



Wynyard Church of England Primary School Newsletter - 21.9.2026

Our Collective Worship theme in school this week is...



Harvest, sharing and being thankful for what we have.

How have we been flourishing?

Stars of the Week



Our stars of the week for last week are:

Nursery: Harrison

Class 1: Henry

Class 2: Jayden

Class 3: Max

Class 4: Jules

Class 5: Zara

Class 6: Luke

Class 7: Jude

Class 8: Marco

Class 9: Sullivan

Class 10: Tilly

Class 11: Emily

Class 12: Leah

Class 13: Lucas

Class 14: Isabelle

Whole School Award: Blossom (Class 3)

School Elections

On Friday, we were incredibly proud to hold our pupil leadership elections and would like to congratulate every child who put themselves forward for a position. It takes courage, confidence and commitment to stand in front of others and share your ideas, and all of the candidates should be very proud of their efforts. We were impressed by the thoughtful speeches and enthusiasm shown by so many pupils. Congratulations to those who were successfully elected to their roles. We know they will represent our school community with pride and help make a positive difference throughout the year.

Over the coming week, we will be taking photographs of our new leaders and will share them with you in next week's newsletter. We look forward to seeing all of our pupil leaders flourish in their new positions and thank everyone who supported the children who took part in this important democratic process.

Well done, boys!

It was great to see classmates Monty, Alex and Freddie from Billingham Rugby Club take on their classmate Ethan from Hartlepool Rovers on Sunday.

Fantastic rugby was played by all four boys, but even better sportsmanship. They did a great job at competing, supporting each other and showing such respect for the game and one another. Well done to all!



Important Information

Forest Schools

On Thursday, Year 4 will be taking part in an educational forest school lesson led by our forest school leader, Chris. Please ensure children wear suitable clothing and footwear for the weather and bring a waterproof coat. We also ask that any long hair is tied back for this session.

Early Years Open Evening

We are delighted to invite prospective families to our Open Evening on **Thursday 19th November from 6.00pm to 7.00pm**. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet our dedicated staff team, explore our welcoming learning environment, and discover what makes our school such a special place to learn and grow for parents/ carers choosing a Nursery or Reception school place for 2027.

Please feel free to share this invitation with friends, relatives, neighbours, or colleagues who may be interested. Personal recommendations from our school community are invaluable and help other families discover all that our school has to offer.

We look forward to welcoming both new and familiar faces and sharing what makes our school community so special. We hope to see you there!



E-Scooter Safety Reminder

We have had a number of parents report near misses on the path into school with children and adults riding e-scooters. These could have resulted in children and adults walking on the path being seriously hurt.

We would like to remind families that privately owned electric scooters are only permitted on private land with the owner's permission. They must not be ridden on public roads, pavements, cycle paths or in parks. We encourage all families to help keep children safe by ensuring they use scooters responsibly and in accordance with the law.

E-scooters are not permitted to be used on the school site and we ask all families to respect this.

Earrings in School

We are continuing to see a number of children with earrings in school. As per our Uniform Policy, earrings are not permitted for health and safety reasons. Children are able to wear plastic spacers if needed. In line with the Association for Physical Education guidelines, covering earrings with tape is not recommended as it does not adequately remove the risk of injury. However, tape over earrings can be used as a last resort when piercings are very recent, but this is a temporary measure only.

Any child wearing earrings to school will be asked if they can remove their earrings themselves. If the earrings can not be removed, they will be unable to take part in some

elements of PE lessons and will not be able to use the adventure playground or ninja warrior assault course.

Harvest Collection

Over the next couple of weeks, we will be celebrating Harvest festival in school. As part of our Harvest celebrations, we will be collecting donations in support of Stockton and Billingham Food Bank's Harvest Appeal. Any donations would be gratefully received and a list of the items the food bank is in short supply of will be circulated on next week's newsletter. Donations can be left in the boxes at the front of school from next Monday (28th September).

Free School Meals

We wrote to parents and carers at the beginning of term to let you know about new government changes to Free School Meal entitlement, as the criteria has changed. Please see the details below if you think you may be eligible. Under the new national criteria, all families in receipt of Universal Credit will qualify for free school meals, meaning that more children will become eligible regardless of household income.

From September 2026, there will be two categories of benefit-related FSM.

1. Targeted Free School Meals

This category continues to be based on the existing income threshold. Pupils will be eligible if their household:

- Is in receipt of Universal Credit, and
- Has an annual household income of £7,400 or less.

Only pupils eligible for Targeted FSM will:

- Qualify for Pupil Premium funding, which is used by school to support the educational offer for pupils.
- Be eligible for extended rights home to school transport, subject to the eligibility criteria for extended rights travel.
- Be eligible to access the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) scheme.

2. Expanded Free School Meals This category applies to school meals only and covers pupils who:

- Live in households receiving Universal Credit, and

- Do not meet the income threshold for Targeted FSM (i.e. annual household income is above £7,400).

Pupils eligible for Expanded FSM will be entitled to free school meals only.

Please do not miss out on support that you may be entitled to for your child. Further guidance and information on how to apply can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals> or your local council's website.

Last Year's Compass Charges

You may have received emails over the past week regarding overdue fees on Compass in relation to last year. If you have received emails then please bring this up to date as a matter of urgency. Charges can be found in Clubs, School Fees and Wallet.

Please contact the School Office if you are having any difficulties making payments.