



Teaching and Learning  
in a supportive environment  
where all  
feel valued, happy and  
successful.

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## Blaydon West Primary School: End-of-Year Newsletter 2024-2025

Dear Parents, Carers, and Families,

As the academic year draws to a close, we reflect on a truly remarkable period filled with growth, learning, and vibrant community spirit at Blaydon West Primary School. This year has been a testament to the hard work, resilience, and enthusiasm of our pupils, staff, and the incredible support from all of you.

### Celebrating Academic Excellence and Student Growth

We are absolutely delighted to share that our **Key Stage 2 SATs results this year are well above the national average – by approximately 20-25%**! This is a tremendous achievement and a reflection of the incredible dedication shown by our Year 6 pupils and the tireless efforts of their teachers and support staff. Beyond these fantastic results, we have witnessed significant academic and personal growth across all year groups. From the youngest learners in EYFS to our graduating Year 6s, every child has embraced challenges and developed new skills.

Our commitment to fostering a love for learning was evident during **World Book Day** on Thursday, 6th March, where children brought stories to life with imaginative costumes and engaging activities. We also focused on **Internet Safety Week** (February 10th-14th, 2025), emphasizing safe and kind online practices, protecting personal information, and responsible digital citizenship.

### A Year of Enriching Experiences and Community Spirit

This year has been rich with opportunities for learning beyond the classroom, thanks to our diverse range of educational visits- here is just a small sample:

- **Year 1** enjoyed a memorable trip to the beach and the Life Centre.
- **Year 2** explored history at Newcastle Castle and Prudhoe Castle.
- **Year 3** discovered the wonders of Durham Botanical Gardens, Gbyside, and the Great North Museum.
- **Year 4** embarked on adventures to Roseberry Topping, a Synagogue, and the Roman fort at Segedunum, perfectly complementing their history topics.
- **Year 5** had exciting river trips to Kielder and Corbridge, and a historical visit to York, including the Jorvik Viking Centre.
- **Year 6** participated in a residential visit, an Enterprise week, and valuable Careers Workshops at Metrocentre.

Our own school minibuses have been instrumental in making these unique experiences accessible to our pupils, taking them further afield than many schools can manage.

Head Teacher - Simon Brown

Chair of Governors - Chris Robson

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Our school community truly came alive through various events:

- The **Harvest Collection for Feeding Families** was an overwhelming success, demonstrating the incredible generosity of our families.
- The **Halloween Disco** on Thursday, 24th October, was a fantastic, spooky fun event.
- The festive season was magical with our **Christmas Shows** (attended by around 500 people!), a viral **Christmas video** (over 10,500 views!), **Christmas Jumper Day**, **Polar Express Day**, and wonderful **Christmas parties** for all key stages. The year culminated in a joyous **Christmas Dinner** and a heartfelt **Church Service**.
- Our **Summer Fair** on Monday, 7th July, was an overwhelming success, bringing together families for fun, community spirit, and sunshine. I am delighted to let you know we raised circa £1600!
- I am delighted to announce the winner of the signed Newcastle Shirt is a pupil from Reception and the two Newcastle tickets were won by a child from Year 1.
- We also held a successful **Macmillan Cake Afternoon** and participated in **Jeans for Genes Day**, fostering a strong sense of charity and social responsibility.
- The **Art Gallery Exhibit** on Monday, 30th June, showcased the incredible creativity of our pupils.
- Our annual **Easter Egg Decorating Competition** was "egg-straordinary," followed by an epic **Easter Egg Hunt** that brought much joy before the Easter break.

### Important Reminders and Looking Ahead

**Communication:** We have successfully transitioned to the **Arbor School App** for all newsletters and important updates. We strongly encourage all parents to ensure they have downloaded the app and enabled notifications to stay fully informed. The Arbor app is also your portal to access Annual Reports, Attendance Reports, Phonics Screening Scores, and Key Stage 2 SATs results.

**Uniform and Attendance:** We continue to emphasise the importance of adhering to our school uniform policy. Please remember that PE uniform should only be worn on designated PE days, and on all other days, pupils should wear sensible, black school shoes. Regular attendance is crucial for your child's learning, and we kindly remind parents that holidays during term time cannot be authorised.

### Friendly Reminder to Parents

If you're planning to have your child's ears pierced, please arrange for it to be done at the **very beginning of the holidays**. This allows time for healing, as **earrings cannot be worn when we return to school**.

Thank you for your support and understanding!

**Safety and Well-being:** We consistently reinforce the importance of online safety, encouraging families to monitor age-appropriate content and use parental controls. We also remind children not to bring personal items like toys, lip balms, or makeup into school to prevent distractions and potential hazards. For warmer weather, please apply long-lasting sun cream to your child before school, as bottles should not be brought in.

As we close this academic year, we extend our deepest gratitude for your continued partnership, enthusiasm, and trust. It has been a privilege to share in your children's learning journey, and we eagerly anticipate another year of growth, learning, and shared successes.

Wishing you all a wonderful and restful summer holiday! School re-opens on Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> September.

Warmest regards.

Mr S Brown  
Head Teacher

18<sup>th</sup> July 2025