



Consett Junior School

April 2026 Newsletter

Welcome to our April newsletter, have a wonderful Easter in all that you do.

Attendance

We are pleased to share our whole school attendance figures. Today, our attendance rate stands at **96.1%**, which is above our average for this year of **95.7%**. This is a positive reflection of our commitment to ensuring that students are present and engaged in their learning.

To provide some context, our attendance calculation shows that **219 out of 228** students were present today. This is a strong performance compared to the national average year to date (YTD), which is **94.6%**. Our school is currently ranked in the **75th percentile** nationally, meaning our attendance is better than **75%** of other schools using the same data system.

Thank you for your continued support in promoting excellent attendance within our school.

March Attendance Results

We are pleased to announce the attendance winners for March! This month, our overall attendance was 96.09%, which is above our target of 96%. In March 2025, attendance was slightly lower at 96.07%.

In the race for the best attendance, Year 5 excelled, closely followed by Year 3. For classes, Class 6 has taken the crown with an impressive 97.2%, followed by Class 4.

To celebrate their achievements, Year 5 and Class 6 will receive their rewards on Friday, 24th April. Well done to all!

Class Results

The registration group winner was Class 6.

Class	Present R/C: Marks (%)	Unauth. Absent R/C: Marks (%)	Late R/C: Marks (Count)
Class 6	97.92%	0	8
Class 4	96.99%	9	13
Class 7	96.77%	2	5
Class 2	96.68%	6	4
Class 5	96.05%	11	5
Class 1	95.87%	28	6
Class 3	95.18%	26	23
Class 8	93.4%	43	11

Year Group Results

The year group winner was Year 5.

Year Group	Present R/C: Marks (%)	Unauth. Absent R/C: Marks (%)	Late R/C: Marks (Count)
Year Y5	96.97%	11	13
Year Y3	96.28%	34	10
Year Y4	96.07%	35	36
Year Y6	95.12%	45	16

Spring Attendance Celebration

On Tuesday 31st March, we will celebrate our spring term attendance. All children will be part of an attendance assembly to promote the importance of being in school regularly and on time. Children will be provided with raffle tickets as follows:

Below 96% = 1 ticket; +96% = 2 tickets; +97% = 3 tickets and so on till 100% (6 tickets). There will be a lower and upper school draw in the assembly and the winner will see me the following day to purchase a prize up to the value of £20 on Amazon. This will give the child the time at home to choose something.

Throughout the day ALL children will also be rewarded with treats and refreshments and will have an hour of crafts/movie/music during class time.

Any child can be unwell at any time during the year, 96% is a reasonable target that takes into consideration that someone can be unwell but still achieve 96%. Sadly, it is not the child's fault if they are absent, but they can be involved in the process of the importance of coming to school regularly and on time, where they are fit to do so. This day not only promotes good attendance overall, but it also promotes much improved attendance of children where we have identified there is concern.

All schools choose their own procedures on rewarding and promoting attendance - most do not reward anything other than 100%.

School Dinners

We are still one of the schools with the highest uptake on school meals, our menu is changing after Easter to the new summer menu, this can be found in the apps, "hub" section. Just a reminder that the cost of school meals is also increasing and this commences from 20/04/2026 and the new daily rate is £3.08.

Brass in the Park – Friday 19th June

I am delighted to inform you that the school band will be playing an afternoon concert in Blackhill and Consett Park at 2pm on Friday 19th June. The school band will be working with world famous Brett Baker and members of White River Brass in the morning and then on the afternoon they will perform with the players in the park.

All of our parents are welcome to attend as this will be a lovely afternoon listening to the music and spending time together (fingers crossed for glorious weather!) All children from school will attend the event and will be walked down to the park by the staff in school. They will then need to be picked up from Consett Park at 3pm.

Any children not picked up from the park will walk back to school with their teachers. This is a free event but there will be an opportunity for you to donate money to support Consett Junior Brass.

Clubs will not be on, but afterschool childcare at Consett Infant school will go ahead as usual.

Easter Egg Competition

On Thursday 2nd April children can bring in a decorated egg from home to enter our Easter egg competition. The children need to bring their egg to the school hall and place it on the allocated table for their class. The egg must have your child's name on. The eggs will be judged by Lieutenant Wendy from Consett Salvation Army who will be leading a special Easter assembly that day. The winners from each class will receive a prize! Happy egg decorating!

SATS week and free breakfast club

We are providing a free breakfast to all Year 6 children during SATS week in May. This is a wonderful opportunity for children to collect their choice of breakfast and enjoy it in their classrooms with their friends, fostering a sense of togetherness during this important week.

On the Friday of SATS week, the children will receive their Leavers Hoodies, which they can wear with pride until the end of term. Additionally, Mark Wilkinson will be in school from 9.10 a.m. to take their Leavers Photo. Therefore, it is essential that all Year 6 students are present on Friday and arrive on time. We encourage everyone to take advantage of the free breakfast club on this day to start the day off right!

School uniform ordering – September 2025

I know you might feel like it is too far away to think about or may even not want to believe we are nearing the end of a school year. However, it is always worth a quick reminder that being prepared for September is essential. Start considering your uniform orders sooner rather than later, as July and August are remarkably busy months for uniform providers. I wouldn't want you to leave it too late, risking delays for the new term.

While delivery can be arranged to home or school, please avoid choosing the school delivery option in July. There is absolutely NO expectation to purchase from our providers; many high street stores carry our uniform colours. We only ask that children wear our colours as we move forward into the new academic year.

<https://www.consett-jun.durham.sch.uk/parents/our-school-uniform/>
<https://totstoteams.com/consett-junior-school>

Year 6 Trip to Robinwood

There are only 64 days left to pay off the balance for Robinwood 2026, with the deadline set for 24th April. In context, this is only two more monthly paydays. Information regarding the trip has already been shared on the app, and the forms required for informing us of personal details will be shared in March.

Reminder of School Term Dates and Staff Training Days

A reminder that you can see our school term dates on the app calendar/website and our app 'notice' section or request a copy from school. These holidays are scheduled until summer 2028. For further details, please visit: [School Holidays](#).

Robinwood 2027 – For Current Year 5

The closing date to book your child's place for this residential has passed; however, there are still places available should children change their minds before May 2027. Please speak to Mrs Raine if this applies to you. If you have booked a place, it has been added to ParentPay. From this payment item, you must pay your £25 deposit before 24th April. Following that date, you can pay as little and often as you choose before the final balance is due in April 2027.

Mothers and Father's Day (Fam Fest 2026)

At CJS, we choose to combine our celebrations of Mother's and Father's Day into one special event in May. We recognise that family dynamics vary greatly, and by celebrating together, we honour the unconditional love, sacrifices, and vital roles that all parents play in our lives. In previous years, we've enjoyed afternoon teas, sports events, themed lunches, and craft sessions. However, we've noticed that these events can sometimes bring sadness for some children, whether due to absent parents or the loss of a loved one. This has led us to rethink our approach. Now in our third year of Fam Fest, we come together for an afternoon filled with fun and family time, ensuring everyone, including wider family, feels

included. We want to clarify that our decision is not a lack of appreciation for parents; rather, it's about creating a more inclusive celebration for all. 🤝😊 CJS Team

To allow us to have an idea of the number of adults attending, please complete this form on or before Friday, 24th April. Payment is due for the event on ParentPay on or before Friday, 24th April. [Fam Fest Form](#).

March Voluntary School Fund

In March, we received £105.26 which was used to subsidise the cost of class resources and rewards.

Class Timetables

The class timetables for Summer 1 have already been shared on the app. You will also find these in the app "hub" on the school website under class pages.

Clubs Commencing Monday, 20th April, 2026

Current Spring 1 clubs will run until Thursday, 2nd April, which means clubs are on the last day of term. The clubs for Summer 1 went live for bookings on 26th March.

For a reminder of clubs, you have booked for the half term (Summer 1), which start back on Monday, 20th April, please log into ParentPay and navigate to the "clubs" section. Steps below:

1. Your home page, then click the three lines at the top left.
2. Click payer dashboard.
3. Click your child's name (e.g., choose Dawn).
4. Choose "Clubs".
5. All clubs will be visible, and the ones you have booked will be highlighted in green.

Monday Clubs:

- **After School Bingo Club** – (until 4.30 p.m. with Mrs Haney and Mrs Slight)
Cost: £8 per child (£2 per week)
Participants: Limited to 24 spaces. Full payment is required to secure your child's place.
- **After School Band** (until 4.30 p.m. for existing members only)
Cost: £1.50 per week, payable to Miss Waters.
- **After Rounders Club for Years 5 & 6** (until 4.30 p.m. with Miss Clarey)
Cost: £4 per child (£1 per week)
Participants: Limited to 20 spaces.
- **After Art Club** (until 4.30 p.m. with Mrs Taylor)
Cost: £4 per child (£1 per week)
Participants: Limited to 20 spaces.

Tuesday Clubs:

- **After School Karate** with Ross Temple (until 4.30 p.m. for existing members). FULL.
- **After School Book Club** (until 4.30 p.m. with Miss Marsden)
Cost: £5 per child (£1 per week)
Participants: Limited to 24 spaces.
- **After School Fun with Food Club** (until 4.30 p.m. with Mrs Carr and Mr Dixon/Mrs Slight)
Cost: £10 per child (£2 per week)
Participants: Limited to 24 spaces.

Wednesday Clubs:

- **After School Nerf Club for Years 3 & 4** (until 4.30 p.m. supervised by an external coach)
Participants: Limited to 20 spaces. This club is funded through our PE Budget, making it free for all children.
- **After School 'Walk and Talk' Club** (until 4.30 p.m. with Mrs Raine, Mrs Gilray, Mrs Guy, and Miss V Waters for existing members)
This club is free and limited to 30 participants, FULL (updated on 03/02/2026). All children from spring term 1 will retain their places, which will be reflected on ParentPay but you still need to book.
- **After School Netball Club Years 5 & 6** (until 4.30 p.m. with Mrs Hannant)
Cost: £5 per child (£1 per week)
Participants: Limited to 20 spaces.

Thursday Clubs:

- **After School Mindfulness Colouring Club** (until 4.30 p.m. with Mrs Pattison)
Cost: £5 per child (£1 per week)
Participants: Limited to 24 spaces.
- **After School Word Search and Crossword Club** (until 4.30 p.m. with Mrs Watson)
Cost: £5 per child (£1 per week)
Participants: Limited to 24 spaces.
- **After School Nerf Club for Years 5 & 6** (until 4.30 p.m. supervised by an external coach)
Participants: Limited to 20 spaces. This club is funded through our PE Budget, making it free for all children.

Friday Clubs:

- **After School Quiz Club** (until 4.30 p.m. with Mr Dixon)
Cost: £4 per child (£1 per week)
Participants: Limited to 30 spaces.
- **After School Football Skills Club** (until 4.30 p.m. with an external coach)
Participants: Limited to 20 spaces. This club is funded through our PE Budget, making it free for all children.

Swimming

Swimming update for Summer 1 - after half term: Class 3 will swim last lesson on a Monday, and Class 4 will swim last lesson on a Tuesday. Children should be collected from the swimming baths unless they are returning to school for extra-curricular clubs. If your child walks home, please let your teacher know.

Key Dates and Events

As we progress through the academic year, please be aware of the following key dates and events. These details are accurate at the time of print; however, some dates may be subject to change. Additionally, we will be adding sports day and transition events, so please refer to the calendar on the school app for the most up-to-date information.

March 2026

- **Tuesday, 31st March:** Spring term attendance celebration day.
- **Wednesday, 1st April:** Year 5 sports event at Consett Academy.
- **Wednesday, 1st April:** Selected Year 4 children at a football event. If this applies to your child an app message was sent on 18/03/2026
- **Thursday, 2nd April:** Last day of the Spring term. Children may come to school in non-uniform for a £1 school council fine; payment options will be available through ParentPay. Clubs will still be on.

April 2026

- **Monday, 20th April:** School reopens for all students for Summer 1. Breakfast club starts at 7:45 a.m., with no need for pre-booking.

- **Tuesday, 21st April:** Year 3 games festival for selected children. This event has been cancelled twice previously.
- **Wednesday, 22nd April:** Year 5 Viking Day.
- **Thursday, 23rd April:** Selected Year 3 children will participate in a mini tennis event at NDA. If this applies to your child an app message was sent on 25/03/2026.
- **Friday, 24th April:** Final day to make payments for Leavers Hoodies, Robinwood balances for 2026, Robinwood deposits for 2027, and Fam Fest 2026.
- **Friday, 24th April:** Class 6 non uniform day for winning March attendance.
- **Friday, 1st May:** Year 3 and 4 Ultimate Frisbee Day. Details to follow.
- **Monday, 4th May:** Bank holiday; school will be closed.
- **Tuesday, 5th May:** Year 5 Reptile visit in school (Pineapple Exotics). Details to follow.
- **Monday, 11th May:** SATS week; Year 6 will have access to free breakfast club all week.
- **Friday, 15th May:** Year 6 to receive their Leavers Hoodies and have their photo taken.
- **Monday, 18th May:** Year 6 will attend Robinwood.
- **Wednesday, 20th May:** Year 6 return from Robinwood.
- **Thursday, 21st May:** Clubs will still be on, but this will be the last day for clubs this term.
- **Friday, 22nd May:** FAM FEST 2026 will take place in the afternoon. This is also the last day of the Summer 1 half term. There will be no enrichment clubs on this day. Children attending infant school ASC will be taken there at 3:30 p.m.

June 2026

- **Monday, 1st June:** School reopens for all students for Summer 2. Breakfast club starts at 7:45 a.m., with no need for pre-booking. Summer 2 enrichment clubs commence.
- **Tuesday, 2nd June:** Selected Year 5/6 children will participate in an athletics event. Details to follow.
- **Tuesday, 9th June:** Selected Year 4 children will participate in a cricket event. Details to follow.
- **Friday, 12th June:** Selected Year 6 children will participate in a netball event. Details to follow.
- **Tuesday, 16th June:** Year 5 will go on a full-day Art trip. Further details will be provided by Mrs Taylor.
- **Friday, 19th June:** White River Brass Day. All children will need to be collected from Blackhill Park on this day.
- **Wednesday, 24th June:** Year 6 Rugby Festival at Consett Academy. Details to follow,

July 2026

- **Thursday, 2nd July:** Consett Academy Transition Day, 1 of 2.
- **Thursday, 2nd July:** Whole school move up day.
- **Friday, 3rd July:** Consett Academy Transition Day, 2 of 2.
- **Tuesday, 7th July:** TBC – potential Sports Day, during the afternoon at Consett Rugby Club.
- **Friday, 10th July:** School reports will be distributed.
- **Friday, 10th July:** Year 6 sleepover in school.
- **Monday, 13th July:** TBC – potential dress rehearsal day for Leavers Show.
- **Monday, 13th July:** Selected children will participate in a Year 5/6 quidditch event. Details to follow.
- **Tuesday, 14th July:** Whole school football event. Details to follow.
- **Wednesday, 15th July:** Summer term attendance celebration day.
- **Wednesday, 15th July:** TBC – potential Leavers show at Consett Academy. Ticket sales for Year 6 only.
- **Thursday, 16th July:** Special recognition and 100% school year attendance assembly. This will consist of two assemblies for KS1 and KS2 children. In the evening, these children will be treated to a meal at Sambucas.
- **Friday, 17th July:** School will close for the summer holidays.

The statutory key stage 2 tests are scheduled from **Monday, 11th May to Thursday, 14th May 2026.**

The statutory key stage 2 tests are again slated for **Monday, 10th May to Thursday, 13th May 2027**.

SAVE THE DATE: 22/05/2026.