



Birtley East School Times Weekly Newsletter

2025-26 | 12th December 2025

A Cosmic Christmas Caper

Thank you so much to everyone who came to watch the Drama Club production last night. The show was a huge success and the children were amazing! All of their hard work over the last term has really paid off and it was an excellent performance. It's great to see their confidence increasing with every show.

St Cuthbert's Festive Fun Run



We had a lovely time this morning on our whole school festive walk around Birtley. The children (and staff!) looked very festive in their Santa hats and reindeer antlers. It was great to see so many parents cheering us on while we walked. Sponsor forms for St. Cuthbert's can be returned up until **Thursday 18th December**. Thank you for your continued support.

Wrap Around Childcare

We are pleased to say that we are opening our after school wrap around provision from the start of next term. The provision is being run and managed by school and the two staff who are joining us to staff the provision are Ms Shelley and Mrs Blackie. Mrs Blackie has been volunteering and providing some cover in school this term already. The provision will run from the end of the school day until 6pm and will be based in our community room. Please use this form [Wrap Around After School Childcare - Expression of Interest - Fill in form](#) to express an interest in a place for you child, or children, in our Wrap Around Childcare provision. The provision is open to all children on roll at Birtley East Primary School provided there is capacity in the provision. We reserve the right to particularly restrict the number of places offered to Early Years children if ratio has been reached. Please refer to our charging policy (extract below) regarding the cost of the childcare. All sessions booked **MUST** be paid for regardless of whether your child attends. **There will be a further registration form for you to complete following this initial expression of interest, this will be sent to you next week.** This initial form is to enable us to plan early next week for the numbers and ages of children we can expect after Christmas so that the club can open as soon as we return for the start of the spring term, please complete this as early as you can in order to help with our planning meeting on Tuesday 16th December.

Aiming Higher, Achievement for All





After school childcare	Reception - Y6 Possibility of places for nursery children dependant upon capacity.*	£10 for whole session (end of school day - 6pm) £5 for part session (end of after school club - 6pm) Payable half termly in advance
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Children can attend either the full session (at a charge of £10 per night) or a half session (attending after an after school club) for £5 per night. Unless children are attending an after school club the full £10 charge will apply regardless of the time they are collected. Children collected late (after 6pm) will incur a £10 late collection charge.

Additionally, children who are late being collected from school at either home time or after an after school club will be placed in the wrap around provision and this will incur a £5 charge for that night (or a £10 charge if they attend the full session). There will be a grace period of 10 minutes before this is applied.

*Initially, we will be offering places to nursery children but we will stop admitting nursery children when we reach ratio for Early Years.

After School Clubs next week

All after school clubs next week will run as normal with the exception of Drama club and Forest School club - these clubs both finish this week, there will be no sessions next week.

Magic 123 Course

Please find attached a flyer for 123 Magic parenting course which will be delivered here in school on 21st and 28th January. Parents and carers must attend both sessions. Parents and carers can contact Corrina for more information or to book a place.

Christmas Parties

Monday 15th December: Years 3 and 4 (PM)

Tuesday 16th December: Year 5 and 6 (PM)

Wednesday 17th December: Early Years

Thursday 18th December: Year 1 and 2

The arrangements are the same as previous years - children in years 1-6 should come to school in school uniform with party clothes to change into at lunchtime as their parties are during the afternoon. Children should bring a party tea packed for them to eat towards the end of their party. We will provide drinks. Miss Coxon will let you know about any specific arrangements for the Early Years party but these will be similar to the rest of the school with the exception that children in Early Years come to school dressed in their party clothes. We cannot accommodate parents coming to change their children during lunchtime and we would strongly discourage parents from taking their children home to change over lunchtime as it is actually part of the party experience to all get ready together, they get very excited!

Reminder: Reception 2026 - Applications Open

If you, or anyone you know, are applying for a child's place in reception class for September 2026 you are very welcome to book in for a tour of our school. We were inspected by Ofsted in October 2024 and this report is available here: [Birtley East Community Primary School - Open - Find an Inspection Report - Ofsted](#)

You can apply for your child's place online via this link:

<https://www.gateshead.gov.uk/article/2796/Primary-school-admissions-September-2026>

