



# 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 21<sup>st</sup> April 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the start of the best and busiest term! It has been so lovely to see the children playing on the school field for the first time in months! The weather brings a spring to your step and really helps to lift your spirits doesn't it?

Thanks to you all for your great support at the end of last term. The Easter Egg decorating competition was the toughest ever this year! The children had some wonderfully creative ideas and as for you parents and carers – yours were simply brilliant! Thank you all for coming along to the coffee afternoon too – it was so well attended with a lovely atmosphere.

Our Easter Services were super too – our Year 5 children led the KS2 service exceptionally well while our EYFS and KS1 children were mesmerised with Mr Innes leading their service.

This week has been another very busy one with four Year 5 boys in Brussels on an Erasmus+ visit and 60 Year 4 children in Seahouses! Residentials are always a real highlight for me as you get to know children so very well when you go away with them! Our children are a pleasure to be with – polite, happy, well-mannered with excellent behaviour. They are a credit to you all!

## **Statutory Tests in May and June**

This is a reminder that Year 2 and Year 6 have their statutory tests in May, therefore good attendance is essential during this month. For Year 6, their tests take place from Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May until Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May. Year 2 will not be aware that they are doing anything differently and will complete their 'quizzes' during the month of May.

Year 1 have their phonics screening tests while Year 4 have their multiplication tests in early June and therefore good attendance is essential then. Thank you for your support with your child's good attendance during these important times!

## **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**

	17/04/2023
Reception	99.7%
Year 1	95.8%
Year 2	97.8%
Year 3	95.1%
Year 4	98.5%
Year 5	99.0%
Year 6	98.2%

## **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

12 Year 4 children will be attending the Science Ambassadors training on Tuesday at Parkside Academy in Willington. This is part of the Ogden Partnership work and is a great opportunity for some of our children. I am sure this will be a great opportunity and experience for them all.

## **Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

The NEU (National Education Union) are holding a strike on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April. The following classes will be closed to all pupils on Thursday, as communicated in the email sent yesterday:

Year 1 – Mrs Burke's Class

Year 3 – Mr Stephenson's Class

Year 3 – Mrs Coyle's Class

Year 5 – Mrs Grayson's Class

## **Year 6 Leavers Hooded Jumpers**

Year 6 Leavers hooded jumpers will be available to buy on your child's Arbor account in the School Shop area from today. The cost is £20 and we will sort out the size your child needs in school next week when we have the samples delivered. Payment for the jumper must be made by 1st May so that we can place the order in time to get them delivered before half term.

## **Paying for Trips & Wrap Around Care**

Going forward, trips will be added to your child's Arbor account. Wrap around care can also be booked and paid for via the system and seems to be very straight forward. Previously, those paying by childcare vouchers could not book their child onto wrap around care - this is now possible. It is also possible for free school meal children to book onto breakfast club without being charged.

Please make sure you book your child onto wrap around care, as it makes it so much easier for staff and children when we know who is supposed to be attending. If you have booked your child onto the club and no longer want them to attend, you need to contact the school office, although if your child is not marked as attending the club, you will not be charged anyway.

## **Updating Details on Arbor**

Please make sure you familiarise yourself with Arbor and make any required changes to your child's details - this is how we will be sending information home from now on and where staff will retrieve details about your child (such as their medical needs and dietary requirements). Over the next term, we plan to put photo consents and Year 5 & 6 Walk Home consents onto Arbor as well, which will again make it easier for you to see what you have consented for. This will also mean staff will be updated immediately if there is any change to consent.

## **School Trips**

We place a huge emphasis on learning outside the classroom and as a result, ensure our children have many experiences on both day trips and residential. We aim to make them as affordable as possible, as well as giving you as much time as possible to pay for them, prior to the trips taking place. However, we are very conscious that they have increased in price recently which is mainly due to the cost of hiring the coaches as well as increased entry costs. Please be reassured that we always subsidise the visits from our school budget as much as possible as well as giving children eligible for Free School Meals all trips at a vastly reduced cost.

## **Early Years News**

We have loved having the children back to school this week. We have had such a busy week with Nursery and Reception exploring the forest for signs of spring. In Reception, the children have been busy baking bread with Mrs Riddell to link with the story of The Little Red Hen.

It has been wonderful to be able to spend more time outside in the warmer weather. Please remember on warm days that your child will need sun protection applying before they come to school. We also need your permission to apply sunscreen throughout the day as needed so if you have not already done so, please ensure that you have signed and returned a permission form. If your child needs their own sunscreen, please send it into school labelled clearly with their name.

The children in Nursery have been showing an interest in sea life and pirates since returning to Nursery, so if anyone has any pirate themed costumes or toys they would like to donate, they would be very much appreciated.

A few general reminders:

- Can you check that you have returned your child's wellies and spare clothes bag to school after the holidays?
- Please make sure ALL jumpers/cardigans are clearly labelled with your child's name.
- Reception children will need PE kit from this half term. This **MUST** be clearly named to avoid items going missing.

### **Key Stage 1 News**

It has been a really nice return to school this week. The children seem to have had a good rest over the Easter Holidays and come back excited and ready to learn about their new topics.

Both Year 1 and 2 have topics learning about gardens, woodlands and plants this half term. The fantastic weather this week has meant that we have been able to get outside and there has been a wonderful buzz around the Key Stage as children have been planting seeds and watching them to see if they grow.

Year 1 will be taking part in Forest School as part of their topic this half term on a Thursday afternoon. Please could children bring in a set of clothes for Forest School. They will need strong shoes, long trousers or leggings and a long sleeve top as arms must be covered around the fire pit. Weekly sessions will alternate between the two classes.

Finally, just a reminder that reading books and reading records need to come into school **every day** in your child's book bag. We have had quite a few books missing this week so if you could send them in it would be much appreciated.

### **Key Stage 2 News**

Everyone in Key Stage 2 would like to welcome you back to the summer term. We hope you all had a lovely Easter break with your families.

The summer term is always extremely busy for the children – especially our Year 6, who are working hard in preparation for their SATs, which begin on the 9th May. They are also in their final term at Lanchester EP before they leave to start a new chapter in their lives at secondary school. We are planning a wide range of exciting activities and visits to ensure their last term with us is memorable.

The children across Key Stage 2 have made a start on their new topics.

Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
			

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

We look forward to working with you across the summer term.

**Positive Thinking**

**Accepting difference is when you recognise and respect  
people who are different to you, but also  
embrace their differences and see what you can learn from them.**

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