

Gosforth East Middle School News



Summer Term 1

2026





**Welcome to our Summer Term 1 Newsletter,
brought to you by Press Club!**



The page is decorated with several yellow sun icons of varying sizes, scattered across the top and bottom sections. The main content is enclosed in a dashed black border.

What we Love about GEMS

“My favourite thing is that you have different options for play whereas in primary school you just have a climbing frame. Here, you get to play on scooters” Jessica F Y5

That’s so hard to pick, the library and art lessons because we were making clay models and that was really fun. I also like the Beano comics in the library.” Megan J Y5

“It’s a kind school and people are really nice. There is no bulling that I know of”

“The library and DT where you get to make things” Amira Y5

“The Teletubby Hills!” Ava Y Y5

“Learning new spellings and getting higher marks on tests.” Mason G Y5

Brian’s and Moustafa’s favourite thing about GEMS is DT because we design lots of things.

Alexa’s favourite thing about GEMS is music because it’s fun and cheerful.

By Alexa and Brian

The bottom section of the page features more yellow sun icons, similar to the ones at the top, arranged in a row.

The Big Farewell

Mr Stout's Retirement

On Friday 1st April sadly Mr Stout said his farewell and retired.

We had a very special assembly with songs and a special guests Elvis Presley (Mr Hodgson) and mini Elvis'

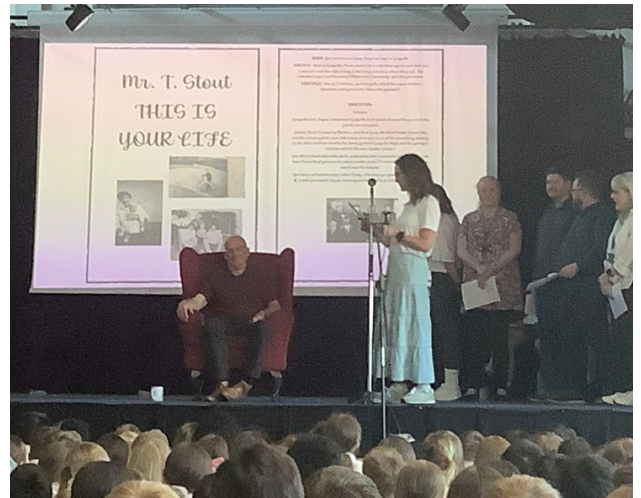


Chika played the violin at the start of the assembly. Mr Stout said that it was **NOT FAIR** to open the assembly like that (he had a box of tissues).



We all sang a song that we had been learning for weeks. It was a song called the 'Wonder of You' but Mrs Western changed the lyrics especially for Mr Stout.

The drama club also did a song which was a transition from Frozen Jr to Annie Jr as Annie is our new production!!!! By Rosey



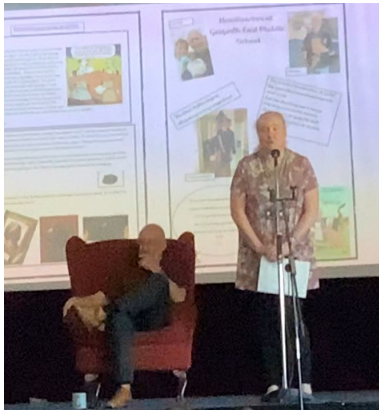
All the students sang songs and had a funny video of what school would be like after he left. He also had a section called This is You Life, where teachers read us all his life story. There were so many jokes throughout. At the end many teachers were crying and Mr Stout received 500 GREAT BRITISH POUNDS cheque and some motorbike boots from generous donations.

I think we are all really sad about Mr Stout's retirement and so was Mr Stout but we all enjoyed celebrating together. I think we know he especially enjoyed the Elvis part and Chika's violin playing...(it made him cry).

By Ayomi

We went outside at the end of the day to line the path for a guard of honour, as he walked towards the school gates for his last ever duty as a finale farewell from GEMS and the start of his retirement.

Hope you have a great retirement Mr Stout. Thank you so much for everything.



"It was just the best! It was one of the best things I've ever had to do for anyone. It was a real honour to be involved!" Mr Hodgson

Lots of people came together to make Mr Stout's farewell extra special, but the afternoon was thoughtfully planned by Mrs Western and Miss Crowe!



By Rosey

The Interview for New Headteacher!

On the 27th of April 2026 a new opportunity for some lucky people to become the new headteacher of GEMS arose.

Rosey can tell us more about the interview process: *We have had some visitors at our school, trying to be the new headteacher. They had been observing our classes as well as our breaks and lunch seeing if they like it here. There was a teacher panel and a pupil panel.*

Fourteen people applied for the job and a lucky five people were shortlisted but in the end it only had to be the one and only, beloved

By Kellan

Newlands Year 7 Trip

What you do in Newlands:

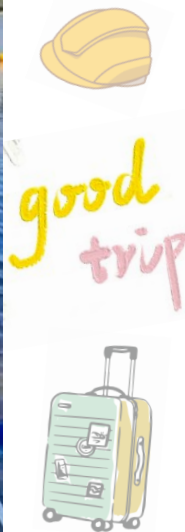
- Ghyll scramble (going down a mountain stream)
- Rock climbing
- Kayaking / canoeing
- Mountain or fell walking
- Team building and problem - games



“My favourite activity was Ghyll Scrambling because it was really fun jumping off a waterfall!” Jacob

Mr Maloney said he must be a good luck charm because the two years he has went, we have had glorious weather! Mr Maloney’s favourite part was waving the children off on Friday afternoon, knowing they had had a great time.

By Moustafa





The food went down a treat, plenty of the children would get up for seconds!



Upcoming Trips

Lockerbie =10th —12th June *Year 5*

Whitby = 1st of July till the 3rd of July *Year 6*

Grinton 24th-26th June *Year 6*



Two of these trips can be chosen for the year 6 there is also a trip for the year 5s which is called Lockerbie which will be their first residential for them in Gosforth East Middle School

I hope you enjoy !!!!

By Rosey



Year 6 SATs Week and **FUN DAY**

This half-term, the year 6's had to do SATs for 4 days and had a really fun day on Friday.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Grammar, Punctuation and spelling	Reading	Arithmetic and reasoning	Reasoning	FUN DAY

This is what some people said about it:

Eloisa R : “ I thought they were actually quite easy. ”

Kellan M : “ SATs were good practise for upcoming tests, they weren't hard but they weren't easy either.”

Ayanna L : “ It was stressful but at the same time it was important but another thing is that on Friday we got a fun day.”

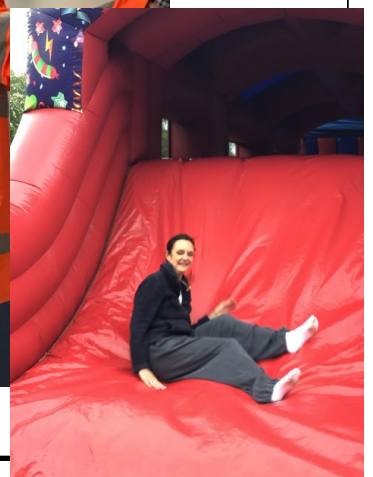
“As Head of Year 6, I cannot express how proud I am of all of the year group who took part in SATS. The children were generally relaxed and happy throughout the week and all tried their very best in each test. But the most enjoyable part of the week was Year 6 Fun Day Friday. The children enjoyed class quizzes, creative lessons, movies in their form class during the morning and then had fun on the inflatable bouncy castle obstacle course, which some staff members had a sneaky go on too. A delicious sausage sandwich at breaktime kept the energy going and the ice lolly in the afternoon before the water fight of all water fights. Supersoakers, Zuru X-Shots and electric water guns were just some of the weapons of choice. Laughter filled the air as the children drenched each other as well as Miss Gill and Mrs Weston! It was a fantastic day and a fantastic week.” Miss Watson





We did lots of fun things in our class. After, we went out on the field to take turns on the obstacle course bouncy castle.

Then we had a sausage sandwich before having break then did fun things in the afternoon! We got to play outside, dance to music and eat ice lollies before our massive water fight! By Eloisa Y6



Author visit: Elle McNicoll

We have had an amazing time while Elle McNicoll has come to visit. She has written some lovely books with autistic characters. These include:

A Kind Of Spark (which has been successfully made into a TV series), Keedie, Like a charm, Like a curse, Show us Who you are, Role Model and many others.

Her books will hopefully make people realise that being different is the best, and in a couple of years someone from our school might be standing on that stage and sharing their story about being an author.

By Alexa D



Elle was on stage talking about her photos on the screen about what happened in them. When everyone's favourite part including mine was when Elle talked about something that happened in her past that is now in one of her books which everyone found funny. There was lots of laughter, giggling about the different stories from her time in school.

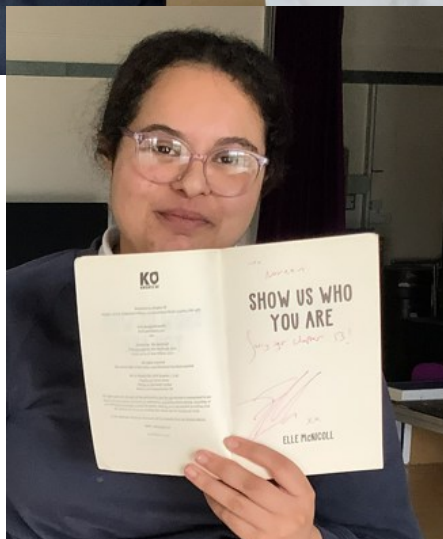
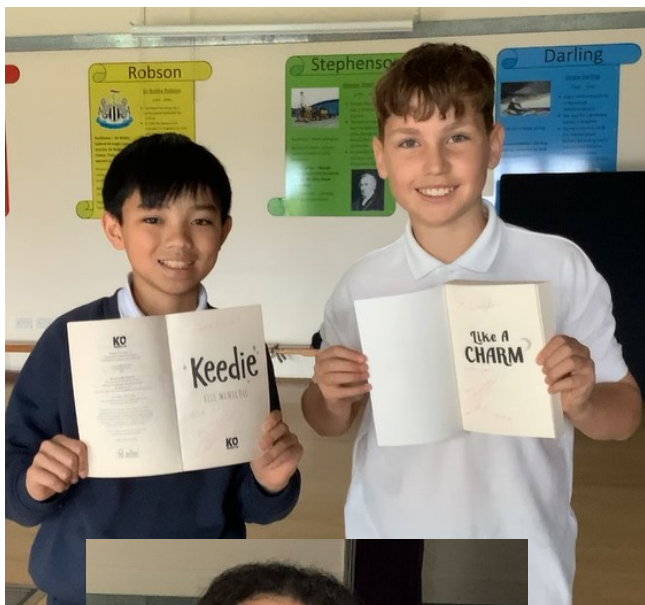
By Ayanna



After her assemblies, Elle had a meet and greet where she signed books and had a little chat with people.

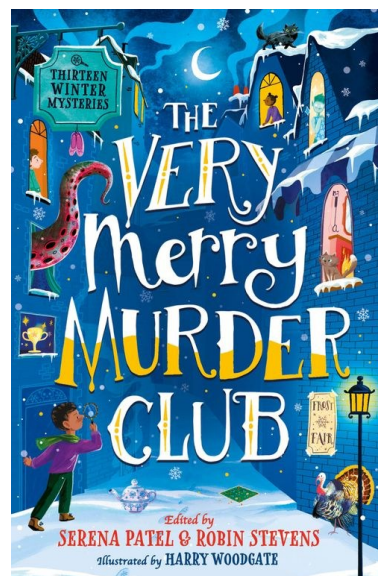


A massive thank you to Lily L for writing to Elle and asking her to visit our school. If Lily hadn't written to Elle, we wouldn't have had the chance to meet her and have such an amazing morning.



BOOK Club

In book club, we enter at 15:25 and leave 16:30. It is held by Mrs Gill. We are reading *The Very Merry Murder Club*, we have just finished *Scrabble and Murder*. By Brian





Author Events



We enjoyed many author events this half term! We were able to see and speak to:

- Claire Powell (left), author of Marty Moose
- Jamie Hammond, author of Grumpfort
- Tanya Turner, author of Wood
- Abiola Bello, author of Wild Magic
- Jenny Pearson, author of Shrapnel Boys



Claire Powell (above) taught us how to draw Marty Moose, because she wrote AND illustrated her book.



Above left: Jamie Hammond, author of Grumpfort

We were very lucky because all of the questions we submitted for authors were approved, so we had the opportunity to ask the authors our questions live during the events.



Spark! Book Awards: Latest News

Spark! Book Club updated everyone in GEMS about the Spark! Book Awards

Lots of exciting things are happening next half term:

- Main Competition Closes (deadline has been extended to Monday 8th June)
- Voting period
- Awards Ceremony

Main Competition

Create a response to ANY of the Spark! Shortlisted books. Take a look at the following page for more information!

Voting Period: The vote will be handed over to YOU! Yes, no adults allowed. Voting is strictly for pupils only. You will have the opportunity to vote for your favourite book in each category, so keep reading!

Awards Ceremony

The awards ceremony will take place on Tuesday 23rd June. It will be livestreamed to all of the schools across the country who have taken part. Winners of each category will be announced, along with competition winners too! So it is very important that you take part and enter the competition!





MAIN COMPETITION

WIN:

- A trophy
- A book token

Have your name announced at the awards ceremony



ENTER:

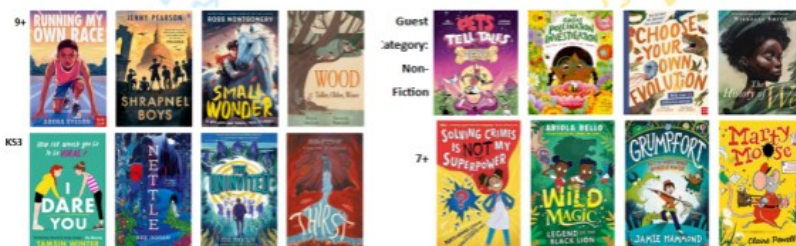
- Choose your favourite shortlisted book from any category and create a response
- Submit your entry to Miss McFall or Miss Wilson by **MONDAY 9TH JUNE**

You can also email your entry to admin@gosfortheeast.newcastle.sch.uk



COMPETITION IDEAS

Choose a book:



Create a response:



WRITTEN

You could write;

- A new 'blurb' to publish on the book cover
- The opening chapter of a sequel
- A diary as one of the characters
- A postcard to send to a friend explaining why you like this book
- A new adventure for one of the characters
- A play script for an exciting part of the story
- A TV interview with characters from the book
- An advert to tell more pupils in school to read your favourite book
- A poem inspired by the book or its themes
- ...Or another idea of your own



MULTI-MEDIA

(using your IT or graphic skills)

- You could;
 - Make a short film advertising the book or even acting out your favourite scene
 - Create your own blog, vlog or website - as yourself or a character
 - Design a poster that the authors might use to sell the book
 - Turn your story into a graphic novel or photostory
 - Compose a piece of music to be used as a soundtrack for the book
 - Learn to sign part of your book and film yourself (and maybe your friends!)
 - ...Or another idea of your own - use your IT skills to make a unique response!



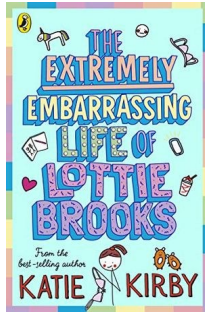
ARTWORK

- You could;
 - Create a significant object from the book in any media you like - clay, plasticine, junk modelling...
 - Produce a storyboard or picture of your favourite part of the story
 - Recreate an illustration using your crafting skills...sewing, crochet, collage...
 - Create a story box or small world for one of the places in your book
 - ...Or another idea of your own - get creative!



RECOMMENDED READS

Lottie Brooks because Lottie is always getting herself into different situations where she doesn't know how to get out of them and it's a good book if you don't like reading much. Jessica F

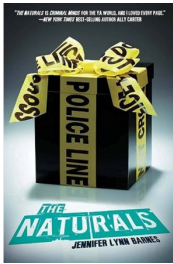


I love reading. At the moment I am reading the Dragon Realm series. I know some people who have read the books and enjoy them too. Brian Y5

The Naturals

"It's cool and you have to think like a serial killer."

Ayomi



Reads

Stranger Things Hawkins Horror

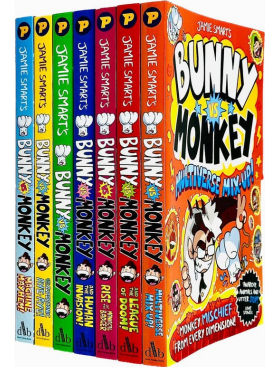
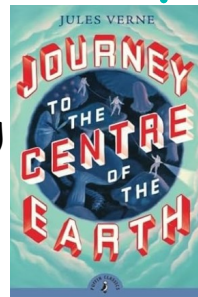
"It has lots of suspense..."

Moustafa



Journey to the Centre of the Earth

"I recommend this book because I really it." Brian



Bunny vs. Monkey

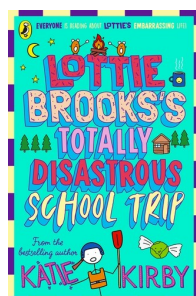
"I chose this book because it is funny, random and has lots of good jokes."

Kellan Y6

The totally Disastrous School Trip

"It is very interesting and as you read it makes you read on."

Elo Y6

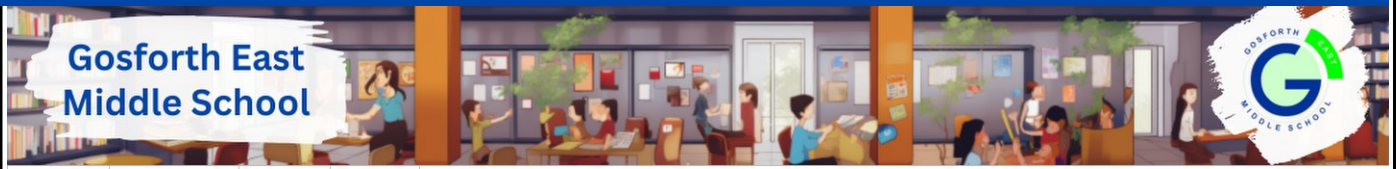


Recommended

Recommended Reads



Online Library



Gosforth East Middle School



LIBRARY BROWSE LOANS SAVED Search for books Advanced Search

Gosforth East Middle School

Access your eLibrary anywhere, anytime, on multiple devices.

Start Browsing

RENAISSANCE
Accelerated Reader

Listening Favourites

A Series of Unfortunate Events by Lemony Snicket	The Witches by Roald Dahl	The Dog Who Saved the World by Ross Welford	War Horse by Michael Morpurgo	Roald Dahl Reads Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl	Wonder by R.J. Palacio	Artemis Fowl and the Eternity Code by Eoin Colfer
★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★

Popular Titles

Gangsta Granny by David Walliams	Fortnite: The Essential Guide by Triumph Books	The Hate U Give: Global bestseller by Angie Thomas	Percy Jackson and the Titan's Curse by Rick Riordan	Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows by J.K. Rowling	Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets by J.K. Rowling	The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald
★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★

Recently Added

A Torch Against the Night by Sabaa Tahir	Music From Another World by Robin Talley	Secrets of the Last Merfolk by Lindsay Littleton	House of Furies by Madeleine Roux	How to Survive a Horror Sequel by Scarlett Dunmore	Ghostlines: shortlisted for the World's Greatest Football Star by Katya Balen	The Worst Witch Saves the Day by Jill Murphy
★★★★★	★★★★★	☆☆☆☆☆	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★

Newly Published

Relic Hamilton, Genie Hunter by Joseph Coelho	Skandar and the Skeleton Curse by A.F. Steadman	Meeting Meg by Nicola Baker	Songs for Ghosts by Clara Kumagai	Auggie & Me: Three Wonders by R.J. Palacio	Messi Mania: The ultimate story of the world's greatest football star by Luis Miguel Echegaray	Against the Odds Animal Attacks by DK
★★★★★	★★★★★	☆☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆☆	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★



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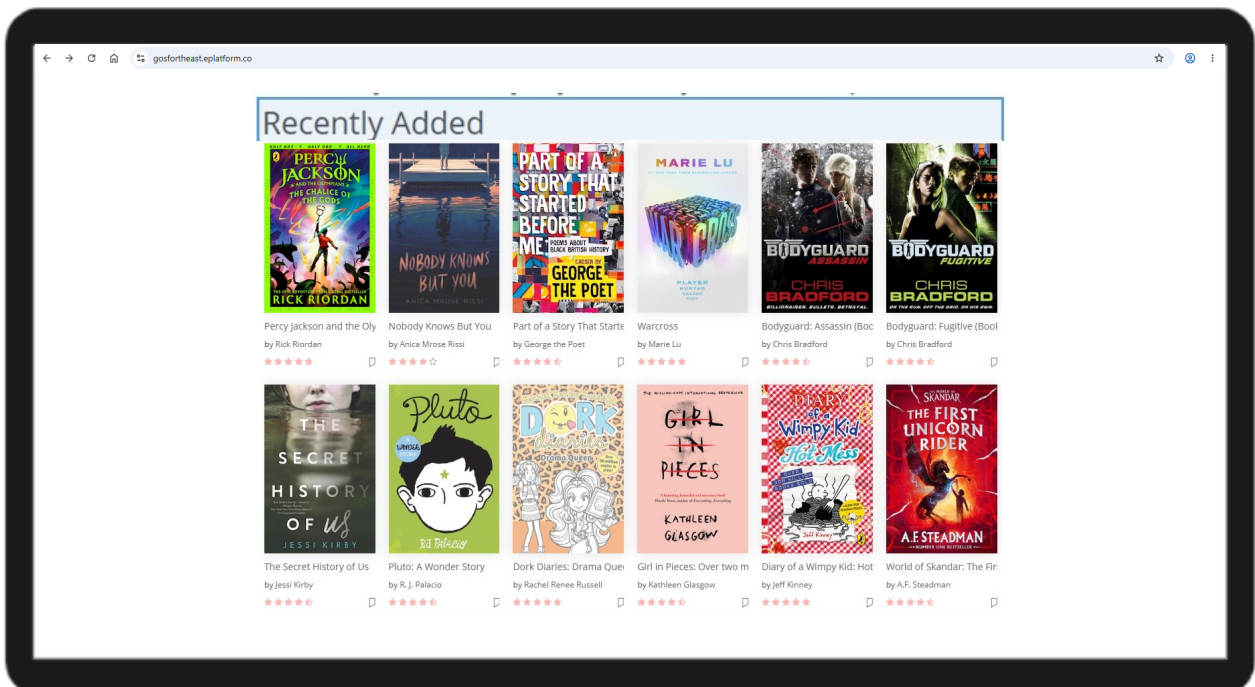


Log-in details:

Username: your library pin code

Password: books

gosfortheast.eplatform.co



Recently Added

- | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|---|---|
| | | | | | |
| Percy Jackson and the Oly by Rick Riordan | Nobody Knows But You by Anica Mrose Rissi | Part of a Story That Started Before Me by George the Poet | Warcross by Marie Lu | Bodyguard: Assassin (Book by Chris Bradford | Bodyguard: Fugitive (Book by Chris Bradford |
| ★★★★★ | ★★★★☆ | ★★★★★ | ★★★★★ | ★★★★★ | ★★★★★ |
| | | | | | |
| The Secret History of Us by Jessi Kirby | Pluto: A Wonder Story by R.J. Palacio | Dork Diaries: Drama Queen by Rachel Renee Russell | Girl in Pieces: Over two m by Kathleen Glasgow | Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Hot Mess by Jeff Kinney | World of Skandar: The Fir by A.F. Steadman |
| ★★★★★ | ★★★★★ | ★★★★★ | ★★★★★ | ★★★★★ | ★★★★★ |

Let it Glow Gig

Key Group—The Quackadoodles (Ophelia, Ava, Vesper and Harriet) have organised a special gig to take place on Friday 22nd at Newcastle college called 'Let it Glow'

It will be a great night of live music to raise money for Mental Health Matters starring Tetnus 26, 2day, Death Rattle and Antiquity.

Enjoy the gig! We can't wait to get the inside scoop when we return after the break!



Year 5 Basketball

Y5 Basketball Results...

The results are in...

The Year 5 basketball club got to the semi-finals against Central Middle School and Team 1 sadly lost 4-1 and Team 2 lost 5-1. The bus ride back to school was stuck in an awkward silence. However, congratulations on getting this far and we hope we will get to the finals in Year 6!!

By Alexa D



Young Musicians Concert no.5



Chika performing for Mr Stout's retirement

Chika y5 is on the bill for this prestigious event which will take place at the Lit and Phil in Newcastle City Centre. David Murray—Mr Williams old lecturer when he was at music collage and one of the best pianists in the UK—will also be there! He has also conducted the Northern Sinfonia and performed with them many times.

Player of the Season!

Jacob P Y5 plays for a football team outside of school and recently attended the Northumberland Football Presentation at the Grand Hotel.



He was the only person in his team to receive an award and he received Player of the Season for his team! Jacob said, "In the last game we narrowly missed out on getting promoted to the league above the league we were playing in. Earlier on in the season, I missed a penalty in a game before but the coach said that in our last game, I came back fighting and was fighting for it the most. Unfortunately we lost in the end but we did come close."



Congratulations to Jacob for giving it everything this season — especially for having the courage to step up and take a penalty, and for showing incredible resilience by coming back stronger than ever afterwards!

SIR DAVID ATTENBOROUGH TURNS 100!

On the 8th of May 2026, David Attenborough, a narrator like no other, has turned 100! Imagine turning that old and have not retired yet! Mr Stout obviously didn't get the memo.

Sir David is a massive celebrity for nature!

Happy Birthday, David!

By Moustafa



ANNIE JR

Our new production is going to be **ANNIE JR!**



If you haven't seen it before, we recommend you watch a movie adaptation over the half term break and/or listen to the songs! The auditions will take place next half term so get practising!



"I am very excited for Annie JR because it's one of my favourite movies (the newer version), but I want to be backstage." Ayomi

The Big Gig 2026

Magic of the Movies

This year The Big Gig's theme is *The Magic of the Movies!* We are singing, playing and having fun on the 19th June 2026. There is 10 songs from magical movies like:

The Sound of Music

The School of Rock

Trolls

Ghostbusters

Shrek (I'm a Believer)

etc.

We all cant wait for the ***Magic of the Movies!***

Read the next newsletter to find out what happened.



By Alexa D

THE BIG GIG 2026

Magic of the Movies



★ ★ ★ ★ ★
FRIDAY 19 JUNE
VERTU MOTORS ARENA
★ ★ ★ ★ ★



Join us for an unforgettable celebration of Make Music Day — featuring ten iconic songs from beloved films, specially arranged for beginner instrumentalists and singers. Accompanied by a live band and starring a cast of over 1,200 young musicians, this is a red carpet event you won't want to miss!

BUY TICKETS HERE!



www.ticketsource.co.uk/newcastlemusicservice



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ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND

6LW Design and Create

Were tasked with creating an outfit for the runway using paper and cello tape. Models had to strut their stuff down the runway and then the class voted on the best outfit.

Who do you think won?





WORDSEARCH



G A B U D B V Z F N J W T I G F E B S Y
 C C W T O W S O H I S Z J W I N B I S J
 S W A W G L Q A R D T N U E S P I H C M
 H D J H S F E D M D N M G O L Q O L A X
 B I Z C D N D W T V A S L P X U T X L N
 R N D D N X D G R E U V V W B I W F O F
 L J W R A H T C R M S E A L F A S K L M
 S F H N K M T C M Y M D M J V M E H V F
 T E P S A V E E O L A N U E A D A S L P
 R P A B P C R T K Q E A S R Z T G I F L
 U X E W I N S C Q D R S K Y P A U F W A
 R A J L E D E Y F P C W M S E K L Y N S
 A W Q Z H E A W I L N S U N D V S L Y T
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 B S E V Q U X J D G C M A E T A F F J G
 N L L E H S A E S D K I M L R Q I A O H
 E X S M G L E W O T T N E K U W I S Q G
 X K Y B H K H K G M T G S I T M B P T I

1. seashell 2. chips 3. beach 4. seaweed 5. kelp 6. sand 7. Icecream 8. Seaguls 9. dogs 10. clam
 11. plastic 12. jellyfish 13. turtles 14. waves 15. summer 16. swimming 17. games 18. seal 19. snorkel
 20. towel 21. suncream

*** Spot the spelling mistake! ***

HINT: They like to pinch your chips

By Ayomi