



MUGA

Over the Easter holidays work will start to replace the surface of the MUGA (multi-use games arena). We are so excited for this to be completed so we can do some high quality PE and sports at playtimes. This week our Ambassadors gained pupil voice and we have made a rota for how to use this space when it re-opens after the holidays. The agreed timetable is as follows:

	MUGA	Imagination Playground (blue blocks)
Monday	Class 1 and 2	Class 4
Tuesday	Class 3	Class 1 and 2
Wednesday	Class 4	Class 3
Thursday	Alternative Sports (Class 3 and 4)	Class 1 and 2
Friday	Attendance winners at lunch time girls only am/ boys only pm	Attendance winners

The class who wins our weekly attendance trophy will choose whether they would like to have the MUGA on a Friday lunch time, or choose whether they would like to play with the Imagination Playground (blue blocks).

Colour Run/Sports Day

Many children and parents mention the Colour Run from 2024 and I am delighted to say I have been able to swap things around and organise this event for the end of the Summer term! We have decided to do this instead of Sports Day. It will take place on the afternoon of Friday 10th July. In the Colour Run, we ask people to wear plain white T-shirts and run through the clouds of powder paint! The wonderful thing about a Colour Run at Byers Green is, the community can get involved and join in and run with their child too. This year, based on ideas raised from families, we are going to invite you to bring deck chairs and picnics to really make the most out of the day. We just need to hope for sunshine! We have a back-up date of 15th July if the weather is poor. I will send more details nearer the time.

School Meal Price Increase – Message from Durham County Council Meals Board

With the continual challenges we are facing in terms of food inflation and the additional rise in National Minimum Wage and to ensure a sustainable and nutritious meal is provided to the children, it has been necessary to agree a price increase in relation to the primary school meal. From Monday 20th April 2026, primary school meals will be charged at £3.08 per day.

The Council and a representation of Primary School leaders undertook a full and transparent review of costs and accepted the new price on the basis that this will be fixed until 31st March 2027. If your child or children attend an infant class from Reception to Year 2 (KS1) then school meals will continue to be free to them under the government Universal Infant Free School Meal Scheme.

RSE update

From September 2026, new statutory guidance will come into effect for the teaching of Relationships and Sex Education (RSE). Schools are required to consult with all stakeholders around this policy and the implementation of the content of the RSE curriculum. At Byers Green, we follow a scheme called SCARF (Safety, Caring, Achievement, Resilience and Friendship) by Coram Education. This scheme covers all of the DfE recommendations for the delivery of RSE and also incorporates the aspects of the PSHCE curriculum advised from the PSHCE association. If you did not get an opportunity to look at the policy at the Parents' Evening, copies are available from Mrs Blenkiron. Feedback from parents and carers will be welcomed and shared with school staff when finalising the policy.

Parent Governor Vacancies

We currently have a vacancy for two Parent Governors on our Governing Board.

Our Governing Board has a membership of 12, with representatives from the staff, local community and parents.

The Governing Board does not get involved in the day to day running of the school; they have a strategic role with responsibility for overseeing leadership and management. It has 3 core functions:

- setting strategic direction
- creating robust accountability
- ensuring best use of financial resources

The full Governing Board must meet at least three times per academic year, and also have frequent Committee meetings each term. There is an expectation that governors will also undertake monitoring visits into school to find out more about the school throughout the year. Individual governors do not have any powers, instead the Governing Board works closely with the Headteacher and makes decisions collectively as a team.

Any parent, or carer, of a registered pupil at the school at the time of election is eligible to stand for election as a Parent Governor (subject to certain exceptions, e.g. anyone employed at the school for more than 500 hours per annum is not eligible). Parent Governors are elected by other parents at the school - if there are more applications than spaces available, an election will be arranged so please be aware you may have to produce a personal statement for ballot papers.

Appointment is also subject to eligibility criteria and completion of a satisfactory Disclosure & Barring Service check.

All governors must abide by our agreed Code of Conduct covering issues such as confidentiality, conflicts of interest, training requirements.

Prospective candidates are invited to speak with the Headteacher and Chair of Governors prior to submitting an application so they are fully aware of the roles and responsibilities involved – please contact the school office to make an appointment.

Closing date for expressions of interest is Friday 24th April.

Wrap Around Care Enhancements

Monday – General fun

Tuesday – Arts and crafts (3:25 – 4:25)

Wednesday – Gardening/Outdoor Club (3:25 – 4:25)

Thursday – Musical Theatre (3:25 – 4:25)

Friday – General Fun (3:25 – 4:25)

PE days until end of term

PE days for after Easter are as follows:

Class 1	Wednesday	Friday
Class 2	Wednesday	Thursday
Class 3	Monday – Swimming	Friday
Class 4	Tuesday	Friday

Diary Dates

Please see important dates coming up this term

Date/time	Event
02.04.26	School closes for Easter
20.04.26	School re-opens after Easter break
04.05.26	May Bank Holiday
08.05.26	Quidditch Sports Opportunity for all classes
11.05.26	KS2 SATS week
22.05.26	Break up for Half Term
01.06.26	School re-opens after Half Term
10.06.26	Newby Wiske Residential for Class 4 pupils
10.07.26 (15.07.26 as a back-up)	Colour Run
More dates will be updated in this table as other opportunities arise – please keep checking.	

Thank you for reading our newsletter. Please get in touch if I can help you in any way.
Kind regards,

G.E.Dodds

Headteacher