



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 19th January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is a while since we have experienced weather quite so cold and icy as this week. Thank you for your patience on a morning - our caretaker has been very busy before school salting the paths but it has been re-freezing and the ice has just been so hard to shift. The milder weather will be welcomed by many of us, I'm sure – especially our caretaker!

Our Times Table Rockstar day was a great success in KS1 and KS2 on Tuesday. KS2 children thoroughly enjoyed using the app and challenging each other and other classes too. KS1 children enjoyed a morning of maths games too. We will continue to promote times tables as they really are the key to success in maths.

It was great to see so many Year 4 parents on Tuesday evening at the information session – especially on such a cold night. The presentation can be found on the website under the section: Parents – Downloadable Forms & Useful Info – Parent Workshops. This includes the Presentation as well as the 'Check Sheet'.

Diary Dates

The term's diary dates were on the first letter of the term but obviously dates are added as we go through the half term. Any additional dates will be added in bold and italics so you are aware that this has been added. Please also see the amended holiday dates.

Medicines in School

A letter will be emailed out next week about a change in our procedures for administering medicine. In the past, we have only ever been able to give prescribed medicines in school. However, there has been a change in this guidance meaning that we can now give paracetamol (Calpol) to children in school during the school day. We will need parental consent for this though. However, we do feel that this will be beneficial to those who return to school after an illness and may still need some painkillers. Please look out for the email which will be sent out separately.

Attendance

Whilst we report attendance each week to you, since Covid, we have not re-introduced our rewards and certificates in school for the children. However, this is now something we are going to start again so we can continually remind the children of the importance of good attendance and punctuality. However, we do understand that 100% attendance is not always possible for a number of valid reasons, such as hospital appointments or operations. Therefore, whilst we will be rewarding children for good attendance, we will also be looking at things such as improved attendance, 100% attendance for the term, the team with the best attendance, year group/class attendance of the week/term.

Reception	96.9%
Year 1	98.9%
Year 2	96.5%
Year 3	98.6%
Year 4	97.9%
Year 5	97.9%
Year 6	95.5%

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

This weeks' guide from the National College is for children with Smartphones, and is well worth at having a look through with your child, especially if they have just received a new phone over the Christmas period. Don't forget, all parents can sign up to the National College via this link:

<https://nationalcollege.com/enrol/lanchester-endowed-parochial-primary-school> and this gives you access to a number of brilliant online resources and courses, so please make use of this fantastic resource.

LJG Sports Coaching Holiday Club

LJG Sports Coaching will be holding holiday club in school during half term on Monday 19th & Tuesday 20th February. If you would like to book your child onto one of these sessions, please do so via this link:

<https://forms.gle/usmM4tEfvbXBq3qV6>.

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

Diary Dates for Next Week

Monday 22nd January and Tuesday 23rd January – Captain Chemistry in School

Captain Chemistry joins us for the first time in 2024 next week. On Monday he is working with Year 4 to support their Science work on 'Sound' and on Tuesday with Year 1 to support their work on 'Materials'.

Wednesday 24th January – Mini Police Project with Year 5

We are delighted that we have secured the delivery of the Mini Police Project with our Year 5 children. This is a 3-week project of hour-long sessions which cover the following:

Week 1 – Introductions including Police Roles and Responsibilities

Week 2 – Anti-Social Behaviour Awareness and Understanding

Week 3 – Showcase and Cascade Learning

I am sure the Year 5 children will all get a lot out of this project and will enjoy telling you all about it!

Wednesday 24th January – Year 6 Workshops

We have booked Mrs Vicki Lydon from 'Smile Anti-Bullying Service' to work with our Year 6 children on Wednesday afternoon. We hope that they will find the session useful and thought-provoking.

Thursday 25th January – Digital Leaders at Bett Show, London

Four of our digital leaders head off to the Bett Show at London Excel Centre on Thursday morning. They will enjoy two days at the Bett show followed by seeing Mrs Doubtfire the musical on Friday evening and some sightseeing on Saturday morning. I am sure they will thoroughly enjoy their time in London.

SEND News

NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board, who are responsible for making sure health services are available for local people, want to speak to young people and their families about mental health and the support available for those who may need help. It is important that they do this, so they can understand what young people and their families think and feel.

They have asked us to share this short, two-question survey with our families to find out how you feel about a potential online mental health support service for young people. The questionnaire can be found [here](#).

Mr McLoughlin

Early Years News

It has been a chilly week in EYFS, but the children have had a great time enjoying the icy weather. It has been great to see so many children bringing in their hats, gloves and scarves so that they can stay warm

during their much-needed time outdoors. We have lots of children who are independently getting themselves ready, putting on their coats and zipping them up themselves. Please continue to encourage them to try to do this themselves at home. Being independent gives children such a boost to their self-esteem!

In Nursery, it has been a week of practising physical skills - throwing balls through hoops suspended in the trees, dancing with scarves and ribbons and learning to use scissors. We are so proud of the children for working hard all week! If you would like to support your child with their cutting skills at home, there are some great tips [here](#). We have talked a lot about what is (and isn't!) appropriate to cut, so do ask your child to tell you about what they have learned.

The children in Reception have been exploring space through a wide range of activities including storytelling, Drawing Club, Now Press Play and sparkling galactic art. Thank you for those who have helped out with sharing their knowledge of the moon and stars with us. To continue the theme, your child might enjoy playing [this space-themed phonics game](#), in which they have to use their phonic knowledge to read words and sort them into real or alien words.

Miss Butler

Key Stage One News

We have had another fantastic week in KS1, with the highlight being the fantastic Times Tables Rock Stars day on Tuesday. There were lots of times tables challenges including an epic battle between Mrs Davis and Mr Knighton!

To support the learning of times tables in KS1, Y2 have just started using TT Rockstars and have been given a username and password which is stuck in their reading record. TT Rockstars is an online programme in which children can practise their times tables through a variety of fun games and challenges. It is a really great way to practise foundational times table knowledge.

Year 1 have also been given access to Numbots which is a younger version of TT Rockstars. Year 1 children should have come home with a letter explaining how to access Numbots, including a username and password, earlier this week.

Numbots is an online programme that allows children to practise their maths skills at home through a variety of really fun maths games. As they answer questions they win coins to upgrade their Numbot with new parts and accessories. We believe using Numbots at home is a really fantastic way to support your child's learning and develop their mathematical fluency. We hope you will enjoy using it!

Mr Innes

Key Stage Two News



At Lanchester EP we use White Rose Maths as the basis for our teaching of Mathematics across the school. The White Rose Maths scheme of work aims to show pupils that everyone can do maths! It strives to inspire children's love for this fascinating subject, aiming to develop pupils' reasoning, fluency and problem-solving skills.

Our current Key Stage 2 topics are as follows:

Year 3 Division

Year 4 Multiplication and Division

Year 5 Division

Year 6 Ratio and Proportion

To find out more about the White Rose approach to teaching and how you could support your child at home, visit the parents' section of the White Rose website: <https://whiterosemaths.com/parent-resources>

Times Tables Rock Stars



Our Key Stage 2 children thoroughly enjoyed their Times Table Rock Stars Day on Tuesday. They challenged themselves, each other, their teachers and took part in class battles! It was amazing to see the children learning their tables and having fun at the same time.

Times tables are a massively important aspect of a child's mathematical journey in primary school and beyond. Why not ask your child to show you how TTRS works? You could log in with them at home and see the challenges they take part in, find out which tables they are working on and look at the progress they are making.

Multiplication Tables

In Key Stage 2, we are having a real push on supporting the children to learn their multiplication tables. Knowing the times tables (and their associated division facts) supports mathematical learning and understanding and those children who have a strong grasp of them tend to be more self-assured when learning new concepts. As part of the National Curriculum, every child is expected to know their multiplication tables up to 12 x 12. This is broken down across school as follows:

- Year 1: count in multiples of **2, 5 and 10**.
- Year 2: be able to remember and use multiplication and division facts for the **2, 5 and 10** multiplication tables, including recognising odd and even numbers.
- Year 3: be able to remember and use multiplication and division facts for the **3, 4 and 8** multiplication tables, including recognising odd and even numbers.
- Year 4: be able to remember and use multiplication and division facts for the multiplication tables **up to 12 x 12**.
- Year 5: revision of all multiplication and division facts for the multiplication tables **up to 12 x 12**.
- Year 6: revision of all multiplication and division facts for the multiplication tables **up to 12 x 12**.

You can get some ideas to support your child at home on the following websites:

[Help with times tables: fun ideas, videos and quizzes - Oxford Owl](#)

[Times Tables Rock Stars – Times Tables Rock Stars \(trockstars.com\)](http://trockstars.com)

Mr Knighton

Positive Thinking

*30 days hath September, April, June and November,
All the rest have 31...
Except for January which has about 973!*

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 1

Monday 22 nd January 2024	All Day	Captain Chemistry in School
Tuesday 23 rd January 2024	All Day	Captain Chemistry in School
Wednesday 24 th January 2024	Morning	Year 5 Mini Police Project
Thursday 25 th January 2024	All Day	Digital Leaders at Bett Show, London
Friday 26 th January 2024	All Day	Digital Leaders at Bett Show, London
Saturday 27 th January 2024	5pm	Digital Leaders Arrive at Durham Train Station
Week Beginning 29 th January	All Week	National Storytelling Week
Tuesday 30 th January	9am & 2.15pm	Tales Toolkit Workshops for Nursery Parents
Tuesday 30 th January 2024	6pm	Parent Information Session on New Spelling Scheme – Sounds and Syllables
Tuesday 30 th January 2024	All Day	Ancient Egypt Outreach Day for Year 5
Wednesday 31 st January 2024	Morning	Year 5 Mini Police Project
Thursday 1 st February 2024	9am & 2.15pm	Tales Toolkit Workshops for Nursery Parents
Friday 2 nd February 2024	9am & 2.15pm	Tales Toolkit Workshops for Nursery Parents
Monday 5 th February 2024	9am	Y3 Spelling in Action Lesson for Parents
Tuesday 6 th February 2024	9am	Y4 Spelling in Action Lesson for Parents
Tuesday 6 th February 2024	All Day	Reception at Laing Art Gallery
Wednesday 7 th February 2024	9am	Y5 Spelling in Action Lesson for Parents
Wednesday 7 th February 2024	Morning	Year 5 Mini Police Project
Wednesday 7 th February 2024	4.50pm	Year 5 & Year 6 Depart for Rajkot, India
Thursday 8 th February 2024	9am	Y6 Spelling in Action Lesson for Parents
Thursday 8th February 2024	3.15-4.15pm	KS1 Disco in the School Hall
Thursday 8th February 2024	4.30pm – 6pm	KS2 Disco in the School Hall
Wednesday 14th February 2024	3.15pm-4.15pm	SEND Support Plans Reviewed
Friday 16 th February 2024	Morning	Year 5 & Year 6 Arrive from India
Friday 16 th February 2024	Afternoon	Royal Opera Workshop for KS2
Holiday Club: Monday and Tuesday 19th & 20th February 2024		
Email: ljsportscoaching@gmail.com		
Friday 23 rd February 2024	1.10pm	Year 5 & Year 6 Depart for Dubai, UAE
Monday 26 th February 2024	7.30am	School re-opens for Spring Term 2
Monday 26 th February 2024	All Day	Captain Chemistry in School
Tuesday 27 th February 2024	All Day	Captain Chemistry in School
Wednesday 28 th February 2024	All Day	Year 2 at Centre for Life
Monday 4 th March 2024	9am	Year 3 Maths in Action Lesson for Parents
Tuesday 5 th March 2024	Morning	Author Dan Smith in School
Tuesday 5th March 2024	All Day	Year 1 in Newcastle for Bright Lights, Big City Topic
Wednesday 6 th March 2024	9am	Year 4 Maths in Action Lesson for Parents
Thursday 7 th March 2024	9am	Year 5 Maths in Action Lesson for Parents
Friday 8 th March 2024	9am	Year 6 Maths in Action Lesson for Parents
Friday 8 th March 2024	All Day	Durham University PGCE Students Forest School Day Here
Monday 11 th March 2024	9am	Reception Maths in Action Lesson for Parents

Tuesday 12 th March 2024	9am	Year 1 Maths in Action Lesson for Parents
Wednesday 13 th March 2024	9am	Year 2 Maths in Action Lesson for Parents
Saturday 16 th March 2024	4am	Year 4 – 6 Ski Trip Leaves School
Tuesday 19 th March 2024	All Day	Reception at Northumberland Zoo
Saturday 23 rd March 2024	Afternoon	Year 4 – 6 Ski Trip Returns
Monday 25 th March 2024	3.30pm-6pm	Parents' Evening
Tuesday 26 th March 2024	3.30pm-6pm	Parents' Evening
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	2.30pm	Coffee Afternoon
Thursday 28 th March 2024	5.15pm	School Closes for Easter Holiday
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
Spring Half Term	Friday 16 th February 2024	Monday 26 th February 2024
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

SMARTPHONE SAFETY TIPS

for young people

7

You may have been lucky enough to have unwrapped a smartphone at Christmas, or you might be eagerly anticipating getting a new one at some point during this year. Whether it'll be your first ever phone or an upgrade on your old model, it's always useful to have a refresher about how to set it up and adjust the settings to keep yourself – and your valuable personal info – safe and secure. We've collected some expert tips to help you enjoy your smartphone in the healthiest way possible.

NEVER SHARE YOUR PASSCODE

Alongside face or fingerprint recognition, your passcode is crucial to unlocking your phone and accessing your apps and personal information. You shouldn't give it out, even to close friends – after all, you wouldn't hand them a key to your house and let them go in for a nosy around! If a friend wants to use your phone, ask them why and make sure you can see what they're doing with it.

RESPECT PARENTAL CONTROLS

If you're allowed to have a smartphone, it's because your parents or carers feel that you're mature and responsible enough to use it safely. They might set controls and boundaries on your device – not to spoil your fun but to help you avoid hazards like too much screen time or costly in-app purchases. Following these rules means you can enjoy using your phone while respecting their wishes.

TALK TO A TRUSTED ADULT

Whether it's to listen to music, play games, create content or chat with friends, using a smartphone should be fun. If you're ever feeling anxious, worried or scared about going on your phone, then something isn't right. It's important not to ignore these feelings; instead, talk to a trusted adult about what's happening and how it's making you feel.

STAY ALERT

Two words: look up. It might sound obvious, but it's so easy to get immersed in what we're looking at or listening to on our phones that we can become unaware of our surroundings – or who might be around us. People often walk with their head down, focusing on their phone, and forget to check for obstacles in their path, cars or other pedestrians coming towards them, which is clearly dangerous.

DEVELOP HEALTHY HABITS

Phones offer a vast amount of content and the chance to chat with friends whenever we feel like it, which can make it difficult to take time away from the screen. If that's something you struggle with, you could try setting time limits on certain apps. Putting our phones down for a while gives us more time to interact with others or do something physical that helps keep us fit and healthy.

IGNORE UNKNOWN NUMBERS

There are some scammers who might call or text asking you to share personal data or to click on a link and provide your details. Some may claim to be from a genuine company, but trustworthy businesses don't spontaneously call or message to ask for your information. It's safest to ignore calls or texts from unknown numbers, and never give your personal details out over the phone.

ONLY USE AGE-APPROPRIATE APPS

Before downloading a new app or game, check what age rating it has. Don't feel pressured into getting a particular game or app just because your friends are using it. If it's intended for older people, there's a definite risk that it could include content (which is violent or frightening, for instance) or language which isn't suitable and may leave you feeling upset or disturbed.

REMOVE TEMPTATION

A good night's sleep is so important for concentration, mood and overall health. Unwinding properly before going to bed – which means not staring at a screen late at night – can often improve sleep quality. Put your phone on charge overnight, but not in your room. This means you'll have a lot less temptation to check any notifications, reply to messages or get caught up scrolling on social media.

THINK ABOUT OTHERS

Watching videos, listening to music or calling someone can all help to pass the time while we're on the bus, waiting in a queue or walking down the street. It's important to remain mindful of other people, though; they might not want to hear your tunes or your conversation. Likewise, if you're calling from a public place then don't forget that anyone could overhear something personal about you.

SWITCH OFF GEOLOCATION

In your phone's settings, you'll be able to disable geolocation for individual apps and photos; this means that people online (including strangers) can't see information about where you are when you share or post a pic. On the subject of images, it's also important to ask permission before taking or sharing a photo of someone – and don't share embarrassing images of your friends with others.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



The National College

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#WakeUpWednesday

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