

Edition 30  
08.05.26

# Weekly News



**REMINDER- SCHOOL TELEPHONE LINE IS OPEN MONDAY-FRIDAY 8.30am-4.00pm**

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Governors,



## **Sugar Hill Primary Early Years Practice**

We are absolutely delighted to let all parents and carers know that the Department for Education (DfE) have selected Sugar Hill as Lead School within the RISE Reception Networks programme for the North East of England.



## What Reception Networks offer

Each network is led by a lead school, selected for its strong and sustained Reception outcomes. These schools work with other schools in their area to:

- facilitate professional discussions about teaching, learning and leadership in Reception
- host open days and visits so peers can observe high quality Reception practice
- share resources, tools and approaches that help strengthen provision across the Early Years
- hold regular virtual network meetings to make collaboration accessible, flexible and open to all schools in the network

This collaborative model is designed to complement - rather than replace - existing Early Years support, including stronger practice hubs, English and maths hubs and the work local authorities are doing to strengthen Reception and GLD outcomes as part of the best start in life strategy.

It ensures schools can easily access Reception specific expertise when they need it.

**We are very proud that Mrs McCormack (Assistant Head/Early Years Lead) is taking the lead on this initiative and working with colleagues from other schools sharing her knowledge, experience and our outstanding provision in Early Years.**



Thank you for all your support with our new gate systems.

It really has made such a difference to a smooth start and end to the school day.

*Thank you*



### **Celebrating Sir David Attenborough on his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday**

Today marks a remarkable milestone as **Sir David Attenborough celebrates his 100th birthday**. For more than seven decades, Sir David has inspired generations with his life-long dedication to understanding, protecting and celebrating the natural world.

Through programmes such as *Life on Earth*, *Planet Earth* and *Blue Planet*, he has helped children and adults alike to discover the beauty of wildlife and the importance of caring for our planet. His passionate storytelling has brought nature into homes across the world and encouraged millions of people to think more carefully about how our actions affect the environment.

We would like to encourage **parents and carers to talk with children at home about Sir David Attenborough's achievements** and why his work matters. These conversations can help children understand:

- Why plants, animals and habitats need protection
- How climate change and pollution affect the world around us
- The positive difference people can make by caring for nature

Children might also like to think about **simple ways they can support his message**, such as:

- Reducing waste and recycling where possible
- Saving energy and water at home
- Spending time outdoors and showing respect for living things
- Getting involved in local environmental activities, such as litter picking or wildlife spotting

Sir David Attenborough's 100th birthday is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate a life of learning, curiosity and care for the planet.

By talking together about his work, we can help inspire the next generation to become thoughtful guardians of the world they are growing up in.

**We can do this in a small way at school, by making sure children do not walk on the recently planted areas at the front of school. Please ensure children stay on the pathways as they walk in and out of school.**

### **Health and Safety Reminder – Walking in and out of school**

To help keep everyone safe at the start and end of the school day, we kindly ask **parents and carers to closely supervise younger children who walk into school next to the staff car park.**

Please ensure that:

- Children **use the designated pathways at all times**
- Children **do not walk through or into the car park areas**
- Extra care is taken during busy drop-off and collection times

**Thank you for your continued support in helping us keep our school community safe.**



The children have asked us to make an appeal in this week's newsletter for any small world resources for outdoor play areas. They would love to receive any donations you may have that we can use to develop these areas.

In particular they are hoping for donations of toy cars, trains, pots and pans, kitchen utensils (NOT scissors or anything sharp), cake tins, plastic containers, baking trays, dinosaurs, cable reels, building blocks, duplo blocks, good quality play mats (the kind that have road layouts etc) and off cuts of artificial grass.

If you have anything else that you think can be used to develop these areas and you are not sure if to donate, please ask Mrs Legge at the gate on a morning to check before bringing it into school. *Thank you*




## COMMUNITY LINKS

✿ Sign up now – All Stars & Dynamos Cricket is back! ✿

We're excited to announce that our All Stars and Dynamos programmes are now open for booking – the perfect way for kids to have fun, make friends and get active through cricket



 Starts: Thursday 28th May

 Time: 6:00pm – 7:00pm


 Duration: 8 weeks (weekly sessions)

Whether your child is brand new to cricket or already loves the game, All Stars (ages 5–8) and Dynamos (ages 8–11) are all about fun, confidence and learning new skills in a safe, supportive environment.

 Book your place now using the links below:

 All Stars – <https://ecb.clubspark.uk/Book/981afa8d-362f-4244-ba0b-3a643aac531d?venue=newtonaycliffe>

 Dynamos – <https://ecb.clubspark.uk/Book/9433011d-a23d-4b18-b6c7-b2eeb323db04?venue=newtonaycliffe>

Spaces are limited, so don't miss out – we can't wait to welcome lots of new faces to the club! 

## All Stars Cricket

5-8 year olds

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May x 8 weeks 18:00-19:00

Includes personalised kit bag, bat, ball and t-shirt

MOORE LANE, DL5 5AG



## Online Parent Courses



# Parent Carer (of children and young people aged 0-25yrs) **TRAINING & information** Sessions



### **Emotional Wellbeing**

***Tuesday 5 May 2026, 9.30 am—11.30 am***

This session will focus on emotional wellbeing, what is it and how can we improve it for ourselves and our children.

### **Understanding Behaviour Development in Children & Young People**

***Tuesday 12 May 2026, 9.30 am—11.30 am***

This session will look at behavioural norms in the developing child and how adult behaviour influences this. We will look at the challenges parents and carers may face and how they can support their children and young people to develop resilience and manage risk as they grow to adulthood and independence.

### **Understanding Why Children Might Be Anxious About School**

***Tuesday 2 June 2026, 9.30 am—11.30 am***

This is an awareness session to increase understanding of why children might be anxious about school, identify potential triggers and look at available support and strategies. This session is suitable for parents/carers of all school aged children but may be of limited value to parents of children with more complex needs.

  
Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys  
NHS Foundation Trust



[www.mctdurham.co.uk](http://www.mctdurham.co.uk)



[www.durhamsendias.info](http://www.durhamsendias.info)  
0191 5873541



[www.darlingtonpcf.co.uk](http://www.darlingtonpcf.co.uk)



[www.dccarers.org](http://www.dccarers.org)  
Tel: 0005 0051213



**Parent Carer** (of children and young people aged 0-25yrs)  
**TRAINING & information**  
Sessions



### Anxiety (Two age groups)

#### **Over 11 years**

**Tuesday 9 June 2026, 9.30am—11.30am**

**Tuesday 7 July 2026, 9.30am—11.30am**

#### **5-11 years**

**Tuesday 16 June 2026, 9.30am—11.30am**

**Tuesday 30 June 2026, 9.30am—11.30am**

This session looks at what anxiety is, what the triggers might be, how to identify it and how we can support our children and young people.

Please book a place using the link or QR code directly below:

[CAMHS Training Booking Form - Parents Carers](#)



To visit our Trust website, for further information, please scan the QR code at the bottom of this page. The sessions are aimed at parents of school aged children but parents of younger/older children are very welcome. The sessions will be led by a CAMHS trainer and run on Microsoft Teams. If you have any additional needs, please email [tevw.countydurhamcamhstraining@nhs.net](mailto:tevw.countydurhamcamhstraining@nhs.net)

  
Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys  
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[www.mctdurham.co.uk](http://www.mctdurham.co.uk)



[www.durhamsendiass.info](http://www.durhamsendiass.info)  
0191 5873541



[www.darlingtonpcf.co.uk](http://www.darlingtonpcf.co.uk)



[www.dccarers.org](http://www.dccarers.org)  
Tel: 0300 0051213



# GROW YOUR OWN VEG WORKSHOPS



## WITH GREAT AYCLIFFE GARDEN GUILD!

All our events are suitable for beginners of all ages and experienced gardeners alike!



Learn how to prune your fruit trees - Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> February 1-3pm

Seed Sowing! Grow your own potatoes and tomatoes!

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February 10-12noon

Garden planning and crop rotation - Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 6.30 to 8.30pm

No Dig Gardening - Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March 1-3pm

Seed Sowing! Grow your own veg seeds - Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 5-7pm

Seed Sowing! Grow your own veg seeds - Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April 10-12noon

Garden tips and looking after your veg plants! - Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 5-7pm

Garden tips and companion planting - Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 5-7pm

Taking plant cuttings and harvesting tips - Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July 5-7pm

Composting and looking after the soil - Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October 5-7pm

Please get in touch to find out more and book a place!

Join us at Clarence Chare Allotments, Clarence Chare,

Newton Aycliffe DL5 5HX. 07340606402.

Great Aycliffe Garden Guild on [Facebook](#)



COMMUNITY FUND



FOOD DOREHAM



GREEN LEAF  
BRONZE



Outdoor And Sustainability Education Specialists

Compost toilet on site!





**DIARY DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR- Summer Term 2026**

*More dates will be added next week*

**Summer Term (1)**

<b>WEEK 4</b>	
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>Year 6 SATs</b>
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>Year 6 SATs</b>
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>Year 6 SATs</b>
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>Year 6 SATs</b>
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	

<b>WEEK 5</b>	
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	Road Safety Week
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Road Safety Week
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> May	Road Safety Week
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	Road Safety Week
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Road Safety Week



**IMPORTANT**



**We have had lots of children arriving **late** this week.**

**Please can we remind all parents and carers of the importance of children arriving on time.**

**This helps everyone in school to have a smooth start, including our office staff who have very important tasks to do, at the start of each morning.**

We hope you all have a lovely weekend and that the sun shines!

See you all on Monday.

Kind regards,

Mrs O'Rourke and Mrs Legge