



The Drive Community Primary School

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

Friday 15th 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 15th May 2026

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

Year 6 SATS

Our Year 6 children have completed a week of assessments, which only provides a snapshot of the skills and knowledge they currently have. As I shared last week, tests do not define a person, and whatever the outcomes, our children should be incredibly proud of what they have achieved.

This has been an unnecessary (in my opinion) and high-pressure week, and we are extremely proud of every child for the effort, resilience, and determination they have shown throughout.

I will say it again: **SATs are not the be-all and end-all**. Each and every one of our children is talented and gifted in their own way, and with hard work and determination, they will go on to achieve whatever they choose as they move into adulthood.

Well done, Year 6. We hope you enjoy celebrating your achievements this weekend — you truly deserve it.

Year 3 Trip – Arbeia

Year 3 had a great time at Arbeia. We handled real artifacts from Roman times and worked like Archaeologists (sounds like the Year 5 experience). A great time was had by all and the children were fab!

Year 4 and 5 Girls Football

Mrs Conroy kindly took a group of our girls to a football tournament this week. They worked incredibly hard, supported one another throughout, and showed great commitment and determination.

The girls were a fantastic representation of The Drive and certainly looked the part in our new football shorts and socks. Well done to everyone involved.

Year 5 Focus Day: IntoUniversity – Archaeology

Year 5 had a fantastic day at IntoUniversity learning all about archaeology. The children took part in a range of exciting, hands-on activities, including excavating artefacts from sand, creating their own timelines, and making Monument tealights.

They showed great enthusiasm throughout the visit and were fully engaged in every activity. It was wonderful to hear so many positive comments about how much they were enjoying themselves. Even more exciting, many pupils shared that the experience had inspired them to consider going to university in the future!

A brilliant day of learning and inspiration for all involved.

Goblin Car Making

Our school is incredibly lucky to be part of an exciting project in which some of our Year 6 children are building a fully functioning, moving car, which will be raced later this term at Gateshead Stadium. This is a fantastic engineering experience and an opportunity that many other schools in the borough have not been able to access. The project has been an inspiring hands-on learning experience, and we cannot wait to see the finished car and, hopefully, attend the race to cheer the children on.

We are also delighted that this will not be a one-off event. Next year, Mrs C will be running the project again. While the wonderful volunteers who supported us this year will not be involved next time, Mrs C is already very excited to take it forward.



Artsmark
Gold Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England





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What a fantastic opportunity for our children – and what a great time to be part of The Drive family.

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%

Changes this week, with 6 classes making improvements. Year 1, Year 2 (100% - boom), Year 3 and Year 6 all got points this week. Well done and keep this up, our attendance is creeping up and is looking much healthier. 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	95.5% +
Reception	3	92.5% -
Year 1	1	96.2% +
Year 2	3	100% +
Year 3	4	97.2% +
Year 4	0	93.8% +
Year 5	3	95.7% -
Year 6	2	98% +

Have a lovely weekend and see you all next week. Year 6 – please celebrate good times!

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	
Tuesday 19 th May	Year 5/6 Countdown Cricket C More details to follow. Children taking part, will receive a letter.
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





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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
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

