



Lanchester E.P. (Cont.) Primary School & Nursery

A Caring Community Where All Can Flourish



*'Through God's love, we are the rich soil
where roots grow and seeds flourish.'*

Luke 8:4-15



Friday 24th October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to believe we are finally at the end of what feels like the longest half term on record! We have really enjoyed getting to know our new children and their families, and to see them all thriving in school.

We hope you all have a well deserved break and that all children come back into school refreshed and ready for the half term leading up to Christmas, which is a really busy but very popular half term, with lots of things planned and a plethora of ways for families to get involved in school life.

Friends of the School

Disco Tickets Deadline – Monday 3rd November

The Disco will be taking place on Thursday 6th November. Tickets are £2 and are available for purchase on Arbor until Monday 3rd November.

The timings are as follows:

Nursery and Reception - 2.15pm till 3pm

Year 1 and 2 - 3:15pm till 4pm

Year 3 and 4 - 4:15pm till 5:15pm

Year 5 and 6 - 5:30pm till 6:30pm

Disco – Thursday 6th November - Volunteers Needed!

Can you spare an hour between 4pm and 6:30pm on Thursday 6 November? We are looking for volunteers to help out at both of our Key Stage 2 Discos. If you can support us, please email:

friendsoflanchesterep@gmail.com Thank you.

The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

Once again, we will be supporting the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal, and items will be available for children to purchase during the first week back after half term. Due to the number of items available, we will be limiting this to one item per child in the first instance. This will ensure that everyone gets the opportunity to buy something.

Children will be able to buy items on the following days, so should bring in a monetary donation on their designated day – this was really successful last year, and meant no children were left out. Items will be sold by our Head Boy, Head Girl and their Deputies.

Day	Year Groups
Monday	Year 1 Year 5
Tuesday	Reception Year 6
Wednesday	Year 2 Year 3 Year 4
Thursday & Friday	Any left over items can be purchased from the School Office

Shoebox Appeal Deadline

Leaflets for our Link to Hope Shoebox Appeal went out to all children this week. We are asking for the filled shoeboxes to be brought into school by **Thursday 6th November**, so that we can arrange collection of the boxes for the following week. We have been set the target of collecting 80 shoeboxes, but know with your generosity and help we will be able to collect even more – it would be really wonderful to get to 100 shoeboxes...

Please remember when filling your box to follow the instructions on the contents list, to stick the list to the top of your wrapped box to show what is inside, and to either stick £3 coins to the top of the box, or pay for the postage online (details are on the leaflet). Thank you so much for your help and enjoy filling those boxes, which bring so much joy to families in Eastern Europe over the Christmas period.

Early Years

Autumn Treasure Hunt

Each year, we invite our EYFS children to take part in our Autumn Treasure Hunt. Your child should have brought home a Treasure Hunt sheet last week, which is a really fun activity to do over the half term. You could stick the objects on to the sheet (over the symbols) or take photos of what you find and add them to Evidence Me.

If you would like to collect sponsorship money for completing the Treasure Hunt, then that would be really appreciated. Any money raised from this goes straight back into buying resources for our Early Years areas.

Year 1 Forest School Fridays

After half-term, Year 1 will be learning in our beautiful forest every Friday morning. For this, they will need to have wellies in school (preferably ones that stay in school). We have some waterproof suits available in school, but if you would prefer your child to wear their own waterproofs, please send them in each Friday, beginning on Friday 7th November. Children should wear PE kits on Fridays, as usual, but as we will be outside in all weathers, it is essential that they also have a warm coat, a hat and gloves to keep warm in the winter weather.

Year 1 Poetry in the Forest

On Friday 28th November, we would like to invite Y1 families to join us in the forest so that we can share some poetry that we will be writing next half-term. Miss Wood's session will be from 9:30am to 10:15am and Mr McLoughlin's session will be from 10:30am to 11:15am. If you would like to attend this, please [click here](#) to complete the form to let us know that you will be coming.

School Meals

Please note, we will still be using the old menu that is on Arbor when we come back on Monday 3rd November. The new menu will start on Monday 10th November

This Week's Big Question

This week's Big Question has been *Why do we Celebrate Black History Month?* The theme of this year's Black History Month is 'Standing Firm in Power and Pride'. We have worked with the children to celebrate the resilience, strength and commitment of the Black community in helping to shape society in the UK and worldwide. On Wednesday, children from each class led our school worship, where they shared their learning with the whole school. We linked Black History Month with our Christian values of Love, Hope, Joy, Kindness and Trust.

Safeguarding

Keeping children safe from harm is our number one priority. We will always act upon any concerns individuals have, or any disclosures from children. However, if you have any concerns outside of school, or if you have a concern about a child or young person's welfare, it is essential that you call First Contact on: 03000 267979.

Attendance

Year Group	Current Week (%)	to Date (%)	Year Group	Current Week (%)	to Date (%)
Reception	92.4	96.5	Year 4	95.3	96.2
Year 1	93.5	97.2	Year 5	97	98.1
Year 2	99.2	98.7	Year 6	92	97.3
Year 3	94.9	98.3	Whole School	94.9	97.5

LJG Sports Coaching Half Term Holiday & Football Camps

LJG Sports Coaching will be holding another Holiday and Football Camp in school over the half term. Holiday camp is on from Monday – Thursday and the Football Camp will be on Tuesday – Thursday. If you would like to book on, please follow the links below:

Holiday Camp: <https://forms.gle/RjNq7N4h3rtn46Tw8>

Football Camp: <https://forms.gle/Dc6RwnAiTjTor8548>

Diary Dates for First Week Back

Monday 3rd November 2025 – Arctic Workshop for Year 2

Year 2 will start off their new topic, Frozen Kingdom, on the first day back after half term, with an Arctic Workshop held in school.

Monday 3rd Nov – Thursday 6th Nov Bikeability for 5SJ

We have had 24 children signing up for Bikeability in Miss Jackson's Class. These children need to come into school on Monday – Thursday in PE kit or suitable warm sports clothes and gloves that they can wear while riding their bikes. They will also need to bring their bikes and helmets into school each day.

Tuesday 4th Nov – Year 3 Graffiti Workshops

Children in Year 3 will also be starting off their new topic, Urban Pioneers, with a graffiti workshop, lead by Graffiti Stars. They will need to bring in a large old shirt, and to wear a pair of old shoes & old trousers/leggings, as their clothes may get spray paint on them during the workshops. The charge for this workshop is £5 and is to cover the cost of the spray painted wooden board that all children will make individually and bring home. This can be found on your Arbor account under trips if you have not yet paid.

Tuesday 4th Nov – 2JB Fundamental Movement Festival

Children in Mrs Burke's Year 2 class will take part in the 'Fundamentals Movement Skills Festival'. The aim of the event is to give young pupils an opportunity to participate in a fun, off site sports festival. The children will take part in a carousel of approximately 8 activities to develop fundamental skills, all whilst having fun and mixing with other schools

Wednesday 5th Nov – Captain Chem with Year 3

Captain Chemistry will be in school on Wednesday to work with children in Year 3 on their Science topic about light.

Thursday 6th Nov – Captain Chemistry with Year 2

On Thursday, it will be the turn of our Year 2 children to work with Captain Chemistry, as they look at different animals and their habitats.

Thursday 6th November – Swimming for 5MS

Mr Stephenson's class will be swimming this half term each Thursday. They will need to bring their swimming kits into school on a Thursday morning, as they will be having an early lunch before setting off for the Louisa Centre at 12.30pm. They will be back into school at around 3.00pm, before the end of the school day. Please make sure they bring swimming shorts/costumes, a towel and a swimming hat. Goggles are optional. If they do not have a swimming cap, then please send them into school with £2 as they can purchase these from the Louisa Centre.

Thursday 6th Nov – DISCOS

The Friends of the School Disco's will be taking place on Thursday.

Children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 & 2 should come into school in suitable disco clothes on the morning. Please note, they will need to wear these for the full day, so please make sure they are suitable for a normal school day.

Children in Morning or Monday – Wednesday Nursery sessions who have disco tickets will need to be brought to the Nursery gate at 2.10pm so that they can be taken along to their disco with the rest of their Nursery friends.

Children in Nursery & Reception will be dismissed from their usual exits at the end of the disco. All other children will need to be collected from the Main Office Entrance at the end of the discos. Years 5 & 6 will need to be collected from school at the end of their disco. They will not be allowed to walk home.

Key Stage 2 children needing to stay for After School Club before their disco should bring their disco clothes into school to get changed into.

Children in Early Years/Key Stage 1 who need to go into After School Club after their disco will be taken there once their discos have finished.

Positive Thinking

“Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we’ve been waiting for. We are the change that we seek.” - Barak Obama

As usual, if there is anything at all that you would like to talk about, please do not hesitate to contact us.
Hope you have a lovely weekend and half-term.

Best Wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew Knighton". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letter 'A' being particularly large and stylized.

Mr Andrew Knighton
Acting Head Teacher