WNA NEWSLETTER

Friday 23rd October 2026

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Facebook: https://share.google/CQnNePeWvHfLbsCl2

Gold LOtC Mark

Ben's Blog

Dear Families,

This week, we met our School Improvement Partner, Gary Wallis Clarke, who supports us and offers us guidance with all areas of school improvement. Gary has become more familiar with the school and was pleased with our Year 6 results from last year as well as our improving attendance and reduction in the number of children who are persistently absent.

It is not just about the headlines and the numbers though as we also created space this week to share flags of success across the school. This was an opportunity for the staff team to share stories from Nursery to Year 6 about what we have observed and noticed with regard to the development of the children at school.

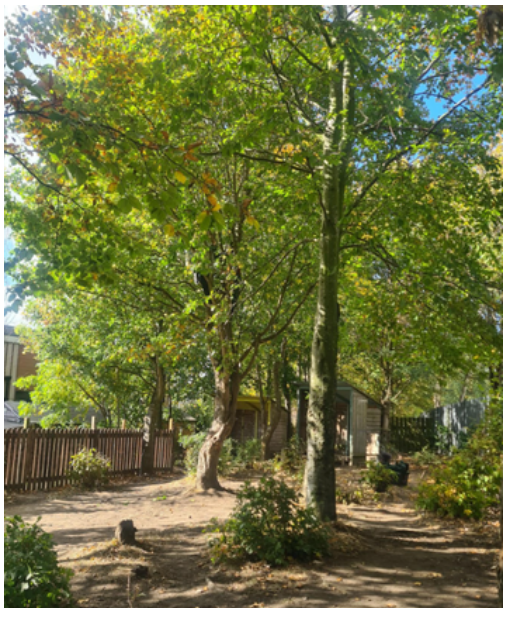
From children playing with more purpose to stories of growing independence and confidence; it is important we celebrate the small successes on a regular basis. Even today, I thoroughly enjoyed reading persuasive pieces of writing advertsing Paris, (the most visited city in the world) by our Year 6 children- across all of the year groups, our children are making exceptional progress with their writing. Have a great half term. Ben

Please note our upcoming Staff Team Training day on the 2nd November.
School will be closed for all children on this day.









Hide and seek! There are 4 children in this picture. Can you spot them?

Diary Dates

26.10.26- October Half term

02.11.26- Staff Training Day

03.11.26- Children return to school

03.11.26- Open Day 9.45- 10.45am

04.11.26- Open Day 4.30-5.30pm

09.11.26- 11.11.26- Parental Consultations.

Parental Consultations

Parental consultations for Autumn term will be held in the second week of the half term. Appointments are available on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday (9th-11th November) You can book your appointment through theArbor app.

Half Term

During this half term we would like all families to have a well deserved break, an 8 week half term like the one we have just had is very tiring for everyone. During this week though we would like all children to access Ed Shed, Times Table Rock Stars and to read their reading book with an adult. If you have other reading books at home please spend some time sharing and enjoying your books together.

School of Sanctuary

Over the course of this academic year, we will be working towards gaining accreditation as a School of Sanctuary. This award is given to schools in recognition of their good practice in fostering a safe and inclusive school environment, building understanding and empathy towards people seeking safety and working collaboratively to strengthen community approaches to welcoming refugee children and families.

You can learn more about this on their website: https://schools.cityofsanctuary.org/award

WE STAND FOR WELCOME
cityofsanctuary.org



LOtC

This week, Reception braved the rain and enjoyed their first minibus trip to Gibside. Although it was very wet, they had a lovely time.

Our other classes all enjoyed visits to the Nature Park where they took part in a range of activities related to Noticing Nature.

Nature Park News

We can't believe we have completed our first half term this year. We have absolutely loved getting to know the children this half term and we are all super proud of the progress they have already made. All children have adapted so well to changes and have enjoyed a range of different learning experiences. We wish everyone a restful half term and we look forward to welcoming everyone back after the holiday.

Early Years

Year 7 Applications

Year 6 parents only have 1 more week to complete applications for a place in Secondary School. If you miss the deadline you may be less likely to get a place in your first (or second) choice school. Find the application form at: https://www.newcastle.gov.uk/services/schools-learning-and-childcare/apply-school-place/applying-transfer-places

Your child will also have brought home a paper form if the application has not been made. This can be returned to our school office.

The Application deadline is 31st October 2026.

The Explorers

On Wednesday this week, The Explorers group used apples that they collected on their visit to Gibside last week to make their own apple pies. Ed, our chef, and Alison helped them to fill their pastry with the spiced, cooked apples, crimp the edges and brush them with egg wash ready to bake. When they had finished cooking they were golden brown and smelled delicious. The children took their apple pies home to share with their families.



West Newcastle Academy

West Newcastle Academy Primary School and Nature Park

Open Day

Tuesday 3rd November 9:45–10:45am or Wednesday 4th November 4:30–5:30pm

We warmly welcome all parents and carers looking for Nursery, Reception or Primary School places.

Call us on 01912739477 or Email
wna-admin@westnewcastleacademy.org
to book your space.
West Newcastle Academy, Armstrong Road, Benwell, NE4 8QP