



# Fellside Community Primary School

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## Fellside Matters

*Commitment, Confidence, Change, Creativity, Challenge, Collaboration, Curiosity.*

*Ambition for all.*

24<sup>th</sup> April 2026

Great news for our school community, as we have certainly been impacted by more than our fair share of unexpected illnesses recently – Mrs A. Smith, Mrs Scott and Ms Thornber are all due back on 5<sup>th</sup> May, all being well. They have really missed being here and I have kept in touch with them throughout and would like to reassure you all that they are very much looking forward to being back with us! We will contact classes separately with further information, where needed.

We are now in the Summer Term and, as much as we want to push the idea further down the road, we know that the transition time will be upon us soon and children will be moving into new classes and, in some cases, new schools.

I have met with Mr Turnbull to discuss the transition for children moving to Whickham School and have received an email from Emmanuel College to confirm that both transition days on the same days. We will, therefore, ensure that our in-school transition day occurs during this time, too, and will communicate this with you once the details are confirmed.

We will also confirm the teaching staff for each year group in the next half term and, in the meantime, would like to invite you to special 'Meet the Teacher' afternoons. Following your feedback, we are endeavouring to communicate these as early as possible.

To sign up, please follow the link for your child:

- New Y1 (current Reception) link <https://forms.gle/8qVQWpupnEaj1JJq7>
- New Y2 (current Y1) link <https://forms.gle/F5nwWNLbbSvWWAHo8>
- New Y3 (current Y2) link <https://forms.gle/s3aq7akF8HzQ6HtE7>
- New Y4 (current Y3) link <https://forms.gle/AV6VhM2fJpBRW2j8A>
- New Y5 (current Y4) link <https://forms.gle/gHyAKCZf1Ga33NgJ8>
- New Y6 (current Y5) link <https://forms.gle/bBrhT8Zic7R84g3DA>

Our new Early Years pupils will be having more transition sessions to support them to start their school journey, and these are being communicated separately.

**Times Table Rockstar Summer Showdown** has begun, with **Y3 v Y4** and **Y5 v Y6**. Children are limited to 30 minutes maximum on their TTRS account – any longer than this time will not count towards the battles.

We have done this purposefully as we recognise that not all families would like their children to access online games for too long. The competition ends next Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> May with the classes who win the most points revealed in assembly. Good luck everyone!



As we gear up towards Year Six SATs week, it is a good opportunity to address our **ambition** in terms of learning.

Fellside has always been a school which prioritises learning and this has not changed. As the proud Head Teacher over the last (nearly) three years, I have supported our teaching team to continue to have **high expectations and challenge** our children.

Ensuring that our children learn and are safe are our two priorities. Every child deserves the best education possible. Some of our children need different types of support and I am proud that we can offer this. **Our standards remain while support increases.**

You may have noticed our new security gates are now in place. They have been planned since April 2025 and we are happy that they are finally here as **an extra layer of safeguarding.**

Thank you to those of you who were able to join our **Year One phonics family workshop** on Wednesday afternoon. The children enjoyed sharing games with you and showing you their developing reading skills.

We are planning many more family events for next year. Watch this space...

Our new email address is up and running for any families who have **specific queries or concerns about their child's learning, wellbeing or behaviour.** By using this email address, you can be sure that it will be seen by a member of our Senior Leadership Team and we can have oversight over any actions being taken.

[fellsidesupport@gatedu.org](mailto:fellsidesupport@gatedu.org)

For any, general, communication or queries, please continue to contact the main office.

## **Key Dates**

### **27<sup>th</sup> April**

- Y6 SATs meeting with Mr Donaghy

### **28<sup>th</sup> April**

- Girls football friendly after school (selected Year Five and Year Six pupils)

### **29<sup>th</sup> April**

- KS2 Athletics Trials 3.20 – 5.00pm

### **30<sup>th</sup> April**

- Boys football friendly after school (selected Year Five and Year Six pupils)

### **6<sup>th</sup> May**

- Cricket engagement day for all of KS2 classes (all KS2 pupils to wear sports kit on this day)

### **7<sup>th</sup> May**

- Year Four Tennis Team at Whickham School (selected pupils)
- Football Finals – Year Six team

### **Week beginning 11<sup>th</sup> May - Year Six SATs Week**

### **19<sup>th</sup> May**

- Year Six Cricket Day at Whickham Cricket Club

### **20<sup>th</sup> May**

- Year Six lunch time treat – information to follow
- Year Four Family Learning afternoon: come and find out more about the multiplication check and how we practise our times tables. If you haven't already done so, please tell us if you can make it using this link: <https://forms.gle/VxjTbXozuN8vpjRS7>

### **21<sup>st</sup> May**

- Fellside Families afternoon
- PTA PLUS (Pre-Loved Uniform Sale)

### **22<sup>nd</sup> May**

- Occasional Day (school closed)

*Please continue to check our website, which is updated regularly with key dates.*

### **Nursery**

In Nursery, children have shared the story of “The Very Busy Spider” and made their own spiders in the creative area. They have looked at the formation of letters in their names and, in early maths, have been subitising 1-5 with mini beast cards. Children have been learning to navigate parts of a computer. They have really enjoyed having THREE Mystery Readers this week!

**Creativity winner: Matthew S**

### **Year One**

Two books shared in Year One this week have been “Take Off Your Brave” and “Kitty and the Secret Sky Garden”. In their writing, children have used adjectives and the suffix ‘ing’ to write about Errol’s garden. They have investigated number bonds to ten and twenty in maths as well as looking at where the nearest seaside to us is in geography. In computing, Year One have created digital stories while, in RE, they have learnt about the Christian tradition of baptism. As part of PSHE, children talked about the importance of exercise and getting enough sleep. It has been student Miss Bramwell’s last week and the children have really enjoyed having her in class as she learnt teaching skills from our Fellside team.

**Creativity winner: Katie T**

### **Year Three**

In Year Three, children are continuing to enjoy the book “The Creakers”. In their own writing, the class have written about how Humpty got back up again after his fall while, within maths, they have been telling the time using both analogue and digital. In history, children have been thinking about the Romans in Britain and key events which defined their time here. They have explored the designs, techniques and inspiration of some artists and discusses emails and other ways of communication via computers. In French, children have enjoyed learning how to ask for different ice cream flavours. It has been student Miss Lauder’s last week; the class have really enjoyed learning from her and wish her luck in her next placement.

**Creativity winner: Alex P**

### **Year Five**

Year Five have been learning the skills of persuasion in order to write about animals in captivity while, during maths, the class have been using protractors to measure and draw angles. In art, children have learnt about Picasso while, in PSHE, they discussed possible routes in their futures, including colleges, universities and apprenticeships. Children took part in a rounders competition and the finals of the American Football tournament. A busy week, indeed.

**Creativity winner: Penelope S**

### **Reception**

Reception children have shared “The Frog Prince” together, using the opportunity to discuss kindness towards animals. They have also investigated our Fellside pond, looking for signs of tadpoles in there. In early writing, the class have been writing their full names and forming sentences. As part of early maths, they have looked at number patters 0 – 20 and number bonds to 10. On the computer, children have created images of Spring blossom on trees, using KidPix.

**Creativity winner: Tommy Mc**

### **Year Two**

Children in Year Two are continuing to read the adventures in the Magic Faraway Tree: Land of Do-As-You-Please while, in their own writing, they have been writing setting descriptions for the Craw’s Tale. In maths, children have focused on position and direction, turns, clockwise and anticlockwise. Within geography, they have thought about the questions “Where in the world are we?” while, in music, children have played the recorder. In science, they planted sunflowers, creating an experiment to see which are the best conditions for them to grow.

**Creativity winner: Katie T**

### **Year Four**

Year Four have enjoyed learning about David Attenborough in order to research as much as possible for their upcoming biographies. In maths, they have plotted coordinates and translated them while, in history, they have learnt about the Anglo-Saxons and their Kingdoms. As part of RE, children have talked about Buddhism and the Eightfold Path that Buddhists believe in. During PSHE, they discussed how to stay health, mentally and physically. They have enjoyed lots of team building activities in PE.

**Creativity winner: Madeline C**

### **Year Six**

Year Six’s focus has very much been on preparation for their upcoming assessments as we want the children to be confident in showing the very best of themselves. Alongside this, they have continued to share the book “Who Let the Gods Out?” and, in their own writing, have completed newspaper articles. Within science, Year Six have started to learn about the adaptations that some animals make in order to survive. Ukelele lessons have begun in Year Six and they have started the cricket season in PE.

**Creativity winner: Megan W**