



Dear Parent/Carer,

A huge welcome to the new academic year. It has been fantastic to see the children back in school, arriving with smiles, looking smart, and ready to take on the new challenges and adventures of the year ahead.

Where did the summer go? I think we have been blessed with lots of good weather, so I hope you all managed to be outside, eat ice creams and make lots of memories.

We have welcomed lots of new children into school and new staff. Welcome: Mrs Tate, Mr Cheel, Miss Driscoll, Miss Carr and Miss Coker.

And welcome to our gorgeous new reception children: Ollie, Zara, Dominic, Effie, Gregor, Isabella, Oakley, Ellie, Seliyan, Nelle, Nathan, Alteo, Kade, Gracie-Rayne, Devyn, Ada, Callan, Lennox-James, Gabriele, Millie, Freya, Jack, Joshua, Mikha, Hayden, Charlotte, Ivan, Ivy, Lockie, Frances, Maeve, Freya, Rex, Joey, Yuna, Arthur, Alice, Olivia, Ayda, Meadow, Aurelia, Verity, Parker, Zayn, Freya, Sofia, Amisha, Fredrik, Nami, Elliot, Leo, Eleanor, Alexander, Lily, Nikita, Maya, Finley, Tommy, Esmae.

Watch out for the newsletter next week as we will share dates for this term.

Follow the link to our website for term dates:

[Front Street Primary](#)

There is always lots of information on our website and Facebook too.

frontstreetcommunityprimaryschool

RECEPTION PARENTS – TEA & TISSUES

We would like to invite parents into school on **Monday 7th September** for Tea & Tissues. Please drop children off as normal and then walk round to the school hall, doors will open once all children are in class.

MEET AND GREET (YEAR 1-6)

Parents are invited into school on **Wednesday 9th September** from 8.40am-9.00am to meet the class teacher and look at the classroom. It is a brief slot to put a face to a name and see where your child hangs their coat etc. The time is not an information session or a question-and-answer session. If you are unable to make this and really want to meet the teacher for a quick 2 minute "hello" please contact the office. The meet and greet is a quick hello and look at the classroom. By 9am all parents will have left school premises.

School Admissions for 2027

Primary School and Secondary School admissions will be live next week. Nursery and Year 6 children should bring a letter home on Monday.

More information can be found at:

[Primary school admissions September 2027 - Gateshead Council](#) closing date for submitting applications is **15 January 2027**

[Secondary school admissions September 2027 - Gateshead Council](#) closing date for submitting applications is **31 October 2026**

ALLERGENS

From September 1st all schools must follow new statutory guidance.

Many children have different allergens in our school. To help keep all of our children safe, please can I ask that any birthday treats provided for classes by parents should be in their original packaging with ingredients easily visible and should not be known to contain nuts. These will be handed out at the end of the day for parents to decide if their child is allowed to eat them.

PARENT SHARING ASSEMBLIES

We would like to invite you to join us for your child's class sharing assembly.

This is a lovely opportunity to come into school and find out more about what the children have been learning, exploring and enjoying in class this term. You may be invited to take part in an activity alongside your child or simply sit back and enjoy hearing about the wonderful things they have been doing. We hope you can join us and share in the children's learning. We look forward to welcoming you into school. All assemblies will start not long after registration. 9am ish. Families can make their way to the school hall after dropping off.

YEAR 1	Friday 9 th October
YEAR 2	Friday 13 th November
YEAR 3	Friday 23 rd October
YEAR 4	Friday 16 th October
YEAR 5	Friday 27 th November
YEAR 6	Friday 18 th September

YEAR 3 SCHOOL MEALS

The entitlement to universally funded infant free school meals ceases at the end of Year 2, meaning your child will no longer be eligible for Free School meals. The cost of a school meal is £3.10 per day - £15.50 per week, payable in advance via Arbor. If you require a login for Arbor to be resent, please contact the school office. If you think you may be eligible for Free School meals, please collect a form from the office or apply online via the Gateshead Council website.

<https://www.gateshead.gov.uk/article/7433/Free-school-meals>. See the poster below.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

If your child would like to be Class School Councillor, they need to prepare a speech/manifesto about why they should be on the school council and what they would like to achieve. These will be shared in class and children then vote for their school council rep.

CLUBS

After School Clubs and Karate start up again next week. You can check the times for these on your child's Arbor dashboard calendar. If you have signed your child up for a club and they no longer wish to attend, please email the school office and we can allocate the place to someone on our waiting lists.

ONLINE SAFETY NEWSLETTER

We will continue to share our Monthly Newsletter with lots of tips and advice to help keep children safe online. All previous Newsletters can be found on our dedicated Online Safety Support page on our website using the following link [Front Street Primary](#). Please see this months Newsletter attached.

REMINDERS

MEAL PAYMENTS - Meals accounts should be in credit each week. (This does not apply to Reception, Year 1&2 as they will receive Universal Free school meals).

MOBILE PHONES - If your child is walking to or from school alone and needs to have a mobile phone in school, please make sure you have given consent on Arbor. .

WALKING HOME ALONE YEAR 5&6 - If your child is going to be walking home alone, please give consent via Arbor. Without consent they will not be dismissed, and we will need to call an emergency contact to collect.

MEDICATION - If your child takes regular medication and needs to have it in school, we must have a medical consent form filled in. This can be done in the school office. Please can you ensure we always have an inhaler in school if your child requires one.

NUT FREE - We are a nut free school

GRAPES - If your child is bringing grapes in their packed lunch, please make sure they are cut in half to prevent choking.

EMERGENCY CONTACT DETAILS - please check the contact details listed on Arbor to ensure names and telephone numbers are up to date.

EARRINGS

We have never allowed earrings in school for safety reasons. I am sure you can appreciate this.

This information can be found in our School Uniform Policy on our website following the link: [Front Street Primary](#)

It states:

JEWELLERY

The school rules on jewellery are as follows:

- No piercings are permitted.
- A smart and sensible wristwatch may be worn. No smart watches.

Pupils will be advised that jewellery is their personal responsibility and not that of the school. Lost or damaged items will not be refunded. All jewellery must be removed during practical lessons, including PE lessons and science experiments.

I understand that the six-week holidays are an ideal time to have your child's ears pierced and sometimes they have not quite healed by September. Some children have returned with plastic retainers. Depending on the type and the "back" of these earrings I have said these might be able to be worn but staff need to check these. They cannot be worn for PE or swimming. If children wear these retainers, it might be that break time activities are curtailed to non-contact play or quiet sitting on the benches to ensure that there are no injuries. As soon as possible I would request that the retainers are removed. Schools are all Health and Safety conscious and do not want ripped ears, etc because of earrings. We just want to keep your child safe. Thank you for understanding.

PE TIMETABLE

Year 1	Wednesday & Thursday
Year 2	Monday & Tuesday
Year 3	Tuesday & Thursday
Year 4	Monday & Thursday
Year 5	Monday & Friday
Year 6	Wednesday & Friday

The PE Timetable can also be found within your child's Arbor Calendar on the App.

SWIMMING YEAR 5

This will commence next Friday afternoon. Every child needs to wear a swimming hat whilst swimming. No jewellery is allowed. This includes earrings or plastic earrings. If a child wears jewellery due to religious reasons these items will need to be tapped down or covered with additional clothing. Goggles are allowed while swimming. However, children are not allowed to wear mask goggles that cover their nose.

An email was sent home yesterday regarding a consent form for swimming; please make sure this is filled in before Friday.

I look forward to working with you all this academic year!

I have a duty of care to safeguard all children.

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mrs H Gladstone, Deputy - Mr Lakey, Miss Hault, Mrs O'Neill, and Mrs Bolton. We have a duty of care to pass on any concerns to Children's Services.

If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

H J Gladstone Head Teacher

Five reasons why a school meal is better than a packed lunch:

- School meals provide essential nutrition to children, helping them focus on their education.
- Nutritious meals contribute to better health, improved academic performance and overall well-being of children.
- Children who have a proper lunchtime meal concentrate better and learn more quickly.
- Eating together helps children to develop social and interpersonal skills.
- Our varied menu teaches children about the world's foods.
- They taste great!

TELL ME MORE!

Contact us on: 0191 433 5522
or email at: schoolcatering@gateshead.gov.uk
to find out more about our school meal menus.



IS YOUR CHILD MISSING OUT?

You can claim free school meals for your child if you are currently receiving certain welfare benefits.



Free school meals...
it's one less thing to worry about.

Worried a free school meal will single your child out? Don't Be.

In the dinner queue it's **IMPOSSIBLE** to tell who receives a free school meal and who doesn't. That wasn't always the case in the past, but things have changed.

Whether you pay for your child's meals or you register for free meals, both processes are completely private and confidential. The UK's new strict data laws see to that. In fact, we would be committing a serious offence if we revealed how any child's meal is paid for.

So, when your child stands with their friends at the servery, nobody will ever know how those meals have been paid for.

Free school meals are good for your child, but their school could benefit too.

That's because when entitled to free school meals, your child's school may be able to access additional funding in excess of £1000 per pupil from the government, which can be used to pay for extra tuition, more teaching assistants, more family support workers, more after school clubs.

FUSSY EATERS

We know children can be fussy - that's why we have a varied menu with a choice of up to **FOUR** options every day.

Our staff encourage children to try new dishes, vegetables, and fruits because eating a school meal is also about learning about food and tastes.

...BUT WE'RE FUSSY, TOO!

You won't find anyone fussier than us about the food we feed to your children.

That's why we only buy quality ingredients from good local suppliers. And you can see where they come from on a food map we publish on our website. This explains where everything comes from, and the standards we work to.

DOES YOUR CHILD HAVE SPECIALIST DIETARY NEEDS?

We can cater for this too. Please speak to your school office who can share our alternative dietary pack

DO YOU QUALIFY?

It's easy to apply.

Phone: 0191 433 3729

Visit: www.gateshead.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

Email: benefitsfsm@gateshead.gov.uk

If your child attends a Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust school, or Heworth Grange or St. Aidans you will need to contact the school about applying as we do not administer Free School Meals for these schools.