



Leadgate Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Spring Term–March 2026

Welcome Back!

It is lovely to return to school after the holiday with those brighter mornings and lighter evenings finally on their way. The sunshine was peeking through at the beginning of the week — I'm not quite sure what happened since, as the snow has returned! Only in Consett can we go from lovely sunny days to snowy ones so quickly. Still, the spring bulbs are beginning to wake up — daffodils, crocuses and all those cheerful pops of colour. It really does (or did yesterday!) feel as though spring has officially sprung, and brighter days are ahead.

It's hard to believe we've already reached the halfway point of the academic year. Last half term was certainly a very soggy one, but despite the endless rain, the children threw themselves into every opportunity with curiosity, enthusiasm and a brilliant eagerness to learn. We are especially excited for the development of OPAL this half term. It promises to be a wonderful experience for children throughout playtimes, helping them explore, play creatively and enjoy their outdoor environment even more.

Looking ahead, this term promises to be just as busy and exciting. We've planned plenty of opportunities for families to join us in school special lunches, crafternoons and more. We hope everyone has returned feeling refreshed, recharged and ready for another successful and enjoyable half term. And with a bit of luck, the wetter, soggy days are behind us — here's hoping for a brighter, lighter and much drier spring!



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 (DDSL)
- Miss Katy Nesom (DDSL)
- Miss Lucy Scarr (DDSL)



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



Parents Evening

This will be an opportunity to speak with staff, look through pupils' books, celebrate their successes, and discuss next steps. Book now on Arbor!



British Science Week – 9th–15th March Theme: Curiosity – “What’s the Question?”

Science Week will take place next week at Leadgate Primary School! Throughout the week, children will take part in a range of hands-on investigations, experiments and activities designed to spark curiosity and celebrate the amazing world of science.



Year 6 SATS

As we move into the spring term, our Year 6 pupils are continuing their preparation for the upcoming SATs. These assessments provide an opportunity for children to showcase what they have learned throughout Key Stage 2 and help us ensure they are well-supported as they move on to secondary school. In school, we are focusing on building confidence, strengthening key skills, and helping pupils feel ready and positive about the weeks ahead.

We would like to reassure families that SATs are only one part of a much bigger picture. We want to remind our families that these tests only measure a very small part of what our wonderful children can do. SATs cannot capture the creativity, imagination, confidence or personal development that our pupils show every day. They don't measure artistic talent, kindness, curiosity, teamwork or resilience — all qualities we see shining in our children and all qualities we are incredibly proud of. At Leadgate Primary, we celebrate every aspect of who they are becoming

Year 6 SATs will take place from Monday 11 May to Thursday 14 May 2026 Thank you for your continued support—we are incredibly proud of our Year 6 pupils and all their hard work.

Diary Dates Spring/Summer

Mon 9th March– Science Week
Thu 12th March – Upper Mother's Day Lunch
Fri 13th March – Lower Mother's Day Lunch
Tues 24th & Wed 25th March Parents Evening
Mon 30th March – KS2 Crafternoon
Tue 31st March – Rec/KS1 Crafternoon
1st April – Nursery Stay and Play 9–10

Fri 3rd April– School Closed Bank Holiday
Fri 3rd– 17th April Easter Holidays

Mon 20th April – School Reopens
Wed 22nd April YR–Y6 Bullying Workshops
Actionwork

Mon 4th May– School Closed Bank Holiday

Mon 11th May– Y6 SATS Week
Tue 19th May– Lower Non Curriculum Day
Fri 22nd May– Upper Non Curriculum Day
Mon 25th May– Half Term Week

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
Mon 29th June– New Reception Stay and Play 9.30–10.30am
Fri 3rd 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



Year 1 Phonics Screening

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



Easter Crafternoon

During our Easter Crafternoon, all children—and any adults who wish to join in—will decorate their eggs. Children may bring in their own resources if they have specific ideas from home. We ask that all pupils bring a hard-boiled egg for the session.

OPAL Journey!

We are very excited to begin developing our outdoor facilities at the Upper School site. This project will support more active, imaginative and engaging playtimes, and we can't wait to see the progress and the transformation that this space will bring to our pupils' daily experiences.

As part of this development, we will be applying for funding and grants where possible, and we will also be asking for donations from our school community to help us enhance the space further.

If you have any items you would be willing to donate—such as pots and pans, fancy dress items, wheeled toys, pallets, crates, or other loose-parts play resources—we would be very grateful. These contributions will help us create a rich and varied play environment for all children. Thank you in advance for your support as we work together to improve our outdoor provision.



Mother's Day and Father's Day Lunch

We are delighted to invite parents and carers to join us for our special Mother's Day and Father's Day lunch events this year. These occasions are a lovely opportunity to share a meal with your child and enjoy some "stay and play" time together during the lunchtime period.

We understand that families have different work patterns and commitments. Some parents may be able to take the afternoon off, while others may only be able to pop out during their lunch break. To support all families, we are working to standardise arrangements across both school sites so that everyone has a fair and enjoyable experience.

Please be aware that younger children may take a little longer to eat their lunch than older pupils. Our planning will reflect this, ensuring each child can enjoy an unhurried lunch and quality time with their parent or carer.

Parents and carers will be invited to join their child for lunch and then stay and play throughout the lunchtime session. At 1pm there will be a craft session in your child's classroom.

After-School Childcare

A reminder that our after-school childcare provision runs every Monday to Thursday until 5:00pm.

Families can also make use of childcare vouchers and Tax-Free Childcare to help with the cost of after-school provision. Places can be booked on Arbor.



🤝 Anti-Bullying & Friendship Workshops 22nd April

Throughout the day, pupils will take part in age-appropriate anti-bullying workshops. For our younger children, the focus will be on friendship, kindness and being a good friend. Older pupils will explore what bullying is, how to recognise it, and strategies for dealing with it. In Year 6, sessions will also include an introduction to cyberbullying and online safety, helping pupils understand how to stay safe and respectful online.





Police Visit



This week, pupils in Key Stage 2 had a valuable visit from the Police, who came into school to talk about antisocial behaviour, the importance of making positive choices, and how young people can contribute to a safe and respectful community.

The assembly focussed on what antisocial behaviour means, the impact it can have on others, and why it's important to think carefully about how our actions affect the people around us. They also explored ways pupils can show kindness, respect, and responsibility both in and out of school.

The children listened brilliantly, asked thoughtful questions, and showed a mature understanding of how they can help keep their community a positive place to live and learn.

We'd like to thank the Police for giving their time and for sharing such an important message with our pupils.



Circus Day Comes to the Lower Site!



We are thrilled to announce that the Big Top is coming to the Lower Site on the 19th May for a very special Circus Day! Pupils will have the fantastic opportunity to step into a real circus tent and enjoy a full day of fun, creativity and unforgettable learning.

The Big Top tent will be set up on the school grounds, creating a vibrant, colourful and immersive space where imagination can truly come alive. Throughout the day, children will take part in a variety of exciting circus-themed workshops and activities designed to build confidence, teamwork and new skills.

To add to the fun, children are welcome to come to school in fancy dress if they wish—circus-themed costumes are very welcome! If dressing up isn't for them, non-uniform is absolutely fine too.

Children can look forward to:



Circus skills sessions such as plate spinning, ribbon dancing and balancing



Interactive demonstrations from visiting performers



Creative, hands-on activities inspired by circus life



A sense of wonder and excitement as they learn in a unique and magical environment

Circus Day promises to be one of the highlights of the term, offering our pupils a joyful, energetic and enriching experience. We can't wait to see the smiles, the laughter and the sense of achievement as children explore, practise and perform new skills under the Big Top. It's shaping up to be a truly magical day—full of colour, creativity and circus fun!



KS2 Non-Curriculum Enrichment Day



We are excited for our KS2 Non-Curriculum Day filled with teamwork, creativity and active fun!



Team-Building Challenges

A visiting problem-solving company will lead pupils through exciting teamwork and resilience challenges to develop communication and problem-solving skills.



Creative art sessions



Wet Fun Run. This is a highlight for our children! Children will take part in a lively Wet Fun Run, involving splashes, obstacles and lots of laughter! Please send a towel and a change of clothes.



What to Wear

Children should come dressed in comfortable non-uniform suitable for outdoor activities.

It promises to be a fantastic day full of energy, creativity and great memories!



Leadgate Primary School

Diary Dates Sept 2025- July 2026



SEPTEMBER

welcome
**BACK TO
SCHOOL**

Thu 4th - School Reopens
Thu 4th & Fri 5th - Reception
8.50-12pm
8th-10th - Reception 8.50-1pm
11th-12th - Reception Full Time
15th-19th - Meet the Teacher
Week

OCTOBER

Tues 14th & Wed 15th Parents
Evening
Tue 21st- Lower Non
Curriculum Day
Wed 22nd- SEND Coffee
Afternoon 2pm-3pm
Fri 24th Upper Non
Curriculum Day
27th-31st -Half Term Holiday

NOVEMBER

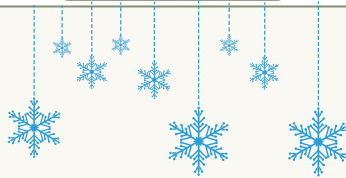
Mon 17th Maths Week
Fri 28th - School Photos

DECEMBER



Tue 2nd- Panto Rec-Y6
Mon 8th-10th - Y6 Residential
Mon 8th- EYFS Stay & Play
Tue 9th- KS1 Crafternoon
Wed 10th- EYFS Nativity
Thu 11th - KS2 Crafternoon & Xmas
Jumper Day
Fri 12th - Xmas Fair
Tues 16th & 17th- KS1/2 Nativity
Wed 17th - Christmas Lunch
Thu 18th - Xmas Party

JANUARY



Mon 5th Jan- School Reopens
Tue 20th Jan- SEND Coffee
Morning 9-10am
Tue 27th- Rock Kidz Workshop

FEBRUARY

Tue 17th - Lower Non
Curriculum Day
Fri 20th - Upper Non
Curriculum Day
23rd-27th - Half Term Holidays

MARCH

2nd - School Reopens
Thu 12th - Upper Mother's Day
Lunch
Fri 13th - Lower Mother's Day
Lunch
Tues 24th & Wed 25th Parents
Evening
Mon 30th - KS2 Crafternoon
egg entries
Tue 31st- Rec/KS1 Crafternoon

APRIL

1st- Nursery Stay and Play 9-10
Fri 3rd- School Closed Bank
Holiday
Fri 3rd- 17th Easter Holidays
Mon 20th - School Reopens
Tues 28th- SEND Coffee
Afternoon 2pm-3pm

MAY

Mon 4th May- School Closed
Bank Holiday
Mon 11th - Y6 SATS Week
Tue 19th - Lower Non
Curriculum Day
Fri 22nd- Upper Non
Curriculum Day

JUNE

Thu 18th - Lower Father's Day
Lunch
Fri 19th - Upper Father's Day
Lunch
Mon 22nd- New Reception
Parents Meeting 3.30-4pm
Mon 29th- New Reception
Stay and Play 9.30-10.30am



JULY

Fri 3rd July - Summer Fair
Tue 7th & Wed 8th - Parents
Evening
Thu 9th- EYFS/KS1 Sports Day
Mon 13th- Rec/KS1 Crafternoon
Tue 14th - KS2 Crafternoon
Wed 15th- KS2 Sports Day
Thu 16th- Y6 Celebration
Thu 16th - Y2 Moving up Party
Fri 17th- Last Day of Term



**Important
Dates**

Please find attached the academic year dates. While changes may occur, we will ensure you receive sufficient notice of any necessary adjustments. Thank you for your understanding!