

*'Through God's love, we are the rich soil
 where roots grow and seeds flourish.'*

 Luke 8:4-15



KEY STAGE NEWS

Early Years News

We hope all your children have had a lovely first week back in school, and are looking forward to all the exciting things we have planned for this half term.

Core Books

These are the core books we will be sharing with the children this half term. These books are ones we will return to again and again so the children will know them well by the time we break up for Christmas. Of course, we will also be exploring lots of different books during story times and are always on the lookout for new stories if you or your family have any favourites to share.

Nursery	Reception
	

Autumn Treasure Hunt

A huge thank you to children, parents and carers for all your efforts in the Autumn Treasure Hunt. So far, you have helped to raise just over £700, which will help us enormously in improving our very well-used EYFS outdoor area. If anyone else would like to participate, it is not too late to send in your completed treasure hunts.

Dressing Up Clothes Request

Our children are very much enjoying dressing up in both Nursery and Reception this year. Dressing up allows them to explore different roles, to develop their dressing skills and to extend their language, amongst many other benefits. We are always looking to add to our collection of dressing up resources, so if you have any unwanted bags, hats, scarves or adult-

sized waistcoats, jackets, shirts or shoes, we would be very grateful of donations. Please note, we prefer not to take 'costumes' as the children can be much more creative with other dressing up clothes.

Key Stage 1 News

We are really pleased to welcome all the children in Key Stage 1 back after the break for what is a very action packed, fun filled half term.

Year 1 Topic Information

Year 1 have started their new topic this week: Splendid Skies. This week, the children have begun to learn about seasonal changes and weather patterns. They've explored different climates across the world and they've also started to keep a weather chart so that we can monitor the weather in Lanchester over the next few weeks. At home, it would be really useful if Year 1 children could watch the weather forecast to support this learning.

Very soon, the children will be learning about the Wright Brothers and how they invented planes. They might even have a special visitor or two, time-travelling all the way from 1903!

It has been wonderful to see how many children in Year 1 have been accessing Numbots at home and we have begun to hand out certificates to those who have passed the first levels. Well done, everyone!

Year 2 Arctic & Antarctic Workshop

Year 2 had a very exciting start to their new topic on Monday. We started with an Arctic and Antarctic workshop to learn about these very special places as part of our work on Frozen Kingdom. Some of the children were able to travel back in time via a magic hat and become Ernest Shackleton! Since then, lots of the children have been bringing in stories and making igloos which is fantastic to see. Great job, Year 2!



Key Stage 2 News

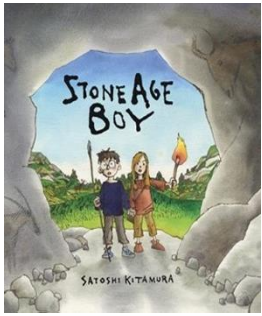
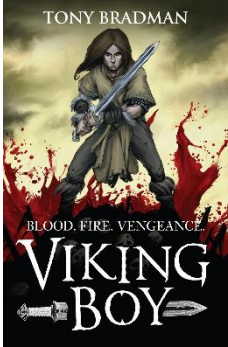
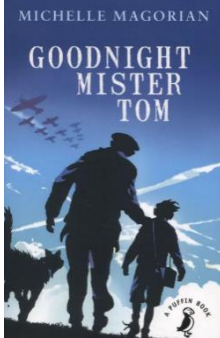
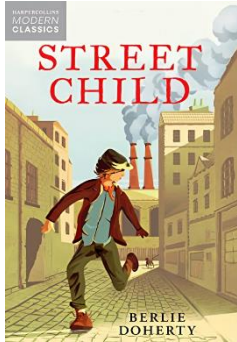
Everyone in Key Stage 2 would like to welcome you back for the second half of the Autumn Term.

Year Group Topics

Each year group has started a new topic for the coming weeks. **Year 3** are travelling back to prehistoric times with their work on 'Tribal Tales'. They will be moving from the Stone Age, through the Bronze Age and will end up at the end of the Iron Age, whilst **Year 4** will be meeting the bloodthirsty Vikings from Scandinavia in their 'Raiders and Traders' topic. The

Second World War is the focus for **Year 5** as they prepare to see the war through the eyes of an evacuee in **'A Child's War.'** Finally, **Year 6** will be heading back to the Victorian era during their **'Revolution'** work. They will be finding out about life in a Victorian slum and the workhouse during the Industrial Revolution.

Each year group will be reading a new novel linked to their topic.

Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
			

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 Graffiti Art Workshop

Year 3 thoroughly enjoyed the Graffiti Art workshop with Leon from Graffiti Stars this week as part of their new topic of Urban Pioneers. The children were able to design and create their own stencils prior to using them on their boards. Leon showed the children how to use the spray paint to create different effects on their artwork, for example, creating block colours, galaxy backgrounds and splats. The children produced some amazing graffiti art.



Year 4 Viking Workshop

Year 4 took part in an exciting Viking themed workshop as part of their traders and raiders topic this week. The children learned about who occupied Britain during this era and the reasons as to why the Vikings came to invade our land. Everyone was able to look at and hold a range of Viking weaponry and some children even dressed up in full war gear. Year 4 were even treated to a demonstration of how to fire an arrow using a bow. They finished their workshop by re-enacting various battles, then, having a discussion about battle tactics and strategies.

