



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 26th January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to believe that we are still in the month of January – what a long, tough month it always is. However, next week is February and you can definitely see a difference in the length of daylight each day now. Hopefully we might start to see a difference in the weather too!

We have had another great week in school with Captain Chemistry and the Mini Police working with our children. It has also been a pleasure spending time with the Digital Leaders in London at the Bett Show. As usual, they have been wonderful ambassadors for the school. It was also an honour to attend the Bett Awards as a guest of Wonde on Wednesday evening. It was great to be able to network with many organisations and plan various projects with other schools and companies. Exciting times ahead for our school – as always!

Uniform Providers

Following communication earlier this year, we are pleased to announce that etika (our alternative uniform supplier) are now in a position to start taking orders. Their website details are as follows: <https://etikauniforms.co.uk/lanchester-primary-school-dh7/> and they aim to deliver items into school 48 hours after an order is placed.

You are now able to purchase uniform from Moette (our current uniform supplier) and etika. Orders can be delivered straight to school from both companies. Any orders we receive go straight to the children's classrooms for them to bring home.

Please can we take this opportunity to remind you that all children are expected to come into school in correct uniform on 'normal' days and PE days. Parents/ carers of children who are not in correct uniform will receive a reminder text message. Thanks for your cooperation.

Attendance

Reception	91.9%
Year 1	92%
Year 2	95.7%
Year 3	95%
Year 4	95.9%
Year 5	97.8%
Year 6	94.7%

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

Childline have some brilliant resources for children to stay safe online, and how to navigate the online world safely. Some useful links are:

[Feeling good on social media | Childline](#)

[Staying safe online | Childline](#)

[Mobile phone safety | Childline](#)

Disco Tickets on Sale

We have not held any discos for our children since Covid so we are really pleased that the Friends of the School have organised this for our children. Two discos will be held on Thursday 8th February. The first is for children in Year 1 and Year 2 and takes place from 3.15pm until 4.15pm. Children can bring a change of clothes and staff will help the children change and take them straight up to the hall for the disco at the end of the school day. They will then need collected at 4.15pm at the normal place??

The KS2 disco will then follow from 4.30pm until 6pm. Children can either stay at after school club at the cost of £5 where staff will help them change or they can go home and return at 4.30pm for the disco where they should be dropped off at the junior hall. They will then need collected at 6pm and this will be from the Main Entrance for Years 4 & 5 and the Hall Door for Years 3 & 6.

Tickets are available from Arbor and cost £1.50 per child. The ticket price includes a hot dog and drink half way through the disco. I am sure the children will thoroughly enjoy these discos and I know many of them are talking about it already!

LJG Sports Coaching Holiday Club

LJG Sports Coaching will be holding holiday club in school during half term on Monday 19th & Tuesday 20th February. If you would like to book your child onto one of these sessions, please do so via this link:

<https://forms.gle/usmM4tEfvbXBq3qV6>.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr Graham via LJGsportscoaching@gmail.com.

EYFS Item Request

Can any of you help? We can make use of all sorts of things in EYFS which you might not expect. Some of these are things you might have at home and could donate. Every little helps, so even if you only have a couple of bits and pieces, we would be very grateful of donations. Here are some of the things we are looking for:

Screws, washers, nuts, bolts	Pebbles	Buttons	Old Occasion Cards
Corks	Wool	Ribbon, lace, braid	Beads
Curtain rings	Pegs	Scraps of fabric	Diaries, notebooks
Cardboard tubes	Wrapping paper, rolls of paper	Calendars	Wall paper

You might only have a few little bits and pieces, but they all add up and can really help enhance the opportunities we can offer our children. If you do have anything, could you send it to Miss Butler in Nursery, please? Additionally, if you have anything else that you think might be useful, please let us know. Thank you so much for your help!

Diary Dates for Next Week

All Week - National Story Telling Week

Nursery will be welcoming parents for a Tales Toolkit Workshop on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 9am and 2.15pm.

Reception will be welcoming parents and carers for a story every day at 9am and 2.50pm this week. Thank you so much to all the adults who have offered their time to do this – we really appreciate it!

Monday 29th January 2024 – India Group going to King Street Primary School

The Year 5 & 6 children who are heading off to India in two weeks' time are going to King Street Primary School on Monday afternoon to meet the children who will be joining them on their forthcoming trip of a lifetime! They will leave after lunch and return in time for the end of the school day. Mr McLoughlin and Mrs Davis will drive the children and staff.

Monday 29th January 2024 – Year 3 at All Saints’ Church

Our Year 3 children are going to All Saints’ Church on Monday afternoon to support their RE work this half term. This visit will support their current work on signs, symbols and colours in Christian places of worship.

Tuesday 30th January – Year 5 Outreach Day on Ancient Egypt

On Tuesday, Year 5 are in for a real treat – one of our parents from Durham University will be bringing in some artefacts for the children to look and explore to enhance their learning around their Ancient Egyptian topic. This should be a fantastic day and I know the children will be thrilled.

Tuesday 30th January – 6pm – Parent Information Session on Spelling

We are looking forward to welcoming parents into school for this information session about how we are teaching our new spelling scheme. All children in KS2 follow ‘Sounds and Syllables’ and have daily spelling lessons. Come along at 6pm to find out a little more about our new approach to teaching spelling across KS2.

Wednesday 31st January - Mini Police Project with Year 5

This week the children will be looking at: Anti-Social Behaviour Awareness and Understanding

Wednesday 31st January – Year 2 at All Saints’ Church

Year 2 are learning about ‘Belonging’ in their RE work this half-term and are visiting All Saints’ Church to learn more about Baptism, what happens in a baptism service and the significance of belonging to the church family.

SEND News

Durham SEND Information Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS) is a statutory service supporting parents/carers of children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and children and young people with SEND.

They provide confidential, impartial support and advice for parents, carers, children and young people up to the age of 25 years in relation to special educational needs and disability. SENDIASS operates at 'arm's length' from the council.

SENDIASS runs monthly drop-in sessions in local Family Hubs and these may be helpful for you if you:

- have questions about your child's educational needs
- would like more information or support in relation to SEND
- need help with transfer arrangements, or paperwork, regarding the choice of your child's next education setting

You do not need to go to the Family Hub closest to where you live, you can go to whichever session suits you and your family best. The nearest sessions to Lanchester are in Consett and Stanley. To find out more and for upcoming dates of the local drop-in sessions, please [click here](#).

Mr McLoughlin

Early Years News

It has been a busy week in EYFS - as always! The wind and rain haven't stopped us having lots of fun in school. In Nursery, we have been working more on cutting skills. The cutting table has been popular all week and we are going through lots of card, so if you have any birthday cards ready to recycle please bring them in to us. This will be ongoing all year, so please let your family and friends know to save their cards for us.

We have also been thinking about alliteration in our phonics sessions. This is when lots of words begin with the same sound, e.g. 'Sally snake slithers and splashes in the stream'. You could help reinforce this at home by thinking of silly sentences to match the first sound in your child's name or by going on a hunt around your house or garden to find objects beginning with the same sound. Playing alliteration games will help children tune in to the sounds in words, which is an essential skill for learning to read and write, so the more practice, the better!

Thank you to Reception parents who have been out spotting birds with their children. This has sparked such a lot of conversation as the children have shared their knowledge in school. It isn't too late to join in with the birdwatch at home <https://www.rspb.org.uk/whats-happening/big-garden-birdwatch>. In school, we have been busy using our creative skills to make birds, listening to birdsong and making bird feeders to attract more birds for us to spot.

Just as a reminder, can you continue to encourage your child's self-help skills at home by supporting them to put their own coats and shoes on. We know that it is often quicker to do it for them, but these are essential life skills they need to master so they need to do it themselves whenever possible.

We are looking forward to welcoming Nursery parents/carers with your child for Tales Toolkit workshops next Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at 9 am/2:15 pm. If you haven't yet signed up to a session and would still like to, please sign up [here](#).

Dropping Children off at Nursery

Please can we remind nursery parents and carers that you do not need to come into the nursery building on a morning to drop your child off unless there is a specific reason to do so. This is to minimise the number of people we have in nursery at one time.

Sickness & Diarrhoea 48 Hours Policy

Can we also remind nursery parents and carers that if your child is ill due to vomiting and/or diarrhoea that they must not return to nursery until they are 48 hours clear of their last episode. This follows NHS guidelines and helps to stop illness spreading.

Miss Butler

Key Stage One News

It has been another excellent week in Key Stage One, children are settled, focused and learning well. Year One had a wonderful visit from Captain Chemistry this week who introduced our new materials topic brilliantly. We completed two really fun experiments which the children found really inspiring on absorbency and which materials are best to protect and egg being dropped from the ceiling.

Year Two have also been working hard on their space topic this week. They were really excited when an alien spacecraft crash landed in their classroom on Monday morning. The children looked at the evidence of what was there and did some fantastic writing about what they had discovered.

1SM Forest School

Forest school on Wednesday will be for Mr Mcloughlin's class for the next three weeks. They need to come into school in their PE kit on these Wednesdays, and make sure they have some wellies in school too.

Mr Innes

Key Stage Two News

Writing Update



Learning to write is one of the most important and most difficult things that your child will do at primary school. When your child writes, they put together all the other skills they have learned in English: creating ideas, forming letters, remembering their spellings, choosing the right words and checking their grammar.

This week, we thought we would like to share what each Key Stage 2 class is focusing on in their writing in school. Our whole school writing cycle begins with an assessment of the last 'Gold Write' that the children wrote to see what skills we need to work on next. We then read, analyse, discuss and interrogate a model piece of writing so we can identify the key features that the children need to include in their own work. Staff teach these features before the children plan their next 'Gold Write.' The class teachers model the writing process at all times to enable the children to understand what is expected. Finally, once the 'Gold Write' is completed, the children 'polish' and improve their writing. This is assessed by their teacher before the cycle begins again.

Our current writing tasks are as follows:

Year 3 are travelling back to Pompeii in AD79 for their writing. They have been reading Escape from Pompeii and are writing an alternative ending to the story in the style of the author.

Year 4 are writing persuasive letters for their 1066 topic. The children are writing persuasive letters of application for the vacant King of England post!

Year 5 are working on their ability to write a multi-sensory setting description based on the Secrets of the Sun King.

Finally, Year 6 are re-writing a chapter of their novel Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief. They are adding a different mythological creature to the one in the text, using a range of figurative language.

Helping Your Child with their Writing at Home

Click on the links below to give you ideas about how you could help your child at home with their writing:

[Writing - Oxford Owl for Home](#)

[Writing Inspiration for Children - 20 Ways to Encourage Kids to Write \(twinkl.co.uk\)](#)

[How To Improve Writing Skills For Kids: 14 Easy Tips \(oxfordlearning.com\)](#)

If you have any questions about writing, please contact your child's teacher.

Mr Knighton

Positive Thinking

***A friend is one of the nicest things you can have.
And one of the best things you can be.***

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

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
Tuesday 12th March 2024	6pm	Year 6 Parent Information Session on SATs
Wednesday 13 th March 2024	9am	Year 2 Maths in Action Lesson for Parents
Friday 15th March 2024	1pm	Performance of Hamlet in Bishop Auckland Town Hall
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		

School Holidays 2023 – 2024

Holiday	Last Day at School	Re-open for Teaching
Spring Half Term	Friday 16 th February 2024	Monday 26 th February 2024
Easter Holiday	Thursday 28 th March 2024	Monday 15 th April 2024
May Day	Friday 3 rd May 2024	Tuesday 7 th May 2024
Summer Half Term	Thursday 23 rd May 2024	Tuesday 4 th June 2024
Summer Holiday	Friday 19 th July 2024	Wednesday 4th September 2024

School Holidays 2024 – 2025

Holiday	Last Day at School	Re-open for Teaching
		Wednesday 4 th September 2024
Autumn Half Term	Friday 25 th October 2024	Monday 4 th November 2024
Long Weekend	Friday 22nd November 2024	Tuesday 26th November 2024
Christmas Holiday	Friday 20 th December 2024	Monday 6 th January 2025
Spring Half Term	Friday 21 st February 2025	Monday 3 rd March 2025
Easter Holiday	Friday 11 th April 2025	Monday 25 th April 2025
May Day	Friday 2 nd May 2025	Tuesday 6 th May 2025
Summer Half Term	Thursday 22nd May 2025	Monday 2nd June 2025
Summer Holiday	Friday 18 th July 2025	Tuesday 2 nd September 2025