



MONKHOUSE MESSENGER

September 2025

We are delighted to welcome all our children and families back to school for the start of a new term. We hope you had a restful and enjoyable break and are ready for the exciting learning and opportunities ahead.

Reminder: School Social Media Change

We are changing the social media platform for our school. Going forward, you'll be able to stay up to date with all our news, events, and highlights on our new Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/monkhouseprimaryschool>. Due to the change in our social media

platform, we have issued a new photograph permission consent form for all of our pupils. Please click the google form link to complete new photo permission for your child:

<https://bit.ly/4e8HqJv>

Fixed Penalty Notice Fines for Unauthorised absences

We would like to remind families that all schools are required to refer to the Local Authority for a Fixed Penalty Notice if a child has 10 sessions (equivalent to 5 full school days) of unauthorised absence within a 10-week rolling period. Please note that this includes absences due to holidays taken during term time or those unauthorised for other reasons. Regular attendance is essential for your child's learning, wellbeing, and progress.

Who is working in the lower wing of school - previously leased out to Silverdale school OOSC?

We are delighted to let you know that our Reception - Year 6 OOSC have moved successfully into a brand-new space in the wing of school which is behind Rise and Shine. We have the space for 40 children.

The costs for OOSC are:

Breakfast Club 7:30 - 8:45am - £5.50	After School Club 3:20-4:30pm - £6.45
	After School Club 3:20-5.30pm - £9.15
Breakfast Club 8:15 - 8:45am - £2.25	After School Club 3:20-6:00pm - £10.95

Places can be booked through the gateway app and sessions must be paid for in advance. Child care vouchers can also be used for working parents. Please be advised that staffing levels are related to child ratio and late requests may not always be possible if staffing levels are not in place.

Great North Maths Hub

As you may be aware, we are the lead school for the Great North Maths Hub. There are only 40 maths hubs nationally and we are funded directly by the DfE to manage these national programmes for teachers across Northumberland, Newcastle, Durham, Gateshead, Sunderland, South and North Tyneside. The wider maths hub team is based in this area and will run training from here. Mrs Baggett is the Senior Lead Link for the maths hub.

North Tyneside SCITT (School Centred Initial Teacher Training)

We now host the team from North Tyneside SCITT in this area of school. There are currently 20 trainee primary teachers and the SCITT team who now use this area of school.

Our school works hard to make the best use of the funding we receive, but like many schools, we continue to face financial pressures due to limited national funding. All of the above brings in much needed additional income to our school which we use to benefit the children.

Young Carers

In school, we regularly support our young carers by providing opportunities for them to share their experiences and ensuring their voices are heard. We raise the profile of the amazing work they do to support their families through discussions, displays, and recognition of their contributions. We provide

opportunities for them to enjoy because they are young carers. Our aim is to celebrate their resilience, offer appropriate support, and ensure they feel valued and understood within our school community.

October Parental Consultations

We are offering individual parental consultations to parents this year on Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd October. Appointment slots will be available to book nearer the time via school cloud.

2025 School Data against national data.

Every year, our school data is consistently higher than other local and national schools. We are delighted that the hard work of the staff and pupils is evident in this data

Reception EYFS Data

	Good Level of Development	Reading	Writing	Maths
School	86%	100%	90%	95%
National 2024	68%	76%	71%	79%

Year 1 Phonics Data

	Achieving 32 in Yr 1
School	91%
National 2024	80%

Year 4 Multiplication check

There is no pass mark for the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC). The maximum score is 25.

	Average score
School	21.5
National average	20.6

Year 6 SATs

	Reading	Writing (moderate and agreed by the local authority)	Spelling Grammar & Punctuation	Maths	RWM combined
School expected	100%	94%	100%	94%	88%
National	74%	72%	72%	73%	61%
School Greater Depth	61%	39%	51%	21%	10%
National Greater Depth	29%	13%	32%	24%	8%

Off to a Great Start!

We are really proud of our youngest children in school, our new Nursery class. Every day they arrive with a smile and join in with a huge range of activities, learning so much already! We've learned new songs and stories, how to dance with our flipper-flappers, how to perform a story map, and lots of independence skills. Not only that, but walking round school we think we are the very best sneakers in the whole building! We know everyone is busy working so we have to be respectful, it's one of the school values!



Creating a Safer Culture

Health and Wellbeing

My School Health Nurse

We are pleased to partner with MY School Health where we have funded an experienced school nurse to work directly in our school. The nurse team includes registered paediatric nurses and specialist community public health school nurses, all with backgrounds in hospital and community care. Through this partnership, our school nurse will be able to offer tailored support to children and families, focusing on areas such as mental health, behaviour, emotional resilience, and physical health. In school services may include one-on-one sessions, group interventions, and advice to parents on topics like managing anger, anxiety, sleep, hygiene, and toileting. The aim is to provide early intervention and support, helping children build coping skills and resilience. Our school nurse, Vicky, starts with us on Monday 29th September. This service will be bespoke to our school and we will share specific programmes or support we can offer to parents in the coming weeks.

Connect Mental Health

We continue to work with the Connect Mental Health Team and will liaise directly with parents when we feel this may be the right route for your child.

This year, the connect team will run the Friends Resilience programme with Year 5 and the parent sessions at the start and end of the session. These sessions are particularly helpful for parents who may be struggling with managing some aspects of behaviour at home so please try to attend.

Connect MHST invites Parents and carers supporting children and young people with social, emotional, and mental health needs to a virtual support Session.

September's support session topic will be:-

Understanding emotional regulation and strategies to support your child Zoom session on Wednesday 24th September 2025 @ 6pm

The virtual session is a place for parents and carers to get information and support from Connect on wellbeing topics identified by parents, share their experiences if they chose to, help and support each other and get information and advice to support them. Scan the QR Code to register your interest and receive the Zoom invite.



Please register for this in advance of the zoom meeting time as our emails are only accessible during office hours 08.30 -16.30

KS2 children and walking to the gate and home independently

Please make the decision that is right for your child about whether they are ready to walk to and from the gate at the start and end of the day. Peer pressure should not play a part, as some children are ready for this independence while others are not. Children must be able to walk sensibly, wait calmly, and know to return into school for help if their adult is not there. If behaviour or awareness is a concern, this independence will be withdrawn and children will need to be met on the yard.

Bikes and Scooters

For everyone's safety, we kindly remind families that all children must push wheeled vehicles (bikes, scooters, etc.) while on the school site. Children or visitors who are unable to follow this rule may be asked not to bring wheeled vehicles to school. Please also remember that electric scooters are illegal on public roads and should not be used for the school journey or brought onto the site. Thank you for helping us to keep our school community safe.



Walking into and out of school safely

We kindly remind families that when the main school gates are open (before 8:30am, between 9:00am–3:00pm, and after 3:30pm), everyone should use the designated paths rather than walking along the road. This is particularly important for the safety of all children but especially for our nursery children or children in after school clubs, who may leave at different times across the day. Thank you for helping us keep all children safe.

Safeguarding Update - Using Reasonable force and restrictive intervention

There is new guidance in place for schools where reasonable force or restrictive interventions may be needed to keep a child safe from harming themselves or harming others. Schools must now record all incidents and to inform you as the parents of the child. Please be assured, this has always been our practice in school.

Lockdown Guidance

As part of our commitment to keeping children safe, we regularly practise a range of safety procedures each term, including fire evacuations and school lockdowns. Please be assured that these will be explained and managed in a calm and child-friendly way. It is also helpful to reassure your child at home that school is a very safe place, and that we practise these routines so everyone knows what to do.

Safeguarding work with children

In school, we always spend the first few weeks focussing on ways to keep ourselves safe through PANTs work and online digital safety. The children have used the worry box to share some of their worries and staff have worked with children and classes to address these.



British Values

In order to promote British Values, we started this year looking at how flags can be used for positive purposes e.g. to celebrate national sports teams. We looked at news stories where flags have been used to discriminate against others and reflected on how our school values would reflect on this. Our children listened so well and offered lots of ideas to promote the values of mutual respect and tolerance of others.



Parking around School

Please park safely and considerately when dropping off or picking up your children. Do not wait on double yellow lines or zig-zag markings at any time, as these are in place for the safety of all pupils. Thank you for helping keep our school community safe

Mobile Devices in School

All mobile devices must be handed into the school office at the start of each day before going onto the yard and collected after leaving school. Please ensure this procedure is followed consistently to keep our school environment safe and focused. Thank you for your cooperation.

Family Opportunities Outside School

No Limits

No Limits is a programme for children and young people to encourage them to be physically active. There are sports hall and swimming pool-based sessions where activities can include trampolining, football, multi-sports, swimming, pool inflatables, and arts and crafts.

Family Splash

Bring your family along to enjoy a free weekly toys and floats swimming session! It's a great way to have fun as a family, introduce kids to the water, improve their water confidence and encourage being physically active.

Stay and Play

Stay and Play is a free session for children aged 1 to 7 years old (children must be accompanied by an adult).

Children can have fun in the soft play and take part in arts and crafts, while parents and carers get healthy eating and physical activity tips from our lovely staff!

Mini Movers

Mini Movers is for children aged 2 to 4 years old and is a great opportunity for them to be active and try healthy foods. During the session the team delivers a variety of activities to develop the following skills:

- Agility
- Balance
- Co-ordination
- Numeracy
- Literacy

If you would like to find out more or book onto any of the session, please visit their website:

www.activenorthtyneside.org.uk

Healthy4Life

Healthy4Life is a family focussed after school programme which aims to help children and parents/carers make positive changes to their lifestyle to maintain a healthy weight.

They are delivering the following programmes throughout October-December:

- Tuesday at The Lakeside Centre, Killingworth, 4:15-6:15pm (ages 8+)
- Wednesday at The Parks Sport Centre, 4:15-6:15pm (ages 8+)

The free 10-week course covers topics such as: what is a balanced diet, portion sizes, learning about sugar and fat etc

Children also take part in sport and activity sessions to help them figure out what they enjoy doing to be physically active.

To sign up for Healthy4Life visit their website -

<https://www.activenorthtyneside.org.uk/healthy4life>



Supported by
Family Gateway

Mondays
9:30am - 11:30am
at Howdon Community Hub

Term Time Only

Who is this group for?

Parents / carers of any SEND child 0 to adult

- Relaxed and friendly space
- Everyone welcome, including children
- No booking needed, sessions are drop ins
- Come for a chat
- Get advice on EHCP, DLA & PIP from staff
- External organisations to run sessions every 6-8 weeks for extra information and Q & A's
- Get support from and give support to other families going through the same thing
- Teas, coffees and biscuits provided

HOLIDAY DATES 2025 - 2026

	School Closes <i>(last day of term)</i>	School Re-opens
AUTUMN TERM 2025		
OCTOBER MID TERM	Friday 24 th Oct 2025	Monday 3 rd Nov 2025
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY	Friday 19 th Dec 2025	Monday 5 th Jan 2026
SPRING TERM 2026		
SPRING MID TERM	Friday 13 th Feb 2026	Tuesday 24 th Feb 2026
EASTER HOLIDAY	Thurs 2 nd April 2026	Monday 20 th April 2026
SUMMER TERM 2026		
SUMMER MID TERM	Thurs 21 st May 2026	Monday 1 st June 2026
SUMMER HOLIDAYS	Friday 17 th July 2026	

TRAINING DAYS

School will be closed on the 3 following days:

Monday 1 st September 2025	Monday 23 rd February 2026
Friday 22 nd May 2026	

BANK HOLIDAY - SCHOOL IS CLOSED TO ALL PUPILS ON THIS DAY:
MONDAY 4TH MAY 2026

Dates for your Diary

Thursday 2 nd October	Year 1 RNLI trip
	Y5 Ouseburn tunnels visit
Monday 6 th October	Y5 Group A – intergenerational splash of colour visit
Monday 13 th October	Y5 Group B – intergenerational splash of colour visit
Tuesday 14 th October	Y3 Rising Sun visit
Wednesday 22 nd and Thursday 23 rd October	Parental Consultations

Christmas Activities

Thursday 11 th December 10:30am	Nursery Christmas show
Thursday 11 th Dec 2.15pm	Reception and Year 1 Christmas Show
Friday 12 th December	PTA Christmas stall for pupils
Monday 15 th December	Year 3 / 4 Christmas Party
Tuesday 16 th December	Year 5 / 6 Christmas Party
Wednesday 17 th December am	Nursery & Reception Christmas Party
Wednesday 17 th December 1.30pm	Yr 2 - 6 Christmas Carol Service in Church
Thursday 18 th December	Year 1 / 2 Christmas Party
Friday 19 th December	Family Christmas Carols on the yard 1.10pm then an early finish for all children. OOSC will be closed on this day

Statutory Assessment Dates

11 th - 15 th May 2026	Year 6 SATs week
8 th June - 12 th June 2026	Year 1 Phonic Screener
1 st June - 12 th June 2026	Year 4 Multiplication Check