



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

JANUARY 2026

Key Dates

FEBRUARY

- 9th Children's Mental Health Week
- 10th Safer Internet Day
- 20th School closes for February Half Term (3.20pm)

MARCH

- 2nd School re-opens for all pupils
- 5th World Book Day*
- 9th Science Week
- 10th Lego League Regional Tournament
- 20th Red Nose Day*
- w/c 23rd Parent's Evening's*

APRIL

- 2nd Easter Service @ All Saints Church 9.30am
(Year 5 parents invited to attend)
- 2nd School closes for Easter Holiday's (3.20pm)
- 20th School re-opens for all pupils

***More information follow**

Online Safety Starts at Home

This month, we are reminding Parents/Carers to speak to their children about their use of WhatsApp.

The legal age for using WhatsApp is 13; this information can be found in the Terms and Conditions of WhatsApp

https://faq.whatsapp.com/240694875565320/?helpref=uf_share.

As a school, we continue to educate and remind all children of the implications of using WhatsApp and social media apps.

For more information on how to keep your child safe on WhatsApp please visit the following website:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/apps-and-platforms/social-media/whatsapp/>



Happy New Year & Welcome Back!

Welcome back! We hope all of our children and families enjoyed a happy, restful Christmas and a wonderful start to the new year. It has been lovely welcoming the children back to school and seeing their smiles, energy and enthusiasm to learn once again.

The new term is already full of exciting learning, new challenges and plenty of opportunities and we're looking forward to a great few months ahead together.



Punctuality

We have noticed an increase in children arriving at school after the gates have closed. School starts at 8.50am sharp; your child will receive a late mark if they arrive after 8.55am.

Every minute of school your child misses adds up and can affect their long-term learning. The register closes at 9.15am. If your child arrives after this time, they will receive an unauthorised absence mark and this will affect your child's overall attendance. 10 unauthorised absences may result in a Fixed Penalty Notice.

We would appreciate your support in this matter.

January Attendance

Attendance matters...every school day counts!

Class 3M	98.1%
Class 3N	97.2%
Class 4S	97.6%
Class 4W	96.8%
Class 5B	95.3%
Class 5D	96.3%
Class 6H	96.9%
Class 6W	96.8%



Spotlight on Safeguarding - Piece of Mind



This month, the Piece of Mind team have been in school carrying out sessions with our Year 3's with a focus on 'Managing Friendships'. They have learnt about what makes a good friend, emotions, empathy and positive ways to resolve conflict. More information from the Piece of Mind team can be found at <https://durham.gov.uk/familiesmentalhealth>

Things to Remember!

Early Collection / Appointments – Where possible, appointments should be made outside of school hours. If your child will be leaving school during the day, you **must** give the office prior notice. If you have not told us, you will be collecting your child early, and you come after 3pm when worship has started, you may not be able to take them.

Parent Pay - Parents are reminded that school dinners should be paid for in advance via Parent Pay. Reminders via text, letters and/or phone calls home may be deemed appropriate if outstanding balances remain. Durham County Council's advice is to refer any balances exceeding £55 for debt procedures to be carried out. We would appreciate your assistance to avoid this happening, but if you are experiencing any difficulty, please contact Miss Wilson in confidence so that we can work together to avoid this situation.

Water Bottles - Please ensure your child brings their named water bottle into school every day.

Packed Lunches - Parents of pupils who bring packed lunches to school are reminded that, in the interest of health and safety of all children, this is a **nut-free school**. We do not allow sweets, nuts or flavoured fizzy drinks and please consider alternatives to crisps and chocolate type bars.

Parking - Please remember to park courteously allowing local residents to enter and leave their homes particularly during pick up and drop of times. Thank you.

Uniform - Please remember to name all school uniform and clothing to ensure it is returned if lost. Thank you.

Update your Emergency Contact Details - Have you moved house, changed your mobile number or wish to update your child's emergency contacts? Please inform the school office via a 'Changes Form' available on the school website, via email to bluecoat@durhamlearning.net or by telephone. Thank you.

Community Buzz

Messy Church @ All Saints Church

The next Messy Church sessions will take place on: 7th February 4pm, 7th March 4pm and 3rd April 10am at All Saints Church. Explore a bible story and take part in activities, crafts, songs and more.

WAVES Parent and Carer Support Group

Do you care for a child or young person with emotional or mental health difficulties? This support group is available for any parents/carers supporting a child or young person with emotional or mental health struggles including autism and ADHD. Please see the leaflet attached.

Durham Police Park Safe Initiative

Park Safe is a new initiative by Durham Police to try and address parking issues around school. You may have noticed signs that have been displayed outside of Blue Coat. Park Safe allows the public to identify a vehicle parked dangerously or inconsiderately and film it on their mobile phone ensuring they capture the registration number. Signage around the school includes a QR code. Using the phone camera on the QR code will link to a website where the footage can be uploaded.

THRIVE offering Free Swimming Lessons for Year 5 & 6

Durham County Council are offering free top-up swimming lessons this February half term for Year 5 & 6 who have not yet meeting the National Curriculum standards. Please see the attached leaflet.

County Durham Libraries – Folly & Bird Workshop

Join Fiona McKeown at Newton Hall Library on Monday 23rd February from 10am – 12pm for a 'Folly and Bird' Book Craft Workshop as part of the Festival of Local Authors. Free to attend. Call 03000 269 503 to book your place.

Bradley Lowery Foundation Football Camp

The Bradley Lowery Foundation run Football Camps, in association with Jermain Defoe, during the holidays for children ages 5-14. The camps are run at East Durham College, Peterlee with the support of FA trained coaches, from 9.30am - 3.30pm. The camp days for February are - 24th, 25th and 26th February. Spaces for the camp can be purchased <https://bradleyloweryfoundation.com/shop/>

Simply Sport February Half Term Club

Fun filled holiday clubs for every child! A mix of sports & activities every day including arts & crafts, lego, films and just dance. Book at www.simplysportltd.co.uk

Durham High School – Year 6 Science Sparks

Durham High School are delighted to invite children in Year 6 to their upcoming Science Sparks sessions offering a series of exciting, hands-on science workshops. Taking place Thursday 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th March from 4-5pm. Free to attend. Places can be booked [here](#).