



# 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 19<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been lovely to welcome everyone back to school for the start of the summer term this week – and the children have even been able to get onto the school field which is amazing considering the wet weather we had over Easter! To see them all playing on the field is always the first sign of summer for me!

I hope you have all had an enjoyable break despite the weather. We are pleased to be back and have had a great first week in school. Year 1 welcomed Nick the Chef with his smoothie bike, and enjoyed the smoothies they helped create. Year 2 had a fabulous day at Whitehouse Farm seeing all the animals as well as enjoying all the facilities they have there. Meanwhile, Year 4 have simply loved their overnight residential, staying in Seahouses whilst visiting Alnwick Gardens and Alnwick Castle as part of their Harry Potter unit of work. The children never cease to amaze me with their fabulous attitudes when they are away from home. We always have plenty of staff wanting to go on these residential, because the children are so fun to spend time with.

Next week is the turn of Year 3 for their first overnight residential and I am sure there will be plenty of excitement and nerves too. It is always a really big event for them but is so character building. Watch out for all the photos on X (twitter!)

## **Primary Places 2024**

Monday was offer day for Reception 2024 places and I am delighted that we are still a very popular choice for many families in the local area. Everyone who applied has been offered a place this year which certainly makes life a lot easier too. We will be sending out letters next week with some important information and dates so if you have a child joining us for school in September, please look out for it.

## **Staffing**

It is great to be able to welcome Mr Taylor back to school this term. He is so pleased to be back and I know his class were also thrilled to see him too.

Last term, we appointed a teacher who will be working with us from September. This vacancy arose due to the retirement of Mrs Grayson at Christmas. I am delighted to inform you that the successful candidate was Miss Jane Wood. Many of the children do know Miss Wood as she has been one of our final teaching practice students this year and has proven to be very popular, especially with Year 6. Miss Wood will be in school more regularly from this term so I am sure we will all be seeing her more often from now on.

## **Ski Residential 2025**

Please do not forget that the deadline for the initial non-refundable deposit of £100 is this Monday – Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024. The letters about this are on the website if you missed them the first time. It is open for all children and parents currently in Years 3, 4 & 5.

## **Key Stage 2 Musical**

As you know, all our Key Stage 2 children have been involved in a wonderful theatrical production in Consett Empire every other year since 2015. This summer should have been our 5<sup>th</sup> production. However, Consett Empire is closed until the Autumn due to building work taking place. We made enquiries at The Gala Theatre and considered holding it in Consett Academy but then came to the decision that it just would not be quite the same. Therefore, we made the decision to postpone our next production until the summer of 2025.

We realise that some of our Year 6 children will be disappointed about this but just felt that we did not want to make do with 'second best'. Year 6 will be presenting their own extravaganza at the end of term however!

### **Chicken Pox**

I am sure many of you will already be aware of this, but we do have an epidemic of chicken pox spreading across school. Initially, it was mainly our Nursery children who were affected but we now have cases across most year groups in school. Please just be aware of this and keep a look out for this in your children.

### **School Meals**

Last year, we did inform you that the governing body promised a price freeze for the whole year on school dinners. We have kept to this and still charge £2.50 per meal per day. However, you may be aware, especially if you have friends or family members in other schools, that Chartwells (the school meals provider for Durham), have increased their prices from April and now charge £2.81 per meal per day. This is obviously due to increased food and staffing costs.

We will continue to offer meals at £2.50 per day until the summer, but will inevitably have to increase our charges in September to cover our staffing and food costs. I thought it only fair to give you some warning about this. The new cost will be finalised at some point this term and we will inform you as soon as possible about what the increase will be.

### **Year 6 Leavers' Events**

A separate letter will be sent to Year 6 with all the information regarding their special leavers' events that will take place next half term. Please look out for this. However, all the dates have been included in the Diary Dates at the end of this letter. Thank you.

### **Ofsted Inspection Report**

We received the draft report this week which we have checked for errors and now returned. We hope to have the final report within the next couple of weeks and as soon as we receive it, we will send it out to all parents and carers. There is always quite a wait before the final report can be made public but just wanted to keep you informed about the timescales.

### **Attendance**

<b>Reception</b>	92.4%
<b>Year 1</b>	95.7%
<b>Year 2</b>	92.0%
<b>Year 3</b>	96.8%
<b>Year 4</b>	95.3%
<b>Year 5</b>	96.2%
<b>Year 6</b>	93.8%

### **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**

Creating a Digital Toolkit is a great way to help keep your family safe online. You can create a digital toolkit with advice and guides tailored to your needs via [My Family's Digital Toolkit - tailored online safety advice | Internet Matters](#). You will need to provide an email address and then answer some questions about your child's online habits and what concerns you have and they will send you a family toolkit full of resources linked to your answers. This is totally free, and a really good way to support your child to be safe online, as well as to know what to look out for on the apps or games your children use most.

## **LJG Sports Coaching Holiday & Football Camps**

LJG Sports Coaching will be hosting both a Holiday Camp and a Football Camp in school during the May half term holiday. The dates are: Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> May – Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> May. If you have any questions, please contact Mr Graham via [LJGsportscoaching@gmail.com](mailto:LJGsportscoaching@gmail.com).

## **Diary Dates for Next Week**

### **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2024 – All Stars Cricket for Years 1-3**

Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 will be having coaching sessions from All Stars Cricket during the day on Tuesday. Please make sure that all children in these year groups come in their P.E. kits for this day. This is a great opportunity and one which I know the children will thoroughly enjoy!

### **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2024 – Animals About Town in Nursery**

I am sure our Nursery children will be really looking forward to welcoming some animals into school for the day as part of their work about new life and growth. I am sure you will hear plenty about it after school!

### **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2024 – Mrs Coyle's Class at Birdoswald**

Mrs Coyle's class will be leaving for Birdoswald around 9.30am on Wednesday morning. I am sure they are all very excited and looking forward to their first overnight residential although they will no doubt have some nerves too. The weather is looking as though it will be kind to them so let's hope the forecast doesn't change too much! Don't forget your child will need to bring a packed lunch.

### **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2024 – Mr Stephenson's Class at Birdoswald**

Again, exciting times for Mr Stephenson's class as they leave for their overnight residential. I am sure they will enjoy packing this weekend and preparing for their first night away with school! Don't forget your child will need to bring a packed lunch.

### **Year 5 Forest School Sessions – Thursday (5RH) & Friday (5PT)**

Year 5 will have Forest School sessions each week this half term. 5RH will have their sessions on a Thursday afternoon. 5PT will continue to have their sessions on a Friday afternoon. 5RH will need to wear PE Kit and bring suitable wellies/walking boots on a Thursday each week, whilst 5PT will not wear PE Kit on Thursday, but will wear it on Friday instead, when they will need to bring suitable wellies/walking boots for their sessions. We know the children will thoroughly enjoy these sessions with Mrs Peters, and will look forward to using our brilliant forest area.

### **Year 6 Swimming – Friday**

Some of our Year 6 children will be going swimming on Friday afternoons this term. Parents of those children will be contacted during the week. Children will be having an early lunch before leaving school to go to Catchgate Primary for their swimming lessons. They will need to take swimming costumes, towels and a swim hat too.

## **SEND News**

Eric Knows has teamed up with the International Space Station and partners to have their first ever Space Day!

This event is for children and young people, with disabilities, physical or neurological, or with additional needs (no diagnosis necessary) and their families. Children and families from across County Durham are being invited to join us on this special day to take part in a range of space related activities, workshops and a chance to communicate with the astronauts on the Space Station as it orbits the Earth above us!

There are limited spaces so places MUST be booked in advance using the online booking form using the QR code below.

There is a small charge of £2 per family to secure your place. Lunch will be included and can be ordered at the same time as booking, using the form.

Event Date: Saturday 11th May 2024

Event Venue: Glow Church, Long Tens Way, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 6AP

Time: TBC



### Early Years News

It has been wonderful to welcome back our EYFS children for the start of another busy half term.

This week, Nursery have enjoyed sharing this term's core books in their first week back with us. This half-term's work we will be thinking about new life and growth. We are very much looking forward to Animals About Town coming to visit us in Nursery next Wednesday (24<sup>th</sup> April) bringing us animals including sheep, goats, ducks, chickens, geese, rabbits and guinea pigs. This should be a really exciting and unmissable day for the children! If your child has any allergies to animals, please email [s.butler@lanchesterep.net](mailto:s.butler@lanchesterep.net) as well as adding it to your child's account on Arbor.

Reception's Core Books support this half-term's work on life-cycles and living creatures. They are already enjoying sharing fun facts about animals and are looking forward to exploring more about the natural world over the next five weeks.

*Miss Butler*

### Nursery Core Books



### Reception Core Books



### Key Stage One News

It has been an exciting return to school after the Easter Holidays with lots of fun things happening across the Key Stage. We have been working on Food Technology units in both Year 1 and 2. Year 1 have been designing and making smoothies whilst Year 2 have been making healthy wraps.

In Year 1 we had an amazing visit from Nick the Chef who brought his Smoothie bike. We went through the process of tasting and evaluating different fruits and smoothies, preparing and chopping fruit and finally designing packaging for our smoothies. Each child made their own smoothie and had to pedal the bike to make the blender spin and make the Smoothie.

Year 2 also had an amazing trip to Whitehouse Farm this week. They were all able to hold a variety of animals and feed baby lambs. Our guides talked to us about the animals they care for and then we had a ride on the tractor before playing in the park. Obviously lunch in the barn was a highlight as well as a turn on the snow tubes and handling owls outside. A massive thank you to all our parent helpers who joined us for a day of fun!



## **Key Stage Two News**

Everyone in Key Stage 2 would like to welcome you back to the summer term. We hope you all had a lovely Easter break with your families.

The summer term is always extremely busy for the children – especially our Year 6s, who are working hard in preparation for their SATs, which begin on the 13<sup>th</sup> May. They are also in their final term at Lanchester EP before they leave to start a new chapter in their lives at secondary school. We are planning a wide range of exciting activities and visits, including a trip to the Forbidden Corner and a week in Northern Ireland, to ensure their last term with us is memorable.

The children across Key Stage 2 have made a start on their new topics, set out below:



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, which will be sent out next week.

We look forward to working with you across the summer term.

## **Positive Thinking**

***Courage doesn't always roar.  
Sometimes courage is the quiet voice at the end of the day saying,  
'I will try again tomorrow.'***

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 Summer

Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April 2024	All Day	All Stars Cricket Coaching for Years 1 - 3
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	All Day & Overnight	Mrs Coyle's Year 3 Class at Birdoswald Roman Fort
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	All Day	Animals About Town in Nursery
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	All Day & Overnight	Mr Stephenson's Year 3 Class at Birdoswald Roman Fort
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	Morning	Fairtrade Steering Group leading Assembly
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	Morning	Year 4 at Consett Steelworks Site for Walking Tour
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2024	6pm	Madrid Meeting for Parents and Carers
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2024	Overnight	Birchwood School staying overnight in school
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2024	All Day	Year 1 Disney Sports Festival – details to be confirmed
<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2024</b>	<b>ALL DAY</b>	<b>SCHOOL CLOSED - May Bank Holiday</b>
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	6pm	Montreal Meeting for Parents and Carers
Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	10 – 12 noon	Open Morning for Prospective Nursery Families
Week Beg. 13 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	Monday - Thursday	Year 6 Statutory Tests
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	Lunchtime	Celebratory Pizza Lunch for Year 6
Week Beg. 20 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	All Week	Fun and Fitness Week
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	All Day	Carousel of Activities including Skip to Be Fit and Inflatable Obstacle Course
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> May 2024	All Day	House Games, Competitions and Cross Country
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2024	All Day	Wheels Day
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2024	All Day	Year 5 Cycle Ride
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2024	All Day	Jungle Play Bus for Nursery
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2024	All Day	Forest Schools Day for Whole School
<b>FRIDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> May and MONDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> June – School Closed for Staff Training</b>		
<b>Holiday Club on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2024</b>		
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	7.30am	School Re-Opens
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	All Week	Year 4 Multiplication Check
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	All Day	Year 5 & Year 6 Athletics Competition
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	All Day	Year 6 Cycle Ride
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	All Day	Captain Chemistry in School
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	All Day	Captain Chemistry in School
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	All Day	Year 3 at Jarrow Hall
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	All Week	Year 1 Phonics Check
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	6pm	New Reception Starters Parent Meeting
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	All Day	Year 6 at Forbidden Corner, North Yorkshire
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	10.30am	Year 6 Leavers' Service at Durham Cathedral
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	Evening	Turing Trip to Montreal for Y5 & Y6
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	All Day	Year 1 at Raby Castle
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	Afternoon	Concert, Fair Trade Bake Off and Coffee Afternoon
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	Overnight	Overnight Camp in School Field
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	Afternoon	Montreal Trip Return Home

Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> June 2024	Afternoon	The Magic Flute and Royal Opera House Performance with Choir
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2024	Morning	Year 5 Leave for PGL Residential
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	Afternoon	Year 5 Return from PGL Residential
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	All Day	Year 6 at Consett Academy – Transition Day
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	All Day	Year 6 at Consett Academy – Transition Day
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	All Day	Year 6 at St Bede’s – Transition Day
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2024	Early Morning	Year 6 Depart for Northern Ireland Residential
Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	Early Morning	Year 6 Return from Northern Ireland Residential
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	All Day	Nursery Trip to Roker Beach
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	9.30am	Key Stage 1 Sports Day
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	1.30pm	Key Stage 2 Sports Day
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	All Day	Nursery Trip to Roker Beach
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	3.30pm – 6pm	Summer Fair and BBQ
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	3.30pm – 5pm	Parents’ Evening Drop Ins
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	6.30pm – 9pm	Year 6 Social Evening
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	Morning & Afternoon	Nursery Celebrations
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	1.30pm	Year 6 Leavers’ Service in All Saints Church
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	10am	Year 6 Leavers’ Extravaganza Assembly
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2024	7.30am	New Academic Year Begins
<b>KS2 Statutory Assessment Tests - Week Beginning Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024</b>		
<b>Year 4 Multiplication Check - Week Beginning Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2024</b>		
<b>Year 1 &amp; Year 2 Phonics Screening Check - Week Beginning Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2024</b>		

<b>School Holidays 2023 – 2024</b>		
<b>Holiday</b>	<b>Last Day at School</b>	<b>Re-open for Teaching</b>
May Day	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2024	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> May 2024
Summer Half Term	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2024	Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2024
Summer Holiday	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2024</b>
<b>School Holidays 2024 – 2025</b>		
<b>Holiday</b>	<b>Last Day at School</b>	<b>Re-open for Teaching</b>
		Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2024
Autumn Half Term	Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October 2024	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November 2024
<b>Long Weekend</b>	<b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2024</b>	<b>Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2024</b>
Christmas Holiday	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2024	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2025
Spring Half Term	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> February 2025	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2025
Easter Holiday	Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> April 2025	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> April 2025
May Day	Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2025	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> May 2025
<b>Summer Half Term</b>	<b>Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2025</b>	<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025</b>
Summer Holiday	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2025	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2025