



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 27th September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is such a shame that the weather has caused so many issues this week. Yesterday was especially awful! It is so disappointing when we have to cancel or postpone events such as football matches, practices or even golf. We were expecting over 100 primary school children to descend on our school field today for a festival of tri golf but have had to postpone that too. This will be re-arranged for later in the year but it is still disappointing nonetheless. Let's hope the weather improves for the weekend at least!

Thankfully the weather appears to have improved today for our Year 2 visit to the Trincomalee at Hartlepool. I would like to say a huge thank you to all our adult volunteers who help to make these visits such a success. We really do appreciate you giving up your time to join us.

Tomorrow, Saturday morning, we have our Open Morning between 10am and 12noon in the Early Years. We have a number of Year 6 helping to show families round and one of our Co-Chairs of Governors is also coming to talk to any prospective parents and carers.

Harvest Festival Celebrations

We are holding our Harvest Festival in school on Monday 7th October. We will be collecting food for local foodbanks and would appreciate it if children could bring in any donations on Monday 7th October. Thank you.

Woody – our School Dog

Woody is becoming a familiar figure around school this term and it is great to see the children keen to spend time with him. He is currently in school on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and we are just starting to put a timetable together for him. At the moment he has been welcoming children into school and spending some time with some children during the school day. He also has to attend some meetings with me which he finds rather more tedious! However, we will be sorting a timetable so that he goes into each class. If your child has an allergy or a fear of dogs and you would prefer Woody **not** to 'work' with your child, please complete this form: [Non-Consent for School Dog](#). The aim of Woody is to help and support children even though he is having a calming effect on the adults in school too!

Parent Governor Vacancy

We have a very experienced and active governing body who give up a lot of their own time to both support and challenge the work of our school. Being a governor does require a time commitment and an interest in the life of the school. Governors both support and challenge the work we do as a school. The governors are a committed and dedicated group of adults who work well together to bring the best possible education to our children. It can be a very rewarding role and one which brings a lot of satisfaction to you too!

We currently have vacancy for a Parent Governor. If you think you would be interested in this role, please email myself (j.davis@lanchesterep.net) to express your interest in this position by Friday 4th October. Those who express an interest will then be invited to find out a little more about what the role entails first-hand and meet with some of our experienced governors. Following this, if there is more than one parent interested, interested parties will be given a form to complete and it will go to a parental ballot. The current list below is our current governing body.

Mr Michael Knowles (Co-Chair of Governors)	Co-opted Governor
Mr Ben Garside (Co-Chair of Governors)	Co-opted Governor
Revd Lesley Sutherland (Co-Vice Chair of Governors)	Foundation Governor
Mrs Sarah Blakeman (Co-Vice Chair of Governors)	Parent Governor
Mr Jason Exley	Parent Governor
Dr Michael Bell	Parent Governor
Mr Chris Grady	Parent Governor
Ms Denice Atkinson	Co-opted Governor
Mr Ossie Johnson	Co-opted Governor
Mrs Margaret Matthews	Foundation Governor
Revd Abbey Hughes	Foundation Governor
Ms Naomi Hawke	Staff Governor

Tea Time Club

Our tea-time club will open from Monday 4th November with wrap around care available from 3.15pm until 6pm. The bookings for this will go live from 5pm this evening. There are a limited number of places available for this club every night and it can only be booked in advance. We will have no capacity for ad hoc and last-minute bookings onto this club. All sessions MUST be booked and paid for at least 48 hours in advance. If you want to use childcare vouchers to pay for this club, please let the School Office know. A light tea will be provided for children staying after 5.15pm which will consist of a sandwich, piece of fruit, biscuit and a drink. The cost for this session from 3.15pm until 6pm will be £12. If you have any questions about this, please contact the school office.

Friends of the School Uniform Donations

The Friends of the School have set up a donation bin in the bike shed at the front of the school, where they will be accepting donations of preloved uniform. These can be badged or non-badged. Please donate any pre-loved uniform here. Thank you.

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.

Applying for a Secondary School Place

Parents of children in Year 6 will no doubt be attending numerous Open Evenings for Secondary Schools to find the best fit for their child come September 2025. Applications for Secondary School places opened on 1st September and close on 31st October. It is imperative that you read the School Admissions online guidance for parents, which will help you to make your application. For the guidance, and to apply for a place, go to www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions.

Applying for a Reception Place

Likewise, many parents of Nursery aged children will be visiting schools, ready to start their Primary School Journey next year. If your child was born between 1st September 2020 and the 31st August 2021, you will need to start applying for a primary school place. Applications for Reception places close on 15th January 2025. Please note that even if your child attends our Nursery, you must still apply to the Local Authority for a place in Reception. In the past we have had families miss out on places because they haven't applied, thinking that they will automatically continue into Reception. To apply, please visit [Primary school places - Durham County Council](#).

Attendance

Year Group	Current Week Attendance Percentage	Attendance Percentage to Date
Reception	92.9%	95.8%

Year 1	96.8%	97.5%
Year 2	96.1%	97%
Year 3	98.2%	98.6%
Year 4	95.4%	97.9%
Year 5	98.1%	97.9%
Year 6	96.6%	95.9%
Whole School	96.3%	97.2%

Diary Dates for Next Week

Saturday 28th September – Open Morning for Nursery and Reception 10am until 12pm

On Saturday 28th September between 10am and 12pm, we will be holding an Open Morning in our Early Years for prospective Nursery and Reception starters to come along and have a look at our environment and meet the staff. If your child will be school age next year, come along and have a look, or if your child is due to start Nursery soon, come and see what is on offer. We look forward to welcoming you all. Some of our Year 6 children will also be available to show you around and give you the honest truth about life in our school!

Monday 30th September - Head Teacher of St Bede's talking to Year 6 and Parents/Carers

On Monday 30th September, Mrs Catherine Hammill, the head teacher of St Bede's will be coming into school to talk to Year 6 and this will be followed by a meeting with Year 6 parents at 3.20pm in school. Please come to the back of school as normal where you collect your child and you will be taken into the classroom with your child then. This was a very well-attended event last year and I am sure you will find it very useful if you are able to make this date and time.

Tuesday 1st October – 9am & 5.30pm – Phonics/Reading/Spelling Parent Information Session

Please sign up to these sessions [here](#). Mr Innes will share information about how we teach phonics and reading and explain how Accelerated Reader works throughout the school. Mr Knighton will also be talking about our Spelling Scheme and how this is taught across school. This is relevant for parents of children in any year group. We would love to see you at either session. Please make your way to the Main Reception for entry to school. Thank you.

Tuesday 1st October – Mr Osmond's Class Welcome Service at 2pm

Mr Osmond's Class will be at All Saints' Church for their special welcome service at 2pm on Tuesday afternoon. They will be accompanied by the Year 6 children from Mr Knighton's class. The Year 6 buddies will walk down with their Reception buddy, sit with them in the church and support them during the service. Parents and families will be asked to sit at the back of the church so they can see and hear what is going on. All children are to walk back to school and will be dismissed at the end of the school day as normal.

It would be appreciated if all children can wear their full school uniform for this special service. We look forward to seeing you there.

Wednesday 2nd October – Individual and School Sibling Photographs

Individual and sibling photographs will be taken in school by Tempest all day on Wednesday. We ask that all children come into school in full school uniform (not PE kit) for their photographs. Year 6 will need to bring their PE kit to change into, but Reception are fine to be in full school uniform all day.

Siblings in school will have their photographs taken during the day, however, due to our increased pupil numbers, it is simply not possible for us to have photos with siblings who do not attend the school. We hope you understand.

Thursday 3rd October – 7am – Year 5 Depart for Birchwood

Year 5 are really looking forward to their overnight residential in the Midlands next Thursday. Please note that the bus will be leaving school at 7am prompt for their journey down to Cadbury World where they will spend the afternoon. They can bring no more than £10 spending money for their visit to the shop there –

chocolate galore! They will then make their way to Birchwood Primary School for their tea, games and luxurious hall floor before spending the morning at the National Space Centre on Friday. They are due to return for 6pm but please look at Twitter for updates of their arrival back to school as traffic can be heavy on a Friday. I know they are looking forward to this overnight visit and will have a great time there! Please remember that they need to wear their school jumper or hoodie for this visit.

Thursday 3rd October – Year 1 at The Great North Museum

Year 1 are looking forward to their first educational visit of the year next week. All children will need a packed lunch and are to wear school uniform for the day. We know this will be an amazing day for them all!

Thursday 3rd October – Year 5/6 Boys Football League at Consett Football Club

The Year 5/6 Boys' Football League at Consett Football Club starts on Thursday 3rd October. All boys involved in this event will be emailed with further information. It is great that we finally have a proper weekly league to be involved in and thank Durham and Chester-le-Street Sports Partnership for organising this.

Thursday 3rd October - St Leonard's Open Evening for Year 5 & Year 6 Parents and Carers

This Open Evening is for all parents and carers of pupils in Years 5 and 6. The evening starts at 5.30pm and finishes at 7.30pm.

Friday 4th October – Year 5 Return from Birchwood at 6pm (approximately)

Please look out for Twitter (X) for updates of their exact arrival back to school.

Advance Notices

Wednesday 9th & Wednesday 23rd October – Y5 Trips to Ushaw College

Year 5 children have been invited to take part in a fully funded trip to Ushaw College, to visit their Matisse print exhibition and complete an Arts Discover award. More information will be sent out nearer the time, including which class will be attending on each date. Children will need a packed lunch on this day.

Friday 11th October – Reception & Year 6 Heights & Weights Checks

All parents/carers of children in these year groups will have received a letter and leaflet about these checks, which includes information on how to opt out of this. This was emailed to all parents/carers on Thursday.

Holiday Club & Football Camp in School at Half Term

LJG Sports Coaching will be hosting a holiday club and football camp in school during the October half term, from Monday 28th October to Thursday 31st October. If you would like to book a place, please follow these links:

Holiday club: <https://forms.gle/aMWPM3BqNWp8kY1n9>

Football camp: <https://forms.gle/33cqt421Mvjs8Hz46>

SEND News

County Durham CAMHS are running a series of online workshops this term for parents and carers on a variety of different topics. Information about each course is below. For further information or to book a place on one or more of the training sessions, please email: tewv.countydurhamcamhstraining@nhs.net

Understanding why children might be anxious about school

Tuesday 24 September 2024, 9.30 am—11.30 am

This is an awareness session to increase understanding of why children might be anxious about school, identify potential triggers and look at available support and strategies. This session is suitable for parents/carers of all school aged children but may be of limited value to parents of children with more complex needs.

Anxiety

Tuesday 1 October 2024, 9.30 am—11.30 am—Over 11 years

Tuesday 15 October 2024, 9.30 am—11.30 am— 5-11 years

This session looks at what anxiety is, what the triggers might be, how to identify it and how we can support our children and young people.

Emotional wellbeing

Tuesday 12 November 2024, 9.30 am—11.30 am

This session will focus on emotional wellbeing, what is it and how can we improve it for ourselves and our children? This session explores the link with mental health and looks at how we can manage our own wellbeing as well as that of our children and young people.

Understanding sleep

Wednesday 9 October 2024, 11.00 am—12.30 pm

Understanding behaviour development in children and young people

Tuesday 26 November 2024, 9.30 am—11.30 am

Early Years News

Our Nursery and Reception children are now all settled into their school routines. There is a happy, purposeful atmosphere in the classrooms and the children are keen to share what they have been learning. It has been wonderful to see so many of them wanting to continue their learning at home through posts shared on Evidence Me. Thank you for all your contributions and responses to our posts.

If you would like to discover some activities to help support your Nursery or Reception child's learning at home, look at the app [My First Five Years](#), available on Apple and Android devices. It provides play-based activities tailored to support each stage of a child's development, alongside research-backed information about where your child is on their developmental journey. Parenting can be a tough job, and this app is a fantastic, FREE resource to help families.

This week's rainy weather has reminded the EYFS team that we would love some big umbrellas to use for supervised outdoor explorations. If you have any large, golf-style umbrellas at home that are no longer needed, we would be very grateful of donations.

Key Stage 1 News

Year 1 and 2 have continued their brilliant start to the year and have been working really hard in class on their topics. Year 1 have been learning about Mary Anning and hunting for fossils, whilst Year 2 have been immersing themselves in learning all about life at sea. We are so pleased the weather is better for their visit to Hartlepool today. What a busy week we've all had!

Key Stage 2 News

Year Group Topics

In class, the children are well into their autumn term topics. Year 3 have travelled back in time to the Stone Age as part of their Tribal Tales topic, whilst Year 4 have been finding out about life across the Atlantic Ocean in 'Road Trip USA.' Our Year 5 children are launching themselves into Space with 'Stargazers' and finally, Year 6 will be learning about the voyage of Charles Darwin and his work on Evolution as they encounter 'Darwin's Delights.' If you would like more information about our topics or want to know how you can support your child's learning, please refer to the 'Parent Information' leaflets that can be found on our school website.

Key Stage 2 Class Novels

Each year group has started reading a new novel linked to their topic.

All children in our Key Stage 2 classes use these texts to take part in whole-class shared reading lessons. We teach comprehension skills using the reading domains from the National Curriculum. These are taught to children through our VIPERS approach to reading (vocabulary, infer, predict, explain, retrieve and summarise.)

Why not ask your child about their whole class book and how they are using it to learn about their topics?

Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
			
			

Homework

Finally, the children will receive their homework each Thursday to be handed in the following Wednesday. Each week, the children will be given a piece of maths and English homework and spellings to learn. Please support your child by ensuring work is handed back on time and talking to them about their tasks. Thank you.

Positive Thinking

***Embrace the beauty of the weekend.
It is your opportunity to recharge and conquer the week ahead.***

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

Saturday 28 th September	10am – 12noon	Open Morning for Nursery and Reception
Monday 30 th September	2.30pm	Mrs Hammill (Head of St Bede's School) talking to Year 6 children
Monday 30 th September	3.30pm	Mrs Hammill meeting with Year 6 Parents
Tuesday 1 st October	9am	Phonics/Reading/Spelling Parent Workshop
Tuesday 1 st October	2pm	Mr Osmond's Class Service at All Saints Church
Tuesday 1 st October	5.30pm	Phonics/Reading/Spelling Parent Workshop
Wednesday 2 nd October	All Day	Individual & Sibling Photographs
Thursday 3 rd October	Overnight	Year 5 at Cadbury World and sleeping at Birchwood
Thursday 3 rd October	All Day	Year 1 at Great North Museum
Thursday 3rd October	3.45 – 5pm	Boys' Football Team at Consett Football Club
Friday 4 th October	All Day	Year 5 at National Space Centre
Wednesday 9 th October	9am	Maths Parent Workshop
Wednesday 9th October	All Day	Half of Year 5 to Ushaw College for Matisse Workshop
Wednesday 9 th October	5.30pm	Maths Parent Workshop
Thursday 10th October	3.45 – 5pm	Boys' Football Team at Consett Football Club
Friday 11 th October	Morning	Cross Country at Tanfield School for KS2
Friday 11th October	All Day	Reception & Year 6 Heights & Weights
Monday 14 th October	All Day	Captain Chemistry with Year 5
Tuesday 15 th October	All Day	Captain Chemistry with Year 4
Thursday 17 th October	All Day	Flu Immunisations
Thursday 17th October	3.45 – 5pm	Boys' Football Team at Consett Football Club
Monday 21 st October	3.30pm – 6pm	Parent/Carer Meetings
Tuesday 22 nd October	3.30pm – 6pm	Parent/Carer Meetings
Wednesday 23rd October	All Day	Half of Year 5 to Ushaw College for Matisse Workshop
Wednesday 23 rd October	Afternoon	Year 2 at Sports Festival
Thursday 24th October	3.45 – 5pm	Boys' Football Team at Consett Football Club
Friday 25 th October	5.15pm	School Closes for Half-Term Holiday
LJG Holiday Club		
Monday 28th October – Thursday 31st October in School		
Monday 4 th November	7.30am	School Re-Opens
Thursday 7 th November	2.15pm – 3pm	Reception Disco
Thursday 7 th November	3.15pm – 4.15pm	Year 1 and Year 2 Disco
Thursday 7th November	3.45 – 5pm	Boys' Football Team at Consett Academy
Thursday 7 th November	4.30pm – 6pm	Year 3 – Year 6 Disco
Tuesday 12 th November	All Day	Reception at The Laing Art Gallery
Tuesday 12 th November	3.30pm – 4.30pm	SEND Support Plans Reviewed with Parents
Wednesday 13 th November	Afternoon	Year 5 & Year 6 at Louisa Centre – Indoor Athletics
Thursday 21 st November	1.30pm	Senior Choir Concert at Community Centre
Friday 22 nd November	5.15pm	SCHOOL CLOSSES
Monday 25 th November	All Day	School Closed for Staff Training Day
Week Beg. Monday 2 nd December	All Week	Enterprise Week
Thursday 5 th December	All Day	Year 6 at Newcastle and Theatre Royal for Pantomime

Friday 6 th December	3.15pm – 5pm	Christmas Fair
Wednesday 11 th December	10am	Nursery Nativity Celebration
Wednesday 11 th December	2pm	Nursery Nativity Celebration
Thursday 12 th December	10am	Reception Nativity
Thursday 12 th December	2pm	Reception Nativity
Friday 13 th December	Lunchtime	Christmas Dinner
Friday 13 th December	All Day	Winter Wonderland Day for Year 1 – Year 6
Monday 16 th December	10am	KS1 Nativity
Monday 16 th December	2pm	KS1 Nativity
Tuesday 17 th December	2pm	Year 6 Christmas Play
Tuesday 17 th December	6pm	Year 6 Christmas Play
Tuesday 17 th December	All Day	Nursery and Reception Winter Wonderland Day
Wednesday 18 th December	All Day	Nursery and Reception Party Day
Wednesday 18 th December	Morning	Year 1 Party
Wednesday 18 th December	All Day	The Littlest Elf Performance for EYFS and Year 1
Wednesday 18 th December	Afternoon	Year 2 Party
Thursday 19 th December	9.30am	KS1 Christmas Service
Thursday 19 th December	Morning	Year 3 Party
Thursday 19 th December	All Day	Nursery Winter Wonderland Day
Thursday 19 th December	Afternoon	Year 4 Party
Friday 20 th December	9.30am	Mrs Coyle's Class & Year 4 Christingle and Service
Friday 20 th December	11am	Miss Watt's Class & Year 5 Christingle and Service
Friday 20 th December	Morning	Year 6 Party
Friday 20 th December	Afternoon	Year 5 Party
Friday 20 th December	6pm	School Closes for Christmas Holiday
Christmas Holiday		
Monday 6 th January	7.30am	School Re-Opens
Monday 20 th January	All Day	Blue Monday organised by Friends of the School
Thursday 30th January	3.45 – 5pm	Girls' Football Team at Consett Academy
Thursday 6th February	3.45 – 5pm	Girls' Football Team at Consett Academy
Thursday 13th February	3.45 – 5pm	Girls' Football Team at Consett Academy
Monday 17 th February	3.30pm – 6pm	Parent/Carer Meetings
Tuesday 18 th February	3.30pm – 6pm	Parent/Carer Meetings
Thursday 20th February	3.45 – 5pm	Girls' Football Team at Consett Academy
Friday 21 st February	6pm	School Closes for Half Term Holiday
Half-Term Holiday		
Saturday 1 st March	Early!	Ski Residential Departs from Newcastle Airport
Tuesday 1 st April	Overnight	Mr Adamson's Class at Seahouses
Wednesday 2 nd April	Overnight	Mr Taylor's Class at Seahouses
Friday 4 th April	All Day	Dare to be Different Day - Friends of the School
Monday 7 th April	Overnight	Mrs Coyle's Class at Birdoswald
Tuesday 8 th April	Overnight	Miss Watt's Class at Birdoswald
Thursday 10 th April	1.30pm	Easter Service
Friday 11 th April	6pm	School Closes for Easter Holidays
Easter Holiday		
Monday 28 th April	7.30am	School Opens
Week Beg. Monday 12 th May	All Week	Year 6 Statutory Tests

Week Beg. Monday 19 th May	All Week	Fun and Fitness Week
Thursday 22 nd May	6pm	School Closes
Half Term Holiday		
Monday 2 nd June	7.30am	School Re-Opens
Week Beg. Monday 9 th June	All Week	Year 1 Phonics Screening
Friday 13 th June	Overnight	Overnight Camp in School Field for Families - Friends
Sunday 15 th – Wednesday 18 th June	3 Nights	Year 5 PGL Residential
Week Beg. 23 rd June	All Week	Year 6 Northern Ireland Residential
Thursday 10 th July	Afternoon & Evening	KS2 Musical in Consett Empire Theatre
Friday 18 th July	6pm	School Closes for Summer Holidays
Monday 12th May - Friday 16th May - Year 6 Statutory Tests		
Monday 2nd June - Year 4 Times Tables Multiplication Check		
Monday 9th June - Friday 13th June - Year 1 Phonics Screening		

Holiday Dates 2024 – 2025

Holiday	Last Day at School	Re-Open for Teaching Purposes
Autumn Half Term	Friday 25 th October 2024	Monday 4 th November 2024
Long Weekend	Friday 22 nd November 2024	Tuesday 26 th 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 28 th April 2025
May Day	Friday 2 nd May 2025	Tuesday 6 th May 2025
Summer Half Term	Thursday 22 nd May 2025	Monday 2 nd June 2025
Summer Holiday	Friday 18 th July 2025	TBC