



Summer Newsletter 2026



Welcome to the final newsletter of this academic year. I think I say this every year, but this one seems to have been the busiest one yet. As you will read in some of the articles, we have had another successful one with our many events including several sporting competitions, music events, Lego League, our work with The Theatre Royal and the Royal Shakespeare Company, our continued work with The Centre for Life, the winning trophy for the WEST debating competition, our Y5 and Y6 overseas residential visits to our partner schools in The Netherlands and in France and the many cycling trips. Last week we received notice that we have been awarded Voice 21 Oracy Centre of Excellence which is an amazing achievement. We have also been successful again with being awarded funding for our overseas trips next year which is excellent news.

This year we have said our goodbyes to a number of staff members including: Mrs Vittaladevini, Miss Chaudry, Mrs Parvez, Mrs Burke, Mrs Reynolds and Miss Colley. We wish them all well in the next chapter of their careers and thank them for all their support during their time with us. We welcomed back from maternity leave: Mrs Appleby, Miss Kane and Mrs Matthias. We welcome to the team: Mrs Guy, Mrs. Miller, Miss Cameron, Mr Zambrzycki, Miss Islam, Mrs Aktar, Miss Edwards, Mrs Rana and Mrs Morad. We look forward to welcoming them to the Wingrove family. We also have two members of staff away on maternity leave currently: Mrs Mulhearn and Mrs Begum. We are busy finalising the cover for Mrs Mulhearn who will work alongside Mr Barker and the Y5 team for two terms next year. I will share the decision with you before the end of the week.

We also come to the end of an era for two of our long serving colleagues who are stepping down from their important roles at the end of this academic year: Miss West will be resigning from her deputy head post at the end of the week. She will be back in September supporting us with strategic work and supporting the teaching team. Mrs Anne Laws steps down as chair of our governing body at the end of the year. She has been connected to the school for seventy nine years! She began as a pupil, then as a parent, as a grandparent, as governor and lately as chair of governors. She has shown true commitment to school and it is down to her leadership that our Wingrove family have been supported so well over the years. On Thursday we will be having a special assembly for both Miss West and Mrs Laws, where we will give them an amazing send off.

Our results this year have shown improvements in our early years outcomes, with 5% increase in children achieving a Good Level of Development (GLD = 57%) which is good to see. Our phonics outcomes in year one also show an improvement of 12%, which is excellent and shows that 75% of our Y1 pupils are ready for the next stage of their learning journey. We will continue to work with our pupils who require a little more time and some additional support. We will not have the SAT results for Y6 until Thursday 16th July, due to DfE delays, but I will share the outcomes with you all in the autumn term.

I would like to thank you all for your continued support. I wish you all a wonderful summer holiday and look forward to welcoming you all back to school on **Thursday 3rd September @0835**.
Mrs Mullarkey

MUMS' BEACH TRIP

Our recent Mums' Group beach trip to Whitley Bay was a fantastic day out for both mums and little ones. It was so lovely to see everyone come together, make new friends and enjoy spending time together in such a beautiful setting. The children had great fun splashing in the sea, playing in the sand and exploring the beach, while the mums enjoyed the chance to chat, relax and build new connections. A highlight of the day was sharing a lovely picnic together, giving everyone the opportunity to sit back, enjoy some tasty treats and make the most of the sunshine and sea air. The day was filled with laughter, friendship, and special memories. It was wonderful to see our community growing stronger through these shared experiences.

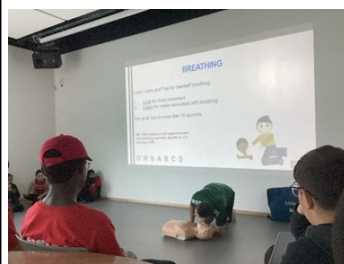


Visits and Visitors

Year 6 visited the Discovery Museum to complete a range of STEM activities. Abuzar enjoyed using the iPads to code robots to move around. Then, we all raced our robots! Another workshop used different materials to make the strongest bridge. Reem explored trial and error when her group chose to use triangles to make a zigzag shape.



Year 1 visited The Glasshouse to take part in The Big Sing for Mini Singers. "We have spent the last few weeks learning the songs and we loved performing them with lots of other schools from around the region. As a class, we came up with lots of actions for many of the songs and it was so lovely to be able to perform altogether. We sounded so good!" – Eshal, Y1



On Wednesday 1st July, Year 6 visited the NUCASTLE Foundation as part of their Health and Wellbeing week. Behashta shared, "It was really interesting learning about how screen time can affect our brains. Also, we took part in a vital lifesaving workshop, where we learnt how to perform CPR! It is great to know how we can save a life."



As part of Year 1's learning about 'Is There Magic in The Forest?', they visited Washington Wetlands. "We went on a walk around the wetlands and saw flamingos, otters and birds. Then, we played in the park – there was a huge climbing frame, a sandpit, mud kitchen, swings, seesaw and water feature. After lunch, we met Ava and did lots of activities so we could become 'Guardians of the Wild'. We used our senses to **smell** different leaves, **look** for insects in the garden and **listen** for different birds. We were all given a free pass so hopefully we can visit Washington Wetlands during the summer holidays with our families. My favourite part was definitely seeing the pink flamingos." – Viyosan, Y1



Year 1 visited Fenham library during the summer heatwave. "We took part in lots of activities while we were there. We made turtle crafts as part of our learning about the seaside. The librarian read us a lovely story and we worked together to create Lego sea creatures. We also had a visit from Lisa, from the library, to our school and she told us all about the Summer Reading Challenge. It would be great if families could visit the library during the holidays and take part in the challenges – there are lots of prizes to be won and best of all, it's completely free!" – Dereck, Y1



Fifteen of our best singers were chosen to represent Wingrove at our annual Trust celebration event in June. The children from Years 4, 5 and 6 sang two challenging arrangements; 'Flowers' made famous by Miley Cyrus and 'Building' - a song in three parts which includes an acapella section and a key change! They performed with precision and enthusiasm, using all of the techniques we discussed in our many rehearsals and received many compliments and lots of praise. We were lucky to listen to our friends from the Trust too; the orchestras from Hawthorn and Bridgewater showed us practice really does make progress and the Key Stage 1 choir from Canning Street inspired us with their confidence.

Shining with Shakespeare

Our Year 5 pupils have achieved incredibly this term as they have been working with the Royal Shakespeare Company and Theatre Royal Newcastle for a unique performance project based on *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Each school rehearsed a different section of the play, before coming together at Broadwood Primary School, where every performance combined to create a full production. It was a wonderful celebration of creativity, collaboration and the power of live theatre. Our pupils embraced every challenge with enthusiasm, showing resilience, teamwork and growing confidence throughout rehearsals. On the day, they adapted brilliantly to last-minute changes and delivered a fantastic performance, bringing Shakespeare's words to life with energy and expression. It was particularly special to see some children perform lines in both Shakespearean English and their home languages, celebrating the diversity of our school community. The Theatre Royal team praised the children for their courage, commitment and professionalism, describing them as a "brave, funny, talented and clever" group who embraced every opportunity and performed with confidence. We are incredibly proud of all our Year 5 pupils for representing our school so brilliantly. It was an unforgettable experience and a fitting celebration of all their hard work.

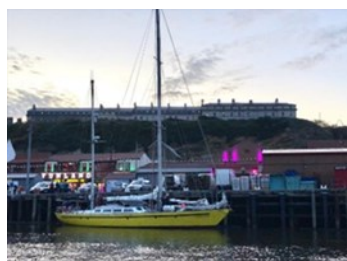


Nursery News

We have had a busy term in Nursery. Mrs Rutter has been running the Early Words Programme for invited parents to support talking at home through play, stories, rhymes and the outdoors. Thank you to all the parents who attended and found it so useful. We have also enjoyed another visit to Moorside Allotments, looking at the beautiful flowers and we had great fun on our beach trip last week.



In May, Ms West and Mr Chilvers took twelve Y6 children sailing on the James Cook yacht. "We sailed with children from St John's Primary School and Canning Street Primary School. Our journey began at the Royal Quays Marina, where we spent time preparing the yacht for departure and helped to prepare our tea – which was delicious by the way! Then, we sailed down the River Tyne, mooring at the Millennium Bridge overnight. We loved sleeping on the yacht as it was really exciting. The whole trip was such good fun and an amazing experience. The best parts for all of us were steering the yacht, hoisting the sails and making new friends. Everyone agreed the trip helped to develop our confidence, problem solving and leadership skills." – Ms West



Bonjour, Nancy

In June, twenty children from Year 6 had the amazing opportunity to travel and explore Nancy, France. We loved meeting our partner school and made some great friends. Aleena S shared, "My favourite part was when we went to a science museum because it was interactive and we could touch and play with the different exhibits." Abu-Bakr added, "I loved when we explored the aquarium as we saw lots of different fish and sea life, like crabs. One day, we went to a field with the French children and did a variety of sports activities. It was really fun! On the way back, we stopped in Paris and had a boat ride down the River Seine and went past the Eiffel Tower!"



SPORTS NEWS

Schools 500 Games - In June, the Newcastle PE School Sport Service ran the event, Schools 500 Games. Across three days, we took pupils from all years to participate in a range of different events to compete against other schools across Newcastle. Year 1 took part in a multi-skills event where they completed a carousel of activities, putting all their skills to the test and just missed out on 3rd place by a couple of points. They all had a fantastic time and represented Wingrove impeccably. Year 2 participated in the Balance Bike Derby and they had to make their way through the course, weaving past objects and using their skill and balance to go around tight corners, whilst racing against other pupils from different schools. Yahya (2AH) won 1st place overall and received a gold medal, which was incredible! Our girls' football team from Year 3/4 won a silver medal for their efforts after sadly losing in the final to an experienced team. They had previously won the semi final after an intense penalty shootout. The girls scored some excellent goals, saved plenty of shots and demonstrated hard work and team work throughout. It was a great experience for the girls competing against other schools within the area. Our Year 4 handball team won gold as they competed in a round-robin tournament, playing 6 matches against other schools and winning every single game! Our Year 5 & 6 teams competed in boccia and were due to play baseball, but sadly, due to the weather, baseball was cancelled. However, both teams competed in boccia and won gold and silver.

Panathlon County Finals - Our year 5/6 Panathlon team participated in a multi-skills event in May, competing against other local schools. Our fantastic team won 1st place by over 40 points! The team then progressed to the Panathlon County Finals where the winners from Newcastle, North Tyneside, South Tyneside, Sunderland and Gateshead all came to the Academy for Sport at Gateshead College to compete in the County Finals and, once again, Wingrove won 1st place! This means we are the best team in the county; what a fantastic achievement!

WEST Competitions - Benwell Hill Cricket Club hosted a WEST Cricket Festival and we took ten Year 6 pupils to compete in the event. The pupils went head-to-head, competing against our other Trust schools in a range of skill games. The final game was against St Paul's and the winners of this game would be crowned winners of the overall event. In the last ten seconds of the game, Abdullah (6KS) caught the ball meaning Wingrove were the winners of the Cricket Festival. It was a brilliant day where all pupils were fantastic and worked well as a team. Wingrove held our WEST Sports Week, where all schools from our Trust came to Wingrove across three days to participate in a range of activities. Years 1 & 2 participated in multi-skills event and finished in 3rd place. Years 3 & 4 participated in the archery and crazy golf event, winning 1st place in the archery and 2nd in crazy golf. Year 5 took part in handball and athletics, while our handball team just missed out on a place in the final, losing to an intense penalty shootout to the winners of the tournament, Lemington. However, our athletics team finished 1st overall.

WEST Girls' Football Festival - Our Year 6 girls' football team participated in the WEST Girls' Football Festival at St John's. In each game the girls scored some fantastic goals, worked extremely hard and showed great determination and skills. The girls' hard work paid off and they came away as winners of the whole tournament!



Proud Reception Teachers

"We can't believe how quickly this year in Reception has gone. We could not be prouder of all of our children this year and we have loved being part of their learning journey. It has been our pleasure to see them grow in confidence and to observe them develop their own personalities. We have had the best year, jam packed with fun learning. We are beyond proud of them all! We know they will all shine in Year 1. We will miss you all, children and families." – Mrs Blashford and Miss Holland

A Day of Welcome

As part of this year's Refugee Week, we once again celebrated A Day of Welcome with a special non-uniform day to raise funds for Schools of Sanctuary. Children were invited to come to school dressed as their personal heroes and it was wonderful to see the wide variety of inspirational figures represented throughout the day. The donations helped to raise £195.53 for Schools of Sanctuary, who support schools in creating safe, welcoming and inclusive environments for all.