



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 15th March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to thank all the parents and carers (and younger siblings!) who came to the Maths in Action lessons this week – we were delighted to welcome so many of you! It is so lovely to give you a small insight into what goes on in school on a daily basis.

We have had a busy week with meetings this week too. We hope you found them all useful. The presentation for Year 6 parents has been uploaded to the website under the section Parents → Downloadable Forms & Useful Information → Parent Workshops. The Year 3 and Year 4 residential presentations have been emailed out to all parents and carers, and added to the website under the section Parents → Letters to Parents → Trip Letters 2023-24. It is hard to believe that the residentials are almost upon us already with Year 4 the first week back after Easter and Year 3 heading off the second week after Easter. The excitement is certainly mounting!

There has been a buzz all week amongst the group of children going skiing this weekend too. They have saved for this trip for a very long time and 35 excited children and adults head off to the French Alps early tomorrow morning. I am sure they will all have a wonderful time and will thoroughly enjoy such a great experience. Whilst some have skied before, many are going for the first time. Let's hope the snow is good! Mr Stoker, Mrs Chambers and myself will be accompanying the children with Mrs Riddell covering for Mr Stoker for the week.

Our Year 5 boys won the football league this week! They have had some very good wins playing exceptionally well. However, more importantly is the fact that they showed great sportsmanship and that there has not just been a few boys playing for the team – lots have had the opportunity to play. Well done to them all – very proud of them!

Attendance

Reception	94.2%
Year 1	96.5%
Year 2	95%
Year 3	92.9%
Year 4	96.4%
Year 5	97.9%
Year 6	96.7%

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

Please see the attached online safety posters which you can share with your children and encourage them to 'Be Smart & Stay Safe'.

LJG Sports Coaching Holiday & Football Camps

LJG Sports Coaching will be hosting both a Holiday Camp and a Football Camp in school over both weeks of the Easter holidays. The dates are: Tuesday 2nd – Thursday 4th April and Tuesday 9th – Thursday 11th April.

To book online, please use the following forms:

[Football Camp Form](#)

[Holiday Camp Form](#)

If you have any questions, please contact Mr Graham via LJGsportscoaching@gmail.com.

Parents' Evening Appointments

Parents' Evening appointments can still be booked on Arbor for everyone from Nursery to Year 6. You will be able to book an appointment via the Arbor Parent Portal until 22nd March at 10am. Alternatively, you can get in touch with the School Office who will book an appointment for you.

School Meals on Arbor

We have now set up the new menu on Arbor. Even if you have already filled in your child's menu choices on the online form, it would be really helpful if you could add them onto your child's Arbor account too. This will make things a lot easier for us in school in the long run. Instructions will be emailed to you separately on how to do this.

Year 6 – Leavers Hooded Jumpers

It's that time of year again when we need to order our Year 6 leavers hooded jumpers. This year the children have selected 'Hawaiian blue' as their chosen colour and the design will list all the children's full names on the reverse. The hoodies will be available to buy on your child's Arbor account (in the school shop section) from today and the cost is £20. You will also need to complete this form no later than Tuesday 26th March to indicate which size you would like us to order: [Leavers Hooded Jumpers](#). We have some samples of the sizes in the Office if you would like your child to try any on. Payment for the jumper must be made by **Tuesday 26th March** as orders will be placed before we break up for Easter.

Diary Dates for Next Week

Saturday 16th March – Ski Trip Departs at 4.15am from St Bede's

Please meet in the turning circle at St Bede's ready for a 4.15am departure. For those parents and children meeting us at the airport, please meet us in departures at 5am. All children should wear their ski hoodies for easy identification.

Monday 18th March – Tag Rugby Competition

The parents and carers of the children involved in this competition have been emailed with the details of the day. I am sure that they will all enjoy their day and be great ambassadors for our school.

Tuesday 19th March – Reception at Northumberland Zoo

Our Reception classes will be going to Northumberland Zoo on Tuesday 19th March and I know they are all very excited about their day out. They are to come to school in normal school uniform and with a packed lunch. They will return to school in time for the end of the school day.

Advance Notices

Wednesday 17th April

Year 2 Visit to Whitehouse Farm

Wednesday 1st May at 6pm

Parent Meeting for those children travelling to Madrid

This trip is Monday 20th May to Friday 24th May 2024.

Tuesday 7th May

New School Menu Starts

Tuesday 7th May 6pm

Parent Meeting for those children travelling to Montreal

This trip is Wednesday 12th June to Thursday 20th June 2024.

Saturday 11th May 10am – 12 noon

Early Years Open Morning

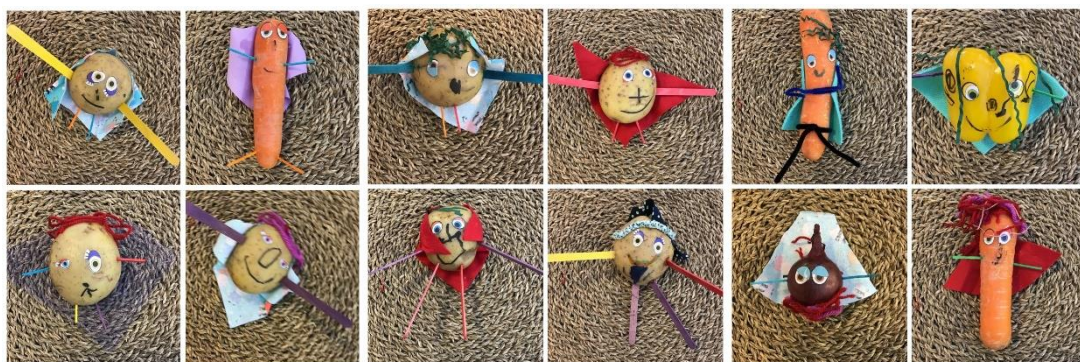
SEND News

Thank you to the many parents and carers who have completed the termly questionnaire for parents and carers of children with SEND. The questionnaire will remain open until Monday afternoon, so if your child has an EHCP or a SEN Support Plan, your views on your child's provision would be greatly appreciated. You can complete the questionnaire by [clicking here](#).

Making Changes Together (MCT) is Durham's official parent/carer forum. They are a group of parents and carers who work with professionals across County Durham to influence and improve services to children and young people with SEND. They have a very informative Facebook page, where they share information that could be useful for parents and carers of children with SEND. For example, this week, they have shared information about Easter holiday activities that are specifically for children with SEND. You can find out more about MCT Durham by [clicking here](#).

Early Years News

This week in Nursery we have been thinking about Superheroes. We have been reading 'Supertato', 'Superworm' and 'Superhero Like Me'. We have made some fabulous veggie superheroes of our own and have thought about our own superpowers - kindness, creativity, bravery and patience amongst others. Look at some of our fabulous creations!



On Monday 25th March at 9:30, we will be holding a workshop for parents and carers of Nursery children to talk about Maths in Nursery and how you can support your child's mathematical learning at home. Please use [this link](#) if you would like to sign up. Please sign up by Thursday 21st March at 4pm to allow time for materials to be prepared. If you can't join us for the workshop, we will send out the presentation materials afterwards. Can we also remind you about our Forest School Stay and Play sessions in the last week of term? We still have plenty of spaces available - see [here](#) to sign up.

Thanks for all your photos of Nursery children helping at home. We will be using the photos in school on Wednesday, so there is still time for you to send a photo either via Evidence Me or to s.butler@lanchesterep.net

This week Reception have had two lovely trips into the village. We went to the library to choose some new books for our book corner. We also went to the hardware store for some storage bags and to the Spar for some dried peas. Are you curious about what we are going to do with those two items? We have had some lovely discussions about the beautiful spring flowers that have been popping up in the village and in our own gardens. In Maths we have starting learning about doubles. We know that the 2 numbers have to be the same or 'match'. We have been practising saying "6 is made of 3 and 3. 3 and 3 make 6." We are all very excited for our trip to the zoo next week. Thank you to all those who volunteered!

Miss Butler

Key Stage One News

It has been another exciting week in Key Stage 1.



Year 1 have started learning about the Great Fire of London. This is always a popular topic and once again, the children have been really engaged with their learning. Yesterday we took part in a Now Press Play experience which transported us back to London in 1666 to give us an idea of what it would have been like to witness the Great Fire of London.



We have also started our new text in English called Vlad and the Great Fire of London which follows a rat called Vlad as he gets caught up in the Fire.



In Year 2 the children have been doing lots of cooking as part of their Scrumdiddlyumptious topic. The children started the week by writing their own set of instructions to make their cupcakes and yesterday afternoon they followed their own recipes and made their own cupcakes. The children had lots of fun and really enjoyed that their writing earlier in the week had a real purpose. On Friday they will continue to develop their cooking skills in Forest School where they will make Chocolate orange cakes on the fire.

Key Stage Two News

Year 6 SATs Parents' Meeting

Thank you to all of those parents who were able to attend the SATs meeting on Tuesday evening. The children are beginning their preparations for the assessments in May and are revisiting some of their key learning in English and Maths from across Key Stage 2. There are two tests for English – a reading paper, which lasts for one hour, and a grammar and punctuation paper (which consists of two parts; a spelling paper and a grammar paper). The maths test consists of three papers - one arithmetic paper which lasts 30 minutes and two reasoning papers; each lasting 45 minutes. If you missed the meeting and would like additional information about the assessments, then please contact Mr Knighton or Mr Stoker.

For those of you wondering what the children are actually preparing for, here are a couple of questions that appeared on the 2023 Year 6 papers. How will you do?

Here is a regular hexagon.

The area of the large shaded triangle is double the area of the small shaded triangle.

What fraction of the whole hexagon is the shaded area?

This formula is used to estimate the mass (in kilograms) of young children.

$$\text{mass} = 2 \times (\text{age in years} + 5)$$

Stefan's sister is 4 years of age.

Use the formula to estimate her mass.

 kg

The mass of Megan's brother is 16 kilograms.

Use the formula to estimate his age.

 years

Some of the questions can challenge the minds of the staff, never mind the children!

Explain how the position of the **comma** changes the meaning of the sentences below.

1. As Fred ate the sweet orange, balloons were given to the children.
2. As Fred ate the sweet, orange balloons were given to the children.

Helping Your Child with their Multiplication Tables

We are having a real push on learning multiplication tables with the children. Knowing times tables facts is crucially important to your child's progression in their mathematics education. Without a deep understanding of multiplication and division facts, children frequently get 'lost' when it comes to do anything with fractions and any multiplication or division with larger numbers. Children who are secure in their times tables knowledge are able to get to grips with trickier tasks straight away and are far more successful. 'Knowing' times tables means a child will be able to recall any of the multiples of a times table quickly, as well as knowing the matching division facts i.e. $4 \times 6 = 24$ as well as $24 \div 6 = 4$.

The Key to learning times tables is frequent repetition, regular revision. 5 to 10 minutes every day is better than an hour a week. Here are some ideas to help your child memorise their multiplication and division facts.

- 1) Chanting – Have your child chant out loud the times tables. This could be the whole number sentence '2 times 3 equals 6, 2 times 4 equals 8...' or it could be just the number sequence '2, 4, 6, 8 ...'. Have fun with it! See if they can do it in different voices like the robot, like a parrot or a silly voice. Can they shout it out loud, can they whisper it?
- 2) Flash cards- Create flash cards to help your child. You could select certain facts they keep getting stuck on rather than the whole set.
- 3) Timed – Time your child and make it into a competition. Can they beat their last score? Put the timer on for 30 seconds and see how many they can answer. <https://www.online-stopwatch.com/> Purple Mash also has an interactive version of this (and a whole Maths section full of fab games).
- 4) Bingo- Write the multiplication questions on separate pieces of paper and place in a bowl. Make a 4 by 3 square bingo card each and write 9 of the answer numbers onto it. Take it in turns to draw a question out – if the answer is on your card, cross it off. The winner is the first to cross off all their answers.
- 5) Ask the children about Times Tables Rock Stars and ask them to show you how it works. The children will love demonstrating the games to you.

If you have any questions about multiplication tables, please contact your child's class teacher.

Positive Thinking

***Remember, being happy doesn't mean you have it all.
It simply means you're thankful for all you have.***

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 Spring 2

Saturday 16 th March 2024	4am	Year 4 – 6 Ski Trip Leaves School
Monday 18 th March 2024	All Day	County Durham Tag Rugby Finals, Consett Rugby Club
Tuesday 19 th March 2024	All Day	Reception at Northumberland Zoo
Saturday 23 rd March 2024	Afternoon	Year 4 – 6 Ski Trip Returns
Monday 25th March 2024	9.30am	Nursery Maths Workshop
Monday 25th March 2024	2.30 – 6.00pm	Nursery Parents' Meetings
Monday 25 th March 2024	3.30 – 6.00pm	Reception – Year 6 Parents' Evening
Tuesday 26 th March 2024	1.30pm	Nursery Stay and Play Session
Tuesday 26 th March 2024	3.30 – 6.00pm	Nursery – Year 6 Parents' Evening
Wednesday 27th March 2024	8.30am – 3.30pm	Nursery Parents' Meetings
Wednesday 27 th March 2024	Afternoon	Easter Service in All Saints Church
Thursday 28 th March 2024	Morning	Easter Egg Decorating Competition
Thursday 28 th March 2024	9.30am	Nursery Stay and Play Session
Thursday 28 th March 2024	2.30pm	Coffee Afternoon
Thursday 28 th March 2024	5.15pm	School Closes for Easter Holiday
LJG Sports Coaching Holiday & Football Camp in School Tuesday 2nd – Thursday 4th April and Tuesday 9th – Thursday 11th April 2024		
KS2 Statutory Assessment Tests - Week Beginning Monday 13th May 2024		
Year 4 Multiplication Check - Week Beginning Tuesday 3rd June 2024		
Year 1 & Year 2 Phonics Screening Check - Week Beginning Monday 10th June 2024		

School Holidays 2023 – 2024

Holiday	Last Day at School	Re-open for Teaching
Easter Holiday	Thursday 28 th March 2024	Monday 15 th April 2024
May Day	Friday 3 rd May 2024	Tuesday 7 th May 2024
Summer Half Term	Thursday 23 rd May 2024	Tuesday 4 th June 2024
Summer Holiday	Friday 19 th July 2024	Wednesday 4th September 2024

School Holidays 2024 – 2025

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