Principal: Mr S Robson.
Augusta Close, Darlington, DL1 3HT, Telephone: 01325 240499, Email: admin@whinfield.net

Newsletter 24th April

Messages from Mr Robson:

STAFFING UPDATE

At the end of this academic year, we will be saying goodbye to two valued members of our school community. **Mrs O'Callaghan** will be retiring after many years of dedicated service. As Deputy Headteacher and Year 4 class teacher, Mrs O'Callaghan has been a long-standing and highly respected member of staff. She has made an enormous contribution to school life, supporting pupils, families and colleagues with care, professionalism and a deep commitment to our values. Her calm leadership, experience and kindness will be greatly missed by all who have had the pleasure of working alongside her.

Mrs Rowney will also be moving on from the school at the end of the year. As a Year 3 teacher, she has been a much-loved member of staff, known for her warmth, enthusiasm and strong relationships with pupils. She has made a lasting impact on the children she has taught!

We would like to thank both Mrs O'Callaghan and Mrs Rowney for their dedication and hard work and wish them every happiness and success in the next chapters of their lives. There will be time at the end of the year to thank them properly and to celebrate their contributions fully.

SUMMER TERM WEATHER

As the weather continues to get warmer, please ensure that pupils come to school with a sunhat and that sunscreen is applied at home before the school day begins.

At the same time, we ask that children still bring a light jacket or coat, as British weather can change quickly. Thank you for your continued support in helping us keep children comfortable and prepared throughout the day.

BIKES AND SCOOTERS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

For everyone's safety, please ensure that pupils and siblings do not ride bikes or scooters on the school grounds.

Children should dismount and walk their bikes or scooters whilst on site. Staff will politely remind children to do so if necessary. We appreciate your support in helping us keep our school environment safe for all.

FEEDBACK AND NEXT STEPS

You should have received a letter outlining our next steps following the feedback gathered from the parent survey in the autumn term.

Thank you once again to everyone who took the time to share their views. Your feedback is highly valued and plays an important role in shaping our priorities. There are some exciting developments ahead, and we look forward to working together as we move forward.

YEAR 5 ASSEMBLY

At the end of last term, Year 5 treated us to a fantastic assembly which was a great success. The children did a wonderful job with their confident reading and enthusiastic singing, delivering clear and thoughtful messages about the safe and responsible use of online technology. Thank you to everyone who was able to attend and support the children - it was a performance to be proud of.

SCHOOL GROUNDS DEVELOPMENTS

Over the coming months, the school grounds will be undergoing a number of improvements as we work to enhance the quality of playtimes and lunchtimes for our pupils.

You may already have noticed the removal of an outdated and no longer fit-for-purpose fence from the KS2 outdoor area. This has been the first stage in making the space more open, welcoming and better suited to how our pupils use it.

We will also be improving the KS1 playground by lowering and repositioning fencing to create additional play space, as well as upgrading the all-weather area to make it safer and more accessible for all children.

These developments are part of our ongoing commitment to providing high-quality outdoor environments for learning and play. Please watch this space for further updates as the work progresses.

Have a brilliant weekend everybody!

Mr Robson

Principal: Mr S Robson.
Augusta Close, Darlington, DL1 3HT, Telephone: 01325 240499, Email: admin@whinfield.net

SUMMER TERM 2025/26 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Event
Monday 20th April	First day of summer term (1st half)
Monday 4th May	School closed (May bank holiday)
WC Monday 11th May	Year 6 SATS week
May 2026	Year 2 SATS (optional)
Friday 22nd May	Last day of summer term (1st half)
Monday 1st June	First day of summer term (2nd half)
WC Monday 1st June	Year 4 multiplication check
Friday 5th June	Reception assembly
WC Monday 8th June	Phonics screening check
Friday 12th June	Year 2 assembly
Friday 19th June	Year 1 assembly
Tuesday 23rd June	Year 3 assembly
Tuesday 23rd June	New starter reception parent meeting (4pm)
24th, 25th and 26th June	Year 6 and school transition days
Thursday 25th June	Year 6 expectations for Sept move up meeting
Monday 29th June	Reception sports morning
Tuesday 30th June	Year 1/2 sports morning
Wednesday 1st July	Year 3/4 sports morning
Wednesday 1st July	Year 5 expectations for Sept move up meeting
Thursday 2nd July	Year 5/6 sports morning
Friday 3rd July	Year 4 assembly
Tuesday 7th July	Year 2 expectations for Sept move up meeting
Wednesday 8th July	Year 1 expectations for Sept move up meeting
Thursday 9th July	Year 3 expectations for Sept move up meeting
Friday 10th July	Year 5 assembly
Monday 13th July	Year 4 expectations for Sept move up meeting
Wednesday 15th July	Year 6 Leavers Assembly 9:30am
Wednesday 15th July	Year 6 Leavers disco 4:30pm - 6pm
Friday 17th July	Last Day of summer term (2nd half)

Afterschool activities

Day	Club	Year group	Time
Tuesday	Story craft	Reception and yr 1	3:15pm – 4:15pm
Tuesday	Motor skills	Year 1 and 2	3:15pm – 4:15pm
Wednesday	Netball	Year 5 and 6	3:15pm – 4:15pm

Principal: Mr S Robson.
Augusta Close, Darlington, DL1 3HT, Telephone: 01325 240499, Email: admin@whinfield.net

Thursday	Cricket	Years 4,5 and 6	3:15pm – 4:15pm
Thursday	Music club	Year 4 & 5	3:15pm – 4:15pm

Activities will start week commencing 27th April 2026 and finish week commencing 18th May 2026 (unless stated otherwise above). Children need to be collected after the club by an adult from the Asda entrance. If your child is attending a sporting activity, please send them to school in their school PE kit (no football strips).