



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 11th April 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a wonderful week of weather we have had this week – perfect for our Year 3 children on their first school residential. Once again, they have really impressed us with their attitude, manners, behaviour and resilience. They thoroughly enjoyed their walk, ice cream, Roman Soldier and of course Woody too. It was a real treat to see their little excited faces when they were walking into school, pulling their cases – smiles that never left their faces for two whole days! Another highly successful residential thanks to the dedicated and committed staff who are always so willing and able to go away with your children. I am sure they will all still be sleeping very well!

Year 4 Parent and Carer Meeting

Thank you to all those parents who came to the meeting this week about the Year 4 Multiplication Check which takes place in June. We have attached the handout to the letter and the presentation is now on our website via Downloadable Forms & Useful Information – Parent Workshops.

Staff News

We have said a temporary goodbye to **Mr Innes** as he leaves us to start his secondment as Deputy Headteacher at Belmont C of E School in Durham. He will still be popping in to see us all and will return for important dates throughout the year. However, I know he will be kept very busy at Belmont where he will do a very good job.

We are also saying goodbye to **Mrs Bailey** after the Easter break as she starts her maternity leave. She has struggled on for the last few weeks and I know she will be more than ready for a break before she welcomes the new arrival. We shall look forward to hearing the good news soon!

Mrs Lydon will be back working full-time with us after Easter, teaching Mr Innes' Reception class as her maternity leaves comes to an end. I know she has loved being back this half-term and feels like she has never been away. Welcome back Mrs Lydon!

Temporary Appointments

I am delighted to inform you that we have made some temporary appointments within school to enhance the leadership of the school due to Mr Innes' absence. Mr McLoughlin will be our Acting Assistant Headteacher while Miss Jackson, Mr Stephenson and Mr Stoker are all taking on middle management roles across school. These are exciting times for the staff which will only increase the leadership capacity in school. I am sure you will join with me in congratulating them all on their temporary promotions.

Ski Trip Letter

The ski trip letter has gone out to all parents and carers of children in Years 3, 4 and 5. There will be a meeting on Tuesday 29th April at 5.30pm for any interested parents where we will share some photographs from this year's trip as well as share a little more detail about the week itself. If you have any questions at all about this, please do not hesitate to contact me. The deadline for the initial non-refundable £100 deposit is Friday 2nd May 2025.

Parent/Carer Meeting about Madrid

There will be a meeting on Wednesday 30th April at 5.30pm for those parents and carers of children going to Madrid in June. The final itinerary and details will be shared at the meeting as well as photographs of our previous visit.

Community Centre

I have received an email from the Community Centre this week asking me to reiterate that anyone who does not contribute the £24 to become a 'Friend of Lanchester Community Centre' is not welcome to park in their car park at pick up and drop off times. I know they have been challenging some of our families this week and I have asked that if they feel they have to do this, then it is carried out in a polite and respectful manner. However, for those parents/grandparents struggling to park at key times, please remember that we have an agreement with the Social Club that anyone and everyone is very welcome to park there at any time of the day and the same goes for the Kings Head Pub Car Park too. Hopefully that will help you all.

WhatsApp Group Chats

This seems to be featuring in the weekly letters almost as many times as parking this year! I have recently been made aware of issues on WhatsApp involving both children and parents. I would urge you all to make sure you check your child's phone regularly to check the content that they are both reading and posting.

Children need to be educated about appropriate interaction on social media and are really still too young for this in primary school. I have also been made aware of a parent group where unkind comments have been made about children. Again, I would urge you to be very careful about what is posted on social media whilst also being mindful when reading such content that there are always two sides to every story. Some useful guides have been sent home with this newsletter, which have been created by the National College.

School Photographs

Children from Reception to Year 6 had their class photographs taken in school yesterday. Your child should have come home with a postcard from the photography company telling you how to order the photographs. Orders need to be placed by Sunday 20th April.

Open Morning for Nursery on Saturday 10th May 10am – 12 noon

On Saturday 10th May from 10am until 12 noon, we will be holding an Open Morning for any prospective Nursery parents. Please come along, have a play, see our environment and meet the key staff.

This Week's Big Question

This week's Big Question has been '***What do you think God Looks Like?*** Ask your children about this over the weekend! They have all produced some exceptionally good art work on this too and you will be able to see the display next time you are in school.

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	96.2	94.2	Year 4	96.7	97.3
Year 1	97.1	96	Year 5	97.7	97.6
Year 2	97.8	96.6	Year 6	98.5	96.7
Year 3	97	97.1	Whole School	97.3	96.5

Diary Dates for Next Term

Tuesday 29th April – Ski Meeting at 5.30pm

We are looking forward to seeing parents, carers and children at this meeting where we will share photos and more details about the ski trip next March.

Wednesday 30th April – 3SC Tennis

Mrs Coyle's class will be taking part in a tennis festival at North Durham Academy on Wednesday afternoon. The children will have an early lunch before leaving school at 12.15pm. They will return to school in time for the end of the school day.

Wednesday 30th April – Parent/Carer Meeting for Madrid Turing Visit at 5.30pm

Please come to the main entrance and Mr Knighton will lead a meeting for all parents and carers about the forthcoming visit to Madrid.

Thursday 1st May – Walk Around the World Cash for Kids Day

Our children have been learning about food waste and food poverty and as part of their courageous advocacy they wanted to do something to help other children who are at risk of going hungry during school holidays. Cash for Kids are planning to get as many people as possible to do as many steps as they can on 1st May and are hoping to beat their target of 68 million steps. We have worked out that one lap of the field is about 1000 child steps. If every child in the school did 10 laps of the field that would be about 3.5 million steps. If you would like to donate, please do so via [Lanchester EP Primary School | Hits Radio's Walk Around the World | Our Charity Cash for Kids - Cash for Kids](#).

Positive Thinking

Spring To-Do List

Wake up with a smile on your face.

Walk in the rain with a loved one.

Create an uplifting spring mood board.

Plant a seed and watch it grow.

Explore a new place on a spring break.

As always, if there is anything at all you would like to discuss, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I hope you all have a really lovely Easter break – let's hope this wonderful weather continues. I shall look forward to seeing you all on Monday 28th April for an exceptionally short half-term. It is going to be another very busy few weeks!

Best Wishes,

Jane Davis

Mrs Jane Davis
Head Teacher