



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 3rd October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week we have had our first residential of the year with Year 5 children travelling down to the Midlands to visit the National Space Centre in support of their Science topic this half term and also a trip to Cadbury World – just because it is so close! They have had a wonderful two days, sleeping at our partner school in Tamworth to help keep the cost down. I am sure they will come back full of chocolate as well as plenty of tales to tell!

Head Boy and Head Girl Interviews

We concluded our interviews for Head Boy and Head Girl this week and I am delighted to tell you that Nathan and Sienna were appointed as Head Boy and Head Girl with Ollie T and Saskia Deputy Head Boy and Deputy Head Girl. We also appointed some very sensible and reliable prefects. The recruitment process was very rigorous with children completing an application form followed by an interview with myself, the Deputy Head, Assistant Head and a parent governor. This is all excellent practice for the real world of work whilst also being quite nerve wracking for the children. Credit must go to them all for being so mature and confident in their interviews. We were all proud of each and every one of them.

Mrs Margaret Matthews – Foundation Governor

I am very sorry to inform you that one of our governors died unexpectedly on Monday. Mrs Margaret Matthews has been a foundation governor at our school since 2007 and has been both a great to our school during that time. Margaret was passionate about both the children and the school – with the children always coming first in all her decision making. She will be a huge miss to us all. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family at this difficult time.

Harvest Festival - 1,000 Can Challenge

We are celebrating our harvest festival next week with Year 2 – Year 6 going to church for our Harvest Celebration while Early Years and Year 1 enjoy their celebration in school. This year, with more demand than ever on our foodbanks, we are supporting Lanchester Parish Church in their 1,000 Can Challenge. We are hoping to be able to collect 1,000 cans of food for our local foodbanks by the end of next week.

Please help us make a difference to our local community. We would really appreciate it, if you feel you are able, if you could send some tins or cans into school with your children on Thursday 9th October when we will be enjoying our Harvest celebrations.

Sports Teams

Our year has started off exceptionally well for our sports teams. Our Year 5 & 6 Boys Football Team are playing exceptionally well and have not lost a game yet in their league. In addition to this, our Year 3 & 4 Boys and Girls Cross Country Teams won their competition with the Year 5 & 6 Boys coming second. However, what makes us even prouder is the fact that their sportsmanship is second-to-none and they are all showing what great sports they really are. Long may this continue.

Parking

We have, once again, received some complaints from local residents about some irresponsible parking in and around school, but especially in the Fenhall Park and Victoria Terrace areas. We have drivers who are blocking access to driveways, parking opposite driveways and junctions and impeding access, parking on peoples' gardens, blocking pavements and double parking causing blockages in the street.

Once again, I plead with you to be respectful of our neighbours and use the Social Club and Kings Head Car Parks when dropping off and picking up your children. Thank you.

Friends of the School Disco

Get your dancing shoes on - The Friends of Lanchester EP School Disco is back on Thursday 6th November!

Nursery and Reception - 2.15pm till 3pm

Year 1 and 2 - 3:15pm till 4pm

Year 3 and 4 - 4:15pm till 5:15pm

Year 5 and 6 - 5:30pm till 6:30pm

Tickets will be £2 and available to purchase from 4pm today (3rd October) on Arbor until Monday 3rd November - your child's ticket price includes a drink and a hotdog - plus plenty of fun and dancing!

Dogs on Site

Please remember, dogs should not be brought onto school site unless they are assistance dogs. We have noticed more and more people bringing dogs onto site recently which we simply cannot have. Whilst we do have Woody, our school dog, on site occasionally, this is different as he is trained to work as a School Dog.

Parent and Carer Meetings

Our Parent and Carer Meetings take place on Tuesday 14th October and Wednesday 15th October and bookings for appointments opened last week on your Arbor account.

For Reception – Year 6 teachers, appointments will take place in the Main Hall between 3.30 and 6pm on each day and we encourage you to look at your child's books and classroom before or after your meeting with their class teacher.

For those parents and carers with 3 or 4 year old children in **Nursery**, your appointments will be as follows:

Group	Staff Member	Date & Times
Owls	Mrs Moralee	Tuesday 14th October 1.30 – 2.30pm (Meeting Room); 3.30 – 4.30pm (Main Hall)
Owls & Squirrels	Miss Butler	Tuesday 14th October 3.30 – 6.00pm (Main Hall)
Squirrels	Miss Butler	Wednesday 15th October 1.30 – 2.30pm (Meeting Room); 3.30 – 4.30pm (Main Hall)

Please make sure you only book one appointment for your child in Nursery – you do not need to book an appointment with Miss Butler *and* Mrs Moralee, as they will be sharing the same information with you.

This Week's Big Question

This week's Big Question has been, '**Can Kindness really change the world?**' Kindness is the fourth of our school values which we have talked about in Worship this week. Please ask your child what random acts of kindness they have carried out this week.

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 (%)	to Date (%)	Year Group	Current Week (%)	to Date (%)
Reception	94.4	98.2	Year 4	96.1	96.4
Year 1	96.7	97.3	Year 5	99.8	98.5
Year 2	98.4	99.1	Year 6	98.1	98.6
Year 3	99.5	98.5	Whole School	97.6	98.1

Diary Dates for Next Week

Monday 6th October – Parent/Carer Meeting for Year 3 Birdoswald Residential at 5.30pm

We are holding a meeting on Monday evening at 5.30pm to share a few more details about the overnight residential for Year 3 in April. We will share some photographs, itinerary and answer any questions. We realise that this is their first school residential so whilst there may be some excited children, there may well be some nervous parents!

Tuesday 7th October – Henry Dancer Days Assembly

We are looking forward to welcoming Jane Nattrass into school on Tuesday morning to talk to the children about the work of the charity, Henry Dancer Days. Many of our children know of and support this charity so it will be lovely to hear more about the work it does from Jane herself.

Tuesday 7th October – Boys Football League

Our Year 5 & 6 Boys Football Team will continue their matches in the football league on Tuesday night after school at Consett Football Club. Those taking part will receive an email about the arrangements for the night.

Thursday 9th October – Harvest Festival Celebrations

Children from Year 2 to Year 6 will be walking down to All Saints' Church for our Harvest Celebration at 10.30am on Thursday morning while EYFS and Year 1 enjoy their own celebrations in school. We are encouraging children to bring a tin/can in for their harvest contribution in the hope we can contribute to the school's 1,000 can challenge!

Thursday 9th October – Parent/Carer Meeting for Year 4 Seahouses Residential at 5.30pm

We are holding a meeting on Thursday evening at 5.30pm to share a few more details about the overnight residential for Year 4 in April. We will share some photographs, the itinerary and answer any questions.

Saturday 11th October – Early Years Open Morning 10am – 12 noon

We are looking forward to welcoming any interested families to school on Saturday morning to see our Nursery and Reception learning environments. As we are now welcoming 2-year old children into our Nursery, we are keen to welcome lots of families of young children into school. Application forms will be available as well as all the key staff to answer any questions. We look forward to seeing you there.

Positive Thinking

Kindness is free. Sprinkle it everywhere.

As usual, if there is anything at all that you would like to talk about, please do not hesitate to contact us. Hope you have a lovely weekend.

Best Wishes,

Jane Davis

Mrs Jane Davis
Head Teacher