



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 7th March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was totally heartwarming to see the huge smiles on everyone's faces as they were greeted on the top yard by two inflatable dinosaurs for the start of World Book Day. It was also delightful to watch Year 6 run over to their Reception buddies in the dinner hall to give them a hug and tell them how wonderful they all looked in their outfits. A great day was had and enjoyed by all I think! The children particularly enjoyed all the adults reading stories to different classes – this was delightful too.

Our ski residential has been another huge success this year – so much so that I have already made a provisional booking for Saturday 14th March 2026 to the same resort. The children have been their usual amazing selves and one of my highlights has been seeing a video of them on the bubbles taking them to the slopes, singing one of our Worship songs at the top of their voices! Watch out on 'X' later when you will see for yourselves how much progress they have all made in a week. They have had incredible weather and made the most of skiing and all the wonderful après ski activities too.

Weekly Big Question

We are starting to introduce a weekly Big Question which will be shared in Worship and then followed up with some reflection and discussion time in classrooms. These Big Questions will then be shared at the end of the week in this weekly letter. This is so that you know what the Big Question has been and can then follow it up with your children at home over the weekend. This week's Big Question has been: 'What is the most Beautiful Thing in the World?' Ask your child to think about this!

Phone Lines

We had new, digital phone lines installed on Wednesday meaning that for short periods of time during the day, these were out of action. Thank you for your patience during this period–You will now notice that when you phone school, our Head Boy and Head Girl's voices can be heard directing you to different options.

Rock Steady Music School

We are looking forward to welcoming Rock Steady Music School for a whole school assembly and demonstration to both KS1 and KS2 on Thursday next week. They are a company who help children learn to play an instrument in their very own band. All instruments for lessons are provided – keyboards, drums, bass and guitar. Lessons will take place on a Friday afternoon - further information will be shared after they have been into school. It is probably important to note that we have organised this due to pupil voice and some children in KS2 being keen to have their own band!

WhatsApp Groups

We know that there are many WhatsApp Groups amongst parents and that these can be very useful for parents and carers to remind each other about events taking place in school. However, there are a couple of things I would like to suggest regarding these groups.

Firstly, it is important for everyone to remember that once any messages have been posted, these are then in the public domain and can be copied, screenshot and shared quite openly. I would urge all parents and carers to remember this. These can, and sometimes are, shared with school staff, so please think carefully before posting any opinions or derogatory comments about children or staff.

Secondly, it is equally important that if you have an issue with something that has happened in school, rather than post on WhatsApp, just contact school so we can give you the correct, factual information. We can also answer any worries or concerns and deal with any issues. This helps everyone concerned. Thank you.

Village Litter Pick with The Lanchester Partnership

The Lanchester Partnership are organising their annual Litter Pick on Saturday 15th March 9:30am until 12 noon. Equipment will be available on the Village Green, and as an extra bonus this year, all volunteers are being offered FREE breakfast butties at the Community Cafe afterwards. What a great incentive to lend a hand in tidying up our village!

Year 3 Handball Club with Mr Graham

Due to the low numbers for this club, we are now opening it up to Year 2 children as well. This will be open on Arbor today for any Year 2 parents to apply for a place.

Turing Application for 2025-2026

We are currently putting together our Turing application for next year and are hoping to be successful in securing funding to take children in Year 5 and Year 6 to Shanghai in China, Delhi in India, Dubai in the UAE and Istanbul in Turkey. However, we need to ascertain interest in these visits from parents of children currently in Year 4 and Year 5. Nothing is guaranteed yet, we literally just need to know if you would be interested in your child taking part in any of these visits. If and when the funding is secured, we will write to all parents and carers of children in Year 4 and Year 5 for definite expressions of interest. We just need these figures for our application, so we would really appreciate it if all parents and carers would complete this online form: [Turing Expression of Interest Form](#). 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.

Attendance

Year Group	Current Week Attendance Percentage (%)	Attendance Percentage to Date (%)	Year Group	Current Week Attendance Percentage (%)	Attendance Percentage to Date (%)
Reception	89.3%	93.8%	Year 4	95.5%	97.4%
Year 1	96%	96.3%	Year 5	97.7%	97.4%
Year 2	95.2%	96.6%	Year 6	97%	96.5%
Year 3	97.6%	97.3%	Whole School	95.5%	96.5%

Diary Dates for Next Week

Saturday 8th March – Ski Residential Returns

The ski residential will land at Newcastle Airport at 11.15am. For those children returning on the bus to school, it is anticipated that we will return for around 1pm but a more precise time will be shared once they have landed.

Tuesday 11th March – Meeting for Year 3 Parents and Carers re Birdoswald Residential at 5.30pm

We will hold this meeting in the Junior Hall for all parents and carers of Year 3 children going to Birdoswald. We will share the organisation and itinerary of the two days and share photographs from previous visits. We look forward to seeing you there.

Wednesday 12th March – Year 1 Invasion Games Festival at North Durham Academy

Year 1 will be enjoying a fun filled sporting event on Wednesday when they attend the Invasion Games at North Durham Academy in the afternoon. The bus will collect them from school at 12.15pm, and they will be back in school for the end of the day. Children will need to wear their PE kits for this day **and NOT on Friday**.

Wednesday 12th March – Meeting for Year 4 Parents and Carers re Seahouses Residential at 5.30pm

We will hold this meeting in the Junior Hall for all parents and carers of Year 4 children going to Seahouses. We will share the organisation and itinerary of the two days and share photographs from previous visits. We look forward to seeing you there.

Thursday 13th March – Rock and Pop Assembly

This will take place at 9am for children in KS1 and KS2. I am sure your child will tell you all about it as we are expecting it to be well-received by everyone!

Friday 14th March – Dubai Residential Departs

Children going on the Turing residential to Dubai need to meet at Newcastle Airport at 7.15am on Friday morning. This will give us plenty of time to get the luggage checked in and then have some breakfast in the airport. Myself, Mr Adamson and Mrs Knighton are all accompanying the children on this visit. Mr Adamson's class will be taught by Mr Stephenson and Miss Jackson during the week due to having Miss Johnson and Miss Groves in Year 5 for the near future.

Positive Thinking

***Strength does not come from lifting weights.
Strength comes from lifting yourself up when you are knocked down.***

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