



## Consett Junior School

### June 2026 Newsletter

Welcome to our June Newsletter.

#### Attendance

Our whole-school attendance for May was 95.58%. This is slightly below the Government's target of 96%, but it is a welcome improvement on May 2025 (94.87%). We have also seen an increase in holiday forms being submitted, although most of these have been unauthorised, as holidays cannot be authorised as exceptional circumstances.

We appreciate the families who follow the correct procedures when notifying us. However, where absences are reported as illness while families are on holiday, particularly if this happens regularly at the same time each year, it raises concerns in our attendance records. If we have reasonable doubt, we will make house calls.

We understand that term-time holidays can help some families, but they must still be recorded as holidays and cannot be authorised.

#### Term Time Holiday- FAQ

##### ***What does the law say about leave of absence in term time?***

*Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. The guidance states **the need or desire for a holiday or leave, for the purpose of leisure or recreation, would not normally be considered exceptional.** Head Teachers should determine the number of school days a child can be away from school if any leave is considered exceptional.*

*Under the Education Act 1996, parents commit an offence if they fail to ensure their child's regular school attendance. Taking a child out of school for a leave of absence without permission, and where the absence amounts to 10 sessions or more of unauthorised absence in a 10 rolling school week period is viewed as failing to ensure your child's regular attendance at school.*

##### ***Who has parental responsibility for a child?***

*The Department for Education (DfE) state a parent means:*

- All **natural parents**, whether they are married or not;
- Any person who **has parental responsibility** for a child or young person; and,
- Any person who **has care of a child or young person i.e. lives with and looks after the child.**

*The DfE further state: **generally parents include all those with day-to-day responsibility for a child.***

##### ***What are the responsibilities of a parent?***

*The parent who the child lives with is normally the parent who is expected to make an application to school, for a proposed leave of absence, using the Leave of Absence Request form.*

*If an application is not made in advance, the parent is expected to inform school of the reason for absence and provide specific details around it.*

*The child must attend school on the expected date of return. If they are absent either before or after the leave the parent may be requested to provide additional information. Any absence without reasonable cause will be recorded as unauthorised.*

***If a leave of absence request is unauthorised, will it be referred for a Fixed Penalty Notice?***

Schools refer leave of absence where **10 unauthorised absence sessions (a session being a morning or afternoon registration period) have been recorded in any 10 rolling school week period.** This may be a result of a single period of leave or multiple periods equalling 10 sessions.

**Who receives a Fixed Penalty Notice?**

Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with the National Framework and local code of conduct. A Fixed Penalty Notice can be issued to **each person with parental responsibility** for the child/children, but usually to the parent/s who have **caused** the absence.

**When will a prosecution take place?**

Parents can be prosecuted if they receive a Fixed Penalty Notice and it is not paid. Payment of a Penalty Notice, where offered, is an alternative to prosecution by discharging liability for the offence. If unpaid, prosecution can follow, for the original offence, under the Education Act.

A prosecution will also take place if, within a 3 year period, a third period of leave reaches the criteria of 10 unauthorised absences in a 10 rolling school week period.

[May attendance results...](#)

Thank you for your continued support with attendance during May. Our school goal is 96%, so it is fantastic to see such a positive result overall.

For Year 3, attendance was 96.6%, and for Year 4 it was 95.2%, so Year 3 are our winners again! In the registration groups, Class 1 came out on top with 97.0%, closely followed by Class 6 with 96.8%. What an amazing achievement for Year 3 and Class 1, who have now won both awards for the second month in a row.

We have seen a rise in illness recently, but also an increase in holidays during term time. Thank you for helping us to keep attendance as high as possible.

Year 3 will enjoy sweet treats on Friday 5th June, and Class 1, Mrs McMahon’s class, will have a free non-uniform day on Friday 5th June too.

Year group

Year Group	Present R/C: Marks (%)	Unauth. Absent R/C: Marks (Count)	Late R/C: Marks (Count)
Year Y3	96.6%	101	68
Year Y4	95.2%	317	281
Year Y5	96.1%	257	164
Year Y6	94.8%	577	155

Registration group

Registration Form	Present R/C: Marks (%)	Unauth. Absent R/C: Marks (Count)	Late R/C: Marks (Count)
Class 1	97.0%	61	44
Class 6	96.8%	86	123
Class 2	96.2%	40	24
Class 7	95.9%	108	77
Class 3	95.7%	187	176
Class 5	95.4%	171	41

Class 4	94.7%	130	105
Class 8	93.7%	469	78

## School Fund – May

Thank you to all families who made a voluntary donation to School Fund in May. We raised £39.35, which will go towards Fam Fest, as the cost of the day is greater than the income we have made. It also helped to pay for treats for children in Year 1 who did not attend Robinwood. School Fund is not mandatory, and we do not make a big thing of asking parents to contribute. Every little amount helps, so we have set a minimum payment of £1. Thank you for your continued support.

## Year 6 trip to Robinwood 2027 – Monday 17<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2027

Looking ahead, we are pleased to inform that 37 children have made their deposit for the Robinwood trip in 2026. I highly encourage you to take advantage of the 'reducing payment' option on ParentPay to spread out payments over the year. You are welcome to pay as little and as frequently as you like.

## School uniform ordering – September 2026- reminder

With only 7 weeks to go after half term, I wanted to send a reminder about uniform ordering ready for September - currently our supplier has stated:

"ORDERS ARE CURRENTLY PROCESSING AT: 5 - 10 working days (1 - 2 weeks) for home delivery and collect from shop. FREE delivery to your school please allow 28 days for these to be delivered."

With this in mind, ordering now for school is free and will be delivered in good time before we finish for summer. From previous experience, I would advise avoiding any orders to school in July; instead, please opt for home delivery or plan to collect from their shop. While waiting until the summer holidays is an option, it's crucial to remember that this significantly reduces the likelihood of receiving your delivery in time for the start of school in September, as it is their busiest period.

We also do not expect you to order solely from our supplier; many high street stores sell our colours at more competitive prices. As a reminder, PE days in September will require children to come to school in their PE kit. If they participate in sports clubs, they will also need to wear their PE kit on those days, so do consider purchasing additional PE garments alongside formal uniform items.

Please don't fall into the mindset of thinking "September is ages away"; with only six school weeks left, time is indeed of the essence. Lastly, it is essential to please name your new uniform items—this will help prevent any mix-ups!!

For further details, please consult the following links:

[Consett Junior School Uniform Information](#)

[Tots to Teams – Consett Junior School](#)

## White River Brass event 2026

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 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 on this day but afterschool childcare at Consett Infant school will go ahead as usual.

## [End of Year 6 Show](#)

We are excited to announce the Year 6 leavers show at Consett Academy on the afternoon of Wednesday, 15th July! Tickets are now available for Year 6 families, with each child allocated two tickets. Given our capacity of 300 seats and the need to accommodate our Year 3, 4, and 5 children, we will not have much availability for additional sales.

To ensure all Year 6 families can enjoy this special event, we have reserved 166 seats for our younger children, who will perform their dances as in previous years. We understand that many families may wish to attend, but the priority is to celebrate our Year 6 leavers.

All pupils will walk to the Academy from CJS for a 1.30 p.m. show start. Children in Years 3, 4 and 5 will be walked back to school after the show, so please be patient as this may mean we are not back at CJS until 3.35 p.m., due to the traffic of Consett Academy students. Children attending clubs and childcare will also walk back with staff. Class teachers will share details on outfits via app posts as the date approaches.

If you wish to purchase tickets (£3.50 each), please do so and confirm your attendance by completing this form. There is no rush, as your two seats are already reserved! Remember, [only YEAR 6 families need to action this.](#)

[Year 6 end of year show 2026 – Fill in form](#)

## [Reminder of school term dates and staff training days](#)

A reminder that our school term dates can be viewed on our app calendar or on the school website. If you require a paper copy, you may also request one from the office. These holiday schedules are confirmed until summer 2028.

[School Holidays Information](#)

## [Summer 2 Enrichment Clubs \(all clubs finish at 4.30 p.m.\)](#)

Our enrichment clubs for Summer 2.

### **Monday Clubs:**

- After School Cartoon Drawing Club
- After School Band
- After School Bingo Club

### **Tuesday Clubs:**

- After School Karate
- After School Lego Club .
- After School Book Club

### **Wednesday Clubs:**

- After School Multi Skills
- After School 'Walk and Talk' Club
- After School Outdoor Gym Club for Years 3 & 4
- After School Fun with Food Club for Years 5 & 6

### **Thursday Clubs:**

- After School Board Games Club
- After School Singing Club
- After School Dodgeball

#### Friday Clubs:

- After School Football Skills Club
- After School Outdoor Play Club
- **Tuesday 16th June - No karate. All other clubs are on**
- **Wednesday 17th June - Whole staff team OPAL training so no clubs on at all other than Infants childcare**
- **Friday 19th June - White River Brass and the whole school will attend Blackhill Park so collection is from there (unless in Infant School childcare)**
- **Tuesday 7th July - Whole school Sports Day and the whole school will attend Consett Rugby Club so collection is from there, no enrichment clubs (unless in Infant School childcare). Karate will still be on as they need to train in preparation for their grading.**
- **Friday 17th July - Only Infant school childcare as SCHOOLS OUT FOR SUMMER!**

### Swimming reminder

Swimming sessions will be available for Year 4 throughout the entirety of the summer term.

**Monday:** All of Class 3 will swim during the last lesson.

**Tuesday:** All of Class 4 will swim during the last lesson.

Children must be collected from the swimming baths on these days. If they have clubs or require Infant School childcare, they will be escorted back to school. Should you have children in other classes back at school, please contact us to discuss childcare options that may assist with collection.

### Sports Day 2026

Our annual sports day will be held on Tuesday, 7th July, at Consett Rugby Club. The event will commence at 1:30 p.m., where our children will have the chance to compete in an array of activities. We will be conducting the day as a carousel of events so every child can take part! Children will walk to the club with their teachers after lunch.

Parents and carers are required to remain behind the railings while watching the children participate; we request that you do not enter the field or surround the classes.

For this event, please ensure your child comes to school dressed in their house colours, with appropriate trousers/shorts and trainers. The house colours are as follows:

**Dale** - Yellow

**Unsworth** - Red

**Ainsley** - Blue

**Edgar** - Green

Children will know which house they belong to. It is vitally important for children to have a cap, water bottle, and sun cream applied (if necessary). Children are permitted to leave with you following the event. Those who wish to attend any booked enrichment clubs or after-school childcare will return to school with staff. We hope you can join us for this enjoyable event!

**Please note, swimming will be cancelled on this day**

## Whole school move up day- Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July

On whole school move up day, Year 6 will visit the Academy (if that is their chosen school), Year 2 will spend the day at Consett Junior School, and all other classes will experience a day in their new class. We are currently finalising classes for next academic year, and an announcement will be added to the newsfeed on the app with details about your child's next teacher in the coming weeks.

## Summer Term Attendance Reward

We will celebrate our summer term attendance on Wednesday, 15th July. Each child will participate in an attendance assembly to underscore the importance of being present in school regularly and on time. All children will receive raffle tickets according to their attendance as follows:

Below 96% = 1 ticket

96% and above = 2 tickets

97% and above = 3 tickets

Continuing in increments up to 100% (totalling 6 tickets for 100%).

There will be separate draws for lower and upper school during the assembly, and the winner will have the chance to meet with me the following day to choose a prize of up to £20 from Amazon. This gives the child time at home to select something they truly desire!

Throughout the day, ALL children will also be rewarded with treats and refreshments, along with an hour of crafts, movies, or music during class time.

Illness can strike any child at any time throughout the year, and achieving 96% attendance is a reasonable target, considering that someone may be unwell but can still reach that benchmark. Unfortunately, it is not the child's fault if they are absent, but they can certainly engage in discussions around the importance of regular school attendance when they are fit to do so. This day not only promotes good attendance overall, but it also specifically encourages improved attendance for those children deemed at risk of falling behind.

All schools have their own policies on rewarding and promoting attendance; it is worth noting that many do not provide rewards beyond perfect attendance.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our families for supporting our attendance objectives and keeping us informed regarding any absences. Throughout this term, we have conducted several attendance meetings, which can be a challenging experience for some families.

## Celebrations – 100% attendance and our annual Special Recognition Awards 2025/2026

On Thursday, 16th July, we will host our annual Special Assembly in school, aimed at honouring all those children who have achieved 100% attendance for the entire academic year, as well as those nominated for a recognition award. The recognition award is presented to children who have truly shone throughout the year; this may reflect qualities such as kindness, academic prowess, noteworthy progress, or simply for being an exceptional individual who has stood out to our staff.

If your child is selected to receive a special award, you will be notified ahead of time; we will keep it a surprise for the children. You may check your child's attendance records on the app, and we will also send a message to families of those achieving 100% attendance. So far, we have 41 children who have attained this milestone; last year, 31 children managed to achieve it and the year before that only 23 children did.

If these awards pertain to your child, we will reserve two seats per child for the assembly, which will commence at 9:10 a.m. (after registration). There will be an opportunity for photographs following the assembly.

The assemblies will be divided into two as follows:

- If your child is in Year 3 or 4, their assembly will run from 9:10 to 9:30 a.m., with two adults permitted to attend.
- If your child is in Year 5 or 6, their assembly will occur from 9:45 to 10:10 a.m., with two adults permitted to attend.

Our celebrations do not end there; that evening, we will treat these remarkable children to tea at Sambucas. A pre-order menu will be sent home in advance to facilitate arrangements for the evening meal. Children should be brought to the restaurant by 5:45 p.m. and collected again at 7:30 p.m.

**Please take note of the following key dates and events. While they are accurate at the time of print, more details will be provided as they are arranged, and some may be subject to change. I recommend consulting the calendar on the school app for updates on transition dates/events and sports day scheduling.**

### 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.
- Tuesday, 9th June: Selected Year 4 children will participate in a cricket event.
- Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> June: Year 3 “sweet treats” and Mrs McMahon non – uniform for May attendance.
- Friday, 12th June: Selected Year 6 children will participate in a netball event. Details to follow.
- Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> June: Newcastle Eagles in school to work with Years 5 & 6.
- Tuesday, 16th June: Year 5 will go on a full-day Art trip.
- Tuesday, 16th June: **No after school karate.**
- Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> June: **Whole staff team OPAL training so no clubs on at all other than Infants childcare**
- Friday, 19th June: White River Brass Day. All children will need to be collected from Blackhill Park on this day. **No enrichment clubs - only Infant School childcare**
- Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> June: Final day for Year 6 families to purchase their allocated tickets for the leavers show. Additional ticket sales will open after this date.
- Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> June: Year 6 Rugby Festival at Consett Academy. Details to follow

### July 2026

- Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> July: Consett Academy Transition Day, 1 of 2.
- Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> July: Whole school move up day.
- Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> July: Consett Academy Transition Day, 2 of 2.
- Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> July: Sports Day, during the afternoon at Consett Rugby Club. **No enrichment clubs (unless in Infant School childcare). Karate will still be on as they need to train in preparation for their grading.**
- Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> July: School reports will be distributed.
- Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> July: Year 6 sleepover in school. Details will follow.
- Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> July: Dress rehearsal day for Leavers Show.
- Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> July: Selected children will participate in a Year 5 Quidditch event. Details to follow.
- Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> July: Whole school football event. Details to follow.
- Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> July: Summer term attendance celebration day.
- Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> July: Year 6 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. **No enrichment clubs on.**

### September 2026

- Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September: School reopens to pupils for the new academic year
- Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> September: Photographer will be in school taking individual and sibling photos while uniform is still fresh!

The statutory key stage 2 tests are timetabled from Monday 11 May to Thursday 14 May 2026.

The statutory key stage 2 tests are timetabled from Monday 10 May to Thursday 13 May 2027.