



Southridge First School Whole School Newsletter June 2025



"Proud to Make a Positive Impact"

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Upcoming Events

The summer term is always busy with a variety of trips, activities and events to look forward to across our different year groups. We hope you all enjoyed Sports Days and our Meet the Teacher presentations and that you have the Summer Fair on your calendars.

The children are carefully tending their raised beds and beginning to reap the harvest of mange-tout peas that have started to thrive. We are hoping that our other crops continue to thrive, blossom and bloom in time for our special Farmer's Lunch in the penultimate week, where we hope that one of our Facetime Farmer friends might be able to make a special appearance!

We hope everyone who attended our "Meet the Teachers" meetings this week has found them informative. For anyone who missed them, the presentation slides are available on the school website in the year group section <[Southridge First School - Home](#)>.

The class movement for next year will be as follows:

Current Class teacher Sept 2024 - July 2025	New Class teacher September 2025 - July 2026
Reception - Miss Parker	Year 1 - Miss Cassidy
Reception - Miss Flitcroft	Year 1 - Mrs Pringle
Year 1 - Miss Cassidy	Year 2 - Mrs Dunn
Year 1 - Mrs Pringle	Year 2 - Mr Price
Year 2 - Miss McIntyre	Year 3 - Mrs Burton
Year 2 - Mrs Dunn	Year 3 - Mrs McIntosh / Mrs Statham
Year 3 - Mr Price	Year 4 - Miss McIntyre
Year 3 - Mrs Burton	Year 4 - Mr O'Hara

Looking ahead, on **Tuesday from 3.30-5.00pm**, there will be an opportunity for you to visit the school with your children, explore their **new classrooms**, and meet the teachers.

In **PSHE**, our topic this half term is "**Changing Me**", which helps children understand that feeling nervous about change is natural. The sessions aim to help them recognise the positives in transition and to build their confidence for the year ahead.

As part of our **transition programme**, all children who are remaining at Southridge will take part in **Move Up Day** next **Wednesday**. They'll spend the day in their new classroom and get a feel for the routines, helping them feel more secure and excited about returning after the summer break.

As always, our goal is to ensure both children and families feel well-informed and supported as we approach the end of the academic year and prepare for the next.

Summer Fair

We are very excited to be holding our annual Summer Fair next Friday. Our volunteers and staff are prepared to offer an exciting array of activities from 'Lob-a-loo-roll' to Face-painting and hot Pizza & BBQ to the Chocolate Tombola, it's shaping up to be an afternoon to remember!

Practicalities on the day.

- We ask that children are collected as normal at 3.20pm and that everyone vacates the site by 3.25pm (preferably via the front of school next to the School Office). Re-entry to the site will then be at 3.30pm. This gives staff a couple of minutes to get to the stalls/activities for a 3.30pm start.
- **Entrance to the fair will be via the Nursery gates**, and the small gate halfway up the side of the playground (next to Earnshaw Way). **Not via the Main School Office or by Year 1.** Entry will begin at 3.30pm.
- The School Office will close at 3.40pm.
- **The weather forecast** is currently **mixed** for next Friday and so we have a contingency plan if the forecast is not conducive to an entirely outdoor fair.
 - If rain or high wind is forecast, we intend to move some of the activities into the school, while the more 'robust' activities would remain outside.

Give your old wellies a new home!

We have been delighted by the positive feedback from children about how much they enjoy lessons that take place outdoors. We are keen to continue offering these enriching opportunities throughout the academic year, whenever appropriate.

To support this, it's important that children have suitable footwear to access the different areas around our school grounds where outdoor learning happens. From September, each class in Years 2 to 4 will have their own welly store, enabling us to ensure that children are always prepared to head outside, whatever the weather.

While we know that some families may prefer to send in their own pair of wellies, we are hoping to build up a stock of school wellies so that a pair is always available for every child. To help us achieve this, we would be very grateful for donations of any **pre-loved welly boots (in children's sizes approximately 11-4)** that are no longer needed at home. We only ask that they are still in good condition—with enough life left in them and, most importantly, still waterproof!

Thank you in advance for your support in helping us make outdoor learning accessible and enjoyable for all.

Living Streets

This term, we've been delighted to take part in the *Living Streets Walk to School* initiative, which began after Easter with a special assembly led by Sam Prior, the regional coordinator. Sam spoke to the children about the many health and environmental benefits of travelling to school under our own steam.

The initiative encourages children to get to school by walking, scooting, cycling, or using the 'Park and Stride' method—where families who need to drive part of the way park a short distance from school and walk the remainder. Children who travel in one of these active ways **2-3 times a week** over the course of a month earn a small reward badge.

The scheme aims to raise awareness of how small, sustainable choices can make a big difference—and it has proved extremely popular with the children! We’ve been so encouraged by the positive response and enthusiasm that we’re hopeful of continuing the initiative into next academic year.

Thank you for your support in helping our pupils develop healthy habits and care for the environment.

As you can see from the chart below, we are Top of the Pops in North Tyneside!

Local Authority	Name	New or continuing	Engagement average over period	Journeys logged	Walk/wheel all the way change from baseline (p.pts.)	Driven all the way change from baseline (p.pts.)
North Tyneside	Southridge First School	New School	82%	4149	8.70 ↑	-24.22 ↓
North Tyneside	Burradon Community Primary School	Continuing School	77%	1791	31.00 ↑	-65.53 ↓
North Tyneside	Benton Dene Primary School	Continuing School	74%	4559		
North Tyneside	Langley First School	Continuing School	74%	3231		
North Tyneside	St Stephens Roman Catholic Primary School Aided	Continuing School	66%	2501	-0.07 ↓	-17.79 ↓
North Tyneside	Bailey Green Primary School	Continuing School	64%	3917	4.13 ↑	-26.53 ↓
North Tyneside	Forest Hall Primary School	Continuing School	64%	1576		
North Tyneside	Christ Church CofE Primary School	New School	62%	1720	1.95 ↑	-13.87 ↓
North Tyneside	Riverside Primary School	Continuing School	61%	1335	17.56 ↑	-22.64 ↓
North Tyneside	Coquet Park First School	Continuing School	40%	971	6.87 ↑	-32.32 ↓

Whitley Bay Carnival

A big thank you to the boys and girls, and staff, who ensured Southridge was represented at the Whitley Bay Carnival. Our Ambassadors for the Community will have been very proud to have seen us!



Pond progress

Our unique Southridge Birdfoot Nature Pond™ is continuing to develop.



A visit from Mr Grundy of Wilderness Tamed has brought a wonderful array of native water plants and he has been in the pond in his waterproof waders ensuring that we have just the right mix to create an optimum environment.

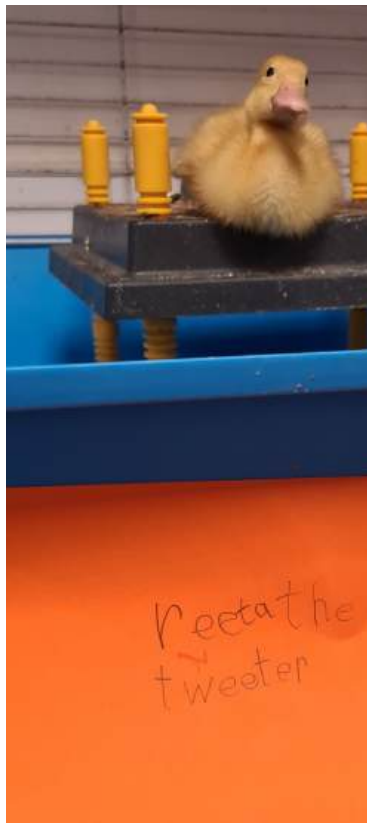


Children came to see his progress and were very excited to hear that the first signs of life are starting to naturally appear in the water - rather unexciting 'gnat larvae'! However, we are sure more exciting inhabitants will follow.



Year One's Newest Arrival

We were thrilled (and very relieved) when one of our original six duck eggs hatched last week and "Reeta the Tweeta" emerged. Reeta has lived up to her(tbc) "Tweeta" name and let's everyone in school know if she is feeling ignored! She will stay with us for a few more days, before she returns to where her egg was laid (up in Alwinton in Northumberland) where she will live out her days with a flock of Runner Ducks and Toulouse Geese.



Southridge - bringing home the platinumware!

Following the fantastic sporting success of both Sunderland and Newcastle at Wembley this year, Southridge has gone one better—we're proud to announce that we have been awarded the **Platinum Award** for our school sports provision!

This is the highest level of recognition in the School Games Mark scheme and is only awarded to schools that have consistently achieved the **Gold Award over several consecutive years**. Earning Platinum is a significant accomplishment—especially for a first school—and reflects our long-standing commitment to delivering outstanding physical education and sport for all pupils.

A huge **well done to Mr O'Hara**, who has worked tirelessly to ensure that every child at Southridge enjoys high-quality PE lessons and a wide range of opportunities to take part, perform, and compete.

We are thrilled with this achievement and proud of the active, inclusive, and ambitious sports culture we've built together.



A Special Reading Challenge



THE
READING
AGENCY

Summer Reading Challenge



Your child (age 4–11) can join the Summer Reading Challenge this summer. It's fun, free and helps keep up reading skills over the holidays!

🏆 Their goal is to read 6 books

📖 Read whatever they like – books, eBooks, audiobooks

🎉 Earn stickers, a certificate & even a medal

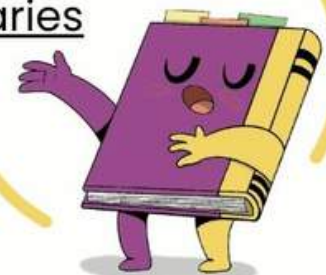
Available in libraries or online:

summerreadingchallenge.org.uk

Join at any North Tyneside library from Saturday 12 July
It's a great way to boost confidence and make reading fun!

For further information about or FREE events and activities over the summer check out

<https://bookwhen.com/ntclibraries>



North
Tyneside
Council



northtynesidelibraries



North Tyneside Community Hubs and Libraries

Free school meals



Your child may be entitled to free school meals

To check eligibility for free school meals you must apply online at www.northtyneside.gov.uk and enter 'free school meals' in the search bar.

If you don't have an e-mail address please call to register for free meals **(0191) 643 2288**

Choose Option 3

Easy to apply

It only takes a few minutes to apply online, you will need your Nc Number or your child's reference to register.

Savings for your family

You could save over £427 per year for every child that qualifies for free school meals.

Your school benefits too

Your school receives additional funding for every child registered for free school meals. So the school and your children will be better resourced.

Please do not struggle in silence

If you are finding that financial pressures are affecting your child(ren)'s ability to access school, please email

financial.support@southridgefirst.org.uk

which is a confidential email address monitored by the headteacher and we will contact you to see what support we may be able to provide and signpost for you.

Family Fun Days Summer 2025

The events will take place 11am–2pm on:

FREE

Friday 25 July at Springfield Park, Forest Hall

Friday 1 August at Richardson Dees Park, Wallsend

Friday 8 August at Churchill Playing Fields, Whitley Bay
including tennis activities on Souter Park tennis courts.

Friday 15 August at Northumberland Park, North Shields

Activities include:

- Football
- Tennis
- Smoothie bike
- Inflatables
- DJ
- Garden games

There is no need to book onto the event.

Families can just turn up on the day and activities are open to children of all ages.

Please note, children must be accompanied and supervised throughout the events by a responsible adult. If the weather is bad on the day of the event, an announcement will be made on social media.



www.activenorthtyneside.org.uk

Is your child registered for **SCHOOL MILK?**

Child **UNDER 5**

Every child under the age of five is entitled to free school milk. Simply register your child online.



Child **OVER 5**

Every child over the age of five is entitled to milk at a subsidised cost of around £20 per term. Register your child and pay online.

Children in receipt of benefits-based free school meals are eligible for free school milk. Speak to the school for further information.

Free milk for under 5s is funded by the Department of Health and milk for over 5s is subsidised by DEFRA.

REGISTER YOUR CHILD TODAY

Register online
www.coolmilk.com



Need help?
Send us a message
at www.coolmilk.com/contact
or give us a call on **0800 321 3248**



FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA - SEARCH COOLMILKSCHEME