



November 2024



SCHOOL CAR PARK

A huge thank you to the many parents who are now parking offsite and walking up the drive to drop children off at Little Stars in the mornings. This has made the car park much safer, and we really do appreciate your support.

BOOK FAIR

The Book Fair will be in the school hall at the end of each school day from Wednesday 27th November – Tuesday 3rd December.

We have 5 x £5 book vouchers for the book fair to give away. To have a chance of winning, the children need to draw a picture of the cover of their favourite book, and tell us why they love it.

Entry forms will be sent home with the children, and should be returned to school by **Thursday 21st November**. We will then choose the top 5 and these will be announced in our Celebration Assembly on Friday 22nd November.

CLUBS

If children sign up to an after-school club, can you please encourage them to attend every week? Very few of the clubs we run are without associated costs, and when we have poor attendance these clubs become very costly without offering any real value to our pupils.

If your child is unable to attend a club (if they have an appointment for example), please contact Mrs Laws in the office to let us know. If we do not have a message to say a child is not staying, they will be kept in school for the club they are signed up for.

HARVEST FESTIVAL THANK YOU!

We had such a lot of generous donations for our Harvest Festival before half-term. Thank you to everyone who sent something in - we have provided local families with the equivalent of 415 meals!

A Big **THANK YOU**

for supporting Newcastle-Staffs foodbank.

Your donations make a **BIG** difference to local people in crisis. A collection by Westlands Primary provided the equivalent of 415 meals.

Newcastle-Staffs foodbank is part of the Trussell Trust's UK wide network.

Registered as a CIC: 1194404 | Registered in England and Wales

Newcastle-Staffs **foodbank**

MEDICINE

Children **should not** have any form of medication with them in the classroom, other than inhalers. Any medication - paracetamol, ibuprofen, antibiotics or hay fever medication should be brought to the school office, where it remains for the school day. All medicine requires that a 'Request to Administer Medicine' form is completed (available from the school office).

FOOD BANK REFERRALS

We are able to issue vouchers for Newcastle food banks, through The Trussell Trust. If this is something you feel may be helpful to you, please don't hesitate to contact the school office.

We may need to ask for additional information about your household to claim the voucher, but all information will be treated in the strictest confidence.

TERM DATES FOR 2025-26

Term dates for next year are attached to the end of the newsletter for your reference.



KS1 & RECEPTION CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES (10th & 11th December)

Year 1 and Year 2 will be performing 'A Twinkly Nativity' on the afternoon of Tuesday 10th December. The children in Reception and Little Stars will also be doing a Christmas performance on Wednesday 11th December, again in the afternoon. Letters regarding tickets will be sent out shortly.

PTFA CHRISTMAS MARKET (Friday 13th December)

The children can choose and wrap gifts from the PTFA's Christmas market - payable on ParentPay.

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY (Friday 13th December)

Children can wear their jeans and festive jumpers in exchange for a small donation, which will be split between Douglas Macmillan Hospice and the Westlands PTFA.

CHRISTMAS PARTIES (KS1 Tuesday 17th December

KS2 Wednesday 18th December)

Children will have their Christmas parties and can wear non-uniform on these days – no need to bring anything in, everything will be provided.

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CAROL SERVICE AT ST ANDREWS (Tuesday 17th December)

The carol service will be for all of Key Stage 2 (Year 3 upwards). Parents are very welcome to attend the service at 9:30am on Tuesday 17th December, at St Andrews church.

CHRISTMAS DINNER (Wednesday 18th December)

Christmas dinner will be served on Wednesday 18th December – order forms will be sent out beforehand, as we do require Christmas dinner to be pre-ordered.

SINGING CLUB PERFORMANCE (Thursday 19th December)

Mr Mainwaring's singing club will be at the bottom of the drive at pick up time on the last day of term to sing some songs and send everyone off with festive cheer!

DATES FOR 2024-25

November

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| 14 | Year 3 at the World Museum, Liverpool |
| 27 - 3 Dec | Book Fair (school hall after school) |
| 28 | Year 4 Victorian morning |
| 29 | PTFA Christmas Jumper Sale |

December

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| 3 | Governors meeting (Teaching & Learning Committee) |
| 10 | Year 1 and Year 2 - A Twinkly Nativity |
| 11 | Reception and Little Stars Christmas Performance |
| 13 | PTFA Christmas Market
Christmas Jumper Day |
| 17 | KS2 Carol Service, 9:30am, St Andrew's Church
KS1 Christmas Parties |
| 18 | Christmas Dinner
KS2 Christmas Parties |
| 19 | Singing Club perform at home time
School closes for Christmas holiday |
| 20 | INSET day (school closed to pupils) |

January

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| 6 | Children and staff back in school |
| 8 | Meeting in school for Year 5 parents (Standon Bowers residential trip), 3:30pm |

DATES FOR 2024-25 continued

February

4 Full Governors meeting
12 PTFA Disco
17-21 Half Term

March

18 Governors meeting (Teaching & Learning Committee)
24-28 Year 5 at Standon Bowers all week
31 Swimming pool on site for 2 weeks

April

11 School closes for Easter holiday
28 Children and staff back in school

May

12 Year 6 SATS week
20 Full Governors meeting
21 PTFA Disco
26-30 Half Term

June

2 INSET day (school closed to pupils)
3 Children and staff back in school
17 Governors meeting (Finance Committee)

July

18 School closes for Summer holiday
21 INSET day (staff only)

SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAY DATES 2026/2026

PLEASE DO NOT BOOK ANY HOLIDAYS DURING TERM TIME

Autumn Term 2025

INSET Day	Monday 1 st September 2025
INSET Day	Tuesday 2 nd September 2025
School opens for pupils	Wednesday 3 rd September 2025
Half Term	Monday 27 th October – Friday 31 st October 2025
School closes for pupils	Friday 19 th December 2025

Spring Term 2026

INSET Day	Monday 5 th January 2026
School opens for pupils and staff	Tuesday 6 th January 2026
Half Term	Monday 16 th February – Friday 20 th February 2026
School closes for pupils and staff	Friday 27 th March 2026

Summer Term 2026

School opens for pupils and staff	Monday 13 th April 2026
May Day	Monday 4 th May 2026
Half Term	Monday 25 th May – Friday 29 th May 2026
INSET Day	Monday 1 st June 2026
School closes for pupils	Friday 17 th July 2026
INSET Day	Monday 20 th July 2026