



The Drive Community Primary School

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

Friday 8th May 2026

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 8th May 2026

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

Year 5 Trip

Year 5 visited the Victoria Tunnels this week and had an absolutely tremendous time. The children were full of knowledge and engaged exceptionally well with the staff running the visit. Mrs Sinclair received several comments praising how curious, enthusiastic, and knowledgeable the children were throughout the experience. For some pupils, the visit also involved facing personal fears. The tunnels can be dark, narrow, and quite unnerving, and are not for everyone. It was fantastic to see children showing such resilience and bravery in stepping outside of their comfort zones.

This was another highly successful learning experience for our children and one that staff believe will stay with them for a long time. One child even commented that it was *“the best trip they had ever been on!”*

Well done, Year 5.

If anyone is interested in visiting the Victoria Tunnels, the link is included below.

[Tunnel Tours – Ouseburn Trust](#)

Showing Respect

We understand that, as parents and carers, you are passionate advocates for your children. When concerns arise, emotions can understandably run high, and we recognise that these situations may feel worrying or frustrating. Our staff work hard every day to support all children and always aim to act in their best interests. There are times when full information may not be immediately available, and in these situations, it is important that staff are given the opportunity to investigate thoroughly and gather all the facts before responding.

We kindly ask that, even when emotions are high, conversations with school staff remain respectful and patient. Open and constructive communication helps us work together more effectively and ensures the best possible outcomes for children. Speaking to one another in the way we would all wish to be spoken to sets a positive example and supports strong home–school relationships.

Thank you for your continued cooperation, understanding, and support. We value working in partnership with you and appreciate your trust in our staff and processes.

A Message About SATs

As we approach SATs week, we want to remind everyone that the most important thing we ask of our children is simply to do their best. SATs are just one small part of their school journey, and they do not define who they are. We are incredibly proud of each and every child, whatever the outcomes may be.

To help children feel calm and ready, we encourage a good night’s sleep on Sunday evening and a relaxed start to the week.

We will be offering breakfast at school on Monday morning, and children are very welcome to join us if they would like a comfortable, positive start to the day.

Thank you for your continued support. Together, we will help the children approach the week with confidence and reassurance.



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Edberts House

A lovely mum has been speaking very positively about the fantastic Edberts Community House – a welcoming space where children, parents, and carers can enjoy a real home-from-home feel. Visitors can relax with a cup of tea, enjoy a snack, and have a friendly natter with others from the community.

This wonderful space acts as a true community hub and offers a safe, supportive environment for families. It is a fantastic resource and one that would benefit from wider awareness.

If you think this would be helpful for your family, Edberts House is located on the High Lanes Estate in Heworth. The 51 and 52 buses stop right outside the entrance to the estate, making it easy to access.

[Edberts House - Gateshead Council](#)

Attendance – Summer League and attendance update. Please note, we work a week behind due to the Friday marks not being populated before the Friday Letter is issued.

0 points if attendance is below 96%

1 point awarded for weekly attendance figures between 96% - 97.5%

2 points awarded for weekly attendance figures between 97.6% - 98.9%

3 points awarded for weekly attendance figures between 99% - 100%

Seems impossible, but no change to the percentages this week. Points awarded to Reception, Year 3 and Year 5 again this week. Well done!

Thank you for your cooperation as we continue to work together to support every child's attendance and wellbeing.

Teams	Total Points	Overall Weekly Attendance
Nursery	0	94.4% =
Reception	3	97.2% =
Year 1	0	95.1% =
Year 2	0	95.4% =
Year 3	3	96.3% =
Year 4	0	92.6% =
Year 5	3	96.4% =
Year 6	0	92.6% =

Have a lovely weekend and see you all next week.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs R Farren
Head Teacher



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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.

Please note, dates and times of events are also on Class DOJO in the Calendar and on our school website.

Summer Term 1 2026 – 5 week half term	
Monday 11 th May – Thursday 14 th May	Year 6 SATS week
Monday 11 th May	Year 3 Trip – Arbeia Letter received 28.04.26
Tuesday 12 th May	Year 4/5 Gateshead Girls United C More details to follow. Children taking part, will receive a letter.
Thursday 14 th May	Focus Day: IntoUniversity - Year 5 – Archaeology C
Tuesday 19 th May	Year 5/6 Countdown Cricket C More details to follow. Children taking part, will receive a letter.
	Year 5/6 Countdown Cricket Can children please all be in their school uniform and leavers hoodies.
Thursday 21 st May	Year 6 Leavers Photos Can children please all be in their school uniform and leavers hoodies.
Summer Term 2 2026 – 7 week half term	
Friday 22 nd May	Break up for Half Term
Monday 1 st May	Children return from Half Term
Monday 1 st June – Friday 12 th June	Year 4 Multiplication Checks
Week beginning Monday 8 th June	Year 1 Phonic Screening Checks
Monday 8 th June	Year 5/6 Countdown Cricket More details to follow. Children taking part, will receive a letter.
Monday 9 th June	Year 6 - IntoUniversity Transition Session More details to follow
Wednesday 10 th June – Friday 12 th June	Year 6 Residential to Robinwood
Thursday 18 th June	Year 1 Trip – Richardson Dees Park Letter received 28.04.26
Tuesday 23 rd June	Sports Day More details to follow
Wednesday 24 th June	Year 3/4 Countdown Cricket ore details to follow. Children taking part, will receive a letter.
Thursday 25 th June	Year 4 - Careers in Action – IntoUniversity
Thursday 2 nd July	Summer Fayre More details to follow
Friday 3 rd July	Occasional Day Children not in school
Monday 6 th July and Tuesday 7 th July	Parent/Carer Consultation Evenings Nursery, Year 1, 3, 4, 5 More details to follow



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Tuesday 7 th July and Wednesday 8 th July	Parent/Carer Consultation Evening Year 6 More details to follow
Wednesday 8 th July	Parent/Carer Consultation Evening Year 2 More details to follow
Wednesday 15 th July	Shine Awards Evening More details to follow
Thursday 16 th July	Year 6 Leavers Assembly
Friday 17 th July	Break up for Summer
Monday 31 st August	Bank Holiday Children not in school
Tuesday 1 st September	INSET Day Children not in school
Wednesday 2 nd September	Children return from the Summer Break



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