

Newsletter June 2026

A Message from Mrs Harvey, Head Teacher

As we reach the end of another successful academic year, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the many achievements, memorable experiences and special moments that have made this year so exceptional.

At Netherton C of E Primary School, learning extends far beyond the classroom. Throughout the year, our pupils have enjoyed a wealth of opportunities which have enhanced their learning, developed their confidence and created lasting memories. Whether through sporting competitions, music performances, educational visits, community projects, charitable events or classroom learning, our children have approached every opportunity with enthusiasm, determination and pride. Seeing our pupils happy, engaged and eager to learn makes me immensely proud to be Headteacher of such a wonderful school.

This year has seen many highlights. Pupils have taken part in specialist music tuition through Dudley Performing Arts, performed for parents and developed their musical talents. Science has provided opportunities for curiosity and investigation, whilst also providing workshops in which the pupils have thrived, whilst RE lessons have helped children deepen their understanding of faith, values and the world around them. Across school, pupils have demonstrated a love of learning and a willingness to embrace new challenges.

One of the most unique aspects of our curriculum remains the Heritage Project. Through this project, pupils combine their learning in History and Geography to explore the rich heritage of our local area. It is always inspiring to hear children speak confidently and knowledgeably about Netherton, demonstrating the depth of understanding they have developed.

Sport continues to be one of our greatest strengths at Netherton. Throughout the year, pupils have participated in a wide variety of competitions, tournaments, festivals and sporting experiences, proudly representing the school across the local area. We have celebrated many successes, from impressive team performances to individual achievements, but what makes us particularly proud is the way our pupils conduct themselves—showing perseverance, respect, teamwork and determination at every event. A significant number of our children have had the opportunity to wear the Netherton badge this year and represent their school, creating memories and experiences that will stay with them for years to come. Our ongoing success reflects not just sporting talent, but the confidence, commitment and positive attitudes that our pupils bring to everything they do.

As we celebrate the end of the year, we also recognise some significant milestones. Our Reception children have completed a fantastic first year of school and enjoyed a wonderful graduation celebration, whilst our Year 6 pupils have demonstrated perseverance and maturity. We are incredibly proud of every one of them and wish them every success as they move on to the next stage of their education.

This year has also highlighted the strength of our school community. We have welcomed visitors who have praised our pupils for their confidence, manners, behaviour and positive attitudes. Whether hosting school improvement visits, community events, performances, competitions or showcases, our pupils consistently demonstrate the values that make Netherton such a special place to learn and grow.

As always, the success of our school is built upon strong partnerships between staff, governors, parents and carers. Thank you for your continued support, encouragement and trust. Together, we create the nurturing environment that enables our children to flourish.

At the end of every academic year, we also say goodbye to valued members of our school family. We thank Miss Pearman, who is moving on to a new opportunity and Mrs Willetts who is sadly leaving us to spend time raising her first child. We wish both of them happiness and success.

Finally, I would like to thank our incredible staff team whose commitment, care and hard work make such a difference every single day. Their dedication ensures that every child feels valued, supported and inspired to achieve their very best.

I hope you all enjoy a restful, happy and safe summer break. Thank you for being part of another wonderful year at Netherton, and I look forward to welcoming everyone back in September for another exciting year of learning, growth and achievement.

Have a fantastic summer,

Mrs K. Harvey

The School Day

8:40 - School open for pupils

8:50 - Gates close - entrance via main office

Registration

8:55 - Registers close - **pupils should be in school by this time**

Arrival between 8:55 and 9:25 = late and will be coded L

Arrival after 9:25 = unauthorised late and will be coded U—this counts towards a pupil's absence

Absences

Pupils should be in school every day. If your child is unwell refer to the NHS [Is my child too ill for school?](#) website

[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS](#). Pupils may come to school with minor ailments and we assure you, we will contact you if they are too unwell to be in school.

Reporting

Please report your child's absence so that we can assign the correct code—any unreported absences will be coded with a O (unauthorised absence). You can report absence via telephone, email or the school website.

School Uniform

Thinking ahead to the new school year, **may we ask that all uniform is labelled**. We end up with no end of lost property every term, that we cannot reunite with its owner as items are not named.

If your child does come home without something of theirs, please come into school and check the lost property.

SCHOOL DATES

Summer Holidays

Mon 20th July - Mon 31st Aug 26

INSET DAYS 26/27

Autumn 26

Tuesday 1st September 2026

Wednesday 2nd September 2026

Thursday 22nd October 2026

Friday 23rd October 2026

Spring 27

Monday 4th January 2027

Summer 27

Monday 7th June 2027

Wednesday 21st July 2027

Autumn Term 2026-27

Tuesday 1 September - INSET

Wednesday 2nd September - INSET

Thursday 3rd September - School

reopens for pupils

Thursday 22nd October - INSET

Friday 23rd October - INSET

Mon 26th—Fri 30th Oct - half term

Autumn 2 Term

Mon 2nd November - School re-opens for pupils

Friday 18th December - break up for Christmas

Mon 21st Dec 26 - Fri 1st Jan 27 - Christmas Holidays

Spring 1 Term 2026-27

Monday 4th January 2027 - INSET

Tuesday 5th Jan 2027 - School

reopens for pupils

Monday 15th Feb—Fri 19th Feb - February half term

Spring 2 Term 2026-27

Mon 22nd Feb school re-opens for pupils

Thurs 25th Mar - break up for Easter-

Mon 29th Apr - Fri 9th Apr - Easter Holidays

Summer 1 Term 2026-27

Mon 12th Apr - school re-opens for pupils

Lots of learning, every day

The children have been incredibly busy already this half term...and we're only 3 weeks in!

Here is a taste of what's been going on...



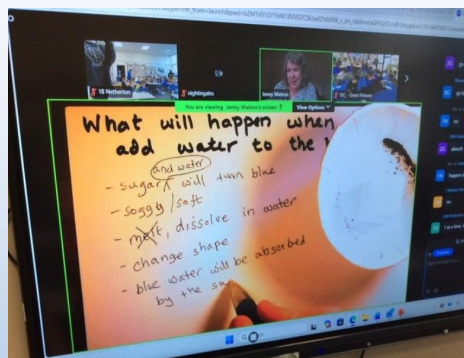
Nursery - People who help us

Nursery had lots of fun on Tuesday 14th July, when they had a visit from the fire brigade.



Reception - Outdoor fun

Reception have been making the most of the glorious weather and doing lots of outdoor learning.

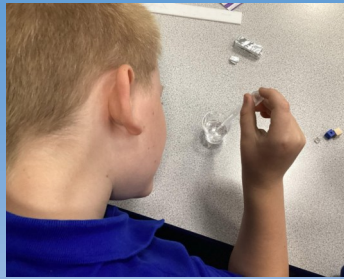
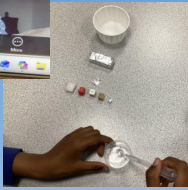


Year 1 - Science

On Wednesday 17th June, Y1 took part in an on-line science workshop, investigating the properties of materials and finding out what happens when water is added to different materials.

It was both exciting and intriguing to explore the materials and conduct the experiment.



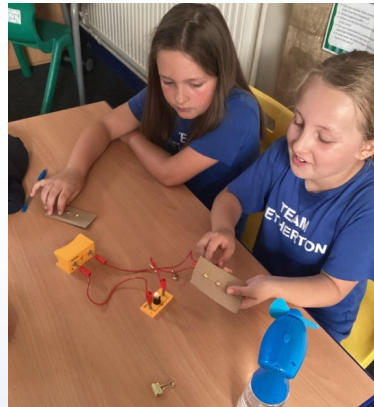
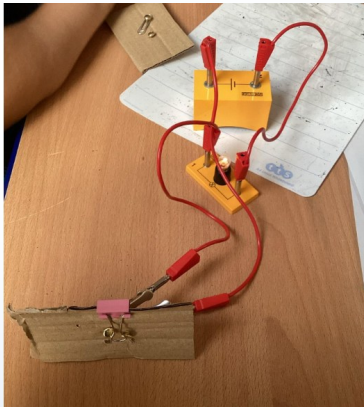
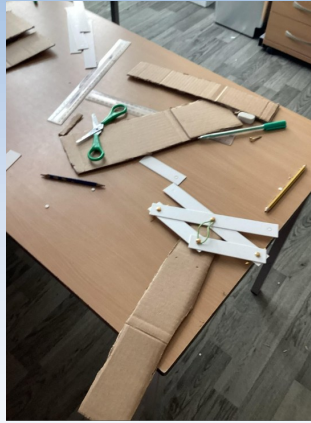


Y2 - Science Workshop

On Wednesday 17th June, Y2 took part in a Science workshop with a scientist from the Ogden Trust. They experimented with different materials and had a lot of fun!

Y3 - DT

Year 3 have designed and made a grabber in the style of an animal or monster in their D.T. Topic!



Y4 - Science

In their science lessons, Y4 have been learning about Electricity.

During one of the lessons, they tested materials to find out which were conductors and which were insulators.

Y5 - Heritage

On Friday 12th June, Year 5 visited the Black Country Museum as part of their learning for the Heritage project. They visited Netherton High Street first and then went to the Black Country Museum where they were able to compare it with High Streets of the past.



Year 6 - Heritage Project

On Tuesday 23rd June, Y6 went on a Heritage Walk—this is the culmination of all of their learning as part of the Heritage Project throughout school. On this walk, they revisited sites that they would have learnt about in previous year groups.

They became tour guides, talking about each local land mark or place of interest and then produced an interactive map, where scanning the QR code shares their information about that location.

What a fabulous project, unique to Netherton CofE.



The Hive - English

The children in The Hive have read *The Smartest Giant in Town*. As part of their studies, built the boat from the story.

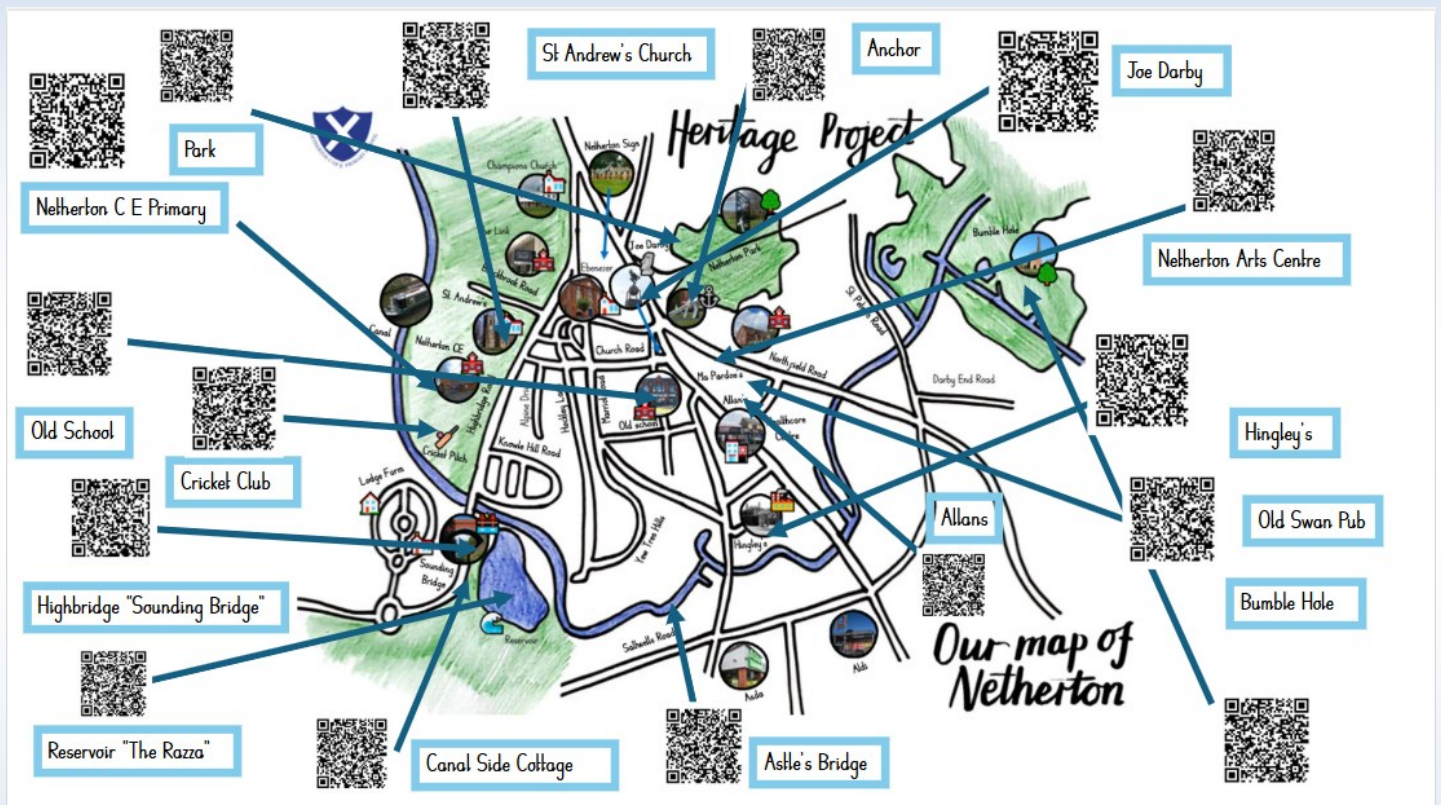
The children had a wonderful few days building a boat, they showed great team work and perseverance.

We are extremely proud of the effort they put into this mini project.



Year 6's Interactive Map of the Landmarks of the Local Area.

Scan the QR code to hear our pupils talking about the landmarks and places of interest in the local area.



Science Book Quiz

On Monday 6th July, 6 pupils from Year 4 took part in a science book quiz, competing online, against other schools.

The children taking part had previously taken home and read each of the books.

We are delighted to announce that we came 1st!



ME Festival

On Thursday 11th June some Y6 pupils went to Himley Hall to take part in a range of well-being activities as part of the ME festival, a well-being celebration.



Well-being Day

On Thursday 2nd July, Some of Year 5 went out on a Youth Sports Trust & Dudley School PE Partnership Well-being day!

They represented the school with pride and passion and we couldn't be prouder!





Dojo Champions

Our pupils earn Dojos throughout the year and are rewarded at certain points; 50 points = a small prize, 100 dojos = wear your own clothes, 200 dojos = pupil and friend wear their own clothes, 300 dojos = outdoor activities.

For pupils who earn a higher numbers of dojos, they take part in special events or activities.

400 dojos = Pizza & Ice cream party

On Wednesday 8th July, children who had earnt 400 dojos had a pizza and ice cream party.



Top 3 dojo earners in each class - EYFS, Y1, 2 & 3 = Pool Party

On Friday 3rd July, the 3 pupils in each class (Rec, Y1, Y2 & Y3) who have earned the most Dojos, enjoyed a pool party in our pop-up pool.

Top 3 dojo earners in each class - Y4, 5 & 6 = Paddle Boarding

On Monday 29th June, the 3 pupils in each class (Y4, Y5 & Y6) who have earned the most Dojos went to Netherton Reservoir and took part in paddleboarding.



Celebrating Sport

Sport continues to be a success at Netherton CofE, thanks to the indomitable drive of Miss Harrold and Mr Ludlam, supported by our fabulous pupil sports leaders.



Year 5/6 Rugby Finalists

After winning Dudley North Finals we made it through to compete to be the best in Dudley.

We played some amazing rugby and made it to the semi-final where we lost to Fairhaven 5-6. We then went on to beat The Glynn, to claim 3rd place overall.

We are so very proud of our rugby team!

Gymnastics

On Friday 5th June, the Year 1/2 and Year 3/4 gymnasts competed in the Dudley Gymnastics finals having won their heats in a previous competition.

Both teams won bronze medals and well done to Harper who came 1st overall.

To make it to the finals is a first for our school and we couldn't be prouder of their achievement! A special mention to Amaya too, who stood in last minute, learning the routine on the day.

Well done, girls!



Dance Experience

The Dance Team had an amazing opportunity to go to the Walsall Campus of Wolverhampton University, where they worked with a choreographer all morning before performing the dance they learned, along with their own dance.

A big thank you to all of the parents who came to support us.

NEW FOOTBALL KIT

A massive thank you to Emma Evitts - Jack, Ethan and Grace's mom - who contacted lots of companies to secure sponsorship for a new football strip for our school team.

Don't they look fab?

Thank you so much, Miss Evitts.



Sports Days 2026

On Monday 17th June, the whole school took part in their annual Sports Day; Key Stage 2 took part in the morning and Key Stage 1 in the afternoon. The Sports Leaders did a great job of setting up, supervising and keeping scores and it was lovely to see so many parents cheering the pupils on



Tournament Day

Years 3 - 6 took part in Tag Rugby, Cricket, Rounders & Football matches against the opposite class in their year group.



Y 4, 5 & 6 Swimming

Once again, the Pop-up Pool has been a real success. All of Y4 & Y5 pupils have had daily swimming lessons for 3 weeks.

Y6 had daily top-up lessons for 1 week, which meant that 75% of our Year 6 can swim 25m as they leave primary school.

In addition, over 47 children have had lessons after school as part of our extra-curricular offer.

Look out for the return of the pool next year!



HOT OFF THE PRESS

Today, we have heard that Netherton CofE Primary School has been awarded the Platinum Sports Award. This is a massive achievement. Out of 25,000 Primary Schools, only 1% achieve the platinum mark.

This award is the recognition of endless hard work of Miss Harrold and Mr Ludlam, who organize and involve our pupils and school in so many sporting events, competition but also the extra-curricular offer supported by the staff as a whole.

A massive congratulations and thank you to Miss Harrold, Mr Ludlam & the rest of the staff. Well done. Team Netherton!!



84

Children have taken part in at least 1 sporting competition this year

18

The number of Inter competition we have taken part in this year.

82%

of children love all their PE lessons. The other 18% like some but not others.

1,020

Is the number of sign-ups we've had to our after-school clubs this year.

16

The number of sports taught in PE lessons across the school in 2025-26

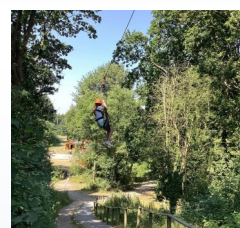
18

After school clubs per week have been on offer throughout 2025-26

PGL Residential

On Sunday 5th July to Wednesday 8th July, some Y5 & 6 pupils went to PGL.

Whilst there, they had the opportunity to take part in archery, canoeing, laser tag, high ropes, & abseiling. The pupils had a great time and ...



... judging by these pictures on the coach on the way home, the children were well and truly worn out!



Baggie Bird Penalty Shoot-out



On Thursday 21st May, the whole school took part in a sponsored penalty shoot out against West Bromwich Albion's mascot, Baggie Bird. Prior to the shoot out, the children were sponsored by friends and family.

Our pupils raised a massive £8731.32!

The money raised will be shared between the Albion Foundation and our school.

On Wednesday 1st July, James a coach from West Bromwich Albion, came to present the certificates and prizes to pupils who had raised specific amounts of money. Their rewards ranged from a certificate, to a WBA bag containing a certificate, water bottle and ball; to a free football training session and tickets to West Midlands Safari Park.

Everyone's generosity in supporting this fundraising event was celebrated and really appreciated — but special mention was given to Jacob Birch and Riley Rawlins from Reception, who raised £675 each. In acknowledgement of their fantastic effort, they each received a West Bromwich Albion shirt signed by all the players.



Year 6

Finally, we say goodbye to our Year 6;. Individually, each child has dug deep over the course of the year, to be the very best they can be; some have taken on leadership responsibilities; taken advantage and got involved in activities and opportunities offered to them; and shown commitment and determination to do well academically.

We are very proud of you, Year 6.

Year 6 Leavers' Trip - Baggeridge Country Park

On Tuesday 30th June, Year 6 went to Baggeridge Country Park. There they took part in the tree-top adventure, crossing the forest via a series of bridges and ropes. They also took part in some team building games. Once again they showed determination and resilience when trying something new and out of their comfort zone.



Year 6 Production - Stranger Things

Wow! What an incredibly talented group of young people, be that singers, dancers, actors and stage hands. What a team! A huge well done to all those who took part in Year 6's performance of Stranger Things. We are very proud of you all.

Thank you also, to Year 5 who provided support choral support.



Year 6 Discoo

On Thursday 16th July, Year 6 donned their dancing shoes for their Leavers' Disco .



Leavers' Service

Last but not least ... on Friday 17th July, attended St Andrews Church, where they were celebrated in their Leavers' Service for their parents.



It only remains for us to say, 'Goodbye, Year 6, and Good Luck.'

Safeguarding Spotlight

Ensuring the safety and well-being of our pupils is our first priority and naturally, this extends to their families. Part of this role is to share the latest information on issues that may affect our young people; share guidance and sign-post support. There is a wealth of information on our website under Key Information ~ Safeguarding.

<https://www.netherton.dudley.sch.uk/key-information/safeguarding>

Water Safety

With the hot weather we are experiencing, young people may be tempted to cool down in open water and with the reservoir on our door step, it is important that our pupils know about the dangers.

According to the Royal Life Saving Society, in the last 5 years, 90% of accidental drownings occurred at open water sites, either inland or on the coast. Many of these drownings occur due to a lack of knowledge and understanding of open water safety.

The basic principles of open water safety, combined with knowledge and understanding of the hazards, can increase the enjoyment of open water and significantly reduce the number of incidents that occur each year.

The benefits of swimming and dipping in open water are well documented. Not only does being in or on open water allow new adventure, it also has documented benefits for both physical and mental wellbeing. All of these hazards can be controlled through proper organisation and planning.

Risks to consider in open water include:

- The shock of cold water can make swimming difficult and increase the difficulty in getting out of the water
- Lack of safety equipment and increased difficulty for rescue
- The height of the fall or jump if tombstoning
- The depth of the water – this changes and is unpredictable
- Underwater objects and hazards may not be visible
- Obstacles or other people in the water
- Strong currents can rapidly sweep people away
- Uneven banks and river beds
- Water quality, e.g. toxic algal blooms and industrial/agricultural pollution

For more water safety advice and activities follow the link [Water Safety Advice](https://www.rlss.org.uk/Pages/Category/water-safety-information)

www.rlss.org.uk/Pages/Category/water-safety-information

Safeguarding: If you have any concerns or need support, please call the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) between 9am & 5pm on telephone 0300 5550050 or telephone 0300 555 8574, if out of hours.

ALWAYS FOLLOW THE WATER SAFETY CODE



Whenever you are around water:

STOP AND THINK

Take time to assess
your surroundings.

Look for the
dangers and
always research
local signs and advice.



STAY TOGETHER

When around water always go
with friends or family.

Swim at a lifeguarded venue.



In an emergency:

CALL 999

If you are at the
coast, call 999 and
ask for the
Coastguard.

Don't enter
the water to
rescue.



FLOAT

Fall in or become
tired - stay calm, float
on your back and call
for help.

Throw something that
floats to somebody that
has fallen in.

