

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: **Parents – Friday Letters – Autumn 1 2023 OR Parents – Letters and Flyers**

## Friday Letter 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023

<https://www.thedriveprimary.co.uk/friday-letters/>

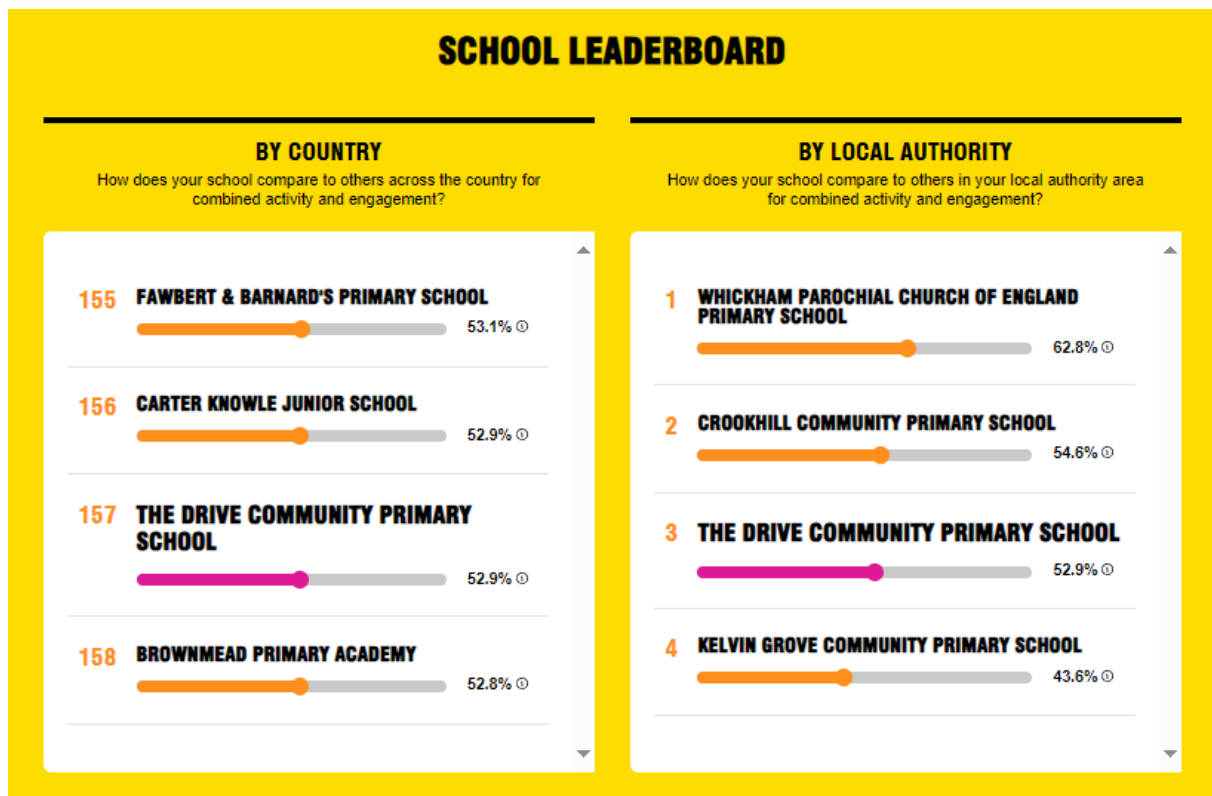
## WOW Walk to School

As you all know, we are delighted to be working alongside the Living Streets charity to continue our WOW walk to school journey. The government have a target to get 55% of children regularly walking to school by 2025 and looking at our percentage, we are nearly there – 2.1% away.

There are many benefits of being active on the way to school and it can really help to set us up ready for the school day ahead. I have to say and looking at those figures, I have certainly seen fewer cars outside of school and many more bikes, scooters and legs being used to get to school.

October (as the children should be able to tell you) is Walk to School Month and we are aiming to be the top of the Gateshead / country leader board. If you do need to travel to school by car, remember you can park at Heworth Short Stay Carpark or calculate around 5 - minute walk from school and park in a safe space, this would still mean your child would be awarded a park and stride badge. Each month there are new badges on offer (yet to be delivered, but they are on their way) and hopefully the children will be able to collect them all over the year for being active on the way to school.

Please see below the school Leader board, where we are currently **3<sup>rd</sup> in Gateshead**, and **157<sup>th</sup> in the country (out of 423)**. Keep up the good work and let us see if we can get to the top in our region. Keep walking!



Artsmark  
Gold Award  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England



## Year 5 Planetarium Trip

Year 5 had a fantastic trip this week visiting the planetarium at the Hancock Museum as part of our Earth and Space science topic. They flew through our solar system visiting each planet and learning about each one's characteristics. Their favourite part was learning about the possibility of life on other planets and how far scientists have got to discovering this so far.

## Attendance – The League and attendance update

**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%**

What an amazing week everyone. Year 1, 2,3,4 and 6 all got points this week. Some year groups have even managed to get to 97% or above. Keep this up everyone!

Teams	Total Points	Overall Weekly Attendance
Nursery	0	82.01% -
Reception	3	94.12% +
Year 1	5	96.43% +
Year 2	2	98.26% +
Year 3	3	97.20% +
Year 4	1	96.6% +
Year 5	0	93.16% +
Year 6	4	98.08% +

You all received a letter this week regarding attendance procedures and FAQ. If you didn't receive this letter, please let us know.

Have a lovely weekend everyone and remember, we break up for half term next Friday.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs R Farren  
Head Teacher

**Dates for the Diary – 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](http://www.parentpay.com)**

**All letters can be found in Letters and Flyer on our school website.**

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

Autumn Term 2023 – 8 week half term	
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Year 1 / 2 Fun Fitness <b>C</b> Selection of children to attend. <b>Letter issued 18.10.23</b>
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	Intra- Sport School Competition <b>C</b> <b>Flyer sent 19.10.23</b>
	Reception Autumn Walk to Felling Park <b>C</b> <b>Letter issued 10.10.23</b>
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 5/6 Sports hall Athletics <b>C</b>



	Selection of children to attend. <b>Letter issued 19.10.23</b>
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> October	Nursery Stay and Play <b>Letter issued 16.10.23</b>
	Halloween Themed Lunch <b>Email to parents 19.10.23 – Flyer on the school website</b>
	Break up for half term
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	Return to school after half term
	Year 4 Trip – Hancock Museum <b>C</b> <b>Letter issued 13.10.23</b>
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 1 Trip – Beamish Museum <b>C</b> <b>Letter issued 2<sup>nd</sup> October</b>
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> November	Odd Socks Day
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in Need
Week beginning 20 <sup>th</sup> November	Swedish Teacher's Visit
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 2 Trip - Safety Works <b>C</b>
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Parent/Carer Coffee Morning <b>9 – 10am in the hall</b>
	Nursery Theatre Trip <b>C</b>
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Fayre PM
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Reception Nativity (in school) AM
	Nursery Christmas Sing Along PM
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 Nativity (in school) PM
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	KS2 Carol Service (St Mary's Church) PM
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Nursery and Reception Christmas Party
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Party
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas Party
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	Year 5 and Year 6 Christmas Party
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	Break up for Christmas
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January	Staff INSET – <b>Children not in school</b>
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> January	Return to school after Christmas

