



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 12th January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been good to have a full week in school with the children and great to welcome Crazy Creatures into school in Year 1. I think Mr McLoughlin and Mr Innes were more wary than any of the children when touching the animals though!

I have had a very enjoyable week spending time in lots of classrooms where so much learning has been taking place. The children are so happy and hard-working and it has been great to learn alongside them in many classrooms!

Parking

Yet again, I am starting the year with issues to do with parking. It appears that parents and carers are parking on double yellow lines all around the school. I think what is important to note is that the double yellow lines are there because it is dangerous for cars to park there. This means that those drivers are putting our children at risk. Please try to park away from the area round school.

We have arrangements with the Kings Head – they are very happy for parents and carers to park there at drop off and pick up times. We also have arrangements with the Social Club who are more than happy for parents and carers to park there. In addition, the Community Centre are also happy for parents and carers to use their car park at these times – all they ask is that you become a Friend of the Community Centre at a very reasonable cost of £24 for the year. Please consider using these three car parks before attempting to park anywhere else. Thank you.

School Uniform and PE Kit Reminder

I would like to politely remind all parents and carers that we expect children to come to school in the correct school uniform every day. Most of our children do come to school looking very smart but we do have some who are perhaps trying to stretch the rules slightly. We would really appreciate your support in ensuring the children come to school every day dressed appropriately. Please familiarise yourself with our uniform policy, which is on our website – a guide to acceptable uniform has been added to this newsletter.

School Uniform

We ask children to wear fully black shoes (including the soles) with school uniform. Coloured trainers with normal school uniform is not acceptable.

PE Uniform

We have an increasing number of children coming in different coloured leggings for PE days. Our PE uniform clearly states that children should wear black tracksuit trousers or leggings. These must be plain black/those available from our supplier (without large logo designs). Hoodies must be the PE hoodies and not designer hoodies of any sort at all. If your child does not have a PE hoodie, they must come into school in their normal school jumper/cardigan.

Hair Styles

Please remember that our uniform policy states that tram lines in shaven hair is not permitted. Nor are extreme hairstyles or those that stand out. We try to be as flexible and understanding as possible but Mohican hair styles, coloured hair or shaven hair with tiny braids are all extreme. They draw attention to the child and can be a distraction to others, therefore they are not acceptable.

Jewellery

Again, jewellery is not permitted to be worn in school. This is for health and safety reasons as children can easily be hurt when wearing bracelets and necklaces. Earrings are also a huge concern which is why only studs are allowed to be worn in school. However, these should be removed for PE days. The only item of jewellery which is safe to be worn in a school environment is a watch but please note, smart watches are not permitted.

Staff News

Mr Taylor will be absent from school from Monday 22nd January due to a planned operation and providing that the operation actually takes place, will be absent for a number of weeks as he recuperates. Mrs Louise Swinbank will be taking over the teaching of the class. The children know her very well as she has been working alongside Mr Taylor since last year on her final teaching practice. This is an ideal situation for the children as the relationships are already strong and the transition will be seamless. I am sure you will all join me in wishing Mr Taylor the very best for his operation and a swift recovery.

Attendance

Our target for attendance is for 97% as a minimum. We feel it is important to share the data each week with you but think it is important to help and support you as much as possible in ensuring your child does attend school as regularly as possible. If your child is not feeling 100% in a morning and you are unsure what to do, please send them to school. If they become too unwell to stay in school, we will contact you. The only time we cannot have children in school is in the 48-hour period after a bout of sickness or diarrhoea. The following link might also be helpful: <https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2024/01/03/improving-school-attendance/>

Reception	97.3%
Year 1	97.1%
Year 2	96.7%
Year 3	99.2%
Year 4	98.3%
Year 5	96.3%
Year 6	95.1%

Punctuality

Please remember that the school doors open at 8.30am and close at 8.45am. We still regularly have children coming through the Office door as late as 8.50am and 8.55am. This means that your child is missing essential learning. Can I suggest that if you struggle to get your child dressed and to leave on time, you aim to arrive at school for 8.30am rather than 8.45am. It really is important that all children arrive in school ready to START their learning at 8.45am. Thank you.

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

This week, the National Online Safety topic all about is managing screentime. Please see the attached information poster – why not encourage your family to make a new years' resolution to lower the amount of time spent on screens, or even have at least one designated screen free night a week.

Diary Dates for Next Week

Monday 15th January – No Crossing Patrol

There will be no crossing patrol at the bottom of Maiden Law bank or outside school on front street (afternoon only) on Monday 15th January. Please take extra care if crossing at these points. If your child is in

Year 5 & 6 and usually leaves school unaccompanied and you would like them to be collected on this day instead, please email the School Office and your child's teacher with the new arrangements.

Tuesday 16th January 2024 – Year 4 Parent Information Session

We are holding a parental information session for Year 4 parents on Tuesday 16th January at 6pm when we will be talking to you more about the Multiplication Check that your child will be taking in June this year. This is the third year this check has taken and we thought it would be helpful for parents and carers to know how we are supporting the children in preparation for this and what is expected of the children. We hope you can come along and find out more.

Wednesday 17th January – Shakespeare Ambassador Day at Crook Primary School

Our children are taking part in the Royal Shakespeare Programme and are currently rehearsing to take part in a production of Hamlet. On Wednesday there is an Ambassador Training Day for our ambassadors. Parents and Carers of those children involved will be emailed with more information.

SEND News

Class teachers will shortly begin reviewing SEN support plans and these will be ready to share and discuss with parents and carers by the end of this half-term. We will be holding another drop-in session with class teachers to discuss these after school on Wednesday 14th February. Details about how to book a slot at this will follow in the next couple of weeks, but we wanted to give as much notice of the date as possible.

Mr McLoughlin

Early Years News

Our EYFS children have quickly settled back into our routines and are enjoying learning about the cold weather, ice and snow. In Nursery, we have been reading lots of wintry stories and thinking about colours that make us feel cold. They have worked together in this week to make an enormous collage in cool colours. It made us feel very chilly!

In Reception, the children have been learning about the North and South Poles and the animals who inhabit these frozen regions. Looking ahead, this is a busy half term. Across EYFS, we will be learning about birds, with the Big Garden Birdwatch coming up (see [here](#) for how to join in at home) and Lunar New Year at the beginning of February. Reception are also looking forward to their Space Week later in the half term and ask if you have any photos of the moon and stars or anything else you think might support their work in this week, please let the teachers know.

Thank you for all your offers to help on trips this half term. We will be in touch about Nursery library visits as soon as we have our dates and times arranged with the librarians. If we have any more volunteers for Storytelling week in Reception, please get in touch. For Nursery parents, remember that if you would like to sign up for Tales Toolkit Workshops, you can do so via [this form](#).

Miss Butler

Key Stage One News

We have had a fantastic first full week back to school in KS1 and the children have been working really hard in Maths and English, as well as doing some brilliant learning around their new topics.

Year One had a very exciting visit from Crazy Creatures on Tuesday and we got to handle lots of animals from around the world including chinchillas, snakes, tortoises and giant millipedes. We learnt lots about different animal groups and where animals come from in the world.



Thank you for all the pictures of pets you have been sending in. We now have an amazing display of pets in the classroom and have been doing some incredible writing about them.

Year 2 have had a fabulous week, exploring their space topic, and building moon buggies in DT. They had to measure and make a wooden chassis, which involved cutting the wood using saws and then attaching axles to enable their buggies to move. Then, they needed to use their knowledge to design their creation to look



like a real space buggy. The children have been so sensible working with tools and Mr Osmond and Mrs Tate have been very impressed with how well the children have worked.

Mr Innes

Key Stage Two News

We have had a busy week and a half since the New Year and the children have all settled back into the routines of school. Each year group have started a new topic for the coming weeks and we are well into the new novel or text linked to their work.

Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
			

Year 3 - Escape from Pompeii by Christine Balit

We travel back in time to the days of the Roman Empire and join Tranio, the son of an actor, and his friend Livia, the baker's daughter, in witnessing the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in AD79. They witness one of the most terrifying moments in recorded history-the eruption of Mount Vesuvius and the destruction of their beloved city, Pompeii.

Year 4 - Stormin' Normans by Terry Deary

We will discover all the foul facts about the STORMIN' NORMANS, including why Norman knights slept with a dolly, which pirate hung up his eye-patch and became a saint and why Crusader ships were defended with barrels of pee.

Year 5 Secrets of a Sun King by Emma Carroll

Emma Carroll takes us back to the excitement of discovering a tomb and explores the young Pharaoh Tutankhamun in detail. Secrets of a Sun King is set in London 1922 and tells the story of a girl called Lillian who travels to Egypt with her friends in a desperate attempt to save her Grandad.

Year 6 - Percy Jackson & The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan

Look, I never asked to be the son of a Greek god. I was just a normal kid. . . until I accidentally vaporized my maths teacher.

Percy Jackson is having a bad week. His life has gone from totally normal to monsters-from-Greek-mythology-randomly-appearing kind of strange. Worse still, the king of the gods thinks Percy has stolen his all-powerful lightning bolt - and it seems making Zeus angry is a very bad idea.

Now Percy and his friends have just ten days to catch the true lightning thief and stop all-out war from erupting on Mount Olympus. . .

All children in our Key Stage 2 classes use these texts to take part in whole-class shared reading lessons. We teach comprehension skills using the reading domains from the National Curriculum. These are taught to children through our VIPERS approach to reading (vocabulary, infer, predict, explain, retrieve and summarise.)

Why not ask your child about their whole class book and how they are using it to learn about their topics?

Mr Knighton

Positive Thinking

***Wherever you go, no matter what the weather,
Always bring your own sunshine.***

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



DIARY DATES for Spring 1

Tuesday 16 th January 2024	All Day	Times Tables Rockstars Day for Reception to Year 6
Tuesday 16 th January 2024	6pm	Parent Information Session re Year 4 Multiplication Check
Friday 19 th January 2024	Morning	Movement Team with Reception
Monday 22 nd January 2024	All Day	Captain Chemistry in School
Tuesday 23 rd January 2024	All Day	Captain Chemistry in School
Wednesday 24 th January 2024	Morning	Year 5 Mini Police Project
Thursday 25 th January 2024	All Day	Digital Leaders at Bett Show, London
Friday 26 th January 2024	All Day	Digital Leaders at Bett Show, London
Saturday 27 th January 2024	5pm	Digital Leaders Arrive at Durham Train Station
Week Beginning 29 th January	All Week	National Storytelling Week
Tuesday 30 th January	9am & 2.15pm	Tales Toolkit Workshops for Nursery Parents
Tuesday 30 th January 2024	6pm	Parent Information Session on New Spelling Scheme – Sounds and Syllables
Tuesday 30 th January 2024	All Day	Ancient Egypt Outreach Day for Year 5
Wednesday 31 st January 2024	Morning	Year 5 Mini Police Project
Thursday 1 st February 2024	9am & 2.15pm	Tales Toolkit Workshops for Nursery Parents
Friday 2 nd February 2024	9am & 2.15pm	Tales Toolkit Workshops for Nursery Parents
Monday 5 th February 2024	9am	Y3 Spelling in Action Lesson for Parents
Tuesday 6 th February 2024	9am	Y4 Spelling in Action Lesson for Parents
Tuesday 6 th February 2024	All Day	Reception at Laing Art Gallery
Wednesday 7 th February 2024	9am	Y5 Spelling in Action Lesson for Parents
Wednesday 7 th February 2024	Morning	Year 5 Mini Police Project
Wednesday 7 th February 2024	4.50pm	Year 5 & Year 6 Depart for Rajkot, India
Thursday 8 th February 2024	9am	Y6 Spelling in Action Lesson for Parents
Thursday 8th February 2024	3.15-4.15pm	KS1 Disco in the School Hall
Thursday 8th February 2024	4.30pm – 6pm	KS2 Disco in the School Hall
Wednesday 14th February 2024	3.15pm-4.15pm	SEND Support Plans Reviewed
Friday 16 th February 2024	Morning	Year 5 & Year 6 Arrive from India
Friday 16 th February 2024	Afternoon	Royal Opera Workshop for KS2
Holiday Club: Monday and Tuesday 19th & 20th February 2024		
Email: ljsportscoaching@gmail.com		
Friday 23 rd February 2024	1.10pm	Year 5 & Year 6 Depart for Dubai, UAE
Monday 26 th February 2024	7.30am	School re-opens for Spring Term 2
Monday 26 th February 2024	All Day	Captain Chemistry in School
Tuesday 27 th February 2024	All Day	Captain Chemistry in School
Wednesday 28 th February 2024	All Day	Year 2 at Centre for Life
Monday 4 th March 2024	9am	Year 3 Maths in Action Lesson for Parents
Tuesday 5 th March 2024	Morning	Author Dan Smith in School
Tuesday 5th March 2024	All Day	Year 1 in Newcastle for Bright Lights, Big City Topic
Wednesday 6 th March 2024	9am	Year 4 Maths in Action Lesson for Parents
Thursday 7 th March 2024	9am	Year 5 Maths in Action Lesson for Parents

Friday 8 th March 2024	9am	Year 6 Maths in Action Lesson for Parents
Friday 8 th March 2024	All Day	Durham University PGCE Students Forest School Day Here
Monday 11 th March 2024	9am	Reception Maths in Action Lesson for Parents
Tuesday 12 th March 2024	9am	Year 1 Maths in Action Lesson for Parents
Wednesday 13 th March 2024	9am	Year 2 Maths in Action Lesson for Parents
Saturday 16 th March 2024	4am	Year 4 – 6 Ski Trip Leaves School
Tuesday 19 th March 2024	All Day	Reception at Northumberland Zoo
Saturday 23 rd March 2024	Afternoon	Year 4 – 6 Ski Trip Returns
Monday 25 th March 2024	3.30pm-6pm	Parents' Evening
Tuesday 26 th March 2024	3.30pm-6pm	Parents' Evening
Wednesday 27 th March 2024	Afternoon	Easter Service in All Saints Church
Thursday 28 th March 2024	Morning	Easter Egg Decorating Competition
Thursday 28 th March 2024	2.30pm	Coffee Afternoon
Thursday 28 th March 2024	5.15pm	School Closes for Easter Holiday
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		