



'With God, all things are possible' – Matthew 19:26

MARCH 2026

Easter Celebrations



Key Dates

APRIL

2nd School closes for Easter Holiday's
(3.20pm)

20th School re-opens for all pupils

MAY

4th School closed for May Bank Holiday

w/c 11th SATS Week*

19th Class Photographs*

22nd School closes for Spring Half Term
(3.20pm)

JUNE

10th Year 6 Leavers Service at Durham
Cathedral (*not for parents*)

JULY

1st Year 6 to Nissan Monozukuri*

3rd Durham Johnston Transition Day

w/c 6th Sports Week*

16th Year 6 Leavers Service @ All Saints
Church (*parents invited to attend*)

17th School closes for Summer Holiday's
(3.20pm)

***More information to follow**

Spring has brought a wonderful sense of celebration to our school as we marked the Easter season together. The children have taken part in a range of exciting activities, reflecting both the joy and meaning of this special time of year.

Year 5 played a special role in leading our Easter church service. They delivered a meaningful and engaging service, helping everyone reflect on the story of Easter.

One of the highlights has been our Easter Card Competition, where pupils across all year groups showcased their creativity and artistic talents. We were delighted by the thoughtful designs and vibrant colours, making it very difficult to choose winners! Well done to those who won!

To round off the celebrations, pupils enjoyed a special Easter lunch, which brought the whole school community together. It was a lovely opportunity to share good food and good company in a joyful atmosphere.

We are very proud of how our pupils have embraced the spirit of Easter, showing creativity, respect, and a strong sense of community.

Spotlight on Safeguarding - Online Safety



On 16th February 2026, a new website was launched to support families and encourage regular conversations about what children are seeing online, asking simple questions, like "who shared this" and "why?". Based on parents' main concerns and needs, it provides: tips for parents' conversations with their children, actions to support each stage of their child's life and parental controls information.

It is also signposting parents' to trusted resources from charities and third parties, where they can access other forms of support (like speaking to an expert).

The website will continue to grow and be developed this year, supporting the [Online Safety Act](#) and wider government aims.

Please visit [Kids online safety](#) for more information and resources.

Innovation Excellence: The Archeobots Take Sunderland!



We are bursting with pride to announce that our Year 6 Lego League team, the Archeobots, took home the prestigious **Innovation Award** at the Sunderland Regional Finals earlier this month. After a season of intense dedication and countless hours of teamwork, their creativity and technical skill shone through in a very competitive field.

The Challenge: Bridging the Past and Future - The Lego League isn't just about "playing with bricks." The team was tasked with identifying a real-world problem faced by archaeologists and designing a cutting-edge solution. The Archeobots didn't take this lightly. Their journey included: expert research to understand the 'pain points' of modern excavations, fieldwork which included a visit to the Archaeology Museum in Durham and Professional Pitching, presenting their ideas to a real-world Durham University Archaeologist to gain expert feedback.

Introducing: 'The Driamera' - The star of the show was their original invention: 'The Driamera'. The team designed a 3D model of this innovative tool, which impressed the judges with its potential to change how artefacts are documented.

The judges specifically noted the Archeobots' thorough research and impeccable organisation - traits that are difficult to master at any age, let alone in Year 6!

Why This Matters - Beyond the trophy, this season has taught the students the value of the "Iterative Process" - failing, fixing, and flourishing. They worked as a cohesive unit, proving that when we combine technology with history, the possibilities are endless!

Congratulations to The Archeobots! Your hard work truly built something special.



World Book Day



On Thursday 5th March, the children enjoyed a range of book related activities to celebrate World Book Day; this included peer reading, quizzes and of course dressing up as a word of their choice. We were so impressed with the wide range of vocabulary that had been thought of! A particular highlight was a visit from local author Rachel Porter who shared her book 'Bandit's Great Escape' with the children.

We were delighted to welcome Rachel back to school for a special book signing event the following week. This was a fantastic opportunity for our students to meet a real writer and get their book personally signed. Events like this help inspire a love of reading, creativity and imagination in our young people. We're proud to support local talent and give our pupils the chance to connect with authors from our own community. Thank you to everyone who came along!

Community Buzz

Grace Church Newton Hall Easter Club

Grace Church are running a 2-day holiday club on 9th and 10th April investigating Luke's account of Jesus' life. Children will need to bring a packed lunch and there will be a parent café from 2-3pm each day. Sessions cost £3 per day per child or £5 for both days per child.

To book your place visit: gracechurchnewtonhall.org

Easter Fun and Food Tickets

Information regarding the Easter Fund and Food programme has been sent to parents whose children are in receipt of Free School Meals. This programme offers fully funded places for children to take part in arts/crafts, outdoor adventures, sports and more. Please check your emails for more information.

Julia Donaldson & Sara Ogilvie's 'Gozzle' at Washington Wetlands

This Spring, Washington Wetlands are teaming up with Macmillan Children's Books to explore the wonderful world of wetlands with Gozzle the gosling, from Julia Donaldson and Sara Ogilvie's freshly hatched picture book. Take a look at what's going on here: <https://www.wwt.org.uk/wetland-centres/washington/whats-on/events>

Bradley Lowery Foundation Football Clubs

The BLF are running Football Camps for children aged 5-14 during the Easter holidays at East Durham College. Dates for Easter are 7th, 8th, 9th, 14th, 15th and 16th April. Priced at £20 per day or £50 for 3 days. Participants will need indoor and outdoor footwear and a packed lunch. Spaces for the camp can be purchased at <https://bradleyloweryfoundation.com/shop/>



Red, wacky, and wonderful—our school unites to make a difference for Comic Relief!

Our school came together in a fantastic show of creativity and generosity to support Comic Relief this year. Pupils embraced the spirit of the day by wearing red and showcasing an array of wonderfully wild and crazy hairstyles. Thanks to everyone's participation and donations, we are proud to announce that we raised an amazing £167.50 for Comic Relief. This contribution will help support important projects and make a positive difference to people's lives.

Attendance matters...every school day counts!

March Attendance

Class 3M	97%
Class 3N	92.6%
Class 4S	97.4%
Class 4W	96.4%
Class 5B	95%
Class 5D	96.1%
Class 6H	96.8%
Class 6W	95.6%

