



# 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 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another very exciting week in school with so much taking place. Our KS2 swimmers came second place in the swimming gala on Monday – well done to all of them! Then on Tuesday, our Reception children had a wonderful day at the Laing Art Gallery – I think every single one of them came back full of the whole day. Wednesday brought with it the final session for the Y5 Mini Police project which they have all thoroughly enjoyed. We also saw eight very brave children fly off to Rajkot, India for a life-changing Turing visit to our partner schools there. The rest of the school enjoyed their discos which were eagerly anticipated by the children yesterday. The Friends of the School commented on their amazing behaviour and manners too. I think the Friends also deserve a huge thank you for organising the discos – when is the next one is the question asked by the children?! It has also been great to see so many children wearing their scarves to school today too.

In addition to the above, we held our Spelling in Action Parent Sessions in every year group in KS2. Many thanks to the parents who attended and I do hope you found these sessions useful.

### **School Therapy Dog**

You will receive a separate letter giving you more information about our school therapy dog training that is due to start next week. Woody, my golden Labrador, is about to start the intensive training next week to become a therapy dog. The letter gives you further information about the benefits to the children of having a school dog. This is going to be another great addition to life in our school.

### **House Team Day**

We are asking all children to come to school in their PE kits on Friday next week, the final day of the half term. We are holding a 'team' day when we will spend time in our houses as well as enjoying a few friendly house competitions. We hope this will continue to help develop the team spirit across school. Reception children will also be involved in some of these activities too.

### **World Book Day**

We thought it would be useful for you to have some advance notice about World Book Day which takes place on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024. We know many children do enjoy dressing up but we are also aware that many don't. So for World Book Day we will ask children and adults to come to school dressed as their favourite book character, or alternatively, they can come dressed in their pyjamas ready to read! For those children who don't want to do either, they can come in non-uniform for the day. Hope that helps your planning. We do not want to cause any additional expense to parents and carers though.

### **4Louis Charity Raffle Tickets**

Please read the information below from one of our families:

*'Kleiber in Year 1 & Keanu in Nursery are holding a raffle in memory of their little sister Delilah who passed away at the end of September. They are raising money for the charity 4Louis who provided us a memory box shortly after her passing, the boys received sibling teddies from the box and without it we wouldn't have her handprints and photos to keep. 4Louis memory box meant that we didn't leave the hospital empty handed. The money raised will go toward helping other bereaved families who also lose their children. We hope you never have to receive one of these boxes but 4Louis are a fantastic charity. The raffle tickets will be £2 for a strip with the chance to win a hamper full of goodies! The hampers are for both children and adults, so if you*

*are lucky enough to win one then an adult will need to collect it. Good luck and thank you for supporting our cause.'*

If you would like to support this wonderful charity, raffle tickets are on sale in the Arbor School Shop for £2.00 a strip.

### **Attendance**

Most children (and adults) will say that the best part about school is the time spent playing with friends. Although academic development is important, attending school is equally about developing the personal and social skills required to become positive members of our community.

Regular school attendance can support positive peer relationships, which is a protective factor for mental health and wellbeing. When children miss regular days, they can feel isolated from friends and struggle to maintain secure relationships with children and adults.

Returning after absence and knowing that they have not been part of certain experiences, conversations, jokes and activities, can create concern for children. This can lead to increased levels of anxiety and, for some, can grow into a general negative attitude towards education which can last a lifetime.

Outside of work being completed in class, we ensure that we provide regular time for children to interact socially through break and lunch times, forest school and clubs. Being able to take full advantage of this starts with attending school every day.

<b>Weekly Attendance</b>	
<b>Year Group</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Reception	97.8%
Year 1	94.8%
Year 2	93.1%
Year 3	89.9%
Year 4	98.3%
Year 5	94.8%
Year 6	92.9%

### **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 week, Mr Bailey kicked off Our Mental Health week with an assembly about online safety, which linked to Safer Internet Day on Tuesday. Safer Internet Day is a global campaign to promote the safe and responsible use of technology, which calls on young people, parents, carers, teachers, social workers, law enforcement, companies, policymakers and more, to help to create a better internet. This year the campaign's focus was on change online, including:

- Young people's perspective on new and emerging technology
- Using the internet to make change for the better
- The changes young people want to see online
- The things that can influence and change the way young people think, feel and act online and offline.

Using the internet safely and positively is a key message that we promote throughout school and we would be delighted if you could join us by continuing the conversation at home. To help you with this, the UK Safer

Internet Centre have created some free activities and information for parents and carers which are available at: [Parents and carers - UK Safer Internet Centre](#). Whether you have 5 minutes to start a conversation or hours to spare, there are numerous resources available from the UK Safer Internet Centre ([Homepage - UK Safer Internet Centre](#)) including top tips, quizzes and films which you can use at home with your child.

### **LJG Sports Coaching Holiday Club**

LJG Sports Coaching will be holding holiday club in school during half term on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:LJGsportscoaching@gmail.com).

### **Extra-Curricular Clubs**

We are able to hold some of our extra-curricular clubs next week. Mrs Knighton's Choir on Tuesday and Singing Playgrounds on Wednesday will still take place. All of Mr Graham's clubs will still take place and Netball will still take place too. However, all other clubs involving teaching staff are not on next week.

### **Diary Dates for Next Week**

#### **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February – Therapy Dog Training**

This takes place in school on Wednesday morning. Children will be aware there is a dog on the premises but until the training is complete, there will be no interaction with the dog for them.

#### **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February – Nursery Lunar New Year Party**

Nursery children will be continuing their work on the Lunar New Year and will enjoy some special celebrations on Wednesday. Children are invited to wear something red, black or gold on the day if they wish.

#### **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February – Ashing Service**

Revd Lesley will be in school to hold a special Ashing Service for Ash Wednesday. This is an age-appropriate service (which we also held last year) which includes the opportunity for children to receive the sign of the cross in ashes. If you do not wish your child to receive the sign of the cross, please email the school office by Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February. Thank you.

#### **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February – SEN Support Plans Reviewed**

If your child has an SEN Support Plan or an EHCP and you have not yet made an appointment to speak to your child's class teacher about this, please get in touch with them before the end of the school day on Monday to request a time slot. They will then offer you a slot between 3:15pm and 4:15pm on Wednesday to discuss your child's needs and the support provision in place for them.

#### **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February – Children Return from India**

Our intrepid explorers return today and land at Newcastle Airport at 11.35am. I am sure children and parents alike will be thrilled to be re-united after the most incredible week away.

#### **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February – House Team Day**

As already stated, we would like all children to come in their PE kits for the day so that they feel part of their teams ready to spend time in their houses, playing and then competing with each other. This is the first time we have held such a day but is something we would like to hold every half term going forward.

#### **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February – Year 2 Space Day**

Mr Bailey will be working with Year 2 for a special Space Day to bring this half-term's topic to a close. I know they will all thoroughly enjoy the activities he has planned.

#### **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February – Royal Opera House Workshop**

Members of the Royal Opera House are coming to school during the afternoon session to work with members of our choir on their current opera songs from The Magic Flute they are learning. This is going to be a wonderful experience for them all!

## **SEND News**

Thank you to the parents and carers who have been in touch with class teachers to arrange a time slot to talk through SEN Support Plans on Wednesday next week.

If your child has an SEN Support Plan or an EHCP and you have not yet made an appointment to speak to your child's class teacher about this, please get in touch with them before the end of the school day on Monday to request a time slot. They will then offer you a slot between 3:15pm and 4:15pm to discuss your child's needs and the support provision in place for them.

We hope that this will be useful for everyone as we really value the input that parents and carers make as part of the review process.

***Mr McLoughlin***

## **Early Years News**

It has been another exciting week in EYFS, especially for the Reception children who went on their first school trip of the year to Laing Art Gallery. What an experience it was for our children! They were extremely interested in the art work on display, exploring the colours and moods of paintings and sculptures, talking about how the art work made them feel and explaining which they liked best and why. They explored the features of the building and especially enjoyed the rotund and the grand staircase. It was a privilege to accompany them on the trip, especially as their impeccable behaviour was commented on several times by both staff and visitors to the gallery.



Across both Nursery and Reception, the children have been exploring the traditions of Lunar New Year. We have been very excited to learn that we will soon be welcoming the Year of the Dragon. We have enjoyed stories about dragons, made lanterns, and practised yoga poses to match the animals from the Chinese Zodiac, amongst lots of other activities. Next week, the children in Nursery will be continuing the celebrations and will be holding a Lunar New Year Party Day on Wednesday. Children are invited to wear something red, black or gold on the day if they wish.

A big thank you to all those who did their homework from last week's Tales Toolkit workshops. We have had all sorts of wonderful stories shared with us via Evidence Me and several children have brought their written stories into Nursery to share. It has been wonderful to hear of the children's enthusiasm and it is lovely to know that they have been sharing their creative ideas with you at home. Tales Toolkit are currently changing their website provider, but once their new website is up and running we will be sharing news about how you can find out further information and inspiration via their Parent Portal.

***Miss Butler***

## **Key Stage One News**

In Key Stage One children are enjoying the final few lessons of their current topics. Over the next couple of weeks we will be starting our new topics.

Year 1	Year 2
	

Year 1 will be looking at the Bright Lights, Big City where we will explore the sights and landmarks of our Capital city London as well as somewhere closer to home – Newcastle.

In Year 2 the topic is Scrumdiddlyumptious. In this topic the children will be finding out where our food comes from and how it is processed ready for us to eat.

Our Core texts for these topics will be:

Year 1	The Queen's Hat	Steve Anthony
Year 1	Vlad and the Great Fire of London	Kate Cunningham
Year 2	I Can Cook	Sally Brown and Kate Morris
Year 2	The Story of Chocolate	Alex Wolf
Year 2	Handa's Surprise	Eileen Browne

### **Key Stage Two News**

In class, each year group will be starting their new topics over the next two weeks. Our new topic in Year 3 is 'I am Warrior,' where the children will meet the invading Roman army in battle and discover warring Britain, whilst Year 4 will be welcomed to the amazing magical world of potions. Our Year 5 children will visit the 'Allotment' and will be growing crispy carrots, a luscious lettuce or tasty tomatoes and finally, Year 6 will take a trek into the depths of the jungle and explore the 'Rainforest Kingdoms'.



The texts that link to our topics are as follows:

Year 3	The Leopard in the Golden Cage	Julia Edwards
Year 4	Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone	J.K. Rowling
Year 5	The Secret Garden	Francis Hodgson Burnett
Year 6	There's a Rang Tan in My Bedroom	James Sellick

If you would like more information about our topics, texts or want to know how you can support your child's learning, please refer to the 'Parent Information' leaflets that will be sent out shortly.

### **Positive Thinking**

***The people who succeed aren't the ones who avoid failure.  
They're the ones who learn how to respond to failure with optimism.***

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

<b>Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>All Day</b>	<b>Nursery Lunar New Year Party</b>
<b>Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Morning</b>	<b>Ashing Service in School</b>
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	3.15pm-4.15pm	SEND Support Plans Reviewed
<b>Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024</b>	<b>All Day</b>	<b>House Team Day</b>
<b>Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024</b>	<b>All Day</b>	<b>Year 2 Space Day</b>
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	Morning	Year 5 & Year 6 Arrive from India
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	Afternoon	Royal Opera Workshop for KS2
<b>Holiday Club: Monday and Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> &amp; 20<sup>th</sup> February 2024</b>		
<b>Email: <a href="mailto:ljsportscoaching@gmail.com">ljsportscoaching@gmail.com</a></b>		
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2024	1.10pm	Year 5 & Year 6 Depart for Dubai, UAE
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	7.30am	School re-opens for Spring Term 2
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	All Day	Captain Chemistry in School
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	All Day	Captain Chemistry in School
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	All Day	Year 2 at Centre for Life
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	9am	Year 3 Maths in Action Lesson for Parents
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Morning	Author Dan Smith in School
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	All Day	Year 1 in Newcastle for Bright Lights, Big City Topic
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	9am	Year 4 Maths in Action Lesson for Parents
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	9am	Year 5 Maths in Action Lesson for Parents
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	9am	Year 6 Maths in Action Lesson for Parents
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	All Day	Durham University PGCE Students Forest School Day Here
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	9am	Reception Maths in Action Lesson for Parents
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	9am	Year 1 Maths in Action Lesson for Parents
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	6pm	Year 6 Parent Information Session on SATs
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	9am	Year 2 Maths in Action Lesson for Parents
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	1pm	Performance of Hamlet in Bishop Auckland Town Hall
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	4am	Year 4 – 6 Ski Trip Leaves School
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	All Day	Reception at Northumberland Zoo
Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2024	Afternoon	Year 4 – 6 Ski Trip Returns
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	3.30pm-6pm	Parents' Evening
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	3.30pm-6pm	Parents' Evening
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Afternoon	Easter Service in All Saints Church
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Morning	Easter Egg Decorating Competition
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	2.30pm	Coffee Afternoon
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	5.15pm	School Closes for Easter Holiday
<b>KS2 Statutory Assessment Tests - Week Beginning Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024</b>		
<b>Year 4 Multiplication Check - Week Beginning Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024</b>		
<b>Year 1 &amp; Year 2 Phonics Screening Check - Week Beginning Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2024</b>		

### School Holidays 2023 – 2024

Holiday	Last Day at School	Re-open for Teaching
Spring Half Term	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
Easter Holiday	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April 2024
May Day	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2024	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> May 2024
Summer Half Term	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2024	Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2024
Summer Holiday	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2024</b>

### School Holidays 2024 – 2025

Holiday	Last Day at School	Re-open for Teaching
		Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2024
Autumn Half Term	Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October 2024	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November 2024
<b><i>Long Weekend</i></b>	<b><i>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2024</i></b>	<b><i>Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2024</i></b>
Christmas Holiday	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2024	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2025
Spring Half Term	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> February 2025	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2025
Easter Holiday	Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> April 2025	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> April 2025
May Day	Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2025	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> May 2025
<b><i>Summer Half Term</i></b>	<b><i>Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2025</i></b>	<b><i>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025</i></b>
Summer Holiday	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2025	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2025