



# Wolsingham Primary Newsletter

5<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Volume 1

[www.wolsingham-pri.durham.sch.uk](http://www.wolsingham-pri.durham.sch.uk)

## New Beginnings

Welcome to a new term and a new school year at Wolsingham Primary! We are delighted to welcome all of our new pupils and new parents, Mrs Stephenson our new Lunchtime Supervisor, Ms Emerson our new cleaner and welcome back to Miss Barratt who is covering Miss Newman's maternity leave. We can't wait to see what this year brings!

The staff and children have once again all made a fantastic start to the year and are already hard at work. There is a lovely quiet and productive atmosphere throughout the school. As always, our aim is to continue to instil in all of the children the need to do everything to the very best of their ability, further developing their learning behaviours, so that they can become increasingly independent and take control of their own learning. The expectations of all of the staff will be very high in all aspects of school life from remembering PE kits to learning weekly spellings and completing homework. We want the children of Wolsingham Primary School to have a thirst for knowledge and know what they need to do to improve. We expect our children to complete every piece of work to the highest standard possible. As part of their work over the last 3 days, they have been thinking about our school values (Respect, Friendship, Determination, Resilience, Equality, Excellence, Courage and Aspiration), what they mean and how they might strive to demonstrate them this academic year.

## Reminders

Just a reminder that it is essential that all children have their PE kits and water bottles in school at all times. If your child has had their ears pierced over the summer break, they must be covered for PE sessions until a period of 6 weeks following the piercing and then they **MUST** be removed for PE sessions. If your child is not able to remove their earrings themselves, then we recommend that they do not come to school wearing them on days when they take part in PE sessions (including swimming). For health and safety reasons, all earrings worn in school must be studs only and no bracelets or necklaces should be worn.

The majority of our children look extremely smart this week upon their return to school for the new school year, thank you to all those parents who have followed our uniform policy. However, we have many children whose shoes do not adhere to our uniform policy – please note that children should be wearing **black shoes** not trainers to school.

## School Councillors and Team Captains

Voting has taken place to elect our new School Councillors and Team Captains. Those children wishing to take on the roles, put themselves forward and the children voted for who they would like to see in the roles. Congratulations to all of our new School Councillors and Team Captains!

|         |                                       |
|---------|---------------------------------------|
| Class 2 | Olivia Bowron and Molly Armstrong     |
| Class 3 | Tamzin Brabin-Haywes and Albie Megahy |
| Class 4 | Mia Armstrong and Thomas Lee          |
| Class 5 | Josh Burton and Summer Newby          |
| Class 6 | Rafe Blackman and Laurence Eggleston  |

|             |                                      |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|
| Green Team  | Isabell Thompson and William Walker  |
| Blue Team   | Ella Davies and Euan Kelly           |
| Yellow Team | Olivia Mays and Lily-Rose Kenney     |
| Red Team    | Alexandra Scown and Calum Goodfellow |



## Nuts in School

Please remember that ALL nuts or products containing nuts are not allowed in our school or school visits in the form of snacks or in packed lunches. We do have some children who will have an allergic reaction to nuts in any form and this may cause serious harm to them. Thank you for helping to keep our children safe.



## A Huge Thank You

We would like to say a huge thank you to Mr Hogarth (Ellie's dad) from MC Hogarth Plastering and Building Services who very kindly volunteered to create a new planter to replace the old one on the Key Stage 1 playground. He did a marvellous job and it really finished off the essential work on our planters around the school grounds.

## Extra-Curricular Activities

We are in the process of organising our Extra-curricular Activities for this half term and more details and booking links will be sent out via Arbor next week. As our new Reception children get used to coming to school full time and are often tired at the end of the school day, particularly in the Autumn term. After school activities offered in the autumn term are therefore only available for pupils in Year 1 to Year 6 pupils.

## Wrap Around Care

Don't forget that we run both Breakfast and After School Clubs at Wolsingham Primary for children from Reception to Year 6. Our breakfast club runs from 8am until the start of the school day for a cost of £3 per session without breakfast and £4 per session with breakfast included. After School Club runs until 5.30pm and can be booked either until 4.30pm for a cost of £6 per session and until 5.30pm for a cost of £9 per session. All can be booked up to 24 hours in advance via the Arbor app. We are also part of the Government Tax-free Childcare Scheme (<https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>) – if you are eligible for tax-free childcare and would like to know how to arrange to use it to help with childcare costs in school, please contact Mrs Rowell in the school office.

## Applying for a school place for next year

Applications for primary and secondary places are now open. Applications close at midnight on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026 (primary) and 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025 (secondary). Find out more: <https://www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions>. We will be holding an Open Event for any parents of children due to start primary school in September 2026 later in the half term. Please keep an eye out for more details and encourage anyone you know with children of Nursery age to come along to have a look around and find out more about our school.

## Holidays in Term Time

Regular attendance at school is essential if children are to make good progress in their learning – we would like to take this opportunity to thank those parents who worked hard to ensure their child has a good level of attendance last year. Any absence from school can have such a huge impact on the progress they make. We would like to remind parents that holidays in term time **will not** be authorised. Unfortunately, on occasions, parents report their child's absence as illness rather than completing the Pupil Leave of Absence form. If we have reason to believe that an absence has been due to holiday rather than illness, these absences will be recorded as unauthorised. Any case of irregular attendance due to unauthorised leave of absence in term time of **5 school days for more** in a minimum 10 rolling school week period **will** be referred to the Attendance Improvement Team to issue a Fixed Penalty Notice. We would also like to remind parents that non-urgent medical and dental appointments wherever possible should also be made out of school hours.

**Please note:** Evidence of medical appointments during school time, should be provided to the school office prior to the appointment. Thank you.

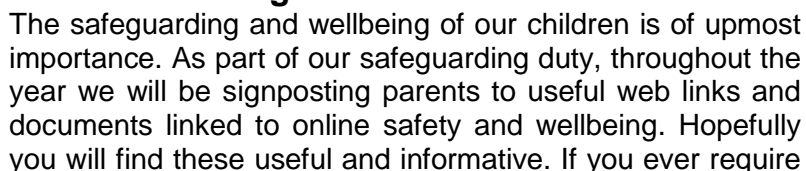
## School Lunch Payments

We would like to take this opportunity to remind parents that school lunches this year cost £2.95 per day and should be paid for via Arbor on the **Monday** of each week or at the beginning of the term if you wish to pay for the whole term at once. A reminder to parents of our Year 3 children that free school lunches are only for children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 and therefore lunches for Year 3 children will be charged.

Class 6 will be swimming on Tuesday afternoons until Christmas. Children will require a swimming kit consisting of a one-piece swim suit or trunks (not shorts), a towel and swimming hat which is essential (swimming hats can be purchased from the pool at a cost of £2). Goggles are permitted, but are not essential. We are looking for a volunteer to help walk the children to and from the pool.

As the ingredients for our school lunches are pre-ordered it is important that we have at least one week's notice regarding any children changing from school lunch to packed lunch or vice versa, even following the summer break. We would be grateful if parents could contact the school office to make the necessary arrangements.

Parents and carers of children in Years 1-6 are warmly invited to our 'Meet the Teacher Night' on **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September at 5.00pm**. Teachers will be explaining class procedures and providing important information where appropriate about statutory assessments such as the Year 1 phonics check, Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check and KS2 SATs. The meeting should last no longer than half an hour and is for **parents and carers only**; please try and attend if you can. We look forward to seeing you!



It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school or nursery when they're unwell. There are government guidelines for schools and nurseries about [managing specific infectious diseases at GOV.UK](#). These say when children should be kept off school and when they shouldn't. If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone the school each day. Let us know that your child won't be in and give us the reason. If your child is well enough to come school but has an infection that could be passed on, such as a cold sore or head lice, let us know. For more information and support, please use the following link <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/> for advice.

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Class 6 Handball Festival                               | Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> September         |
| Year 1-Year 6 Meet the Teacher Evening                  | Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> September 5pm     |
| Early Maths / Seesaw Meeting for Reception Parents      | Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> September 5pm   |
| RWInc. Meeting for Reception Parents                    | Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> September 5pm   |
| Flu Immunisations                                       | Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> September       |
| Year 2 Kurling and Boccia Festival                      | Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> October            |
| Class 6 Assembly  | Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> October 10.30am |
| Family Friday – details to follow on future newsletters | Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> October           |
| Harvest Festival  | Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2pm    |
| Halloween Dress Up Day                                  | Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October           |
| School Closes   | Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October           |
| School Opens  | Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November           |

S. Kitching  
Headteacher

### School Holiday and Term Dates 2025/26

| <b>Holiday</b>   | <b>Closing Date</b>                     | <b>School Opens</b>                      |
|------------------|---|--|
| Summer Break     | Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2025       | Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2025 |
| Autumn Half-Term | Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2025    | Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2025     |
| PD Day           | Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> November 2025 | Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> December 2025     |
| Christmas Break  | Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2025   | Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2026      |
| Spring Half-Term | Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> February 2026   | Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2026        |
| Easter Break     | Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April 2026     | Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April 2026       |
| May Day          | Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2026         | Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> May 2026         |
| Summer Half-Term | Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2026        | Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2026         |
| Summer Break     | Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2026       | Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2026 |