



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 28th March 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

I have decided that our Turing trips abroad must be fated! Last June, the flight back from Montreal was cancelled, delaying the return of the group by over 24 hours. In January, all flights to Newcastle were cancelled due to the storms, meaning our group from India were unable to get home resulting in an overnight stay in London. Last week, our flight from Dubai was cancelled due to the fire near Heathrow resulting in an extra night in Dubai and a return flight to Glasgow followed by a minibus back to school. Great adventures for those involved and certainly very character building too.

You may have seen our school hit the headlines last weekend too, although it was very sensationalised! We were not 'stranded' in Dubai – just delayed. However, the papers and television ran it as quite a newsworthy story, filming the children for Newsround, myself for the BBC as well as showing the interview on NBC, the main US news channel.

What we did not share though was that whilst waiting in the airport, I slipped and fell awkwardly, ending up in a wheelchair for the next 24 hours with a torn hamstring and twisted knee. You really could not have written those 24 hours! However, the real team spirit of our school shone through. Mr Adamson pushed me around in a wheelchair, Mrs Knighton helped with all sorts, whilst the children just took it all in their stride, opening doors and helping me into the pool! I have kept a low profile this week, working on paperwork from home for some of the week, but am pleased to be back in school now, albeit hobbling around feeling rather sorry for myself!

Friends of the School Pop Up Shop

This was another tremendous success yesterday and another huge thanks must go to the Friends of the School for organising another wonderfully successful event. The plants looked wonderful and everyone who collected them seemed thrilled with their order. We hope all the special ladies appreciate them on Sunday.

Easter Crown/Bonnet Making

This will take place on the final day of term with children having the opportunity to decorate bonnets or crowns in class during the morning session. A parade will take place during the afternoon along with a coffee afternoon. Materials will be provided in school, but as usual, if children wish to bring in their own items to decorate their crowns and bonnets, then that is perfectly acceptable too.

Summer Menu Choices

You will have received an email during the week regarding your child's school meal choices for after the Easter holiday. Please make sure this is filled in on Arbor by **Sunday 6th April**, whether your child is on packed lunch or on school meals. You can do this by logging onto your Arbor account and choosing Quick Actions - Meals - Summer 2025 Menu. Please also make sure if you are making a choice for one of the days, you click on the box that says 'pick for all future available dates'.

Y6 Leavers Hoodie

Children in Year 6 will have been sent a form to fill in for their Leavers hoodie, which can be paid for via Arbor. The form must be filled in and the hoodie paid for via Arbor no later than Friday 4th April. Hoodies will not be ordered without payment.

Consett Empire Transport Form

If you have yet to fill in the Consett Empire trip transport form regarding whether or not you can drop off or collect your Key Stage 2 child on Thursday 10th July, please fill in this in so that we can book the transport. This is especially important if you are able to drop off or collect, as it makes a massive difference to the bus costs. The form is here: [Consett Empire Transport Form](#).

Y6 Forest Schools - starting next week

From next week, Year 6 children will have Forest School sessions. Mr Knighton's 6AK class will have their Forest School sessions on Thursday afternoons. Mr Stoker's 6AS class will have their Forest School sessions on Friday afternoons. Therefore, Mr Knighton's 6AK class will need to wear their PE kits (including jogging bottoms) on a Thursday instead of a Friday for the foreseeable future. They will also need to bring wellies or sturdy footwear suitable for the forest.

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	96.2	94.1	Year 4	99	97.4
Year 1	94.4	95.9	Year 5	99.1	97.5
Year 2	96.1	96.5	Year 6	96.8	96.6
Year 3	97.2	97.3	Whole School	97%	96.5%

Diary Dates for Next Week

Monday 31st March – Year 6 Parents' Meeting about SATs at 5.30pm

We are holding a meeting at 5.30pm on Monday to explain to our Year 6 parents what will happen the week of the statutory tests, the timetable and what they can do to help support their children. We look forward to seeing you on Monday.

Tuesday 1st April – Mr Adamson's Class Departs for Seahouses Overnight Residential

Mr Adamson's class are to come to school for the normal time on Tuesday morning with their overnight bags, ready for their night away. They will leave around 9.30am to drive up to Alnwick Gardens. I know they are all very excited and really looking forward to their adventure.

Wednesday 2nd April – Mr Taylor's Class Departs for Seahouses Overnight Residential

Mr Taylor's class are to come to school for the normal time on Wednesday morning and will be having the identical day that Mr Adamson's class had on Tuesday. They will have a great time too!

Wednesday 2nd April – Tri Golf for Year 3

We are hosting a Tri Golf Festival on our grounds for 9 schools all day Wednesday. Our Year 3 children will have the opportunity to partake whilst our Year 6 children will help to run the day.

Wednesday 2nd April – Fire Safety with Reception, Year 5 & 6

We are looking forward to welcoming the Fire Brigade and a Fire Engine on Wednesday afternoon for our Reception classes. They will learn about fire safety and also enjoy seeing the workings of a fire engine too! The Fire Brigade will then be giving a fire safety talk to the children in Year 5 & 6.

Thursday 3rd April – Tractor with Reception

As part of their transport topic, the Reception children will be visited by a tractor on Thursday afternoon, which one of the parents has kindly offered to bring in to show them. What a great opportunity for them all.

Thursday 4th April – 6AK Forest Schools

Mr Knighton's class will have their first forest schools session this week on Thursday afternoon. Please send them into school in PE kit (with jogging bottoms or leggings and not shorts), with coats and wellies or suitable outdoor boots.

Friday 4th April – Dare to Be Different Day

To mark **Autism Awareness Week** (31 March - 6 April) we are holding a voluntary, 'Dare to Be Different Day'. We are asking children to take on a dare to show their individuality. Children must still wear uniform but for a donation of 50p they can choose one dare out of the following:

- Wear nail varnish (Just for Friday!)
- Have a Crazy hair style (Just for Friday!)
- Wear trainers and not school shoes (Just for Friday!)
- Wear your favourite sport team shirt under your uniform (Just for Friday!)
- Wear a temporary tattoo (Just for Friday!)

All money raised will go to the **National Autistic Society** who help and support over 700,000 autistic individuals and their families in the UK - <https://www.autism.org.uk/>

Friday 4th April – 6AS Forest Schools

Mr Stoker's class will have their first forest schools session this week on Friday afternoon. Please send them into school in PE kit (with jogging bottoms or leggings and not shorts), with coats and wellies or suitable outdoor boots.

Advance Dates

- Wednesday 9th April at 5.30pm – Year 4 Parents Meeting about the Multiplication Check

Positive Thinking

***There is no WiFi in the forest,
but I promise you will find a better connection.***

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