

FINCHALE FLYER

We see the magic in every child... and help make them sparkle.

Key Dates:

SEPTEMBER

- 1st INSET Day for Staff
- 2nd School opens for pupils (8.55am)
- 7th 'Meet the Teacher' sessions (3.45pm & 5pm)
- WB. 7th Finchale Art week
- 11th Colour Run
- 17th Monster Phonics Information Sessions (Rec / KS1 Parents/Carers - 2.45 and 5pm)
- 18th Monster Phonics Day (Rec / Y1 / Y2 children)
- 23rd Finchale Art Gallery (3.30-4.15pm)
- 24th Hoopstarz Workshops (all years)
- 25th European Day of Languages
- 28th / 29th Reception Parent/Carer Consultations
- 30th White Rose Maths Information Sessions (2.45 and 5pm)

OCTOBER

- 5th School Photographs (individuals & family groups)
- 7th Flu vaccinations
- 8th Open Evening for Potential New Reception Starters 2027 (2.45 & 5pm)
- 9th World Mental Health Day / Finchale Family Jiggly Jog

All dates are subject to change.



National Trust Project: Y3 & 6

We welcomed Sammy from the National Trust Durham Green Corridor Project into school. Sammy talked to the children about what is important to them in their local area and helped them use nets to sweep the bushes for wildlife, using leaflets to identify the creatures. You can find out more about the project here:

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/north-east/crook-hall-gardens/durham-city-green-corridor>



Y4/5 Basketball Taster Sessions

Year 4 and 5 thoroughly enjoyed their Basketball taster session with *Little Ballers*, learning to negotiate obstacles, be competitive in a game and shoot to score in our baskets!



Reception Superhero Sports Festival & Graduation

Reception have truly been superheroes this month, taking part in a magical sports festival with the School Sports Partnership and giving a super performance at their graduation ceremony. We are so proud of you, Reception!



Summer Fun Run

The whole school enjoyed a Summer Fun Run, led by School Sports Partnership staff, on 9th July. We had fun running through rainbows, pivoting past palm trees and avoiding the staff with the super-soakers!



PTA Prom

We celebrated our Y6 leavers with a fantastic evening at our KS2 Prom, with a DJ, instant photographs and a delicious buffet! Many thanks to our amazing PTA volunteers, who worked tirelessly to make this a memorable and enjoyable event for our children.



Spotlight on Safeguarding - Benedict's Law



From September, 2026, Benedict's Law will introduce new allergy safety requirements for schools in England. It is named after 5-year-old Benedict Blythe, who died from anaphylaxis at school in 2021 after mistakenly being given cow's milk, to which he was known to be allergic. Benedict's Law will introduce a series of protective measures designed to improve allergy safety in schools.

As part of our measures to manage the risks of exposure to a food allergen, we will be asking families not to send food into school unless as part of their child's packed lunch or as requested by the school. We ask that packed lunches are nut-free. More information can be found about packed lunch guidance on our website at <https://www.finchale.durham.sch.uk/school-meals>

Recommended Reads

Age 4-7

Our Tower

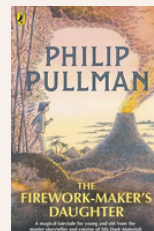
Authors: Joseph Coelho & Richard Johnson



Age 7+

The Firework Maker's Daughter

Author: Philip Pullman



Y2 Ukulele Concert & KS2 Brass Concerts

In our final week of the year, we were privileged to enjoy two musical performances, with Year 2 playing the ukulele and musicians from Year 4 to 6 demonstrating their talents with their brass instruments. All of our musicians did an incredible job, showcasing how much progress they have made over time with learning new chords and new instruments. Well done!



Y2 Beamish Trip

Recently, Year 2, visited Beamish as part of their history topic on Schools in the Victorians times. The children had a great time and got the chance to experience a Victorian lesson. They practised their handwriting, chanted their times tables and listened to the story on Grace Darling whilst completing an object study. They also loved the opportunity to play with the hoop and stick as part of their breaktime. The children had the chance to visit the town, experiencing a visit to the dentist and the garage! To top the day off, the children loved experiencing riding the tram. The children behaved amazingly and a fantastic day was had by all.



Y6 Visit to the Hancock Museum

Year 6 had a fantastic time at the Great North Museum on 29th June. They took part in treasure hunts, found out all about our past, studied artefacts and learned lots of new things from the various exhibitions. They also watched a show in the planetarium and took part in a workshop about evolution, learning how animals have adapted overtime to survive in their habitats. The trip enhanced pupils' knowledge of worldwide history, local history and various science topics taught across Year 6. All pupils said what a great day they had.



July Attendance

Reception	97.81%
Year 1	98.06%
Year 2	97.4%
Year 3	98.64%
Year 4	98.6%
Year 5	98.62%
Year 6	94.85%
Whole School	97.7%



Musician of the Month

This month's musician is Barbara Strozzi, who was an Italian composer and singer of the Baroque era. Known for her expressive vocal music, she was one of the few prominent female composers of her time.



Many thanks, as always, for your support.
Miss Ward.