



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

Blaydon West Primary School
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Blaydon West Primary School
Celebrating an Incredible Year
2025–2026

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As another school year draws to a close, it is hard to believe just how much we have achieved together. Looking back through the year, one thing becomes very clear – Blaydon West has been absolutely buzzing with life. Every week has brought new adventures, exciting opportunities and unforgettable memories for our children. Whether climbing mountains, exploring castles, performing on stage, meeting ducklings, camping under the stars or simply discovering something new in the classroom, this has been a year packed with smiles, curiosity and success.

None of this happens by accident. It is only possible because of the partnership between our wonderful children, dedicated staff, supportive governors and fantastic families. Together we have continued to create the kind of school where children genuinely love coming to learn every day.

Learning Beyond the Classroom

One of the things that makes Blaydon West special is our belief that learning should never be confined to four walls. Throughout the year our children have travelled across the North East and beyond, bringing their classroom learning to life.

Our Reception children explored Hall Hill Farm and even welcomed newly hatched ducklings into school, sparking endless curiosity about the natural world. Year 1 enjoyed visits to Gibside and Whitley Bay, whilst Year 2 stepped back in time at Alnwick Castle before enjoying fun-filled days at Gibside and the beach.

Year 3 visited Shipley Art Gallery, the Angel of the North, Gibside and Durham Botanical Gardens, combining art, science and outdoor learning. Year 4 climbed Roseberry Topping, explored Segedunum Roman Fort and visited a synagogue as part of their Religious Education. Year 5 travelled to York to experience Viking life first-hand before beginning an incredible River Study from Kielder to Corbridge and finally Tynemouth, literally following a river from source to sea.

For Year 6, the year culminated in an unforgettable residential visit to Weardale. Canoeing, climbing, campfires, waterfalls and even an unexpected visit from a curious barn owl gave our oldest pupils memories they will treasure forever. They returned home tired, muddy and smiling – exactly as a residential should end!

Head Teacher – Simon Brown

Chair of Governors – Chris Robson

Celebrating Together

School life is about far more than lessons, and this year has been full of occasions that brought our whole community together.

Christmas performances filled our hall with music, laughter and proud families. Our Christmas Fayre raised over £1,000 for school resources thanks to the incredible generosity of our community, before Christmas parties, church services and festive celebrations rounded off a magical term.

Spring brought our ever-popular School Disco, organised following suggestions from and ran by our School Council, giving children an evening full of music, dancing and laughter. World Book Day saw children arrive dressed as imaginative words rather than characters, creating one of our most creative celebrations yet.

As Easter approached, families once again amazed us with hundreds of wonderfully imaginative Easter Egg creations before children enjoyed our annual Easter Egg Hunt around the school grounds. Judging the entries was almost impossible because the standard was simply outstanding.

The year will finish in true Blaydon West style with Sports Day, Nursery Graduation, our Summer Fair and Year 6 Leavers' Assembly – events that always remind us just how quickly another wonderful year has flown by.

Dream Big, Start Small

One of the highlights of the year was undoubtedly our Careers Week.

Children met doctors, engineers, artists, cyber security specialists, railway workers, teachers, scientists, healthcare professionals, construction experts and many more. Parents, carers and members of our local community generously volunteered their time to inspire the next generation.

The week finished with our fantastic Careers Dress-Up Day, where children proudly arrived dressed as the people they dream of becoming. Pilots, athletes, teachers, vets, engineers, nurses, artists and scientists filled the classrooms, reminding us that every great future begins with a dream.

Watching children talk excitedly about their ambitions was one of the defining moments of the year and perfectly captured what education is really about – helping every child believe that anything is possible.

A School That Celebrates Everyone

Throughout the year we have celebrated not only achievement, but also diversity, culture and community.

Our Faith Week allowed children to visit Buddhist temples, Sikh temples, synagogues and explore Humanism whilst EYFS welcomed visitors to learn about Hinduism. Children also celebrated Eid together, sharing stories, traditions and delicious treats as we learned from one another. These experiences help children develop curiosity, understanding and respect for the world around them.



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Meanwhile, our Walking Month encouraged every class to explore Gibside and the outdoors, helping children appreciate nature, wellbeing and healthy lifestyles. Our Mindfulness Club also enjoyed peaceful walks, demonstrating that learning sometimes happens best beneath the trees rather than beneath classroom lights.

Growing in Confidence

Whilst trips and celebrations create wonderful memories, perhaps the greatest achievements cannot always be photographed.

This year we have continued to place huge importance on helping children become confident communicators through our work on oracy. Across every classroom, pupils have developed their confidence in speaking, listening, debating and presenting ideas. Whether explaining their thinking, working collaboratively or standing proudly in assembly, our children have grown not only academically but personally too.

We have seen resilience during SATs, teamwork on residential visits, kindness during playground games, creativity in classrooms and confidence during performances. These qualities will remain with our children long after they have forgotten individual lessons.

Thank You

As Headteacher, I feel incredibly proud of what our school community has achieved this year. Thank you to our amazing children, who continue to amaze us every single day with their enthusiasm, kindness and determination. Thank you to our dedicated staff, who work tirelessly to provide opportunities that go far beyond the curriculum. Thank you to our governors for their unwavering support, and finally, thank you to every parent and carer for the trust you place in us each day.

Children only get one chance at childhood, and we firmly believe school should be a place where those years are filled with happiness, friendship, challenge and unforgettable memories. Looking back over the last twelve months, I think we have achieved exactly that.

We hope everyone has a wonderful summer break and we look forward to welcoming everyone back for another exciting year at Blaydon West Primary School.

Simon Brown
Headteacher

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