



# 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 17<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been lovely to see so many of you this week at Parents' Evenings. I do hope you enjoyed seeing your child's work and had a useful conversation with your child's teacher as well. It is always great to see the school so busy and buzzing with life!

### **Children's Blogs about India**

I thought you might be interested in reading the blogs of three of our children who went on the recent visit to India. Here is the link to the Global Schools Alliance website if you would like to read Reuben, Molly and Niamh's blogs: <https://www.globalschoolalliance.com/education/pupils-in-lanchester-trip-to-india/>

### **Ashing Service**

Years 1 – 6 enjoyed a very different experience in our Ashing Service this week. Big thanks to Revd Lesley and Revd Stephen for sharing such a special occasion with us.

### **Athletics**

Our Year 5 & 6 Athletics team had a fabulous morning in Newton Aycliffe yesterday and put in some wonderful performances, showing such a great team spirit too. They are such a talented group and came third overall from the whole of Durham County which is a superb achievement. We do have some very talented athletes in our school who deserve this great accolade. I am sure they will gladly show you their medals if you ask!

### **Dubai Turing Visit**

We have a group of 24 very excited children who are almost ready to embark on a trip of a lifetime to Dubai next Friday. During their visit, they will spend time in our partner schools, as well as visiting a mosque, experiencing the traditional Emirati culture and enjoying a safari into the desert. Watch out for the updates on Twitter during the week!

### **Turing Scheme Application for 2023 - 2024**

For the last two years, we have been successful in attracting a significant amount of funding from The Turing Scheme. This has meant that we have been able to offer visits to India and Dubai for our Y5 and Y6 children. We are in the process of applying for funding for next year's visits and as part of the process, we need to show that there is sufficient interest from our school community for these visits to go ahead.

We have not yet arranged dates, but we hope to run four visits next year. The visits to Dubai and India will be repeated from this year and we are hoping to get funding for two additional visits: one to Madrid in Spain to work with our existing partner school there and one to Montréal in Canada, where we are in the process of developing a link with a French-speaking partner school.

If your child is currently in Y4 or Y5 and would be interested in attending one of these visits, please [click here](#) to say which visits they would be interested in. Please note that this is purely an expression of interest at this point and we will ask again for children's names to be put forward in the summer term if we are successful in attracting the funding.

## Extra-Curricular Activities

Once again, we are delighted that there are so many different clubs on offer – great thanks to the staff for giving up so much of their time to lead these clubs for the children. The list and [this online form](#) will be emailed out with this letter in a separate attachment. Places will be allocated on the first day back and clubs will start on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February (the second day back). All clubs finish at 4.15pm and are dismissed from the top yard. If your child needs to attend after school club afterwards, you need to book them in for After School Club (until 4.15pm), as you will just be charged £5 for the shorter session, rather than £7 for the Afternoon Club.

Please note, clubs for existing members only cannot be signed up to, but if your child is interested in joining one of these clubs, please email the school office and we will let you know if a space on these clubs becomes available.

Year Group	Extra-Curricular Activity	Activity Leader	Day	Maximum Number
Year 4 – 6	Shakespeare Drama	Mr McLoughlin Mrs Moran	Monday	20
Year 6	Booster <i>Invite Only</i>	Mr Stoker	Monday	<i>Invite Only</i>
Year 1 & 2	Multi Sports	Mr Graham	Monday	30
Year 3 – 6	Key Stage 2 Choir <i>Existing Members Only</i>	Mrs Knighton	Tuesday	<i>Existing Members Only</i>
Year 5 & 6	Basketball	Mr Graham	Tuesday	20
Reception	Fun & Fitness	Miss Brown	Wednesday	20
Year 1	Art	Miss Corper Miss Honan	Wednesday	16
Year 3	Lego	Mrs Coyle	Wednesday	20
Year 5	Geography	Mr Taylor	Wednesday	20
Year 6	Booster <i>Invite Only</i>	Mr Knighton	Wednesday	<i>Invite Only</i>
Year 4 – 6	Eco Rangers	Mrs Startup Mrs Tatham	Thursday	20
Year 4 – 6	Digital Leaders <i>Existing Members Only</i>	Mr Bailey Mrs Boyd	Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> & 16 <sup>th</sup> <i>March Only</i>	<i>Existing Members Only</i>
Year 5 & 6	Netball <i>Existing Members Only</i>	Mrs Smith	Thursday	<i>Existing Members Only</i>

### Strike Action on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023

You may be aware that there is another planned strike by the NEU (National Education Union) on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023. Parents and carers of the closed classes have already been informed but this is a reminder that the following classes will be closed on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February:

Year 1 Mrs Burke's Class	Closed	Year 3 Mr Stephenson's Class	Closed
Year 3 Mrs Coyle's Class	Closed	Year 6 Mr Stoker's Class	Closed

### World Book Day – Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023

We have a really exciting day of activities planned for children in school, including live lessons, extra story times and secret readers in school. We also wanted to give you plenty of warning, as the children will be invited to bring in their favourite books and dress up as their favourite characters.



#### What is a Secret Reader?

As part of our World Book Day celebrations on the 2<sup>nd</sup> March we would like to invite parents to join us in school as **Secret Readers**. The idea is that throughout World Book Day each secret reader would bring in a short story that would take 5-10 minutes to read to their child's class. The idea is that it would be a surprise for the children so if you would like to take part please keep it a secret! If you would like to volunteer to be a secret reader please contact your child's class teacher and arrange a time to come and visit during the day.

### School Leading Church

On Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March some of our children will be leading Worship in All Saints' Church at 10.30am. During this service, presentations to our confirmation candidates from November will also be made. Please make a note of this date in your diaries. Thank you.

### Positive Thinking

***Rest before you get tired,  
And you will add one hour a day to your waking life.***

I hope you have a lovely break with your children next week. Make the most of your time with them. See you all on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

Best Wishes,

*Jane Davis*

Mrs Jane Davis  
Head Teacher