can give your unwanted furniture a new home

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Washington Home and Fashion Store on
01133 996430

BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION INITIATIVE

British Heart Foundation have contacted school to ask us to share an upcoming initiative to support their charity. They are hoping to reach as many local families as possible and give you the opportunity to support the British Heart Foundation if you would like to. Please see the flyer at the bottom of this newsletter for more information



RECOMMENDED READS AND NEW RELEASES

THE LONE HUSKY BY HANNAH GOLD

April Wood is no stranger to adventure. After all, she lives in the Arctic and her best friend is a polar bear. But when April finds herself volunteering for the Polar Race - a long-distance dog sled race across the frozen tundra - even she wonders if this may be an adventure too far. April will need all the help she can get if she's to make it to the finish line. And competition is fierce - with experienced dog sledders, including new boy Finn, who will go to any lengths to win.

But April has something the other teams don't: Blaze, a solitary husky with a troubled past, who may just prove to be her secret weapon...

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

AUTUMN TERM DATES

Monday 12 th October	Y5/6 STEM Roadshow in school
Monday 12 th October	Y6 Lindisfarne
Tuesday 13 th October	Y6 Lindisfarne
Wednesday 14 th October	Parents Afternoon/Evening
Friday 16 th October	Show Racism the Red Card Day
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.
Monday 9 th November	EYFS Art Studio Visit
Friday 13th November	Children In Need
Monday 16 th November	EYFS Art Studio Visit
Wednesday 18 th November	RLC Intofilm Festival
Friday 20 th November	EYFS Art Studio Visit
Monday 23 rd November	Y6 YDAP Sunderland Drug and Alcohol Talk
Wednesday 25 th November	RAW Intofilm Festival
Thursday 26 th November	EYFS Intergenerational Visit to Care Home
Friday 27 th November	STEM/Science Family Moring (9:30am -11am)
Monday 30 th November	EYFS Art Studio Visit
Wednesday 11 th 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 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 16 th December	Christmas Fair
Thursday 17 th December	School Christmas Dinner
Thursday 17 th 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 6CS

2nd 3RL

3rd RAW

PATHWAY TO... Mechanic

This week, our Pathway to... feature explores the exciting career of a mechanic. Mechanics use their problem-solving skills to find out what is wrong with cars and other vehicles, repair them and help keep people safe on the road. They need to be practical, patient and good at working as part of a team. Could fixing, designing and understanding how things work be part of your future pathway?

Mechanic



What do they do?

Mechanics look after vehicles, fixing and maintaining them so they are safe and working properly. They diagnose problems, replace parts, carry out servicing and make sure vehicles are ready to go.



Why choose this career?

- ✓ You get to work with your hands and solve real problems.
- ✓ Every day is different – you might be working on cars, vans, trucks or even specialist vehicles.
- ✓ It's a rewarding job knowing you've helped someone get back on the road.



The journey to get there



1. GCSEs

Get good grades in Maths, English and Science.



2. A Levels (or equivalent)

Keep building your knowledge and confidence.



3. College or Apprenticeship

Learn on the job and build your skills and experience.



4. Qualified Mechanic

Complete your qualifications and get qualified (e.g. Level 2 or 3).



Did you know?

- There are different types of mechanics – car, motorcycle, HGV, marine, agricultural and more!
- Many mechanics go on to become master technicians, service managers or even start their own garage.
- The motor industry is always changing, with new technology like electric and hybrid vehicles creating exciting opportunities.

New technology.
New skills.
Brighter futures!



What you need

- ✓ Good GCSEs (especially Maths, English and Science) – or equivalent qualifications.
- ✓ A keen interest in how things work and a problem-solving mind.
- ✓ Practical skills and hand-eye coordination (you'll learn these on the job and through training).
- ✓ A relevant college course or apprenticeship to gain the right qualifications.
- ✓ A full driving licence can be helpful (but not always essential).



Skills you'll need



Problem solving

Work out what's wrong and find the best solution.



Attention to detail

Spot small issues that can make a big difference.



Teamwork

Work with others, especially in garages and workshops.



Practical skills

Use tools and equipment safely and correctly.



Patience

Take your time and stay calm when things are tricky.



Fix
Learn
Grow

Small steps, big journeys...

could you be our next mechanic?

Mrs Alison Forster

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Accreditation –
Supportive Level

**Speech and
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We are a
**Problem-solving
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Enriching maths

Eco-Schools
March
2022-2023



**GOLD
Active
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**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



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

NOTICES



**British Heart
Foundation**

Fast and free collection for all the big stuff

Got furniture you no longer need?

Your local British Heart Foundation Washington Home and Fashion Store can collect them for free, straight from your home.

Simply book online at bhf.org.uk/collection or call 01133 996430 and our friendly team will take care of the rest.

Your donations help fund lifesaving research.

When you donate unwanted items like beds or sofas, you're doing more than clearing space at home.

Every item sold helps fund lifesaving research into cardiovascular disease - that affects 7.6 million people in the UK today. Together, we're helping to find new ways to prevent, treat, and even cure these conditions, keeping families together for longer.

Discover the joy of donating it.



Registered with
**FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR**

Reg charity nos. 225971 in England & Wales, SC039426 in Scotland, & 1295 in the Isle of Man.

