

WNA NEWSLETTER

Friday 18th September 2026



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Ben's Blog

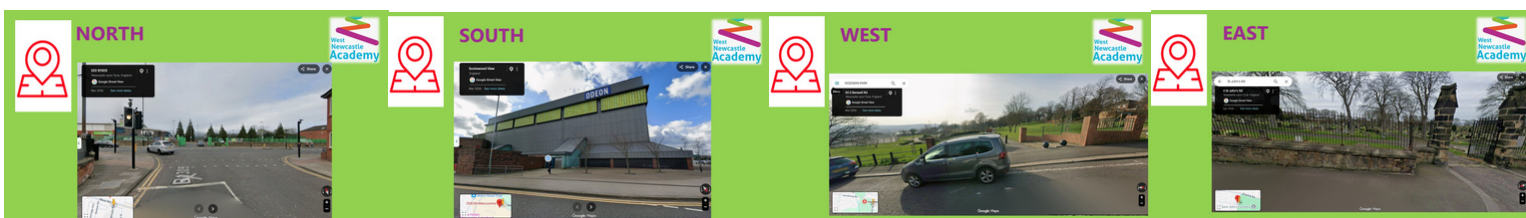
Dear Families,

Attendance was 94% across school this week which is improving, although we are aiming for 96% attendance for all children and families by the end of the academic year. Good attendance in school will offer your child the best chance of success for their primary education and after into secondary education.

We have continued to welcome new families into school this week. Families, please ensure you introduce yourself if you see a new parent in school at line up time or after school so that we are all helping new faces feel welcome and supported.

Our whole school orientation work in Geography and the Nature Park is gaining momentum as we aim to increase our children's sense of direction and orientation that will ultimately help them to feel safer in their locality.

Kindest Regards, Ben



Year 6 visits to Safety Works and to the Nature Park.



Diary Dates

23.09.26- Ways to wellbeing (Eating disorders) session for parents 9.00-10.15

28.09.26- RISE Parent session, mental health awareness 2.30pm

29.09.26- Final day of 20 day challenge

01.10.26- School Census Day

02.10.26- National Poetry Day assembly at 2.30pm. All welcome.

Attendance Challenge

The 20 day attendance challenge is well under way for the Autumn term. If your child has attended school every day since we came back on the 2nd September, they will be in with a chance to win a voucher to spend as they like. All they have to do is maintain their 100% attendance until the challenge ends on the 29th September. We will draw the winners in celebration assembly on Friday 2nd October.

Places we've visited this week...

This week Year 1 went for a walk around the local area and visited Hodgkin Park. Year 4 began their Old Road project in the Nature Park, where they will become budding archaeologists over the coming weeks and uncover and restore an important piece of the history of our school.

Learning at home

Children from Y2-6 should have all brought home their log in details for Ed Shed and for Times Table Rock Stars. Both sites are packed with loads of fun games and activities to support the learning that is happening in school. If the log in details have been misplaced, just ask the class teacher for another copy, they can be reprinted easily.

RISE

This week, Jackie, our partner from RISE met all of the children from Y1-6 for an assembly on Monday. She then joined Year 5 and Year 6 for their first sessions all about understanding mental health and caring for our own mental health. During the assembly she talked to the children about finger breathing and hot chocolate breathing. Perhaps you could ask your children to talk to you about these techniques over the weekend and have a go together.



Website

Remember to have a look at our new website if you haven't already. You will find loads of useful information and it will be updated regularly to make sure you don't miss anything!

<https://westnewcastleacademy.org/>



Nature Park News

We have had another busy week in the Nature Park and are so proud of how the children have settled in. This week, the children in EYFS and Year 1 have been talking about Autumn. We have spotted lots of changes in our Nature park including, different coloured leaves, blackberries and acorns.



Census Day

On **October 1st**, it is Autumn Census Day for all schools across England. This is the day that data is collected and reported to the Department for Education (DfE) in England. It helps the government allocate funding properly and plan educational services for schools across the country. On this day, attendance at school is the only way to ensure that the relevant funding for school is allocated. **We will receive no funding for your child if they are absent on this day so please make sure your child is present in school on October 1st.**

