Newsletter

6th November 2026

Stars of the Week	
Reception	Aviyanna
Year 1	Tiwa
Year 2	Arthur
Year 3	Ramsey
Year 4	Layla S
Year 5	Aadvi
Year 6	All of Year 6

Head of School Update

Welcome back to Autumn 2!

It has been wonderful to welcome the children back into school this week, right where they belong, with their friends and with us, learning, laughing and growing together. The children have returned with an excellent attitude to learning, showing enthusiasm, resilience and a real readiness to make the most of every opportunity. We are all very proud of them! This half term is always a busy and exciting one, with lots for children to look forward to both in and out of the classroom. As we move towards the festive season, there will be many opportunities for children to develop new skills, make lasting memories and continue to grow academically, socially and personally. We look forward to seeing the progress they make over the coming weeks.

Please take a moment to check the key dates shared in the Parent Planner and at the end of this newsletter, as the weeks ahead quickly fill up with events and activities. A few dates I'd like to highlight that weren't on our parent planner originally are below:

Community Library on Tuesday 9th December. Following the success of our last event, we would love to welcome families back into school to borrow a book and enjoy some time reading with their child. Rumour has it there may even be some hot chocolate on offer!

We're also keen to continue building on the fantastic community spirit shown during our summer Go Yellow Day in support of St Benedict's Hospice. On 11th December, following our Christmas lunch, children will be taking part in a Reindeer Run to raise money for charity. What better way to work off a delicious Christmas lunch while supporting such an important cause? Further details about both of these events will be shared soon. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Here's to a happy, productive and memorable Autumn 2.
Have a wonderful weekend everyone!
Laura Tullock
Head of School

School Dinners

Next week is week 2 of our lunch menu. Please take a look together with your child and help them decide which option they'll be choosing each day.

Week Two



MAIN: Tomato pasta with garlic slice or cheese omelette with herby potatoes. Both served with vegetables/salad
A selection of sandwiches are available
DESSERT: Fresh fruit salad



MAIN: Pork or Quorn sausages with yorkshire puddings, mashed potato, vegetables and gravy
Jacket Potatoes are also available
DESSERT: Iced sponge and custard



MAIN: Beef mince pie or cheese quiche with roast potatoes and beans
Filled wraps are also available
DESSERT: Rice pudding with flapjack



MAIN: Chicken kebab or Quorn fajitas with wedges and vegetables
Jacket potatoes are also available
DESSERT: Fruit cornflake tart with ice cream



MAIN: Fish goujons, chicken poppers or vegetarian fish fingers with chips and peas
A selection of sandwiches are also available
DESSERT: Pudsey Bear shortbread biscuit

A SELECTION OF FRESH BREAD AND SALAD IS AVAILABLE EVERY DAY

FRESH FRUIT, FRUIT SALAD, AND YOGHURT ARE AVAILABLE AS ALTERNATIVE DESSERT OPTIONS EVERY DAY

Attendance

School feels at its best when it is full of children, and it has been lovely to see everyone back this week. Thank you for your continued support with attendance. Every day in school matters, helping children build friendships, confidence and knowledge that support their success both now and in the future.

Belong together. Learn together. Flourish together.

This week's attendance winners are... **Year 1 – 97.9%**

Parking

We love seeing so many children making the most of our Breakfast Club and arriving ready for the day ahead. As a result, our car park can be particularly busy at the start of the school day.

We would like to kindly remind all parents and carers to park considerately and respectfully. Please avoid parking behind other vehicles and blocking them from leaving, as this can cause delays and frustration for other families. We also ask that you do not park on the pavement. When pavements are blocked by vehicles, children and families are often forced to walk around them, sometimes stepping into the road, which presents a safety risk.

Thank you for your support in helping us keep the school site safe and welcoming for everyone. A little extra care and consideration can make a big difference to the start of the day for all members of our school community.

Safety reminder for families

You may have noticed that the fence between our school car park and the builders' storage area was damaged during the recent storm. While this area is not part of the school site, the fallen fencing means that some items may now be more visible and appear tempting for children to explore.

We would be grateful if parents and carers could remind their children not to enter this area when walking to and from school. Building materials, equipment and stored items can present significant safety risks, even if they appear harmless.

Thank you for your support in helping us keep all our children safe before and after the school day.

Safeguarding

We know that many of our children enjoy gaming, particularly Fortnite and Minecraft. Online gaming can be a fun way for children to play, create and connect with friends, but it is important that parents and carers understand the features, settings and potential risks associated with these platforms.

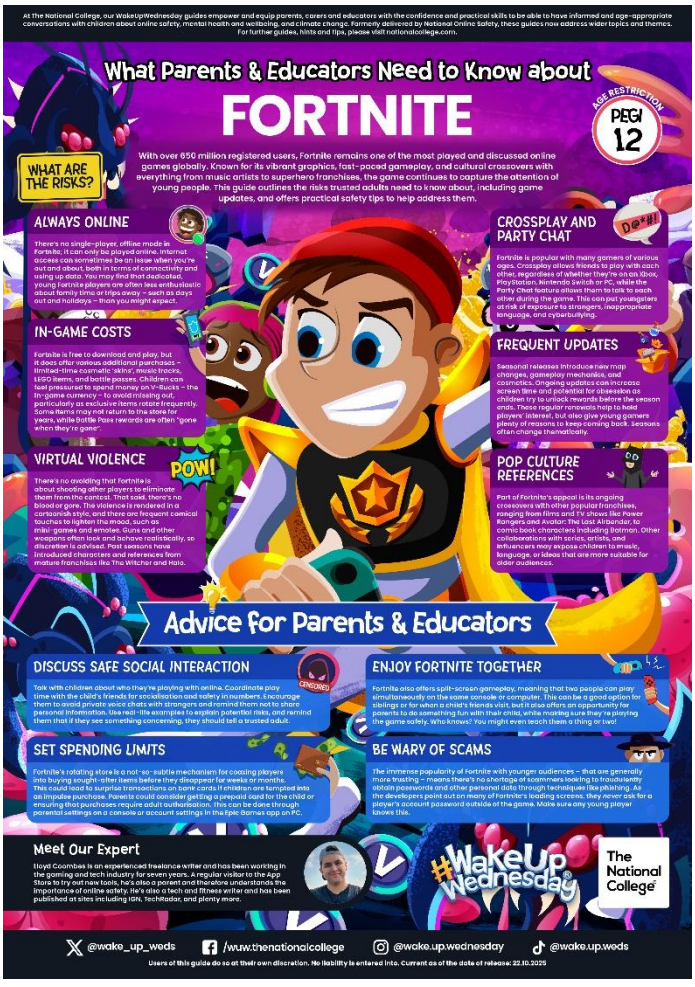
The links below provide helpful information and practical advice to support you in keeping your child safe online, including guidance on privacy settings, communication features, age ratings and promoting positive gaming habits.

Thank you for working with us to ensure our children can enjoy technology safely and responsibly.

[What You Need to Know: Minecraft | Free E-Safety Guide]

[What You Need to Know about Fortnite | Free Online Safety Guide]





Year 5 Explore the Wonders of Science at the Centre for Life! 🚀

Year 5 enjoyed an exciting educational visit to Newcastle's Centre for Life, where they had the opportunity to bring their classroom Science learning to life through a range of interactive experiences and investigations.



Our visit began with a special private planetarium experience, supporting our current topic of *Earth, Sun and Moon*. The children explored the relationship between the Earth, Sun and Moon, discovering how their movements explain day and night, as well as the passing of months and years.



The Space Zone provided some particularly memorable experiences, including the opportunity to touch a real piece of the Moon and take on the important role of Mission Control at NASA! The children also became fossil detectives in the Science Theatre, learning how fossils are formed over millions of years and how palaeontologists discover and study them today.



Our exploration continued in Brain Box, where we investigated the human body and learnt more about how its different systems work. Across the other interactive exhibits, we also made connections to our previous Science learning about forces, helping us revisit and apply our understanding in new contexts.

The visit provided a wonderful opportunity to develop scientific curiosity, ask questions and learn through first-hand experiences.

We were particularly proud of the children's excellent behaviour, enthusiasm and engagement throughout the day.

They were fantastic ambassadors for our school and thoroughly deserved the praise they received!



Girls Football

⚽ **Fantastic Start for Our Girls' Football Team!** ⚽

Our girls' football team kicked off their new season in fantastic style this week, with the first of many fixtures to come over the months ahead.

The girls enjoyed a brilliant opening night, finishing with an impressive three wins and just one defeat. From the very first whistle, they played with smiles on their faces, showed great enthusiasm and, most importantly, worked incredibly well together as a team.

There were goals galore from Frater, who certainly had her shooting boots on, alongside a fantastic goal from Carmen to add to an excellent team performance.
It was wonderful to see the girls encouraging one another, growing in confidence and enjoying every minute on the pitch. The results were a great bonus, but we were most proud of the teamwork, determination and positive attitude they showed throughout all four games.

A huge well done to all of the girls on such a fantastic start to the season. We're already looking forward to the next round of games and seeing the team continue to develop over the season ahead! ⚽ 👏 💙





This is a fantastic opportunity to wear something comfortable, bright, or fun while supporting children and young people across the UK who need extra help and support.

Let's fill our school with colour, fun and kindness as we come together to support children who need our help.

Donation buckets will be at the school office and entrances to school, please give what you are able.

Thank you for your generosity and support! 💛🧸

DAME DOROTHY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Christmas at Dame Dorothy Primary

A time to come together, celebrate and make special memories!

- Kindness
- Community
- Opportunity
- Brighter Futures

Wednesday 9 December



Christmas Community Library

3.15pm

School Hall

Thursday 10 December



Year 1 & 2 Nativity

2.30pm

Friday 11 December



Christmas Jumper Day and **Christmas Dinner Day**



Reindeer Run

Wednesday 16 December



Nursery Stay and Play

9am

Wednesday 16 December



Reception Stay and Play

1.30pm

Thursday 17 December



EYFS Nativity

9.30am

Friday 18 December



Christmas Carols on the Yard

2.45pm

Dame Dorothy Primary

Let's make this Christmas magical together!

Diary Dates

INSET DAYS (SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN):

- 19th July
- 20th July
- 21st July

HALF TERM DATES:

- 21st December - 1st January
- 15th February - 19th February
- 26th March - 9th April
- 31st May - 4th June

Dame Dorothy Primary School 2026-2027

August 2026

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
31						1	2
32	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
33	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
34	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
35	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
36	31						

September 2026

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
36		1	2	3	4	5	6
37	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
38	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
39	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
40	28	29	30				

October 2026

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
40				1	2	3	4
41	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
42	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
43	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
44	26	27	28	29	30	31	

November 2026

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
44							1
45	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
46	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
47	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
48	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
49	30						

December 2026

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
49		1	2	3	4	5	6
50	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
51	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
52	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
53	28	29	30	31			

January 2027

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
53					1	2	3
1	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
3	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
4	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February 2027

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
7	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
8	22	23	24	25	26	27	28

March 2027

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
11	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
12	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
13	29	30	31				

April 2027

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
13				1	2	3	4
14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
15	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
16	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
17	26	27	28	29	30		

May 2027

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
17						1	2
18	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
20	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
21	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
22	31						

June 2027

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
22		1	2	3	4	5	6
23	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
24	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
25	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
26	28	29	30				

July 2027

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
26				1	2	3	4
27	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
28	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
29	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
30	26	27	28	29	30	31	

Bank holidays 2026/27 UK

31 August '26	August Bank Holiday
25 December '26	Christmas Day
26 December '26	Boxing Day
28 December '26	
1 January '27	New Year's Day
26 March '27	Good Friday
29 March '27	Easter Monday
3 May '27	Early May Bank Holiday
31 May '27	Spring Bank Holiday

Inset days