



Autumn Newsletter 2025



Welcome to our first termly newsletter! This term culminated in four remarkable performances, each showcasing the impact of Voice 21's oracy teaching. Early Years dazzled with *The Magic of Christmas*, Years 1-3 presented *How Rudolph Got His Red Nose*, celebrating kindness and difference, and Years 4-6 performed *Peter Pan*, highlighting magic, love, hope, and family. Each production was outstanding, and I am immensely proud of our school community. Thank you to all who attended.

Our fundraising events have resumed with great success. Winter Wonderland brought families together for fun activities and raised £1,651.85 for our school fund—thank you for your generosity. Thank you to the school team who managed to source some amazing raffle prizes. We have again participated in Project Santa, which supports many families across our Trust. Children in Need Day, Harvest and the poppy appeal, have also been highlighted with the children. Children and families collected food for the West End Food Bank again and the generosity of our school community was phenomenal.

We warmly welcome back Mrs Matthias to Nursery after maternity leave, and Mrs Miller, who will join Year 1 after Christmas, job sharing with Mrs Jobson.

From January 2026, Year 6 pupils will receive a tie symbolising their leadership and role model status, reflecting their maturity in their final primary year.

Educational visits and visitors remain central to enriching learning. We appreciate your support in this. Our Trust (WEST) partnerships enable exciting opportunities such as theatre and science clubs at The Theatre Royal and The Centre for Life, NUFC visits, and match day tickets. Year 5 will benefit from drama sessions in partnership with the Royal Shakespeare Company, and we are grateful for 50 tickets to the *Aladdin* dress rehearsal. Y6 have also been given tickets to go to The Theatre Royal to see Cinderella in January, which is such a treat. We work with NUFC Foundation and our pupils have taken part in the HADO event in school and the weekly STEM sessions. We will continue running competitions linked to NUFC values of collaborative, hardworking, passionate and disciplined working. Watch this space!

Thank you for your continued support and I would like to wish you all a healthy and happy holiday and a very happy Christmas to all of our friends and families celebrating. See you in 2026!

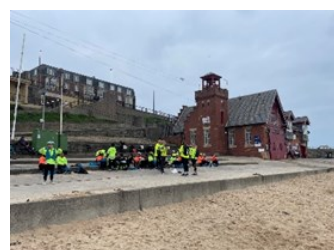
Mrs Mullarkey

Cycling Adventures

The opening term of the year was an exciting time for our Year Five pupils as they enjoyed two amazing cycling trips – a reward for all their hard work in Year Four. Thanks to their dedication in cycling PE lessons and after successfully completing Level 1 Bikeability, they were ready to take on real-world rides as soon as the new school year began. Their first adventure took them to the National Trust's Wallington Hall, where pupils explored the property's purpose-built cycle tracks. For many, this was their first time cycling outside Wingrove and staff were thrilled to see their confidence and skills grow throughout the day. Next, they headed to Blyth Beach to tackle the newly completed traffic-free cycle route that runs from St. Mary's Lighthouse all the way to Tynemouth. The



original plan was to finish at Spanish City, but the pupils were doing so well that they extended the ride to Cullercoats Bay, where everyone enjoyed a well-earned lunch on the beach. The route offers stunning coastal scenery and we highly recommend it for a family day out! These trips were a fantastic way to celebrate the progress our pupils have made. Well done, Year Five!



Visits and Visitors

"As part of Year Six's study of Victorian England, they spent a day exploring Beamish. This involved visiting a Victorian school and taking part in reading, writing and maths lessons. The teacher was very strict! Next, we walked around a miner's village imagining what life would have like for working Victorians. I enjoyed looking at the houses people lived in and the furniture they used. My favourite part was learning how they used machines to copy ink onto cards. Another memorable moment had to be the sweet shop; they were delicious!" - Hafsa, Y6



This half term, Year One were visited by Dr Lucy Whalley and she brought a satellite with her! She is a materials scientist and she talked to the children about her job role at Newcastle University, as well as all about the amazing work that she has completed as a scientist. This linked in perfectly with Year One's topic about space and their topic question: 'What's Beyond The Stars?' Aqsa said, "I really loved listening to Dr Whalley and it was exciting that I got to hold a real satellite."



"This half term, Year Six have enjoyed working with Steph and Kyle from NUSTEM to take part in a range of science and technology activities. Year Six have learnt about binary coding and how it has changed over time so our computer games can become more lifelike. One of our favourite sessions was when we learnt about DNA and had to create the longest chain possible. We always focused on our teamwork and problem-solving skills." -Fatima, Y6



"At the end of September, as part of our topic about 'How Do Seas Change?', Year Two visited St. Mary's Lighthouse on a beautiful sunny day and had a great time. We travelled by coach and when we arrived, we were met by Sam who was our guide and helper for the day. We walked across the causeway to reach the island, where Sam gave us our instructions for the day. To start with, we climbed the lighthouse tower. There were lots of steps to climb and although it was quite scary, the views at the top were amazing. After a bite to eat, both classes went outside to do rock pooling. It was quite tricky to catch some of the creatures, but we did manage to catch some small fish, crabs and prawns. We made sure we carefully returned them to their habitat after we'd looked at them. Before we left, we were given a talk about what it would have been like to have been a lighthouse keeper. It sounded like it was quite a hard job. Some of us were chosen to dress up as people who worked at lighthouses, such as the window cleaner so the lighthouse keeper could see the ships. It was a great trip, but we were all very tired at the end of it!" - Musa, Y2



Year One have enjoyed visiting Fenham library this autumn. After getting wrapped up for the weather conditions, they enjoyed the short walk to the library for their activities. Whilst at the library, they listened to space stories, made space crafts, built objects with Lego and dressed up. They enjoyed choosing books to bring back to school to enjoy in class. Adam said, "I liked reading books with Miss Khanum. It was a book about recycling because it is very important." Matilda added, "My favourite part of the trip was making the space crafts. It was fun."

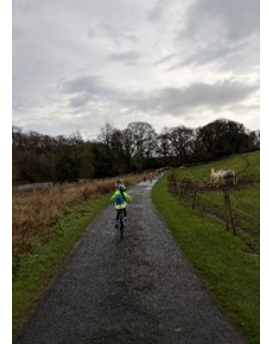


Amsterdam Preparations

We are thrilled to announce that 20 of our pupils have been chosen to take part in an incredible Turing Scheme funded trip to Amsterdam in April next year. The response to this opportunity was overwhelming, with far more applications than spaces available. We would have loved to take everyone and we want to say how proud we are of all the applicants for their bravery in putting themselves forward. For those who weren't successful this time, we hope you'll apply again for future opportunities. This year marked a first for us: more girls applied than boys. Preparations are already under way and pupils have started attending an after-school fitness club to build stamina



for the cycling adventure ahead. They've also completed Level 2 Bikeability training and recently tackled the first of five training rides – an impressive 11-mile journey from Newburn to Prudhoe in wet and cold conditions. Their resilience shone through as they pedalled on without a single complaint! As part of the Turing Scheme, all Year Five pupils have been paired with a pen pal from our Dutch partner school, Kindercampus Zuidas. In class, pupils have been exploring Dutch culture, sampling traditional treats like stroopwafels and poffertjes, as well as learning more about life in the Netherlands. We can't wait to share more updates as the countdown to Amsterdam continues!



Ukulele

"Throughout the term, Year Six have loved working with Chris from the Newcastle Music Service to learn the ukulele. We have built on our understanding of chords that we learnt in Years Four and Five and even advanced to playing a level 6 song – Thriller! Other crowd favourites were 'Hold My Hand' and 'Man I feel Like A Woman!' Through hard work, we all successfully learnt how to play 'Am7' and 'Fm7'." – Sara, Y6

Tesco Stronger Starts

Over the summer, Wingrove Primary School was entered into Tesco's Stronger Starts scheme, where we applied for £1,218 to help transform our allotment garden, which is currently in need of some TLC. Our proposal was put to an in-store vote, with customers using blue tokens to support their favourite cause. Voting took place in Tesco stores across Newcastle City Centre, including the West Road and Quayside branches. Thanks to the incredible support from our families and the local community, Wingrove came first and won the full amount we asked for – £1,218! We are so grateful to everyone who voted for us and helped make this possible. What's next? Work on the garden is scheduled to begin in the New Year, and we hope to have everything ready so pupils can start planting fruit and vegetables in the spring. With a bit of luck, we might even manage some winter veg!

Bowling

We recently entered a ten-pin bowling competition at Gutterbowl Alley in North Shields. We competed well and earned a brilliant 3rd place finish, with Dua (Y5) achieving the top score of the day with a massive 114! Huge congratulations to Dua on a fantastic achievement and the rest of our bowling team for their efforts. Maisie, Y6, said, "I had a great time bowling. It was a little tricky at first, but then I got the hang of it and had lots of fun."



Sports News

Girls' Football

Our Girls' KS2 Football Team entered the U11 WEST Girls' Football League at Walbottle High School and have since participated in two rounds of fixtures. The girls have impressed in their matches, scoring some excellent goals, showing confidence and fantastic effort in each game and are currently sitting second in the league. Well done, girls!

Year 5/6 Sportshall Athletics

A selection of Year Five and Year Six pupils participated in Sportshall Athletics Competition at Lakeside Leisure Centre. They represented Wingrove impeccably and produced excellent scores in all of the events, which culminated in us scoring our highest points total ever at one of these events. We proudly finished 6th out of the 26 competing schools. Great job, everyone!

PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP

Our weekly Parent and Toddler Group continues to be a warm, welcoming and much-loved part of our school community. Each session is full of fun, laughter and opportunities for both parents and children to connect. Every week, the room is set up with a range of engaging play areas to suit all interests and ages. These include construction, arts and crafts, role play, a cosy baby area and ride-on toys. Children enjoy exploring, playing and socialising with new friends, while parents have the chance to relax, chat and build friendships with one another. Snacks and drinks are provided at every session for everyone to enjoy. This half term, parents also benefited from a very informative first aid demonstration led by a paramedic. The session focused on basic first aid skills and gave parents valuable knowledge and confidence to use in everyday situations. We ended the term on a real high with a fantastic Christmas party. The children arrived in their festive outfits, joined in with party games and were delighted by a special visit from Santa. It was a joyful celebration and a wonderful way to finish before the holidays. We currently have spaces available and would love to welcome new parents and toddlers in the new year. The group runs every Tuesday during term time from 8:50am to 10:00am. Registration forms are available from the school office. We look forward to meeting lots of new families and sharing many more happy moments together!



Into Film Festival

This term, classes from Years Two to Six had the fantastic opportunity to attend film screenings as part of the Into Film Festival 2025. The festival is the world's largest free film festival for schools and young people, organised by the charity Into Film, whose mission is to inspire and educate through film. The charity aims to give every child the chance to experience cinema, develop a love of storytelling and learn about the creative industries. Our pupils enjoyed some truly excellent films, including Kensuke's Kingdom, How to Train Your Dragon and The Wild Robot – all adaptations of books that many of our classes have read and loved in school. These screenings provided a wonderful link between literature and film, sparking discussions about how stories are brought to life on the big screen. We are delighted to report that every class behaved impeccably throughout the festival.

Science Is My Superpower

We are thrilled to announce that 15 of our Year Five girls have embarked on an exciting year-long programme called Science Is My Superpower, hosted by Newcastle High School for Girls. This initiative is designed to inspire girls to explore the world of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) and discover the amazing opportunities it offers. The first workshop focused on eco-friendly house design, challenging pupils to create



their dream home with sustainability at its heart. This was the first of six workshops that the same group will attend throughout the school year, making full use of the fantastic facilities at Newcastle High School for Girls and working alongside their talented students and teachers.

Choir

Our Wingrove Choir has been working hard for months, in preparation for representing our school around the city by singing festive songs for busy shoppers. The children have given up their free time to learn a huge number of songs for our repertoire and they have done so enthusiastically and loyally. The feedback from our performance in the Grainger Market was overwhelmingly positive from staff and customers alike. We hope the residents of the care home enjoyed our performance just as much.

Winter Wonderland

Our Winter Wonderland Fair was a huge success and it was wonderful to see our school community come together to celebrate and enjoy a special event. Families took part in a wide range of exciting games and stalls, including Hook a Duck, Name the Teddy, Snowball Shy and many more. The food stalls were extremely popular throughout the event, as was the face painting, which brought lots of smiles and colourful designs to children's faces. One of the highlights of the day was a visit to Santa's Grotto, where children had the chance to meet Santa himself and receive a small gift. Thanks to the incredible support and generosity of our families, we managed to raise a fantastic profit, which will go directly towards purchasing new outdoor toys and equipment for all children to enjoy.

