



(Article 38)



You have the right to protection and freedom from war. Children under 15 cannot be forced to go into the army or take part in war.

Friday Letter



19th September 2025

www.billquayprimary.org

Dates for the diary:

Thursday 23rd October - Break up for half term

Friday 24th October - Inset day

Monday 3rd November - Return to school

School Lottery

To purchase tickets please follow the link below;

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/>

All money raised from tickets purchased will help to fundraise for our school. Tickets are £1 per ticket, per week and the more tickets purchased, the higher the weekly prize is. There is a winner from our school every week!

School Photographs

A reminder that Cotton Socks Photography will be in school on Friday 3rd October to take photographs of all children. If you have any questions you would like to ask prior to the day, please email

info@cottonsocksphotography.co.uk. Could we please ask that all children come to school wearing their full school uniform for their photographs. Children who have PE on this day should bring their PE kit to school with them. Any parents/carers who wish to get family shots with siblings who do not attend Bill Quay please arrive at school for 8.30am and inform the school office prior to the day so that your QR code can be ready.

Spooky Disco (Rec - Year 6)

Children are invited to come along to our Spooky Disco on Wednesday 22nd October. Children in Reception, year 1 and year 2 will attend straight after school until 4.40pm. Children may come to school in their disco/Halloween outfit and should be collected from the Year 6 door at the back of the school by the ramp. Children in Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 can attend the KS2 disco from 4.50pm until 6.00pm. Children should enter via the steps in the infant yard and be collected from the KS2 door at the back of the school next to the ramp. Tickets cost £3.50 which includes a drink and a hotdog and can be purchased using the SchoolGateway app. To ensure we cater for the correct number of children, please ensure tickets are purchased by Friday 17th October. There will also be a tuck shop available on the night and children can purchase crisps and sweets using cash. Please ensure younger children bring cash in a clearly labelled envelope.

KS2 School Choir

Our school choir sessions will restart after school on Friday 26th September and are open to all pupils in KS2. Pupils who were in the choir last term will carry over their place automatically unless they let Mrs Kitson know otherwise. Any KS2 pupils who weren't in the choir last term are very welcome to join - please let the office know if you would like your child to take part. All choir sessions last until 4.30pm and pupils exit via the Y3/6 door afterwards.

European Day of Languages - Friday 26th September

As part of the European Day of Languages, we will be having a French culture day! Pupils are invited to come to school dressed as a famous French person or wearing the colours of the French flag on Friday 26th September. There will be some challenges to enjoy throughout the course of the day and croissants to sample.

Harvest Festival

Our School Council are once again looking for donations of non-perishable goods for Gateshead Food Bank. If you are able to donate any items, please hand them in to the school no later than Thursday 2nd October.

Y5/6 Football Team

Any children who wish to try out for the year 5/6 football team should attend the NUFC after school club on Wednesday 24th September. Training sessions and football matches for the team will then be held on a Thursday evening after school.

A Message from the School Immunisation Team

Dear parent / guardian,

As you will know, all school children in the UK are offered their flu vaccination in school in the autumn or early winter before the flu season typically starts in December or January. This ensures your children have the best protection when flu starts to spread. The flu season usually starts in October, but it is usually worse from December to March. The School Aged Immunisation Team offer the flu vaccination to over 130,000 children in 487 schools. Some schools will be given a date in November or December. The children will still get protection even if they are vaccinated late in the school term.

We change our planner every year, so the same schools are not visited at the end of the flu season.

Please see the link below if you require any further information.

[https://www.nhs.uk/vaccinations/child-flu-vaccine/#:~:text=The%20children%27s%20flu%20vaccine%20is,children%20\(Reception%20to%20Year%2011\)](https://www.nhs.uk/vaccinations/child-flu-vaccine/#:~:text=The%20children%27s%20flu%20vaccine%20is,children%20(Reception%20to%20Year%2011))

Year 6 Residential - Newby Wiske Hall

Year 6 will be visiting Newby Wiske Hall on Wednesday 17th until Friday 19th June 2026. The cost of this residential is £320 per child however, we have capped the cost for parents/carers at £300. We appreciate this price has increased from previous years due to rising costs, so we have subsidised the cost of the transport using school funds. In order to secure your child's place, a £60.00 deposit is required by Friday 26th September. This can be paid using our SchoolGateway App. To help make this as financially affordable to you as possible, we have broken down the cost of £300 into instalments which should be paid online as follows:

| Instalment | Due Date | Amount |
|------------|------------|--------|
| 1. | 26/09/2025 | £60.00 |
| 2. | 31/10/2025 | £40.00 |
| 3. | 28/11/2025 | £40.00 |
| 4. | 30/01/2026 | £40.00 |
| 5. | 27/02/2026 | £40.00 |
| 6. | 27/03/2026 | £40.00 |
| 7. | 24/04/2026 | £40.00 |

After School Clubs

The following after school clubs will commence the week beginning Monday 29th September. If your child is interested in attending, please book their place using the SchoolGateway app under the clubs section. Places will be offered on a first come first served basis. All clubs will start at 3.30pm and will finish at 4.30pm. Children may come to school wearing their PE kit for sporting clubs.

| Club | Year Group | Day | Staff Member | Dates |
|--------------|------------|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sports Games | Rec/Year 1 | Tuesday | Mrs Wright Exit via the steps by the mural | Tuesday 30 th September - Tuesday 11 th November |
| Golf | Year 3/4 | Tuesday | Mrs Morton Exit via the steps by the mural | Tuesday 30 th September - Tuesday 11 th November |
| Art | Year 1/2 | Wednesday | Mrs McCulloch Exit via Reception class | Wednesday 1 st October - Wednesday 26 th November (No club 15 th or 22 nd October) |
| Hockey | Year 5/6 | Thursday | Mr Collinson Exit via the steps by the mural | Thursday 2 nd October - Thursday 20 th November (No club Thursday 6 th November) |

NUFC (Wednesday) and choir (Friday) will run as normal after school.

Emotional Regulation Drop Ins

Is your child or someone you work with (aged 5 – 18 years) struggling with Emotional Regulation?

Why not drop in and meet children's therapists to discuss what you can do to support? Learn more about strategies to support with emotional regulation.

Free resources to take home.

Venue: Christ Church Felling, Gateshead, NE10 0HQ

Date: Wednesday 1st October

Time: Professionals - 10:00 - 11:00 Parents/Carers - 11:00 - 12:00

Venue: Cornerstone Winlaton, Whitewell Rd, Blaydon-on-Tyne NE21 5EL

Date: Weds 1st October

Time: Professionals - 12:00 - 13:00 Parents/Carers - 13:00 – 14:00

Venue: Blaydon Youth Centre, Shibdon Rd, NE21 5LU

Date: Thursday 2nd October

Time: Professionals – 15:00 - 16:00 Parents/Carers - 16:00 - 17:00

Venue: Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art, Gateshead NE8 3BA

Date: Wednesday 8th Oct

Time: Professionals - 10:00 - 11:00 Parents/Carers - 11:00 – 12:00

Venue: Winlaton Centre, North St, Winlaton, Blaydon, NE21 6BY

Date: Thursday 9th October

Time: Professionals - 09:30 - 10:30 Parents/Carers - 10:30 - 11:30

Venue: Whickham Library, 9 Front St, Whickham, NE16 4DN

Date: Tuesday 14th Oct

Time: Professionals - 15:00 - 16:00 Parents/Carers - 16:00 - 17:00

Venue: Birtley Morrisons, Durham Rd, Birtley, DH3 2PG

Date: Thursday 16th Oct

Time: Professionals - 15:30 - 16:30 Parents/Carers - 16:30 - 17:30

Venue: Leam Lane Family Hub, 129 Cotemedede, Gateshead NE10 8QH

Date: Tuesday 21st Oct

Time: Professionals – 10:00-11:00 Parents/Carers - 11:00 - 12:00