



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 6th December 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you all for your very generous gifts last Friday for our non-uniform day. I think there were more than ever! It means our Christmas fair should be a great success today. I only hope the weather holds out for us!

It was a real treat to accompany Year 6 on their visit to Newcastle yesterday. They enjoyed a delicious meal at Zizzi's before going to the Theatre Royal to see the pantomime. Both the staff and members of the public commented on their excellent behaviour whilst in the restaurant – they really were a real privilege to be with. It was just wonderful to see their beaming faces as they watched the pantomime.

It was lovely to see so many of Reception parents at the Reindeer Dash this morning too. Year 6 were great buddies to the Reception children and a great time was had by all! Let's hope we raise plenty of money for St Cuthbert's Hospice too!

Next week is a very busy week so please read the diary dates with great care so nothing is missed.

Performances and Photography

We have a number of children who do not have permission to have photographs taken or posted on social media. Due to this, as well as the fact that we just want you to enjoy being in the moment and make the most of watching your child perform, photographs **will not** be permitted during the performances. However, at the end of each nativity, we will make time for you to take a photograph of your child on the stage and in their costume as we understand this is very important to many families.

Friends of the School Christmas Shop

The Friends of the School have really put in some hours over the last few weeks, preparing for and organising the Christmas Shop. Huge thanks to each and every one of them. The Christmas Shop is always a really special event for so many of our children. It is a joy to see their excited little faces as they choose presents for their loved ones. All gifts will be wrapped with names on for them to bring home and place under the tree.

Children will need a bag to carry their gifts home. Please do not forget to send a bag in with your child on the day of their shop which are all stated below:

Day	Year Group
Monday 9 th December	Reception & Nursery
Tuesday 10 th December	Year 3 & 4
Wednesday 11 th December	Year 1 & 2
Thursday 12 th December	Nursery, Year 5 & 6

Attendance

Year Group	Current Week Attendance Percentage (%)	Attendance Percentage to Date (%)	Year Group	Current Week Attendance Percentage (%)	Attendance Percentage to Date (%)
Reception	95.2	95.2	Year 4	95.6	97.8
Year 1	97.8	96.6	Year 5	98.7	98.1
Year 2	97.6	97.4	Year 6	97.9	97.5
Year 3	99.1	97.6	Whole School	97.4	97.2

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.

Additional Nativity Tickets on Sale from Tuesday 10th December

Additional tickets for the nativities have been available to buy on Arbor since 26th November (these are in addition to the 1 free ticket given to all parents & carers for each child's performance). These will be available until Monday afternoon. From Tuesday, you will be able to buy any unsold tickets for the performances. If you would like to purchase spare tickets, please fill in [this online form](#). We will then contact you on Tuesday morning to let you know how many tickets you have been allocated. You will need to pay for these in cash to the School Office. Please note, we are unable to guarantee that you will receive the number of tickets that you request.

Parking for School Events

Please ensure that you do not park in the Community Centre if you are attending events in school during the day – we are very lucky that parents are allowed to park there when dropping off or collecting children from school, but the Community Centre have a number of classes on during the day for which their patrons require the carpark, as well as a number of people who pay for the privilege of parking there. We have been asked to pass this on to all parents & carers, so please take note.

Diary Dates for Next Week

Monday 9th December 2024 – Woodwind and Brass Concert at 9am

Parents and Carers are warmly invited to the woodwind and brass concert which will take place at 9am on Monday morning in the Junior Hall. Please come to the Junior Hall Door after dropping your children off. You are in for a real treat!

Monday 9th December 2024 – Year 1 Poetry Recital

Year 1 have written their poems and are really looking forward to reciting them in the forest to their families on Monday. Mr McLoughlin's class, is from 9:15am until 10am and Miss Wood's class is from 10:30am until 11:15am. Please come to the Main Entrance where staff and children will meet you. Children will need to come into school in their PE kit on Monday and bring their wellies, waterproofs and a warm coat for the forest.

Tuesday 10th December 2024 – Junior Choir singing at Lynwood House

Our Junior Choir will be walking along to Lynwood House to sing to the residents. I know they will be both excited and nervous about this but hopefully they will enjoy such a great experience.

Wednesday 11th December 2024 – Senior Choir singing at Lynwood House Christmas Lunch

Our senior choir will be walking to Lynwood House to sing after their Christmas lunch. They have done this in the past and it is lovely that they have been asked back again – I know the residents last year were really moved by the singing, very impressed with the children's behaviour and so grateful for their concert.

Wednesday 11th December 2024 – Nursery Celebration – 10am and 2pm

Our Nursery children will be performing their Christmas Celebration at 10am and 2pm on Wednesday. The performance will take place in the Junior Hall so we ask all adults to come to the Junior Hall door which will be opened 15 minutes before the performance begins. Please see the Key Stage News for more information about the performance. We cannot open them earlier due to the time needed to set up the hall. Bring those tissues – you will be bursting with pride!

Thursday 12th December 2024 – Wriggly Nativity with Reception at 10am and 2pm

We have some very excited and vocal Reception children who are really looking forward to performing for you next week! Please come to the Junior Hall Door which will be opened at 15 minutes before the performance begins. We know you will just love it!

Thursday 12th December 2024 – The Fairy Queen Workshop for Year 5

Our Year 5 cohort are taking part in a wonderfully exciting project and will be performing The Fairy Queen in Consett Empire in February. They have their first rehearsal on Thursday afternoon. I know they will thoroughly enjoy working with the producer in school on Thursday.

Friday 13th December 2024 – Winter Wonderland Visit for Years 1 - 6

We are taking all children from Years 1 – 6 into our Winter Wonderland as part of their Christmas Festivities – Nursery and Reception will visit next week. All children will need some strong, sensible footwear and warm coats. They will enjoy some Christmas singing around the campfire with s'mores and hot chocolate. What a lovely treat for them all!

Friday 13th December 2024 – Christmas Dinner

On Friday, our kitchen staff will be cooking dinner for almost 400! Rather than me – I always tell them I couldn't do their job! I know the children will all thoroughly enjoy their food and the festivities!

Friday 13th December 2024 – Choir Singing at Willowburn at 11.30am

Our senior choir will be singing at Willowburn Hospice at 11.30 on Friday morning in the coffee shop. Parents and Carers are warmly welcomed to this event so please come along and support them if you can.

Sunday 15th December at 2pm – Woodland Worship

We are looking forward to our first Woodland Worship on Sunday afternoon at 2pm. Please complete the online form if you would like to come along. We will be making christingles, enjoying different activities before we enjoy some refreshments around the campfire. Here is the link if you would like to come along: [Woodland Worship](#).

Positive Thinking

*I don't remember what I got for Christmas when I was younger.
I do remember making mince pies with my mum and homemade Christmas Crackers.
I remember Christmas movies with a tub of sweets and playing board games.
I remember Christmas songs in the kitchen and looking into the sky for Santa
and driving around looking at Christmas lights from the backseat of the car.
It's the moments, not the gifts, that count.*

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)