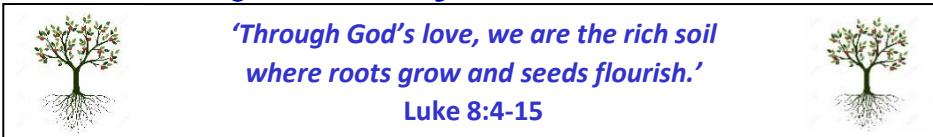




Lanchester E.P. (Cont.) Primary School & Nursery

A Caring Community Where All Can Flourish



Friday 16th January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As I write this, late Thursday evening, we have a group of children on their flight to India. Every year I find it quite amazing that we not only have been fortunate to secure the funding enabling us to take our children on an adventure of a lifetime, but also that we have such good relationships with our families that they trust us to take their children half way round the world! Once they arrive, they will be spending time in our partner school as well as visiting the Taj Mahal and other local landmarks. Watch out for their updates on social media!

New Style Letter

Watch out for a new style letter from next week! We hope it might be slightly more user friendly and easier to read!

Facebook

Well – this hasn't gone quite the way we anticipated. We thought we had this all sorted, but have had numerous staff 'suspended' from our account! So, please bear with us on this matter. We are trying to solve this issue, but I think it is probably fair to say that for the next two weeks, we will be posting both on X and some staff will be posting on Facebook as well. We hope to address this situation next week but will let you know when we are fully up and running with it all!

School Crossing Patrol

Please be aware that we have still not been told when the new crossing patrol will start so take extra care when crossing the road.

Hairstyles

We are becoming aware of an increasing number of children who are coming to school with more extreme hairstyles. Please refer to our school uniform policy which states:

Haircuts should be of a smart appearance with no extremes of fashion and no unnatural colours. The school does not permit children to have haircuts that could serve as a distraction to other children such as patterns shaved into the hair, dyed hair and 'Mohican' style haircuts. We also do not allow children to wear excessive hair gel as this has health and safety implications.

Please take particular notice of the fact that we do not allow unnatural colours or patterns shaved into the hair. Thank you for your support with this.

Volunteer Opportunity – Nursery Village Walks

We are looking for parent volunteers to join our Nursery children and staff on short walks around the village, exploring the shops, businesses and local sights. These outings help children feel part of their community while developing their confidence and curiosity. If you can help, please contact Miss Butler (s.butler@lanchesterep.net).

Nursery Family STEM Storytime

There is still time to sign up for our first STEM Storytime in Nursery on Thursday 29th January. For further information, see [here](#).

Spare Socks!

We are running very low on spare socks in Nursery after stocking up last term. If your child has come home in Nursery spares, please remember to return them. We always welcome donations of outgrown socks from children in Reception. Thank you!

This Week's Big Question

This week's Big Question has been, 'What does Resilience look like to you?' Please ask your child and let them tell you their thoughts!

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 03000 267979.

Attendance

Year Group	Current Week (%)	to Date (%)	Year Group	Current Week (%)	to Date (%)
Reception	97.5	94.1	Year 4	97	95.5
Year 1	96.4	95.5	Year 5	97.4	97.2
Year 2	98.2	97.4	Year 6	97.7	96.2
Year 3	97.3	96.4	Whole School	97.4	96

Diary Dates for Next Week

Monday 19th January – Year 2 at The Centre for Life

Year 2 are looking forward to their visit to The Centre for Life on Monday 19th January. During their time there, they will be learning all about space for their Moon Zoom topic. All children will need to wear full school uniform and bring a packed lunch with a drink. They will return to school in time for the end of the school day.

Monday 19th January – OASES with Miss Jackson's Class

Mr Stephenson's class had some really good sessions with OASES in the Autumn term and we are very fortunate that they had capacity to work with Miss Jackson's class too. They are coming to deliver their first session which will be an introduction to renewable energy sources, STEM career and the work that OASES do on Monday afternoon. Mr Stephenson's class thoroughly enjoyed it and I am sure Miss Jackson's class will too!

Tuesday 20th January – KS2 Swimming Gala

The Schools Sports Partnership Swimming Gala takes place on Tuesday morning at The Louisa Centre. The parents of those children chosen to represent the school have been informed. I am sure they will all represent the school admirably.

Thursday 22nd January - OASES with Miss Jackson's Class

OASES are back in again with Miss Jackson's class on Thursday to build and test wind turbines for strength and efficiency for their Wind Warriors project.

Friday 23rd January – Digital Leaders at The Bett Show, London

Four of our digital leaders are representing our school at the Bett Show at London Excel on Friday. They are to meet staff at Durham Train Station at 6.30am on Friday morning. Once in London, they will go to the Bett Show, trial some new ICT resources, before enjoying Paddington in the West End in the evening. On Saturday morning they will enjoy some sightseeing before travelling back. They will arrive at Durham Train Station at 5.18pm.

Friday 23rd January – India Trip Return

Our intrepid Indian travellers arrive back at 8.30pm on Friday night at Newcastle Airport. I am sure they will have plenty of tales to share with their families on their return!

Positive Thinking

Life is a series of natural and spontaneous changes.

Don't resist them.

Let things flow naturally forward in whatever way they like.

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)