



# Lancaster 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 19<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a very special week with some different events taking place this week. The Welcome Services for our Reception children along with their Year 6 Buddies were absolutely delightful. Our Year 6 children love the responsibility of taking care of their younger buddies and already, we have some very special friendships developing. Watching them holding hands, walking down to church was just so sweet. I was so impressed with our Reception children too as they were so confident and brave standing up in front of so many people in church. Thank you to all the family members who came along. It really was lovely to see you all.

### **Phonics and Reading Workshops**

Thank you to everyone who came along to the Phonics and Reading workshops for Reception and Year 1 earlier this week. There was an excellent turnout, with over 40 parents and carers learning more about how we teach Phonics at our school. If you would like to learn more about Sounds Write - our Phonics scheme - and how to support your child with Phonics at home, please [click here](#) to go to the website specifically for parents and carers of children in Sounds Write schools.

### **End of Year Questionnaires**

A big thanks to all parents and carers who completed the end of year questionnaires at the end of the summer term. It was also very interesting to see all the additional comments and suggestions that were included. The results of these questionnaires are attached and a summary of the comments made will be shared next week.

### **The Friends of the School**

The Friends of the School are delighted to share that, throughout this academic year, we will be donating 10% of the profits from every event to the Henry Dancer Days charity. By supporting our events, you'll not only be helping to enrich school life but also contributing to this wonderful cause.

I met with the Chair of the Friends of the School this week and know it is going to be another exciting and fun-filled year of activities! They have two planned for this term – Autumn Disco and the Christmas Shop. Watch out for more information from them later this half term!

### **School Photograph Orders Deadline**

The deadline to order your child's school photograph for free delivery into school is tomorrow, Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September.

### **Year 5 PGL Residential**

It was good to see so many Year 5 parents and carers on Thursday evening at the meeting about PGL and Birchwood. Your child will bring home the parental consent form today and the letters about both visits have been emailed to all parents and carers. If you have any further questions, please just get in touch.

### **Turing Residentials**

32 Year 5 and Year 6 parents and carers will have received an email today confirming that their child has a place on one of the Turing trips to Shanghai, Delhi, Dubai or Istanbul. I am so sorry that we could not send these emails to all 82 children who had their names down for these visits. Sadly, the funding is limited. However, we are very fortunate to be able to take an additional 8 children on these visits due to receiving compensation due to delayed flights last year. Year 5 children will hopefully get another opportunity next year if we are successful in the next round of funding. I am sure those who are fortunate enough to be going on these visits will realise how lucky they are and be sensitive to those who are disappointed.

## **EYFS News**

Our Nursery children have settled in wonderfully, both in the 3-4 and the 2-3 years room. They have been especially enjoying outdoor play. This year, we have decided to start as we mean to go on and have been putting waterproofs on our 3-4s to allow them to really get stuck into their messy learning. We have seen so much learning and exploration going on as they have been able to stay dry (ish!) and they have shown a great deal of independence already in getting ready to go outside.

If you would like to send your child into school with their own waterproofs, we would welcome this as it will allow us to then keep spares in school for when the suits inevitably get wet. We would love our two-year olds also to have access to waterproofs, so they are also welcome to bring their own sets in to school. If any older children in school have outgrown waterproofs, we would also welcome donations to supplement our collection in school.

In EYFS, we are always looking for useful bits and pieces to enhance our children's play in school. This week, we are looking for metal camping cups, artificial grass offcuts, net/voile curtains, fake plants/greenery and tarpaulins. All donations very gratefully accepted!

## **School Uniform**

It is always lovely to see the vast majority of children looking so smart in their school uniform. However, there are a few children who are coming to school with items not in our uniform policy. From next week, we will be starting to send messages home if children are consistently not following our uniform policy. It is really important that children get into these good habits at an early age as when they transition to secondary school, it will just not be tolerated so will help them for the future. If you are having an issues getting uniform, remember that the Friends of the School have a large amount of free pre-loved uniform. If you would like some, please email [friendsoflanchesterep@gmail.com](mailto:friendsoflanchesterep@gmail.com) with the items and sizes you need, and they will let you know if they have anything and arrange to drop it into school. Thank you for your understanding.

## **Head Boy/Girl and Prefects**

All Year 6 children have been given the opportunity to request an application form for these positions. The deadline for the application forms to be submitted to myself is 9am on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September. Shortlisting for these positions will take place on Monday and interviews will take place later next week. The successful shortlisted candidates will be informed in writing on Tuesday next week.

## **5SJ Bikeability Consent**

Miss Jackson's Year 5 class are taking part in Bikeability training from Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November to Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November. If your child would like to take part and you have not yet filled in the online consent form, please do so via <https://consent.bikeability.org.uk/webs-pay-ship>. Our current Year 6 children took part in this last year and it was great to see their confidence increase throughout the week. Please note, if the consent is not filled in then your child will not be allowed to take part.

## **5MS Bikeability Consent**

Mr Stephenson's Year 5 class will be taking part in their Bikeability sessions from Monday 10<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November. Again, if your child would like to take part, please fill in the online consent form on <https://consent.bikeability.org.uk/minor-wide-drama>. Please note, if the consent is not filled in then your child will not be allowed to take part.

## **This Week's Big Question**

This week's Big Question has been, 'What does it mean to live in Hope?' Hope is the second of our school values which we have talked about in Worship this week. Please ask your child about how they could be a 'Hope Carrier'?

## **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 (%)
<b>Reception</b>	99.4	99.5	<b>Year 4</b>	96.1	96.2
<b>Year 1</b>	98.3	97.7	<b>Year 5</b>	97.3	98.1
<b>Year 2</b>	99.0	99.0	<b>Year 6</b>	99.4	98.8
<b>Year 3</b>	96.5	98.1	<b>Whole School</b>	<b>98.0</b>	<b>98.2</b>



## **Diary Dates for Next Week**

### **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September – Messy Church**

Messy Church is back at Lanchester All Saints Church. All families are welcome at 3pm for stories, games, crafts and tea.

### **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September – Northern Ireland Residential Meeting for Year 6 Parents and Carers**

This postponed meeting will take place in school at 5.30pm on Monday. Please come along and find out a little more about what the Year 6 children will do during their week in Northern Ireland as well as their provisional itinerary. Please note, if you are unable to make this meeting, the PowerPoint will be shared with you via email next week, as we are aware there are some Secondary School Open Evenings taking place.

### **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September – Year 3 at The Great North Museum**

Year 3 are looking forward to their visit to the Great North Museum on Tuesday in support of their topic work on the Stone Age this half term. They are to come to school in their normal school uniform and need a packed lunch for the day. They will return to school in time for the end of the school day.

### **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September – Willowburn Leading School Assembly**

The School Council have expressed an interest in supporting the work of Willowburn this year. We are looking forward to hearing more about their fundraising and how we can help their work.

### **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> and Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September – Captain Chemistry in School**

We are looking forward to welcoming Captain Chemistry in school again for the first time this academic year. He is looking forward to working with Year 4 on Tuesday to support their Science work Digestion and Year 5 on Thursday to support their work on Space.

### **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September – Year 5/6 Boys Football League**

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

### **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September - Consett Academy Event for Year 5 and Year 6 Parents/Carers/Children**

Mr Urwin, Principal of Consett Academy, is looking forward to welcoming Year 5 & Year 6 parents, carers and pupils up to Consett Academy on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September from 5pm – 6pm when he will meet and greet you all. This session is just for our school so that you can have some quality time with Mr Urwin and ask as many questions as you want!

### **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September – St Bede's Open Evening**

St Bede's Open Evening for Year 5 and Year 6 children takes place on Thursday from 5.30pm – 7.30pm. Just make your way there to be welcomed, shown around the school and meet the key staff.

### **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September – Year 3 Tri-Golf Event**

We are delighted to be hosting the Year 3 Tri Golf Festival for the Durham School Sports Partnership on Friday. Our Year 3 children will all be taking part in this and some of our Year 6 children will be helping to lead and oversee the younger children during the day. Let's hope the weather is kind to us!

### **Positive Thinking**

*When the world says 'give up',  
Hope whispers, 'Try it one more time.'*

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