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for All!



Windy News

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Keeping our children safe on line

February 2026

Safer Internet Day was on Tuesday 10th February this year. The theme for this year was 'Smart tech, safe choices - Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI'.

Everyone's talking about AI, and with many children and young people hearing about and using AI online, it's important they have the skills and confidence to make safe choices when they are using smart technology.

This Safer Internet Day we explored the impact of AI on all of our lives, looking at how AI can be used for good, and giving advice and guidance that empowers people to use AI safely and responsibly.

Should you require any advice on keeping your child safe online then please visit our website or just ask your child's class teacher. We regularly upload the latest information and guidance on staying safe whilst online to our website. Please check out saferinternet.org.uk for advice around apps, privacy settings and age restrictions.

Please remember that any pupils bringing a mobile phone to school need to have their parents / carers sign the mobile phone agreement. Smart watches are not permitted in school.

Don't forget our Internet Safety , ICT and Computing, E Safety and Cyber Bullying policies are available for you to download on the school website. If you have any concerns regarding on line safety please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Our safeguarding curriculum and child protection policy can be found on the school website and if you have any concerns about a child please contact one of our Designated Safeguarding Leads.

They are
Mrs. Forrest (Headteacher)
Mrs. Ramanandi (Assistant Headteacher and EYFS Lead)
Mrs. Traynor (Assistant Headteacher and UKS2 Lead)
Mr. Brown (LKS2 Lead)
Mrs. Preece (SENDCO)
Miss. Turnbull (After School Club Lead)

Article 16. You have the right to privacy.

Article 13. Children have the right to get and to share information, as long as the information is not damaging to them or to others.

Relationships and Sex Education

The Government released new statutory guidance for the RSE (Relationship and Sex Education) Curriculum in 2025 and all changes must be in place in schools by September 2026. As part of our review of our PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic) curriculum, including Relationships and Sex Education (RSE), we are seeking the views of parents and carers.

Relationships Education and Health Education are statutory in primary schools. Some elements of Sex Education (such as conception and birth) are taught at a school's discretion, and parents have the right to withdraw their child from these non-statutory elements. We will be sending out a questionnaire via ARBOR to collect your views to help us shape our policy. There will also be QR codes around school on parents evening so that you can access the questionnaire via that method.

Further information can be found in our existing policy on our school website.

What's happening?

- ◆ Diary Dates
- ◆ Sporting achievements
- ◆ Attendance and Punctuality
- ◆ The Governing Body

Free School Meals / Holiday Vouchers

Regardless of which year group your child is in, if you think you may qualify for means tested free school meals, please contact the main office for a claim form, or apply online at <https://www.gateshead.gov.uk/article/7433/Free-school-meals> Even if you do not wish your child to take the school meal, you may receive shopping vouchers for school holiday periods from Gateshead Council. (£20 per child per week) Our school will also benefit from the grant attached to each pupil who is eligible. Currently, this is worth £1,515 per pupil and would be a huge loss to the school if parents do not claim.

This grant is used to provide extra staffing in school.
If you need any more information, please contact school.
Thank you

Windy Nook Primary School

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Attendance Reminders

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.

Please be aware that holidays in term time cannot be granted as an authorised absence except in exceptional circumstances. Please be aware that we make referrals to the Legal Intervention Team for holidays in term time, which may result in a fine. Under the national rules, all schools are required to consider a fine when a child has missed 10 or more sessions (5 days) for unauthorised reasons. The fine for school absences across the country is **£80 per child per adult if paid within 21 days, or £160 if paid within 28 days.**

In the case of repeated fines, if a parent receives a second fine for the same child within any three-year period, this will be charged at the higher rate of £160.

Fines per parent will be capped to two fines within any three-year period. Once this limit has been reached, other action, such as prosecution, will be considered.

If you're prosecuted and attend court because your child hasn't been attending school, you could get a fine of up to £2,500. Last year one of our families was fined over £800 for failing to pay the initial fine.

Money raised via fines is only used by the local authority to cover the costs of administering the system, and to fund attendance support. Any extra money is returned to the government. Our school receives no money as a result of these fines.

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT THE LA ARE ALSO NOW PROSECUTING FAMILIES WHOSE CHILDREN ARE ACCUMULATING A NUMBER OF UNAUTHORISED ABSENCES.

Dates for your Diary

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

Mon 16th Feb	Parents' evening
Wed 18th Feb	Parents' evening Year 5/6 swimming gala
Thur 19th Feb	KS1 Girls football Tulips and Elms parents evening
Fri 20th Feb	Break up for half term
Mon 2nd Mar	School reopens after half term
Wed 4th Mar	Governor attendance panel Year 3/4 Hockey Tournament
Thu 5th Mar	World Book Day Book Fair in school 5.3-11.3.26 FGB 5pm
Tue 10th Mar	Y5 mini Health Champions
Mon 16th Mar	Y5/6 Basketball finals School Assessment week
Tue 24th Mar	Dance Festival pm
Wed 25th Mar	Cricket taster sessions
Thur 26th Mar	KS1 Athletics
Mon 30th Mar	Easter egg designs brought into school
Tues 31st Mar	9:30 am Easter Service St. Albans
Wed 1st Apr	Easter Egg competition judged
Thu 2nd Apr	School breaks up for Easter holidays

Our School Governing Body

The 12th February was National School Governors Awareness day. Our school governing body have a really important role to play. Working alongside the senior leadership team, governors provide oversight, constructive challenge and long term strategic direction to support the school's continued success.

Constructive challenge is a vital part of effective governance—creating a culture where governors ask questions, offer different perspectives and help strengthen decision making.

Strategic planning sits at the heart of the governing body's work. Governors meet formally as a full board once a term, with specialist committees also meeting termly to focus in on key areas in greater details.

Our recent recruitment drive for a new parent governor saw Mrs. Julie Graham being successfully re-elected as parent governor.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of our governing body, both past and present, for the work they do in supporting me in running the school.

For more information about our governors please see the school website.

Our Chair of Governors is Mr. Kevin Hawdon and our vice chair is Mrs. Janeisha Sadler.

Congratulations

Congratulations to our Year 5/6 football team who have reached the county finals. Its an amazing result and a huge thanks to Mr. Gibson and parents for supporting the team.

Article 29: Your education should help you use and develop your talents and abilities.