



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 14th February 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thursday really was such a very special day with our Year 4, 5 & 6 children watching a live performance of The Tempest with members from the Royal Shakespeare Company. Wow! It was totally terrific! The children thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience and watched in awe at the amazing acting, splendid singing and cleverly constructed set. To experience live Shakespeare at such a young age is something not to be forgotten. A huge thank you to everyone who helped to organise this and especially to Mr McLoughlin who has liaised with the RSC for the last few months to actually secure their visit to our school.

We are looking forward to seeing you all at our parents' evenings next week. Some staff still have places left so please book an appointment if you have not done so already.

Our skiing group are really looking forward to flying off to the French Alps at the end of the half term. For most, this will be their first time on the ski slopes and so are looking forward to trying the new sport with their friends. For others, they have been before and are looking forward to upskilling themselves. However, spending time with their peers and other children from different year groups is rewarding in itself. We are hoping for a mixture of sun, snow and the cold!

Please remember that next week is our final week before our half term break. It seems to have been a long, dark and dreary half term and I am sure the children will be more than ready for a break and some downtime!

Places of Worship

This half term, all children from Years 2 – Year 6 have been learning about different world faiths in their R.E. lessons. As a result of this, they have visited the places of worship in the religion they are studying. We have had children at the Hindu Temple, the Mosque and the Synagogue too. Without fail, not only has their behaviour been commented on, but so has their knowledge and the breadth of questions they have asked too. They have all been great ambassadors for their school – well done everyone!

Year 5 & 6 Confirmation Invitation Letter

The deadline to reply to the Year 5 & 6 [online form](#) for baptism and confirmation has been extended to Sunday 16th February. The confirmation service will take place this year in St Andrew's Church in Stanley on Saturday 10th May. If you would like your child to be confirmed (baptised and confirmed if they are yet to be baptised), please fill in this [online form](#). For more information please contact Rev'd Lesley Sutherland on 01207 529166.

Friends of the School Event – Pop Up Flower Shop

This March we are celebrating all of the fabulous ladies in our school community ready for their very special day on Sunday 30th March 2025 - Mother's Day! In honour of this, The Friends will be holding a 'Pop Up Flower Shop' on Thursday 27th March at 3.15 – 5.00pm in the Junior Hall. Plants will be sold in a ceramic pot, with a decorative ribbon and rustic label for £3.50 each. Please complete the online order form before Friday 14 March if you wish to purchase from our flower shop - this will allow us to stock sufficiently: <https://forms.gle/9xK6MVAkmS3Hvhbe8>

We ask that all gifts be paid prior to the pop up shop via the online link within the form - however, we will also stock additional pots for those last minute buys! All flower gifts must be collected at the pop up flower shop, where tea, coffee and sweet treats will be available along with a performance from our wonderful school choir. Come along with your young ones and choose your gifts - all profits will go back into our amazing school.

We are very grateful to be able to do this with the support of a local garden nursery who are currently sourcing/growing a selection of plants ready for our shop; we are fortunate to be part of such a caring community.

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 Attendance Percentage (%)	Attendance Percentage to Date (%)	Year Group	Current Week Attendance Percentage (%)	Attendance Percentage to Date (%)
Reception	97.1%	94.1%	Year 4	93.4%	97.5%
Year 1	97.4%	96.3%	Year 5	98.9%	97.5%
Year 2	98.3%	96.6%	Year 6	94.7%	96.5%
Year 3	98%	97.5%	Whole School	96.8%	96.6%

Diary Dates for Next Week

Extra-Curricular Activities & Wrap Around Care

Please note, there will be no extra-curricular clubs on during this last week of term. Wrap around care will be running as usual, however on Monday and Tuesday, this will be held in the Nursery for all children due to Parents' Evenings taking place in the Junior Hall.

Monday 17th and Tuesday 18th February 2025 – Parents' Evenings

We have parents' evening for the whole school on Monday from 3.30pm – 6pm. Please note that entry to the building is through the Main Office only and you will not be able to enter the building until 3.30pm. This is to allow staff to catch their breath after teaching all day and also to ensure children at After School Club arrive safely before any parents and carers. As usual, the teachers will be in the Junior Hall but please make time to look at your children's work in the classrooms and their classroom environment too.

Nursery Parents' Evening Appointments will also take place in the Junior Hall on Monday and Tuesday; however, parents will not be able to go down to see the Nursery classroom due to wrap around care being held there. We look forward to seeing you.

Wednesday 19th February – Mini Police with Year 5

This will be the final session for our Year 5 children with the Mini Police. They have been enthralled to learn so much during the last three weeks and know they have gained so much knowledge!

Wednesday 19th February – Indoor Athletics County Final

We are thrilled to be representing Derwentside at the County Finals on Wednesday. Parents and carers have been informed if their child is taking part. The event takes place in Newton Aycliffe and the children will return in time for a late lunch. We wish them all the best but know they will be great ambassadors for the school with their sportsmanship.

Wednesday 19th February – Year 3 at the Synagogue

It is the turn of our Year 3 children to visit the synagogue on Wednesday morning. We know they will learn so much from this visit and are really looking forward to it. As usual, they will return to school in time for lunch. All children need to wear full school uniform for this visit even though a Wednesday is their usual PE day.

Wednesday 19th February – Additional Nursery Parents' Evening Appointments

The final Nursery Parents' Evening Appointments with Mrs S. Davis, Mrs Moralee and Miss Tilney will take place on Wednesday from 3.30 – 4.30pm. These will be held in the Meeting Room, so parents/carers will need to come to the Main Office to wait for their appointments.

Friday 21st February – Year 2 at Centre for Life

Year 2 are looking forward to an exciting day at the Centre for Life on Friday to support this half term's work on space. They all need a packed lunch and will return in time for the end of the school day.

Positive Thinking

*When we feel love and kindness towards others,
it not only makes others feel loved and cared for,
but it also helps us to develop inner happiness and peace.*

As always, if there is anything at all you would like to discuss, please do not hesitate to contact me.
Best Wishes,

Jane Davis

Mrs Jane Davis
Head Teacher