



Leadgate Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Summer Term–June 2026

Welcome Back!

Welcome back to school for the final half term of this academic year. Where has the time gone! I hope everyone had a lovely half-term break. The weather was lovely, and it made a refreshing change to enjoy a sunny bank holiday. I'm sure many of you made the most of it with barbecues, ice creams and plenty of time enjoying the sunshine.

As we approach the end of the academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge well done to all of our children. It has been wonderful to see how much they have grown, developed and matured over the course of the year. We are incredibly proud of each and every one of them.

A special mention must go to our Year 6 pupils as they embark on their final few weeks of primary school. We have so many memorable events to look forward to– tissues at the ready! It has been a privilege to watch them grow into the remarkable young people they are today, and I have no doubt that they will continue to thrive and succeed as they move on to the next stage of their education.

We are looking forward to a busy and exciting final half term, with lots to celebrate together.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.



Designated Safeguarding Team

At Leadgate Primary School, safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. We are fully committed to ensuring that all children feel happy, safe, and secure. Creating a safe, supportive, and nurturing environment is at the heart of everything we do.

Our Safeguarding Team:

- Miss Laura Weaver (DSL)
- Mrs Clare Hannon
- Miss Katy Nesom
- Miss Lucy Scarr
- Miss Helen Handy



If you have any concerns about a child's safety or wellbeing, or if you need support or advice related to safeguarding, please do not hesitate to contact a member of our safeguarding team. We are always here to listen and help. Together, we work to ensure that every child can thrive in a safe, caring, and respectful environment.

Concerns Outside of School

If you have concerns outside of school hours about a child or young person who lives in County Durham, please contact First Contact on: ☎ 03000 267 979



End of Year Reports

End of year reports will be shared at the beginning of July. These reports provide a comprehensive overview of your child's progress and attainment over the year. Once you have received your child's report, please complete the return form electronically so that we know it has been received. If you would like to discuss the report in more detail, you are very welcome to arrange a parent consultation with your child's class teacher.

Additional Transition Support for Year 2

To further support our Year 2 children as they prepare to move to Upper Site, we are pleased to offer parents the opportunity to attend a free weekly after-school childcare session at Upper School.

These sessions will allow children to become more familiar with the Upper School building in a calm, relaxed environment. They will have the chance to explore the space in a fun and playful way, helping to build confidence ahead of September.

If you would like to book a place, please contact the school office so that we can ensure sufficient spaces are available. Sessions are available on: Monday, Tuesday or Thursday (3:15pm – 4:30pm)

You are very welcome to book a regular weekly session.



Transition Arrangements

We have a number of transition events planned over the coming weeks to support children as they prepare for the next stage of their learning.

Whole School Transition Days

- On Wednesday 2nd July and Thursday 3rd July, all children will spend the morning in their new class with their new teacher from 9:00am – 1:30pm. Year 6 will also have their transition days.

New Reception Children

- We are delighted to welcome our new Reception children into school for the first time on 2nd July (9.30–11am), where they will begin getting to know their new environment and staff.
- Further transition sessions for our new Reception and Year 1 children will take place on:
 - 6th July 9:30am – 11:00am
 - 10th July 9:30am – 11:00am

Enhanced Transition for Year 2 (Moving to Upper Site)

We have planned additional transition opportunities to support our Year 2 children as they prepare to move to the Upper Site.

- 9th June: Year 2 will visit Upper Site with Miss Wildsmith and spend time learning in their new classroom.
- 23rd June: Mrs Faulkner will spend the morning in the current Year 2 classroom, getting to know the children alongside Miss Wildsmith.
- 30th June: Miss Faulkner will teach the Year 2 class for the morning.
- 2nd July: Miss Wildsmith will walk the children over to Upper Site to spend the morning with Miss Faulkner in their new environment. Lunch at Upper and pick up as normal at Lower.
- 3rd July: We kindly ask that parents drop children off directly at Upper Site. This will help children to become familiar with the morning routine ahead of September. Lunch at Upper and pick up as normal at Lower.

These carefully planned sessions are designed to ensure that all children feel confident, settled and excited about the year ahead.



KS2 Support Staff

Year 3 – Miss Boyle & Miss Birdsall

Year 4 – Miss Secombe

Year 5 – Mr Baker

Year 6 – Miss Keeler/Mrs Walls

Hive & ELP – Mrs Wilson & Miss Piggford

Parent Survey

We will be sharing our annual parent survey this term, and your feedback is incredibly important in helping to shape our priorities for the year ahead. The survey gives us the opportunity to celebrate what we do well, alongside identifying where we can continue to develop. It also helps us to evaluate the progress we have made towards our current priorities and reflect on how effectively we have responded to previous feedback.

We really appreciate the time it takes to complete the survey, and the information gathered will be carefully shared with Governors, school leaders and staff to help shape our future priorities and continue to improve our provision for all children.

The survey link will be shared via Arbor message, and I would be very grateful if you could take a few minutes to complete it. Your voice truly makes a difference in helping us ensure the very best outcomes for all of our children.



Class Organisation – September 2026

We know that moving classes in September can sometimes feel a little daunting for all children, and we ensure that there is a carefully planned transition period in place. It can be especially challenging for some pupils, particularly those with additional needs, and we recognise that every cohort is different. Building new relationships takes time, and we want to support children to feel settled, confident and secure.

With this in mind, we have carefully considered our class organisation for next year. In some cases, we feel children will really benefit from having the same teacher for two years. This approach helps to build strong, trusting relationships and allows teachers to develop a deeper understanding of each child, both academically and pastorally. It also provides greater consistency, helping children to feel secure and well supported, while enabling teachers to build on prior learning without losing momentum. Ultimately, this supports children in having a really strong and confident start to the new academic year.

From September 2026:

- Miss Scarr will move up with her current class into Year 6 (remaining in their current classroom).
- Mrs Hannon will move up with her current class into Year 4 (remaining in their current classroom).
- Miss Beverage will teach Year 5, and will move up with this class into Year 6 the following year.
- Mrs Faulkner will teach Year 3, and will move up with this class into Year 4 the following year.
- Mrs Handy will continue to teach in the enhanced learning provision (NEST)

This means that, in Key Stage 2, many children will benefit from consistency over two years, helping them to feel settled, confident and well supported in their learning.

At Lower Site, staffing will remain as follows:

- Nursery – Mrs Reed & Miss McCready
- Reception – Miss Nesom & Miss Hamilton
- Year 1 – Miss Morgan & Mr Brannigan-Howes
- Year 2 – Miss Wildsmith & Miss McLean





Phonics Screening

Year 1 Phonics Screening will take place throughout the week beginning Monday June 8th.

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Diary Dates Summer

Thu 18th June– Lower Father's Day Lunch
Fri 19th June– Upper Father's Day Lunch
Mon 22nd June– New Reception Parents Meeting 3.30–4pm

Fri 26th June – Non Uniform Day
Mon 29th June– New Reception Stay and Play 9.30–10.30am

Fri 10th July – Summer Fair
Tue 7th & Wed 8th July – Parents Evening

Thu 9th July– EYFS/KS1 Sports Day
Mon 13th July– Rec/KS1 Crafternoon

Tue 14th July– KS2 Crafternoon

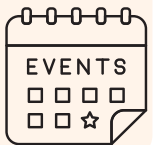
Wed 15th July– KS2 Sports Day

Thu 16th July– Y6 Celebration

Thu 16th July – Y2 Moving up Party

Fri 17th July– Last Day of Term

Date Change. Please note that our Summer Fair will now take place on Friday 10 July. This change has been made as our original date unfortunately clashed with Year 6 secondary school transition days.



Summer Crafternoons

We always love welcoming so many parents and carers into school to enjoy arts and crafts alongside their children these sessions are always such a special part of the term. To ensure everyone's safety and remain within fire regulations, we do need to limit numbers in classrooms, so places are restricted to one adult per child. We have explored different ways of organising these sessions, but this approach helps us to keep things manageable for families, particularly those with siblings, and avoids additional visits or time off work. We are always happy to support where we can, so if there is availability within a smaller class, you are very welcome to speak to us about an additional adult attending. While we will do our best, this may not always be possible. Thank you for your understanding and continued support – we really do enjoy sharing these special moments with you.

Father's Day Celebration

We are delighted to invite a special male adult (Uncle, Grandad or another important person) to join children in school for a lunchtime visit, followed by a short craft session in their child's classroom. This is always a lovely opportunity for children to spend some special time with their loved ones in school.

Places should be booked in advance via Arbor. We look forward to welcoming you into school for this special event.



Summer Fair – Save the Date!

We are looking forward to our Summer Fair will be held at Lower Site on Friday 10th July. To help us prepare, we will be holding a non-uniform day on Friday 26th June. Children are invited to come to school in their own clothes in exchange for a donation to support the fair. We would be very grateful for contributions such as sweets, bottles or items suitable for a tombola.



If any parents would like to volunteer to support either with preparation or by running a stall on the day, we would be extremely grateful for your help. Please contact the school office if you are able to support. Thank you in advance for your continued support.



Looking Ahead – Key Dates for Next Academic Year

We will be sharing dates for key events and activities for the next academic year at the beginning of the year, providing an overview for the full year ahead. We know how helpful it is for families to plan in advance, and we will aim to share as much information as possible early on. However, please be aware that, on occasion, dates may need to change due to other events or unforeseen circumstances. We will always communicate any changes as early as possible and thank you for your understanding.

Academic Year 2026– 2027

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Events	
30/08/2026	Summer Holidays End
01/09/2026	PD Day
26/10/2026 - 30/10/2026	Autumn Half Term
21/12/2026 - 01/01/2027	Christmas Holidays
04/01/2027	PD Day
15/02/2027 - 19/02/2027	Spring Half Term
26/03/2027	Good Friday
29/03/2027	Easter Monday
30/03/2027 - 09/04/2027	Easter Holidays
03/05/2027	May Bank Holiday
31/05/2027 - 04/06/2027	Summer Half Term
19/07/2027	PD Day
20/07/2027	PD Day
21/07/2027	PD Day
22/07/2027	Summer Holidays

Academic Year 2027– 2028

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29/05/2028 - 02/06/2028	Summer Half Term
05/06/2028	PDDay
21/07/2028	Summer Holidays