



The Drive Community Primary School

Mrs R Farren, Head Teacher
The Drive, Felling, Gateshead, NE10 0PY
Tel: (0191) 421 0390
www.thedriveprimary.org

Friday 5th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Website Updates – what has been uploaded this week?

All Friday letters and updates (not linked to specific areas: Safeguarding, Online Safety etc.), will be published in either: **Calendar – Read More – Friday Letters**

Friday Letter 5th September 2025

<https://thedriveprimary.ovw8.juniperwebsites.co.uk/>

Welcome Back!

We are absolutely delighted to welcome you and your children back to school! It has been wonderful to see their smiling faces, hear their laughter, and witness their enthusiasm for learning. We are incredibly proud of how well they've settled back in—they've shown resilience, kindness, and a real eagerness to grow. They truly are a credit to you.

As always, we want to remind you that our support doesn't stop at the classroom door. We're here for you too. This term, we're excited to offer a series of Parent Support Groups, which are now in the diary and will be published on the Friday Letter nearer the time of these events. These sessions are designed to help you feel confident and supported in your parenting journey, and will include:

- Building Independence in Children
- Homework Support Strategies and Technology at Home
- Routines and Behaviour Support
- Online Safety

We know that parenting can be both rewarding and challenging, and we want you to know that you're not alone. Whether it's a quick chat, a bit of advice, or a deeper conversation, we're here to support you as much as we support your children.

Thank you for being such an important part of our school community. We're looking forward to a fantastic term ahead!

Safeguarding at The Drive

The Drive Primary School is committed to ensuring the welfare and safety of all the children in our school. We believe that pupils have the right to learn in a supportive, caring, and safe environment where everyone is respected and valued. Safeguarding is about ensuring that everyone is safe from harm - safe from all forms of bullying; safe from people who could abuse; safe from discrimination or harassment, and that we all feel safe in our environment.

Staff are alerted to the signs of abuse (physical, emotional, sexual and neglect) and maltreatment and will follow our procedures to ensure that children receive effective support, protection, and justice. Serious concerns will always be passed to Children's Services.

The new Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy will be published on the website in the next few weeks when it has been ratified by our Governors. Copies will be available in the vestibule and emailed to all families. A child friendly policy will also be sent out with all the children for you to read with them.

If you are ever concerned about the safety or well-being of someone at our school, please talk to one of the school's Designated Safeguarding Leads:





The Drive Community Primary School

Mrs R Farren, Head Teacher
The Drive, Felling, Gateshead, NE10 0PY
Tel: (0191) 421 0390
www.thedriveprimary.org

Designated Safeguarding Lead- Mrs R Farren

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads - Mrs K Cuthbertson, Mrs E Graham, and Mrs E Jackson

Safeguarding Governor – Mrs S Duff (Chair) and Ms N Johnson

Attendance Update

We're off to a decent start this term, and we want to say a big well done to all the children who are showing up each day ready to learn, grow, and shine! Good attendance is key to success in school, and we're so proud of the commitment our pupils—and their families—are showing.

Starting next week, we'll be launching our Attendance League! Each class will be competing to achieve the highest weekly attendance, and the winning class at the end of each term will receive a special treat to celebrate their efforts.

Let's work together to make every school day count. Whether it's a busy morning or a sleepy start, every day in school is a step forward—and we're here to support you in making that happen.

Thank you for helping us build a strong, positive school community where every child can thrive!

Have a lovely weekend – the children will be tired and ready for a relax!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs R Farren
Head Teacher

Dates for the Diary (as they stand) – dates will be added to and possibly changes made. Keep an eye on our website calendar also.

Just a reminder, a 'C' will feature next to an event that requires parent/carer consent. PLEASE NOTE, CONSENT IS NOW GIVEN ON PARENT PAY www.parentpay.com. All letters can be found in Letters and Flyer on our school website.

<https://www.thedriveprimary.co.uk/letter-and-flyers/>

Items highlighted in yellow are parent/carer events.

Autumn Term 1 2025 – 8 week half term	
Monday 8 th September	YEAR 6 Secondary School Admission Letters distributed – DEADLINE 31st October. If anyone needs any support with these applications, please contact Mrs Ellis and she will help!
	Primary School Admission Letters distributed (Nursery to Reception Class) – DEADLINE 15th January 2026. If anyone needs any support with these applications, please contact Mrs Ellis and she will help!
Monday 15 th September	International Day of Democracy Any potential Drive Ministers and children wanting to be on the School Council will be given the opportunity to present to the school and an 'official' Polling Station will be set up this week for children to make their votes – exciting times.
Tuesday 16 th September	School Photo Day
Wednesday 17 th September	Building Independence – Q&A with Steering Group (parents and Mrs Farren) Separate letter issued 05.09.25
Monday 22 nd September	Meet the Teacher – Year 1 9am in the hall
Monday 22 nd September	Lockdown Assembly for the children



Artsmark
Gold Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England





The Drive Community Primary School

Mrs R Farren, Head Teacher
The Drive, Felling, Gateshead, NE10 0PY
Tel: (0191) 421 0390
www.thedriveprimary.org

	Please speak to a member of staff if you are worried about the format of this assembly or our school lockdown procedures. We make this assembly very child friendly, so the children are as calm as possible when we complete a drill.
Tuesday 23rd September	Meet the Teacher – Year 6 9am in the hall
Wednesday 24th September	Meet the Teacher – Year 2 9am in the hall
	Meet the Teacher – Year 3 2:15pm – please come to the electronic gates and then round to the hall.
Thursday 25th September	Meet the Teacher – Year 5 9am in the hall
Friday 26th September	Meet the Teacher – Year 4 9am in the hall
Monday 29th September	Homework and Technology Support Session – all welcome, but mainly aimed at Year 3 – 6 Parent/Carers 2:30pm - please come to the electronic gates and then round to the hall.
Wednesday 1st October	Year 6 Trip - Classification workshop (Science) at Hancock C
Thursday 2nd October	National Poetry Day
Wednesday 8th October	Year 6 Trip - StemFest at Vertu Motors Arena C
Wednesday 22nd October	Cyber Prevent Workshop - KS2
Friday 24th October	Break up for Half Term
Autumn Term 2 2025 – 7 week half term	
Monday 3rd November	Return to school after Half Term
Week beginning 10th November	Anti-bullying Week
Friday 14th November	Children in Need
Friday 28th November	Non-Uniform Day – Fayre donations
Monday 1st December and Tuesday 2nd December	Parent/Carer Consultation Evenings Nursery, Reception, Year 1, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5, and Year 6
Wednesday 3rd December and Thursday 4th December	Parent/Carer Consultation Evenings Year 2
Friday 5th December	Christmas Fayre
Tuesday 9th December	Attendance Celebration The class with the most points will take part in this event.
	Nursery and Reception Nativity/sing along PM
Wednesday 10th December	KS1 Nativity PM
Thursday 11th December	KS2 Christmas Celebration PM at St Mary's Church
Monday 15th December	Nursery and Reception Christmas Party
Tuesday 16th December	Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Party
Wednesday 17th December	Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas Party
Thursday 18th December	Year 5 and Year 6 Christmas Party
	Christmas Windows After school
Friday 19th December	Christmas Jumper Day
	Break up for Christmas
Spring Term 1 2026 – 7 week half term	
Monday 5th January	INSET Day - children are not in.
Tuesday 6th January	Children return to school



Artsmark
Gold Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England

