

Excellence
for All!



Windy News

Email: windynookprimaryschool@gateshead.gov.uk

Welcome Back

The staff, governors and I would like to welcome both new and old families into school after the Christmas break. It has been great to see the children settle back into school routines and make our new pupils feel so welcome.

School Uniform Reminders

Please remember that our school uniform guidelines state that children must wear black shoes, boots or trainers. Leggings are not part of our school uniform (apart from on PE days). During the colder weather please ensure that your child has a hat and gloves as they can get very cold hands on the yard at lunchtime. If you don't have a warm coat we still have some coats and hats available from our coat swap from before Christmas so please see Mrs. Gerry in the school office if you would like one.

Due to health and safety concerns long hair should be tied back and earrings and jewellery should not be worn for school. False nails are also not allowed in school and any children with false nails will not be able to do PE or be allowed out on the yard at playtimes. Please also be aware that pupils are not allowed to wear smart watches in school due to safeguarding regulations.

On PE days pupils should wear grey or black tracksuit bottoms or leggings, a white t shirt and a school jumper / cardigan. Coloured tracksuits, jumpers and hoodies are not part of our school PE uniform.

Please remember to put your child's name in their uniform so that it is easy to locate at the end of the day.

Article 28 the right to a good quality education

Packed lunches

Please can I remind you, as part of our Healthy Eating policy in school, children are not allowed to bring sweets, chocolate bars, fizzy drinks or any nut based products in their packed lunches. We have a number of children in school with severe nut allergies so we need to be extra vigilant with regards to this.

We have recently noticed that some packed lunches and breaktime snacks are falling below the school's healthy eating expectations.

Breaktime snacks should be fruit or a healthy cereal bar.

Article 6 Children have the right to be healthy

Article 24 Children have the right to good food and water

Fidget toys

We know that some children require a fidget toy in school to help with their focus and concentration. We would ask that children do not bring in toys, including fidget toys, from home. Mrs. Preece has a wide range of different fidgets available for the children to choose and use in school.

Article 23: You have the right to special education and care if you have a disability

January 2026

What's happening?

- ◇ Dates for your diary
- ◇ After school clubs
- ◇ Number Day
- ◇ Punctuality
- ◇ Feeding families

After School Club

Our after school club runs every day from 3:15-6pm in the Hive.

It is run by staff from within school and includes a range of different activities and a snack. We have recently received very positive feedback from parents whose children currently attend the provision.

For this term Wednesday night's club will include a cooking activity.

Once you have completed the paperwork, you can book your child to attend the club using the Arbor system. If you need any further information please speak to a member of the office staff.

Article 12: you have the right to an opinion and to

Remember!

We close for the February half term break at the end of the school day on Friday 20th February.

Windy Nook Primary School

Windy Nook Primary School
Albion Street
Gateshead
NE10 9BD
www.windynookprimary.org
Telephone: 0191 4694954

National Year of Reading 2026

Fewer children are reading for pleasure - it's disappearing from daily life. Across the UK, children are reading less than they used to and stories aren't getting the same space they once did. It is happening across all age groups, from toddlers to teenagers.

When reading drops, confidence, imagination and learning take a hit as well.

Reading helps children focus, express themselves, develop their curiosity, and it gives families an opportunity to connect. Just reading for 5 minutes a day can make such a difference.

Children come alive when they're exploring the things they're passionate about. From superheroes and football to cooking, dancing and dinosaurs - every word counts.

The National Year of Reading 2026 is your chance to help your child discover new worlds, grow confidence and build a lifelong love of reading - all through the everyday moments you already share.

We will be celebrating National Year of Reading with a range of events and activities in school.

Future dates to note

**School will be closed on
Monday 4th May 2026 for the
May Bank Holiday and on
Monday 1st June for our
occasional day.**

**KS2 SATS will start on
Monday 11th May**

Before / After School Clubs this term

Monday — Dance Festival –Years 5 and 6- 3:15- 4:30
Tuesday—Y1 and Y2 football skills 3:15- 4
Thursday—Before school- basket ball training -Y3/4 7:45
After School—crochet club Y5/6 3:15-4:15
Friday—Before School Hockey Club Y5 /6 - 7:45
After School- Year 5/6 Football Club 3:15-4:15

If you sign your child up for an after school club, please ensure they attend every week as places are limited and we often have a waiting list of children who are desperate to attend.

Article 31: You have the right to play and rest

Dates for your Diary

Please note that some dates may change due to circumstances beyond the school's control.

Tues 13th Jan	Y6 revision rally starts
Thur 15th Jan	Reception application closing date
Fri 16th Jan	Y5/6 Netball pm
Tues 20th Jan	Reception multi skills competition pm
Tues 27th Jan	Year 3/4 Basketball pm
Thu 29th Jan	Governors Resources committee 5pm
Thur 5th Feb	KS2 Boccia Team
Mon 9th Feb	Reception vision screening
Tues 10th Feb	Y5 /6 Hockey
Thur 12th Feb	Y6 sats meeting for parents 4pm
	Governors Curriculum Committee 5pm
Mon 16th Feb	Parents' evening
Wed 18th Feb	Parents' evening
	Year 5/6 swimming gala
Thur 19th Feb	KS1 Girls football
Fri 20th Feb	Break up for half term
Mon 2nd Mar	School reopens after half term

Staffing Updates

We would like to say goodbye and good luck to Miss. Pattison, one of our teaching assistants, who will be leaving us at the end of January after 19 years of working at Windy Nook.

We would like to welcome Miss. Proud who will be joining our lunchtime team this term.

Mrs. Herring is excited to announce that she is expecting her second child in the summer.

We look forward to welcoming Mrs. Boyle, one of our teaching assistants, back after February half term.

Punctuality

Good school attendance includes being there on time. The habit of good punctuality in primary school will help your child throughout their education and on into adult life and the work place. We have a small number of families who are consistently late for school. This is not only distressing for your child but wastes a huge amount of office staff time and disrupts the learning of the rest of the children in their class. Mrs. Conroy monitors this on a weekly basis and if your child continues to be late you can be referred to the Legal Intervention Team for prosecution.

Article 28 Children have the right to an education

Nursery places for September 2026

If you know anyone who has a child with a birth date between 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023 please let them know that we have spaces available in nursery. We offer 15 hour morning or afternoon sessions and 30 hour sessions for those who are eligible. If you need any further information please contact the school office.