



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 November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Whilst last week was quiet, this week has been far from quiet. Year 3 enjoyed a fabulous day with the Graffiti Artist whilst Year 5 enjoyed a wonderful WW2 day – and they all looked fabulous in their outfits too. A big thank you to all parents and carers for all the time and effort that went into that. They certainly really did look the part! Both days are perfect examples of how we attempt to bring the curriculum to life!

It has also been good to see almost 40 parents attend our Phonics Workshops this week. We hope you found it helpful to see a 'lesson in action' enabling you to use the correct language when supporting your children at home. I have to say that the children chosen to help demonstrate the lessons seemed completely blasé about there being around 12 additional adults in each of the classrooms! Their behaviour, attitude and concentration was first class too – very proud of them all!

We will look forward to welcoming KS2 parents into school this week as well to see a Reading session in action. Again, this will be a model lesson and will give you chance to see a 'lesson in action' with a small group of children which will hopefully help you support your child at home with their reading skills too.

As stated last week, we are approaching the silly season in school and each week is exceptionally busy from now until the end of term with additional Christmas activities and events. Please read each weekly letter very carefully to ensure you don't miss anything!

Nativities

Please note the dates below for the different nativities and events. Nursery Christmas story time will be held in the Nursery setting. However, all other events involving children from Reception to Year 6, will be ticketed events and this is simply as we need to restrict numbers to each event. Tickets will cost 50p each – we are keeping the cost as low as possible to help support families as much as possible at this time of the year. Tickets for all Nativities will go on sale from Monday 27th November. Tickets will be limited at first to two tickets per family per performance. Any remaining tickets will go on sale on Monday 4th December.

Nursery:	Tuesday 12 th December at 2.30pm - Christmas Storytime Thursday 14 th December at 10am – Christmas Storytime
Reception:	Monday 11 th December at 10am and 2pm in the School Hall
Year 1 & Year 2:	Tuesday 12 th December at 10 am and 2 pm in the School Hall
Year 3 & Year 4:	Friday 15 th December at 10am in All Saints' Church
Year 5 & Year 6:	Thursday 14 th December at 2pm and 6pm in Lanchester Methodist Church

Friends of the School Christmas Shop

Using the link below you can now place orders for your child to attend the school Christmas Shop in the last few weeks of term. The children love being able to give a gift they have chosen by themselves. This is definitely our favourite event to run - the excitement and joy as gifts are chosen is magical.

Each class will visit the shop at an allocated time (to be confirmed) where they will be presented with the labels for the gifts they are to choose. They will come home that day with their wrapped and labelled goodies to pop under the tree, ready to surprise their loved ones.

This event is open to all year groups (including nursery) – gifts are £2 each. Please note the deadline for orders and payment is 1st December at 3.30pm.

If you have not made payment by then we may need to cancel your order. We are sorry to have to be strict about this but we really need this deadline to be adhered to please. Thank you – from the Friends of Lanchester EP School. <https://form.jotform.com/233165777855369>

Christmas Fair

This year our annual Christmas Fair will be held in school on Thursday 7th December between 3.30pm – 5pm. We will have tombolas, Enterprise stands, refreshments and a variety of other stalls. If you are able to give up any of your spare time to help volunteer on the day, we would really appreciate your help. Please fill in this [volunteer form](#) if you are able to volunteer.

On Friday 1st December we will be holding a non-uniform day in school in return for an optional donation for the Christmas Fair. Donations can include festive treats, bottles of alcohol (must be handed into the Office), books, games, toiletries, gift sets, vouchers etc. Children can come into school in a festive jumper or their own clothes on the day.

Christmas raffle tickets are now on sale for £1 each (£5 per strip). As always, we will have some fabulous prizes however, we would be very grateful for any raffle prize donations from local businesses or organisations to add to the prize list. All money raised from the Christmas Fair and Raffle goes directly back into providing those ‘little extras’ for your children in school.

Christmas Dinner Day – Friday 15th December

Our annual Christmas Dinner is taking place on Friday 15th December for all children who are in school at lunchtimes - if your child is usually on packed lunch, your child is welcome to join us for this festive feast. If your child is in Reception - Year 2, this is free. For pupils in Nursery and Year 3 to Year 6, the cost is £2.50. Please complete this [Christmas Dinner form](#) by **Wednesday 29th November** if your child would like a Christmas lunch.

Homework Questionnaire

We are very keen to hear your views and comments about homework in our school. The Leadership Team has spent a considerable amount of time discussing this and we are keen to listen to your views before reviewing our homework policy. We would really appreciate you giving us 5 minutes of your time to complete this questionnaire. We will listen to and use your views to help shape our new homework policy across school. Please give your opinions here: [Homework Questionnaire](#)

Attendance

Reception	93.5%
Year 1	90.6%
Year 2	91.7%
Year 3	97.4%
Year 4	96.4%
Year 5	97.8%
Year 6	93.3%

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.

Online Safety

As has been previously mentioned, non-statutory guidance for teaching online safety came out in January this year. Online safety is taught as part of the curriculum in numerous ways throughout the school; for example, as part of the Year 5 World War II day, the children looked at online misinformation or ‘fake news’ and how to assess the authenticity of online content. Our curriculum is designed to empower pupils to

navigate the online world safely, and to know where to go for help if they have any worries or concerns about something they have seen online.

Children in Need

Thank you so much for all your generous donations for Children in Need last week – we are pleased to announce that in total we raised £633.20 for this wonderful cause. Thank you.

School Individual & Sibling Photographs

You should have received your proofs home for the photographs taken in school on Monday 13th November. Orders should be placed online via [Jane Stapleton School & Nursery Photography \(jssp.co.uk\)](http://jssp.co.uk). Orders should be placed by **29th November** for delivery into school before Christmas. If you can't find the proof, if you email the school office we will be able to email you your photo links.

Diary Dates for Next Week

Monday 27th November – Phase 1 Phonics Parent Information Session

Miss Butler is holding an information session for any Nursery parents and carers which will be held in Nursery on Monday 27th November at 9am. At this session, she will share information about the work we do with phonics with your youngest children.

Monday 27th November – Year 3 Parent Reading Workshop

We would like any Year 3 parents to meet at the Main Reception for 9am. Staff will then meet you and take you down to the classroom where you will see a demonstration lesson in action with a small group of children.

Monday 27th November – Reception Vision Checks

NHS staff will be on site to carry out their routine vision checks on all Reception children.

Monday 27th and Tuesday 28th November – Mrs Grayson's Parent Evenings

Please come to the Main Reception Area where you will find trays with your child's work in. Take a seat in there and Mrs Grayson/Mrs Harding will come to take you to the Meeting Room where the parents' evening will take place. Please take time to look at your child's work while you are waiting.

Monday 27th, Tuesday 28th, Wednesday 29th and Thursday 30th November – Nursery Parent Evening

For appointment times between 3.30pm – 4.30pm, these will take place in the Nursery Unit so please go to the Nursery door where you drop your child. After 4.30pm, these will then take place in the main school so if you have an appointment after 4.30pm, please make your way to the Main Entrance where you will be able to come into school and Miss Butler will meet you there to take you to the office for your meeting.

Tuesday 28th November – Year 4 Parent Reading Workshop

We would like any Year 4 parents to meet at the Main Reception for 9am. Staff will then meet you and take you down to the classroom where you will see a demonstration lesson in action with a small group of children.

Tuesday 28th November – Parent Meeting re Dubai Residential at 6pm

This meeting will take place at 6pm and last around 45 minutes. During the meeting, we will be able to share more information about what the children will be doing all week as well as show you some photographs. I am sure that their excitement levels will be even higher after attending the meeting!

Wednesday 29th November – Year 5 Parent Reading Workshop

We would like any Year 5 parents to meet at the Main Reception for 9am. Staff will then meet you and take you down to the classroom where you will see a demonstration lesson in action with a small group of children.

Thursday 30th November – Year 6 Parent Reading Workshop

We would like any Year 6 parents to meet at the Main Reception for 9am. Staff will then meet you and take you down to the classroom where you will see a demonstration lesson in action with a small group of children.

Friday 1st December – Non-Uniform Day for Christmas Fair

On Friday 1st December we will be holding a non-uniform day in school in return for an optional donation for the Christmas Fair. Donations can include festive treats, bottles of alcohol (must be handed into the Office), books, games, toiletries, gift sets, vouchers etc. Children can come into school in a festive jumper or their own clothes on the day.

Friday 1st December – Reception Stay and Play Sessions

We are holding two Stay and Play sessions in Reception on Friday 1st December. You are welcome to come along and spend some time in Reception with your child. We will have a morning session 9-10am and an afternoon session from 2pm – 3pm. Please book your place by completing the form [here](#).

Friday 1st December – Year 2 Talk from Mr Lloyd

We are very grateful that one of our Year 2 parents will be coming to talk to the year group about some of the work he does in Greenland as part of their Frozen Kingdom topic. He works mostly in the seas around the edges of the Greenland Ice Sheet looking at the impact of climate change on the glaciers that flow into the sea. He has lots of photos to share from fieldwork around Greenland of sea ice, glaciers but also some great short and videos of polar bears on the sea ice and whales too. I think the children are going to have an amazing time listening to him. We are so grateful that parents are so willing to offer their time, help and expertise to support so many of our children. Thank you!

Friday 1st December – Year 5 & 6 at Park View School

We are really looking forward to taking a group of children for our first basketball competition. I am sure they will all thoroughly enjoy this experience and make the most of participating in the tournament against other schools. More details will be shared with parents of pupils who will be taking part.

SEND News

Local charity Daisy Chain is running coffee mornings in Family Hubs for parents and carers of children diagnosed, on the pathway or who have been identified by a professional as having a need relating to autism, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), foetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD), sensory processing differences, anxiety and social and communication differences.

The groups will:

- listen, offer guidance and tell you about services that are available in your local area
- direct you to services that can make a difference and empower you
- increase your knowledge, understanding and skills to support your child

The closest groups to Lanchester are in Durham and Chester-le-Street:

1st Friday of every month: Durham Family Hub, The Woodlands, Gilesgate, Durham, DH1 2EY

3rd Friday of every month: Chester-le-Street Family Hub, Gray Avenue, Chester-le-Street, DH2 2EL

You can [click here](#) to find out more information or to get in touch.

Mr McLoughlin

Early Years News

We are holding two Stay and Play sessions in **Reception** on Friday 1st December. You are welcome to come along and spend some time in Reception with your child. We will have a morning session 9-10am and an afternoon session 2-3pm. Please book your place by completing the form [here](#).

We are also holding two Stay and Play sessions in **Nursery** on Wednesday 6th December. We will have a morning session 10:30-11:30am and an afternoon session 1:45-2:45pm. Please book your place by completing the form [here](#). Please note that for both these sessions, spaces are limited to one adult per child at **either** the morning or afternoon session.

Thanks to all of you who supported our EYFS Autumn Fundraiser by taking part in the Autumn Treasure Hunt. We had a fabulous response to this and raised £611 which we will be spending on improving our outdoor water area. We had some wonderful collections of objects, which you will be able to see displayed if you come along to one of our Stay and Play sessions.

It has been a busy week for the children in EYFS, with children in Nursery learning about light and dark and enjoying lots of stories about the dark. A firm favourite from this week has been The Rabbit, the Dark and the Biscuit Tin. We are very excited to be unveiling our new dark den and shadow wall in Nursery next week, which we are sure will inspire some great investigation.

Children in Reception have been learning all about animals who hibernate as the weather gets colder. We have heard them using some great new language in the context of their play and are very much looking forward to the Hibernation Celebration Day next Wednesday.

In addition to this, Nursery and Reception have been introduced to using musical instruments this week. We are so lucky to have opportunities to develop our musical knowledge from an early age. At Lanchester EP, we firmly believe that musical activities help our children to develop their language and communication skills as well as supporting their personal and social development, their understanding of maths and many other skills. Plus, music makes us happy and joyful, which is exactly what we hope for our youngest children!

Can we remind parents and carers that we operate a flexible pick-up time at the end of the school day? It can get very congested by the entrance to Nursery and Reception, so please do not feel that you have to be there straight away as doors open. It can often be quicker for you to come a few minutes after the doors open, once the initial rush has died down. Nursery doors are open from 3:00 to 3:15pm and Reception doors are open from 3:15 to 3:30pm.

Miss Butler

Key Stage One News

It has been another busy and exciting week in Key Stage 1. It was lovely to welcome parents to the phonics sessions earlier in the week. The children were so amazing and we hope the sessions helped you understand a bit more about the process of teaching phonics.



Both Year 1 and 2 have really enjoyed learning outside this week in Science. Year 1 were learning about how the amount of daylight is different in every season and making pictograms in forest school. Year 2 have been conducting a Science experiment with woodlice.



This week has also seen the start of rehearsals for our Christmas performance. It has been wonderful to see the children so excited and hear their wonderful singing! We look forward to seeing you at 'Baarmy Bethlehem' in a few weeks' time.

Mr Innes

Key Stage Two News

Year 3 Graffiti Art



This week, as part of their 'Urban Pioneers' topic, Year 3 worked with artists from Graffiti Stars. They discovered how to create stencils, design urban artwork as well as explore a range of techniques using spray paints. At the end of their sessions, each child made their own piece of graffiti art which they were able to then take home.

Year 5 World War II Day



We enjoyed World War II Day in which we all got dressed up in wartime costumes and did activities related to the war. We began by writing postcards from an evacuee who had been moved to the countryside, this was after using AI to interview a 10-year-old girl called Francesca. We looked at digital content in creating 'Fake News' stories and then used the Green Screen to construct images from the war. To finish our phenomenal day, we did a Now Press Play experience where we found out what happened to children during the war. By Teddy H and Eloise D



Mr Knighton

Positive Thinking

Before you speak..... **THINK**

***T** is it true?*

***H** is it helpful?*

***I** is it inspiring?*

***N** is it necessary?*

***K** is it kind?*

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)



Lanchester Endowed Parochial Primary School



Academic Year 2023 - 2024

Autumn Term 2

DIARY DATES

Saturday 25 th November 2023	5.30pm	Christmas Lights Switch on – Village Green
Monday 27 th November 2023	All Day	Reception Vision Tests
Monday 27 th November 2023	9am	Parental Workshop for Year 3 Reading
Monday 27 th November 2023	9am	Nursery Phase 1 Phonics Parental Workshop
Monday 27 th November 2023	3.30pm-6pm	Parents' Evenings for Nursery Parents
Monday 27 th November 2023	3.30pm-6pm	Parents' Evenings for Mrs Grayson
Tuesday 28 th November 2023	9am	Parental Reading Workshop for Year 4
Tuesday 28 th November 2023	6pm	Parent Meeting for Dubai Residential
Tuesday 28 th November 2023	3.30pm-6pm	Parents' Evenings for Mrs Grayson
Tuesday 28 th November 2023	3.30pm-6pm	Parents' Evenings for Nursery Parents
Wednesday 29 th November 2023	9am	Parental Reading Workshop for Year 5 Reading
Thursday 30 th November 2023	9am	Parental Reading Workshop for Year 6 Reading
Friday 1 st December 2023	9 – 10am	Reception Stay and Play Session
Friday 1 st December 2023	2pm – 3pm	Reception Stay and Play Session
Wk: Monday 4 th December 2023	All Week	Enterprise Week
Monday 4 th December 2023	All Week	Friends of the School Christmas Shop
Tuesday 5 th December 2023	9am – 10am	Year 2 Stay and Play Session
Tuesday 5 th December 2023	2pm – 3pm	Year 2 Stay and Play Session
Wednesday 6 th December 2023	10.30 – 11.30	Nursery Stay and Play Session
Wednesday 6 th December 2023	1.45pm-2.45pm	Nursery Stay and Play Session
Thursday 7 th December 2023	9am	Parents of Year 1 - Poetry in the Forest Session
Thursday 7 th December 2023	3.30pm-5pm	Christmas Fair and Social Event
Monday 11 th December 2023	10am	Reception Nativity
Monday 11 th December 2023	2pm	Reception Nativity
Tuesday 12 th December 2023	10am	Key Stage One Nativity
Tuesday 12 th December 2023	2pm	Key Stage One Nativity
Tuesday 12 th December 2023	1pm	Choir singing at Lynnwood House Christmas Lunch
Tuesday 12 th December 2023	Afternoon	Nursery Christmas Story Session with Parents
Tuesday 12 th December 2023	All Day	Year 6 at Newcastle for Pantomime and Meal
Wednesday 13 th December 2023	All Day	Nursery and Reception Party Day
Wednesday 13 th December 2023	Morning	The Littlest Christmas Elf for EYFS and Year 1
Thursday 14 th December 2023	9am	Woodwind Christmas Concert
Thursday 14 th December 2023	Morning	Nursery Christmas Story Session with Parents
Thursday 14 th December 2023	2pm	Year 5 & Year 6 Christmas Nativity
Thursday 14 th December 2023	6pm	Year 5 & Year 6 Christmas Nativity
Friday 15 th December 2023	10am	Year 3 & Y4 Christingle and Carol Service in All Saints' Church
Monday 18 th December 2023	Morning	Year 3 and Year 1 Christmas Parties
Monday 18 th December 2023	Afternoon	Year 4 and Year 2 Christmas Parties
Monday 18 th December 2023	3.30pm	Christmas Carols and Hot Chocolate around the Tree

Tuesday 19 th December 2023	Morning	Year 5 Christmas Party
Tuesday 19 th December 2023	Afternoon	Year 6 Christmas Party
Tuesday 19 th December 2023	5.15pm	School Closes for Christmas Holiday
<i>Holiday Club: Wednesday 20th to Friday 22nd December 2023</i>		
<i>Email: ljgsportscoaching@gmail.com</i>		
Wednesday 3 rd January 2024	7.30am	School re-opens for Spring Term 1
KS2 Statutory Assessment Tests - Week Beginning Monday 13th May 2024		
Year 4 Multiplication Check - Week Beginning Tuesday 3rd June 2024		
Year 1 & Year 2 Phonics Screening Check - Week Beginning Monday 10th June 2024		