



(Article 22)



You have the right to special protection and help if you are a refugee (if you have been forced to leave your home and live in another country), as well as all the rights in this Convention.

Friday Letter



21st November 2025

www.billquayprimary.org

Dates for the diary:

Friday 19th December - Break up for Christmas

Monday 5th January - Return to school

Thursday 4th December - Christmas Fayre

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!

Mrs Dye

As mentioned in last week's Friday letter, Mrs Dye was nominated for an award and was attending the awards ceremony that evening. We are excited to announce that she won the STEM Educator Award. Well done Mrs Dye!

Parking

Could we please remind parents/carers to park considerately at drop off and pick-up times. Unfortunately, a path was blocked earlier this week making it difficult for residents.

Year 5 Bake Sale

Children in year 5 will sell cakes to all pupils in school on Friday 28th November. Any year 5 children who wish to donate cakes or biscuits to this sale, please do so via the school office on the morning of the sale. Items will be sold for 50p each. There will be no snack attack on this day.

Non-Uniform Day

Children are invited to come to school wearing non-uniform on Friday 28th November. Instead of the usual cash donation, we ask that pupils bring in a small unopened/unused prize which will go towards hampers for our Christmas raffle or Tombola. These can be left in the foyer outside the office where they will be collected.

Nursery/Reception/Year 1	Sweets, chocolates or biscuits
Year 2/Year 3	Toiletries
Year 4/Year 5/Year 6	Bottles

Year 6 - Newby Wiske Residential

A reminder, if you have opted to pay by instalments for your child's residential, the next payment of £40.00 is due on or before Friday 28th November.

Christmas Lunch

Christmas lunch will be served on Thursday 11th December. There will be no jacket potato or sandwich option on this day.

Christmas Jumper Day

Children are invited to come to school wearing their Christmas jumpers on Thursday 11th December.

Nursery - Animal Workshop

Children in Nursery will take part in an animal handling workshop on Wednesday 10th December. The session will last around an hour and children who do not usually attend Nursery on a Wednesday morning are welcome to come along and take part from 10am to 11am. The workshop is £5.00 per child which will be paid by school funds however, we would be most grateful if parents would be willing to pay a voluntary contribution to help towards the cost of this. If you wish to make a contribution, this can be done using the SchoolGateway app. Any children who do not attend a Wednesday morning session but would like to come along and take part, please contact the school office to add your child's name to the list.

Year 6 - Safetyworks

Children in Year 6 will be visiting Safetyworks to take part in a workshop on the afternoon of Thursday 27th November. They will travel by coach leaving at 12.15pm and return for 3.30pm. The cost of this trip is £9.00 per child and can be paid online using the SchoolGateway app. A link to the consent form has been sent to you via email.

Reception Nativity - Tuesday 16th December

Children in reception class will be performing 'The Bossy King' on Tuesday 16th December at 9.30am with tea and coffee being available from 9.00am. Tickets for this performance cost £2.50 and can be purchased using our SchoolGateway app. Each ticket purchase includes a tea or coffee. For health and safety reasons, we unfortunately have to limit numbers in our school hall; therefore, children can purchase up to two tickets each initially. Tickets should be purchased no later than Friday 12th December to allow us to offer any spare tickets to other families.

Bottle Bags

In preparation for our Christmas fayre, if anybody has any spare bottle bags that they no longer require, please hand them into the school office.

Coffee and Carols

Parents and carers are invited to school for coffee and carols as follows:

Year 1 and Year 2	Thursday 18 th December 2025	9.30am start, with tea and coffee being served from 9.00am
Year 3 and Year 4	Friday 12 th December 2025	9.30am start, with tea and coffee being served from 9.00am
Year 5 and Year 6	Wednesday 17 th December 2025	9.30am start, with tea and coffee being served from 9.00am

Year 5 - Centre for Life

Children in year 5 will be visiting Centre for Life on Friday 5th December to take part in a 'destination space' workshop followed by ice skating. Please ensure your child comes to school wearing their PE kit with a warm coat, spare trousers and socks. **Gloves are compulsory for ice skating.** We would also advise that your child brings a hat to keep warm. The cost of this trip is £16.00 per child and can be paid using the SchoolGateway app. A link to the consent form has been sent to you via email.

Year 1 - Northern Stage

Year 1 will be visiting Northern Stage in Newcastle on Wednesday 10th December to watch 'The Night Before ChrisMouse'. The cost of this trip is £11.00 per child which can be paid using the SchoolGateway app. Children can bring a small packet of sweets to eat during the performance. A link to the consent form has been sent to you via email.

Reception - Wharton Park

Reception class will be visiting Wharton Park on the morning of Friday 5th December to take part in a Christmas workshop followed by a Santa trail. Children should come to school wearing their PE kits with a warm waterproof coat. They will also require a pair of wellies. If your child does not have wellies in school already, please ensure they bring them with them on the day. All children will need a packed lunch to eat when they return to school. The cost of this trip is £12.00 which can be paid using the SchoolGateway app. A link to the consent form has been sent to you via email.

Christmas Cards - Late Orders

For anybody who would still like to purchase Christmas designs, we have been notified that the shop will re-open from Friday 21st November until noon on Monday 1st December. Unfortunately, after this date you will no longer be able to purchase any items.

Elf Day - Donations

In readiness for Elf Day on Tuesday 16th December, we are looking for donations of spare wrapping paper or cardboard boxes 1.30pm. If anybody has any that they no longer need, please hand it into the school office.

Money Tree Envelopes

We are once again going to have a money tree at our Christmas fayre on Thursday 4th December. Your child has been sent home with a small coloured envelope. Could we please request parents/carers donate anything from 20p-£1 and return the envelopes to the school office by Friday 28th November. The envelopes will be hung on a tree and you will have the opportunity to choose an envelope and win up to £5.00.

Raffle Prizes

As you are aware, our Christmas fayre will be held on Thursday 4th December. We would be most grateful if any local businesses or individuals would be willing to donate a prize to our raffle. If you can help, please contact the school office.

Christmas Fayre Help

In readiness for our Christmas fayre on the afternoon of Thursday 4th December, we are wondering if any parents/carers would be willing to help out on a stall. If you are able to help, please contact the school office. This will allow us to plan accordingly.

Raffle Tickets

Our Christmas raffle tickets are now on sale at £1.00 per strip and can be purchased using the SchoolGateway App. If you wish to purchase any tickets, please do so by Friday 28th November.

Christmas Parties

Children may go home for lunch on their party day to get changed if they wish. Please notify the class teacher by class dojo if they are being collected at 12.00pm so that we can ensure they are ready to collect from the school office. Children should return for 1.30pm. Children who are not going home for lunch, may come to school in their party outfit. All parties will be finished by 3.30pm.

In order to cater for our children at the Christmas parties, we would be grateful if each child could bring in a small amount of the following on the morning of the party:

Reception	Notified by
Year 1	Savoury
Year 2	Sweet
Year 3	Savoury
Year 4	Sweet
Year 5	Savoury
Year 6	Sweet

***Children who have dietary requirements should bring their own plate of food clearly labelled to prevent them having anything that may cause an allergic reaction.**

Great North Run - School Sports Partnership

TeamNHC have a limited number of places available for the **sold-out Junior & Mini Great North Run** taking place on **12th September 2026**. The charity invites children to take part, have fun and help raise funds that will make a positive difference to the patients, staff, and communities of **The Great North Children's Hospital**.

You can secure your place [HERE](#) and take on the Mini (aged 3-8) 1.2k dash or the Junior (9-15) 4km challenge.

Charity places have a registration fee of £30 and a minimum fundraising commitment of £150 (excluding Gift Aid & registration fee).

If you already have your **own place** secured, but are still interested in fundraising for Newcastle Hospitals Charity, you can sign up as an "own place runner" by clicking [this link](#).



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