



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 5th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful four days we have had in school this week. The building has come to life again with the sounds of chatter, laughter and singing from some very happy children. It has also been very special to welcome some super little 2-year-olds into our school for the first time this week. What a joy they are!

School Values

You may remember that we consulted you last year about our school's Christian values and the discussions that were taking place at all levels about a small change in the values we feel are most appropriate for our school. The final decision was taken after consulting the governors and our new school Christian values are Love, Hope, Joy, Kindness and Trust. We will be thinking about these in much more detail in Worship this half term so feel free to talk to your children about them at home.

Communication

We have listened to comments from parents and carers from the end of year questionnaires. Most appreciate the comprehensive information received. A small number commented that they occasionally found the information too much to take in.

A letter will be emailed to parents and carers every Friday. This will include some general information for everyone at the start, followed by a list of events for the following week. Key Stage News will be written at the end of each half term in an attempt to reduce the volume of reading. Diary Dates will also be emailed weekly as these dates are being added to all the time. New dates will always appear in bold and italics. Hopefully that helps to explain the format!

School Drop Off

There have been some unaccompanied children both on the school site and waiting near the field gate well before 8.30am when the school doors open. This is not safe and not acceptable. School staff are not on duty outside until 8.30am. If your child needs dropped off early then they will need to access Breakfast Club. Otherwise, please make sure that your child is accompanied by an adult or not arriving to school until 8.30am in time for the school doors opening. This is simply to make sure your child is kept safe. Thank you.

Woody – School Dog

As you are aware, Woody is a fully-trained School Dog who comes into school no more than 3 times a week – usually Monday, Wednesday and Friday – depending upon my diary commitments. He has a mixture of roles including helping children into school, listening to readers and enjoying walks with the children. If you DO NOT want your child to work with Woody, please email the school office. We are aware that some children have allergies to dogs or a real fear of them and understand totally.

X/Twitter/Facebook

You may be aware that we are hoping to move away from using X as our social media feed – thank you for your comments in the end of year questionnaires around this too. Following our survey last year, most parents and carers requested that we move to Facebook and this is our intention at some point this term. We will give you plenty of advance notice about this. Meanwhile, please remember that class teachers will be posting at least one post each day about something the children have been learning about in class that day. It is always a useful conversation starter over tea to encourage your child to tell you something about their day in school!

International Visits with the Turing Scheme

Thank you to all those parents and carers of Year 5 and Year 6 children who expressed an interest in one of the visits to Delhi, Shanghai, Dubai and Istanbul. Mr McLoughlin and I have a Teams Meeting with our partner school in Shanghai next week after which we will be able to organise all the visits. The names of children will be drawn at random for each visit. This is done with a governor present to ensure complete transparency for all. We will be in touch in due course and certainly within the next two weeks.

Reception Welcome Services

We are holding Welcome Services for our Reception children when they will be welcomed into our school by their Year 6 buddies and Revd Lesley. The services will take place in All Saints' Church and all parents and carers are very welcome to join us. The dates and times are:

Mr Osmond's Class - Monday 15th September at 2pm (Buddies from Mr Stoker's class)

Mrs Lydon's Class – Tuesday 16th September at 2pm (Buddies from Mr Knighton's class)

Wellies in School: Nursery – Year 1

Please make sure if your child is in Nursery, Reception & Year 1, they have a pair of wellies in school, labelled clearly with their name. Thank you.

P.E. Days

Please see the table below with PE days for each year group. On these days, the children should come to school in their PE Uniform.

Reception	Wednesday	Thursday
Year 1	Monday	Friday
Year 2	Monday	Wednesday
Year 3	Tuesday	Thursday
Year 4	Wednesday	Friday
Year 5	Wednesday	Friday
Year 6	Tuesday	Thursday

Swimming: Year 5 Miss Jackson's Class

Our school will be swimming every Thursday afternoon this year. Children will need to come into school with their swimming kits as they will be leaving school promptly at 12.30pm to get to their lesson at the Louisa Centre, and will be back in time for the end of the school day. They will need to bring swimming hats (these can be purchased from the Louisa Centre for £2.00), swimming costumes, towels. They are allowed to bring goggles but these are not essential.

After School Clubs

We are fortunate to have a wide range of after school clubs run by school staff every half term. These do change every half term to ensure we have a wide variety of clubs on offer and also to ensure all year groups have the same opportunities. Please note – these do not operate on the first or final week of each half term.

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	Attendance Percentage: Current Week/ to Date (%)	Year Group	Attendance Percentage: Current Week/ to Date (%)
Reception	100%	Year 4	97.0%
Year 1	98.1%	Year 5	98.6%
Year 2	98.9%	Year 6	98.6%
Year 3	98.4%	Whole School	98.5%

Diary Dates for Next Week

Tuesday 9th September - Meet the Teacher at 3.30pm and 4pm

We will be holding our Meet the Teacher sessions on Tuesday 9th September. The first presentation will be at 3.30pm followed by another at 4pm. These sessions give you the opportunity to meet your child's teacher and teaching assistants as well as see their new classroom environment and find out more about their timetable and routines during the week. This is for parents and carers of the whole school from Nursery to Year 6. PowerPoints from these sessions will then be shared with all parents/carers via Arbor/the School Website.

Wednesday 10th September – Individual Photographs (Reception – Year 6)

The school photographer will be in school on Wednesday to take your child's individual school photograph. Please ensure your child is in full school uniform for the day. Thank you. Those children who have PE on Wednesday can come to school in their uniform and change into their PE kit in the afternoon.

Thursday 11th September – Netball Coaching for Year 3

We are fortunate to have a netball coach in school for the next 6 weeks for our Year 3 cohort.

Friday 12th September – Yoga for Year 1 and Year 2

Year 1 and Year 2 children will enjoy a yoga session with an accredited yoga teacher who is coming into school for the next 6 weeks every Friday morning.

Friday 12th September – House Cross Country Event for KS2

We are holding our first house competition on Friday afternoon for all children in KS2 (Years 3-6). All children in these year groups should come to school in their PE kits on Friday ready for their active afternoon.

Positive Thinking

A well-educated mind will have more questions than answers.

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.

Best Wishes,

Jane Davis

Mrs Jane Davis
Head Teacher