

4th July 2025

Dear Parents / Carers,

This week it has really struck me how close we are to the end of the Summer term. Our Year 6 children have been at Ponteland High School over the last two days meeting their new teachers and preparing for the next big step in their educational journey.

The rest of the school has been super busy this week working hard on their learning. From becoming maritime engineers in Reception designing, building and testing boats, to exploring friction in coding in Year 5 to being zoologists in Year 1 and learning all about amphibians! You will see from the flyer how busy the children have been. It is always a pleasure to feel that 'buzz' and obvious excitement and delight that the children get from their learning.

We have also had an amazing concert this week from our Rocksteady bands who were keen to showcase their skills. Well done! You were all fantastic!

A special thanks to our Early Years team and especially to Miss Smith who secured some additional funding through a charity bid. They gave up their weekend to come into school and work to develop the Early Years outdoor area. They did an amazing job! Thank you on behalf of the children who have loved using it this week!

Don't forget that next week is the main Kaleidoscope exhibition at Ponteland Leisure Centre. You can pop along to view over 1000 pieces of art created by the children in the Pele Trust including art from all of our children. There are also a few tickets left for the Pele Trust Choir concert on Thursday evening. Please contact the school office for more information.

I'd like to remind you that it is not too late to sign up to the Family Hub free 'Sleep' webinar next week. This will provide advice and tips to support children with their sleep.

I cannot believe it is report time again! Next Friday evening you will be receiving your child's annual report. As in previous years this will be sent via email to you.

I would also like to draw your attention to an 'Open Garden' event being hosted locally to raise money for the roof fund for our parish church of St. Andrew's Church. Further information can be found later in the Flyer.

Well done to Year 5 for the best attendance this week: 99.2%.

Well done to Year 1 and Year 5 for the best attendance for this year: 97.3%.

I hope that you enjoy reading this flyer and have a relaxing weekend.

Mr. A. Wheatley,
Headteacher



'Let all that you do be done with love'

1 Corinthians 16:14

Attendance Matters



ATTEND today...
ACHIEVE tomorrow...
ATTENDANCE matters.

Northumberland
County Council

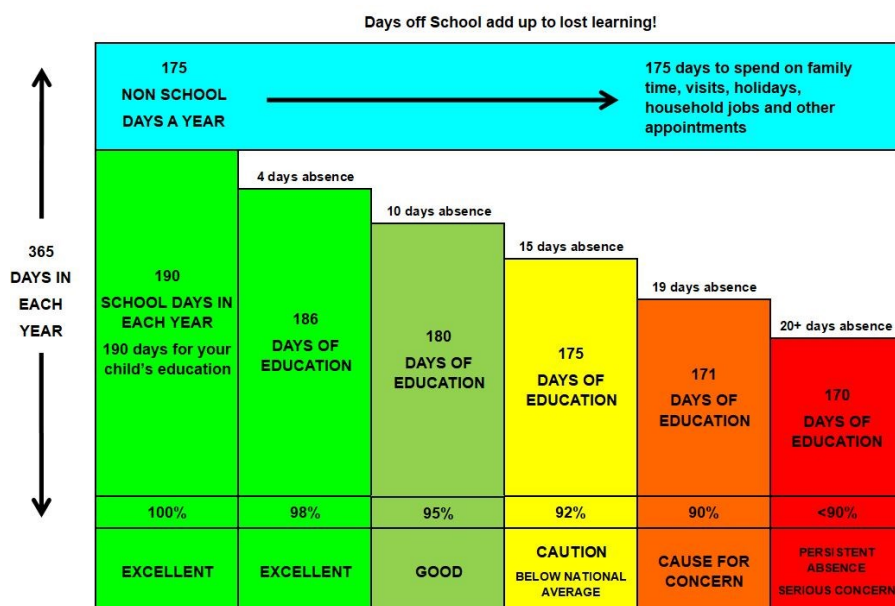


We continue to focus on attendance and punctuality so please remember that our School starts at 8.55am (9am for Nursery) and anyone arriving after this time will be marked as late.

Attendance for this week is summarised below:

Class	Attendance this week	Attendance this year	Class	Attendance this week	Attendance this year
Nursery (Hedgehogs)	98.2%	95.6%	Year 3 (Gibside)	97.6%	96.3%
Reception (Owls)	91.2%	94.9%	Year 4 (Lindisfarne)	91.6%	95.7%
Year 1 (Wallington)	94.8%	97.3%	Year 5 (Bamburgh)	99.2%	97.3%
Year 2 (Craggside)	94.4%	96.3%	Year 6 (Dunstanburgh)	98.6%	97.1%

Please see the graphic below which shows the significant impact of absence over time .



'Let all that you do be done with love'

1 Corinthians 16:14



Every Friday afternoon, we walk
 to Heddon Library to listen to a
 story and choose a book to take
 home with us. We really love
 our library visits and they
 wouldn't be possible without the
 help of our grown-ups; thank
 you so much to all of the
 parents who have come with us
 over the past few months. We
 really appreciate your help and
 support!



PIC•COLLAGE

Others



Learning

Let's Go and Explore with Reception

We've had another exciting week exploring our 'Let's Go and Explore' topic. This week, our theme was boats. The children were able to name lots of different types of boats including submarines, canoes, sailing boats, ferries, speed boats, police boats and paddle boats. One of this week's rainbow challenges was to design a boat, make the boat and then test it. Some children discovered that adding rice helped their boats stay balanced and avoid tipping over - great problem-solving! We also began thinking about maps and compasses. Some children then created their own maps.

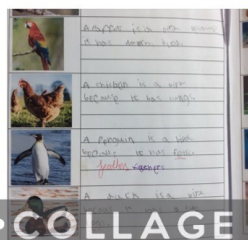
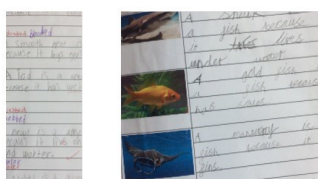
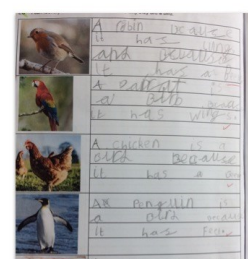
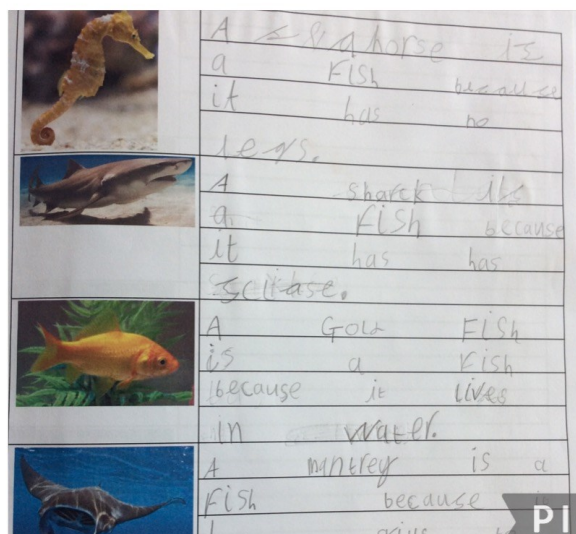
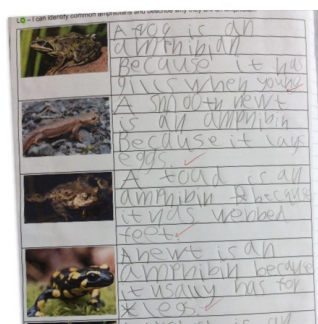
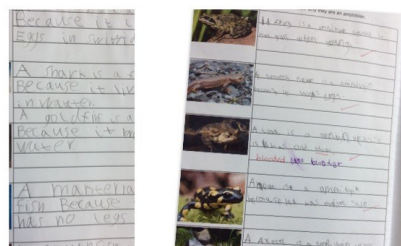
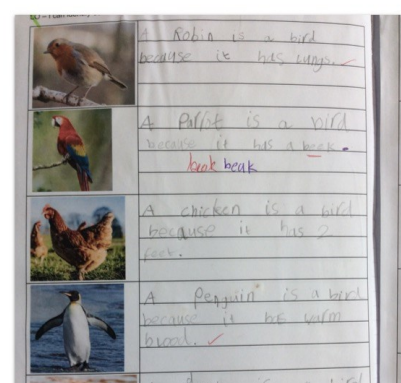
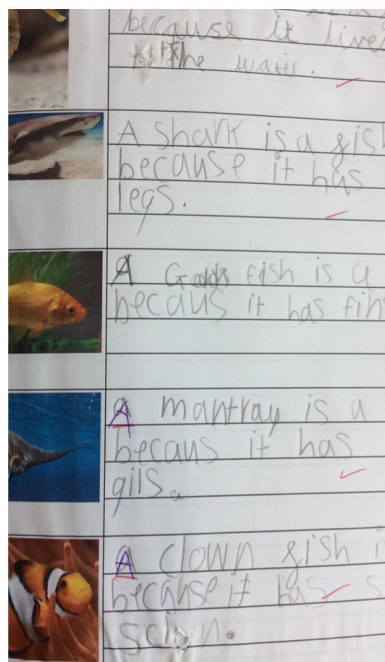
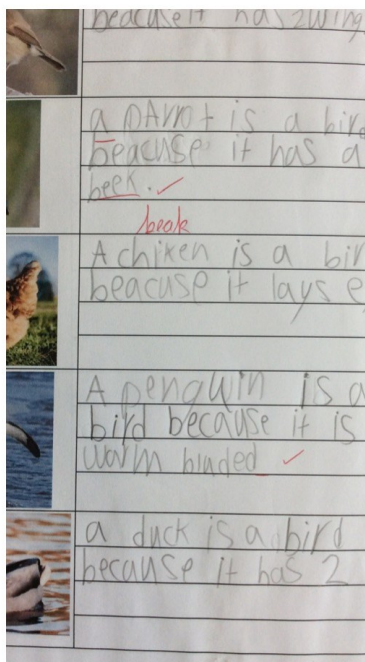
As part of our focus on water safety, we watched the RNLI water safety video and practised the important 'Float to Love' technique on the carpet. Ask your child to show you how to float like a starfish - they were amazing at it!



PIC•COLLAGE

All about Amphibians in Year 1

In science we have been looking at different groups of animals. Over the last couple of weeks we have identified common birds and fish and learnt what makes a bird a bird and what makes a fish a fish. This week we identified common amphibians and understood what makes an amphibian an amphibian.



PIC•COLLAGE

Design Technology in Year 2

Year 2 have been motoring along with their Design Technology vehicles this week. We have started to saw the dowel using a bench hook and junior hacksaw and have built our chassis too.



Learning

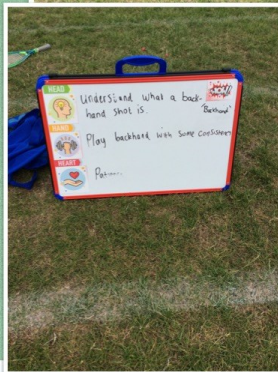
Ukuleles with Year 3

Year 3 had their last ukulele lesson of the year this week! They have worked hard all year to learn the different chords and how to play a variety of songs including Katy Perry: Roar, See You Later Alligator, Jason Mraz: I'm Yours, Imagine Dragons: Demons and Black Eyed Peas: I've Got A Feeling.

Well done Year 3!



Learning



This week we have been improving our tennis skills with a focus on our back hand shots. We also practised our skill of patience as tennis on the grass was very difficult!



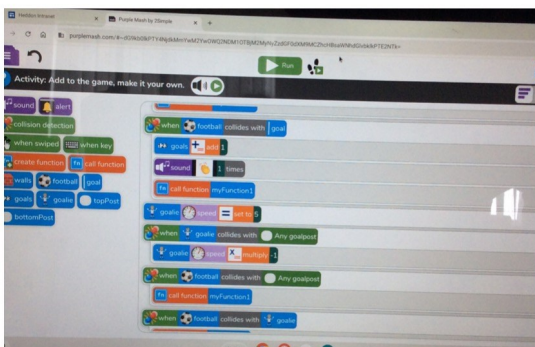
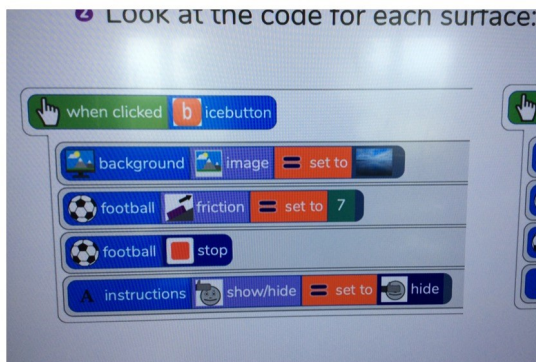
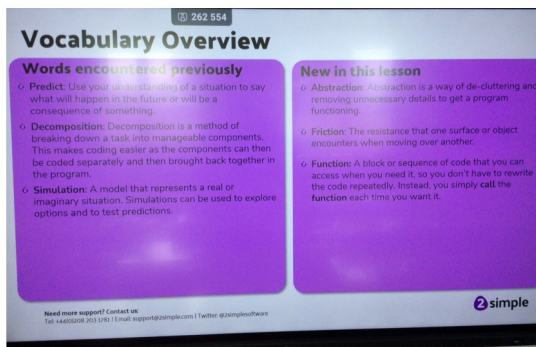
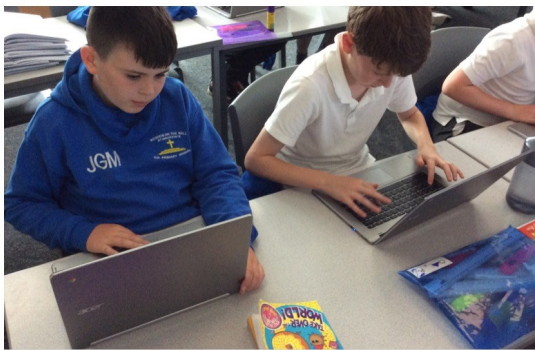
PIC•COLLAGE

Friction (in Coding) with Year 5

This week, Year 5 explored how friction works in coding. We learned that, just like in real life, friction can slow things down - only this time, it was digital! We changed how objects moved by adjusting friction settings in our code.

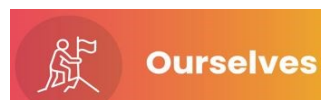
We also started learning about functions. At first, they sounded tricky, but we soon realised they're just named blocks of code that we can reuse. It helped make our programs more organised and easier to understand.

We're really enjoying becoming confident, creative coders.



Tennis in Year 6

This week in PE, Year 6 focused on improving our backhand skills. We now *know* how a backhand shot is different from a forehand – it uses the opposite side of the racket and requires a different grip and stance. We practised hard to *show* that we can volley accurately using our backhand, even during fast-paced rallies! Alongside our physical skills, we continued to *grow* our understanding of resilience. We discussed how bouncing back from mistakes, both in sport and life, helps us become stronger, more determined learners and teammates.



Rocksteady Concert

Our Rocksteady bands had an amazing morning performing in front of the rest of the school. They had a great time and really showed off their skills. I am always in awe of anyone who is prepared to perform either playing an instrument or singing in front of a big audience. A big thanks to Mike from Rocksteady for working with us each week. Well done everyone!



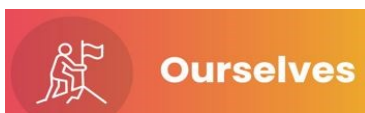
← The Shut Up performed 'Shut Up and Dance' by Walk the Moon.

The Stargazers performed 'Counting Stars' by One Republic →



← The Shotguns performed 'Shotgun' by George Ezra.

The Steel Strummers performed 'Livin' on a Prayer' by Bon Jovi. →

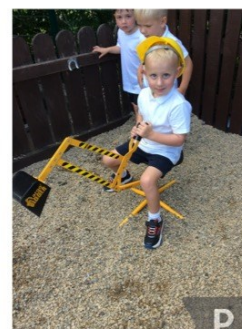


Golf at Close House!

This week, a selection of Year 3 and Year 4 boys and girls were able to go for a golfing session down at Close House! After splitting up our groups, some completed a session on the driving and putting ranges whereas the other group were able to compete with each other on a driving course, learning how to use different clubs and the main rules to follow during the game! A massive thank you to Close House for allowing our children the opportunity to try a new sport and improve our skills!!



At the weekend, some of our Early Years Team came into school to work on our Early Years outdoor area. Miss Smith and her family came in to help us and what a brilliant job they have done! The Hedgehogs and the Owls have absolutely loved exploring some of their new areas. A HUGE thank you to Miss Smith for organising this and spending so much of her own time thinking of how to improve our outdoor play.



PIC•COLLAGE

Others



Armed Forces Day and Summer Fair

Thanks to the members of our Armed Forces who attended our Summer Fair last week. I know that the children enjoyed speaking to them and trying out some of the equipment.

A special shout out to Anna and Emma who set up and organised their own stall to raise money for Newcastle Children's Hospital. They made and sold a variety of necklaces and bracelets which they made during lunch and break times. They raised over an amazing £30. Well done girls—we are so proud of you!



Others



School Street Scheme

I am sure that you will have noticed the first stages in the School Street scheme being put into place over the last week by Northumberland County Council. Double yellow lines have been placed at the entrance to Trajan Walk near to school and the 'no stopping' zigzags have been extended from the school gate to cover the turning circle. This means that there is now no stopping / parking here between 8am and 5pm Monday to Friday.

Keep your eyes peeled for the new information banner and lamp post wraps which will be coming next week.

The School Street scheme will fully come into force in September 2025.

We look forward to this creating a safer environment for all pedestrians and especially the children and parents who walk to school. We also hope it will enable residents to be able to safely access their homes during drop off and pick up times.

 Northumberland
County Council



School Street Coming Soon

Monday - Friday
8:15am - 9:15am
2:45pm - 3:45pm

**Pedestrians,
cyclists and exempt
vehicles only**

Thanks for making it safer to get to school.



Others



Kaleidoscope

USING OUR DIFFERENCES TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Throughout the year, pupils have worked closely with artists, musicians, and cultural partners to explore themes of identity, neurodiversity, mental health, and wellbeing. Kaleidoscope has provided a platform for our children to express themselves, uncover hidden talents, and shine.

The exhibition will showcase over 1000 incredible pieces of artwork created by pupils across our Trust schools.



Ponteland Leisure Centre Sports Hall



Tuesday 8th July – Thursday 10th July



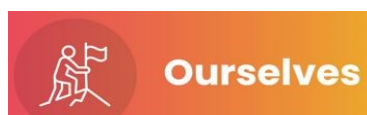
8am – 9pm daily

This special event, in partnership with our PTA, Newcastle University and Bellway Homes, is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the creativity and achievements of our children.

We warmly welcome all parents, carers, families, and members of our community to join us and experience the world through our children's eyes—full of colour, diversity, and imagination.

In addition to this, we will also be hosting a joint Pele Trust Kaleidoscope choir performance on Thursday 10th July - 4.30pm and repeated at 5.15pm. Two tickets have already been given to each of our choir members, however a small number of additional tickets are available on a first come, first served basis from our school reception.

We look forward to seeing you there.



Free Family Hub Virtual Sleep Workshop

The Family Hub has designed this workshop at the request of our staff in response to the needs of the school and from parental requests. It is a single online session which will help with all the sleep secrets you might need including:

Understanding sleep cycles;

Causes of sleep issues;

The importance of sleep;

What you can do to help your child sleep better.

The session is on Wednesday 9th July 2025 between 10am-12pm.

Book now by clicking the following link: nland.cc/fhreg

Is your child struggling with sleep?



*For children and young people aged between 4-25 years

- Understanding sleep cycles
- Causes of sleep issues
- The importance of sleep
- What you can do to support your child to sleep better

Virtual Sleep Workshop

Delivered **virtually** over one session.

BOOK NOW 

Wednesday 9th July 10am-12pm

http://



Visit our website

nland.cc/familyhubs



READY, STEADY, SCHOOL

NEW!

For
Nursery/
Pre-School

FREE

Family Hubs
Here for everyone

peep
supporting parents and
children to learn together

PRUDHOE

What is Ready Steady School?

FREE

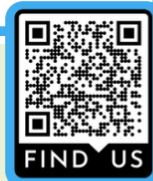
Ready, Steady, School sessions are for
children who will soon be starting nursery or school.

Give your little ones a flying start at school or nursery, with hints and tips to encourage development and independent skills as they take their next steps. Led by Family Hub Practitioners these sessions will offer support whilst your little ones have fun.

**Starting Thurs 4th August (for 3 weeks)
1:30–2:30pm at Prudhoe Family Hub**

Call: 01661 839350

Scan the QR code
and contact
your local *Family Hub*
for more details.



Family Hubs
Here for everyone

peep
supporting parents and
children to learn together



OPEN GARDEN

A Party To Raise Funds for
St. Andrew's Church, Heddon
and St.Oswald's Hospice

WHEN & WHERE

- North Farm House,
Throckley
- 2nd August
11am-3pm

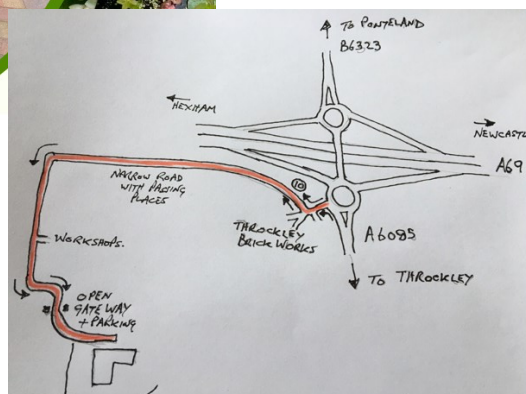
£5 Admission for adults
Children free
Includes cup of tea/coffee
and piece of cake

We invite you to an Open Garden
with refreshments, stalls, raffle,
a variety of entertainment and
a beautiful garden to explore.

**SEE MAP ON
REVERSE FOR
DIRECTION**



Others



At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about APPLE IPADS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Tablets remain a staple of children's digital lives – and Apple's iPad is by far the most popular model. According to Ofcom, over half of younger children regularly use a tablet to play games, watch online content or access apps. With their broad functionality, iPads can be helpful tools, but without supervision, they may expose children to risks ranging from inappropriate content to screen overuse.

COSTLY TO REPAIR

Unlike some child-friendly tablets, the iPad is not built for rough handling. Its slim design and high cost mean that a drop or spill can result in a costly repair. If a child is using the device regularly, a sturdy case and screen protector are strongly recommended to help prevent accidental damage.

DATA PRIVACY

While Apple is known for strong privacy protections, a recent study found that many iOS apps aimed at children still share personal data. Over 40% of the tested apps sent at least one piece of user information to third parties, raising concerns about advertising and analytics being targeted at underage users.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

The App Store and Safari browser provide almost unrestricted access to online material. Children may stumble upon age-inappropriate content, whether through apps, advertisements or online searches. Even recommended content algorithms can surface unsuitable material.

BYPASSING RESTRICTIONS

Siri – Apple's voice assistant – can potentially override restrictions, especially with the newer text-based commands introduced through Apple Intelligence. Without safeguards in place, children may inadvertently access inappropriate topics simply by asking a question, bypassing certain filters previously set by adults.

SCREEN ADDICTION

iPads can be highly immersive, and excessive screen time may affect a child's emotional and behavioural development. Signs of overuse might include mood swings, irritability, and difficulty focusing on non-digital activities.

REDUCED ATTENTION & COGNITIVE IMPACT

Prolonged use of tablets has been linked with reduced memory, slower processing speeds and difficulties in concentrating. Research shows that children who spend excessive time gaming or consuming media on tablets may struggle with language development and executive functioning over time.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENABLE FAMILY SHARING

Family Sharing allows you to create a dedicated Apple ID for your child and manage their activity. You can approve purchases, control what content they can access, and set time limits – all done remotely from your own device. It's a simple but powerful way to maintain oversight.

FILTER APPS, WEBSITES & IN-APP PURCHASES

Parental controls in iOS let you block explicit content in Safari, restrict app downloads, and manage in-app purchase permissions. You can also filter websites automatically to prevent access to adult material and disable the installation of certain app types completely.

USE SCREEN TIME FEATURES EFFECTIVELY

Tools like Downtime and App Limits can reduce device overuse. Downtime allows you to block access during key times – such as before bed or during homework – while App Limits sets daily time caps on specific games or apps. Alerts help children anticipate when their time is almost up.

PREVENT UNAPPROVED SPENDING

Children can accidentally (or intentionally) make purchases within apps. Activating Ask to Buy under Family Sharing ensures you receive a notification to approve any app or in-app purchase. This stops surprise charges and allows you to discuss purchases together before they're made.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is a seasoned technology journalist with over a decade of experience. Formerly a senior cybersecurity reporter at TechCrunch, Carly now writes for publications including WIRED, Forbes, TechRadar, and Tes. With a deep understanding of online safety, she brings a valuable perspective to parenting in the digital age.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

@wake_up_weds

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@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 02.07.2025

Heddon-on-the-Wall St Andrew's CE Primary School 2025/26

September 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
36	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
37	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
38	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
39	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
40	29	30					

October 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
40			1	2	3	4	5
41	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
42	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
43	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
44	27	28	29	30	31		

November 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
44						1	2
45	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
46	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
47	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
48	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
49	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
50	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
51	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
52	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
1	29	30	31				

January 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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2	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
3	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
4	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
5	26	27	28	29	30	31	

February 2026							
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7	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
8	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9	23	24	25	26	27	28	

March 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
9							1
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11	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
12	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
13	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
14	30	31					

April 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
14			1	2	3	4	5
15	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
16	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
17	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
18	27	28	29	30			

May 2026							
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18					1	2	3
19	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
21	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
22	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
23	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
24	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
25	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
26	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	29	30					

July 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
27			1	2	3	4	5
28	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
29	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
30	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
31	27	28	29	30	31		

August 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
31						1	2
32	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
33	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
34	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
35	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
36	31						

Bank holidays 2025/26 UK

25 December '25	Christmas Day	1 January '26	New Year's Day	4 May '26	Early May Bank Holiday
26 December '25	Boxing Day	3 April '26	Good Friday	25 May '26	Spring Bank Holiday
		6 April '26	Easter Monday	31 August '26	August Bank Holiday

School Holidays

Training Days

Data provided 'as is' without warranty

Dates for your Diary - Summer Term



w/c Monday 7th July 2025	Kaleidoscope Exhibition at Ponteland High School
Tuesday 8th July 2025	Year 6 Stadium Tour at St. James' Park
Wednesday 9th July 2025	Crepe Man visit to see Year 4, 5 and 6
Thursday 10th July 2025	Pele Trust Choir Concert (part of Kaleidoscope project)
Friday 11th July 2025	Rocksteady Concert for Parents/Carers in School Hall at 10am
Friday 11th July 2025	School Reports sent out
Monday 14th July 2025	Moving Up Morning
Monday 14th July 2025	Heddon's Got Talent Final (for children only)
Tuesday 15th July 2025	Music and Drama Showcase at 5pm in School Hall
Thursday 17th July 2025	Year 6 Leavers Assembly in School Hall at 2pm
w/c Monday 21st July 2025	SUMMER HOLIDAYS