



The Drive Community Primary School

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

Friday 1st 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 1st May 2026

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

Speak up Gateshead Event

Three children from Year 5 visited the Civic Centre on Wednesday to represent our school.

Andrew very bravely spoke up and presented to a range of council staff, staff and pupils from other schools about the importance of caring for our world and the impact of climate change on our planet. He delivered his presentation with confidence, showed genuine passion, and fully engaged everyone in the room. I feel it's important to add that Andrew presented in the Council Chambers—a space that is large, formal, and, for many of us, quite intimidating. Nevertheless, he absolutely rose to the occasion and smashed it, even being likened to a much younger David Attenborough. We could not be prouder of him.

A huge thank you also to Thalia and Elise for accompanying Andrew, supporting him, and representing our school community so brilliantly.

I have many words to describe how proud this made us feel, but I will stick with just one: **OUTSTANDING!**

Polite Reminder

If an incident occurs in school, we kindly ask that parents and carers **contact school directly for support**, rather than approaching or messaging another parent if another child is involved.

While these situations are rare, receiving direct messages can sometimes be perceived as intimidating—particularly when the full context is not yet known—and may cause unnecessary discomfort for others.

As a parent myself, I fully understand how emotive situations involving our children can be. However, the most appropriate way to support them is by working together with school, modelling patience, understanding, kindness and helping them learn that actions can have consequences.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support. As always, if you need guidance, reassurance, or simply a listening ear, please know that we are here to help.

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 again this week. Well done!

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



Artsmark
Gold Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England





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

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.

| Summer Term 1 2026 – 5 week half term | |
|---|--|
| 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 Letter received 28.04.26 |
| 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 | |





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Sports Day date to follow as we are liaising with Active Future on when they can run this event!

| | |
|---|---|
| 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 |
| 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 |
| 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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