



The Drive Community Primary School

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

Friday 24th April 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 24th April 2026

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

Year 5 Trip - What is a University?

This Year 5 trip gave pupils the opportunity to explore what life might look like after school and to begin thinking about their future aspirations. The day started by setting expectations, followed by a range of fun ice-breaker activities to help everyone feel confident and comfortable.

Our children then learned about different aspects of university life, including student accommodation, managing bills and finances, and the independence that comes with possibly living away from home. They also took part in small-group sessions exploring the wide range of university courses available, linked to what they may be interested in doing when they are older.

Did you know there are around 50,000 university courses to choose from across the UK? (Thank you to Adele for that brilliant fact!)

Throughout the morning, pupils were respectful, engaged and excellent representatives of The Drive. The university staff were particularly impressed with their behaviour and enthusiasm.

A special well done to Ebony-Mae and Ethan, who were chosen by the university team as Stars of the Morning. A fantastic achievement — well done to everyone involved!

Year 6 Rounders

Despite very cold conditions, our team took part in the SSP's first ever rounders competition this week and represented the school brilliantly. The children demonstrated fantastic resilience and determination throughout, playing three matches in total – winning one, drawing one and narrowly losing one.

What stood out most was the excellent behaviour, teamwork and communication shown by everyone. These qualities led to some fantastic play, including several impressive home runs. The children supported one another throughout and showed great sportsmanship at all times.

A special well done to Buddy, who was our Star Player for outstanding effort and performance. We are incredibly proud of the whole team – a brilliant achievement in cold conditions!

Year 4 and 5 Beamish Residential

The children and cars were laden with all the essentials for this exciting and brand-new residential experience. The smiles on the children's faces as they set off were wonderful to see—even if a few of them were feeling a little nervous.

During their time away, the children walked miles, engaged enthusiastically in workshops and thoroughly enjoyed exploring the museum. Being able to continue exploring after the museum had closed was a particular treat and a real privilege. Despite a late night followed by an early morning, the children managed being away from home exceptionally well and had enough rest to take on Friday with energy and enthusiasm.

A huge thank you goes to Miss Seddon and Mrs Sinclair for organising such a fantastic experience, and to all the staff who accompanied the children—without whom this trip simply wouldn't have been possible. Finally, thank you to you, our families, for your continued support and for giving your children such a valuable experience at a young age. They have made lasting memories, developed resilience, and shown just how capable they are. What a hoot and what a joy it truly was!



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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%

Points awarded to Reception, Year 3 and Year 5 and start our Summer League off with 1 point. Well done those teams and keep this up. You have to be IN to WIN!

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	1	97.2%
Year 1	0	95.1%
Year 2	0	93.2%
Year 3	1	96.3%
Year 4	0	92.6%
Year 5	1	96.4%
Year 6	0	92.5%

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.

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

Monday 4 th May	Bank Holiday Monday
Tuesday 5 th May	Year 3 and 4 Tennis C More details to follow. Children taking part, will receive a letter.
Wednesday 6 th May	Nursery - Gateshead Library in – Bookstart
Thursday 7 th May	Nursery Closed for Elections (being used as a polling station) Year 5 Trip – Victoria Tunnels More details to follow
Monday 11 th May – Thursday 14 th May	Year 6 SATS week
Monday 11 th May	Year 3 Trip – Arbeia
Tuesday 12 th May	Year 4/5 Gateshead Girls United C More details to follow. Children taking part, will receive a letter.



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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.
Friday 22 nd May	Break up for Half Term



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