



LANCHESTER E.P. (Cont.) PRIMARY SCHOOL



Friday 30th September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has certainly been a very busy, varied and successful week in school. We have thoroughly enjoyed hosting our 21 European visitors this week from Spain, Hungary and Germany and our children have been wonderful hosts to their pupils too. The children have worked and played with each other which has been wonderful to witness – the universal language of football and laughter!

We have also enjoyed another hugely successful coastal walk for our children in Years 2-6. I am sure many of you, just like me, were closely watching the weather forecast all day Tuesday which kept changing hourly. Hearing the squeals of delight of the children as they boarded those buses, seeing their little faces on the beach and listening to the constant chatter as we walked, made every sleepless hour worthwhile! I would like to say a huge thank you to Mr McLoughlin who replied to my messages at 5.30am that morning and masterminded the change of venue and also to the whole staff team for their positivity and flexibility in ensuring the day could go ahead. It was wonderful to have so many parents and grandparents join us for the day too – it really is a very special day for all involved and one which I hope the children will remember for a long time to come.

New Arrival to the School Team

I am delighted to tell you that Mrs Race gave birth to Elouise Iris Race on Friday 23rd September weighing a very healthy 9lbs 7oz. Mother and Baby are doing very well and big brother is being very helpful too I am told! I am sure you will join us in sending congratulations to the whole family.

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

Here is the attendance for the last 2 weeks – we do celebrate good attendance in our Achievement Assembly every Friday morning and the children are always keen to be the best!

Week Beg. 19 th Sept.	Attendance
Reception	96.6%
Year 1	97.9%
Year 2	97.2%
Year 3	97.0%
Year 4	94.1%
Year 5	97.2%
Year 6	96.6%

Week Beg. 26 th Sept.	Attendance
Reception	93.9%
Year 1	94.2%
Year 2	95.9%
Year 3	97.1%
Year 4	94.4%
Year 5	95.8%
Year 6	95.8%

Dates for Next Week

Sports Events

We are so lucky to have so many different sports events taking place after school each week this half term. Our KS1 footballers have been a real credit to our school, not only playing really well, but showing great sportsmanship. Here are next week's sporting events:

Monday after school:	Girls Football at Consett Football Club
Tuesday after school:	KS1 Football at Greenland Primary School
Wednesday afternoon school:	KS2 Boys Football at Consett Football Club
Thursday after school:	KS2 Cross Country – venue to be confirmed

It is disappointing that every cross country event has had to be postponed so far – this is due to the weather. We also apologise for the late notification yesterday of it being postponed, but we had not been informed at all and only actually heard when another parent told us! So apologies for that – but it was not our fault!

Sunday 2nd October – 10.30am Harvest Festival Service at All Saints' Church

Some of our children will be taking part in this service – they will have been given their scripts today. We would appreciate them arriving at church in their school uniform at 10.20am so they can sit together. However, this special service is open to all children and families and all of our school community is warmly invited to come along and join us in this service on Sunday morning.

Monday 3rd October – Booking Open for Reception – Year 6 Parents' Evening

From Monday at 3.00pm you will be able to book an appointment to see your child's class teacher on either Tuesday 18th or Thursday 20th October. Parents' Evening appointments can be booked via your eSchools log in (new Reception parents will be sent their log in details via text by Monday), or by phoning or emailing the school office on school.office@lanchesterep.net. Booking will close on Sunday 16th October at 3.00pm and any bookings after this will need to be made via the school office.

Monday 3rd October – Year 6 Open Evening at North Durham Academy

On Monday evening, all Year 6 prospective parents and children are welcome to go along to North Durham Academy to have a look round, meet the staff and have a look around the building. The Open Evening takes place between 4pm and 7pm.

Tuesday 4th October – Parent Phonics Workshops - 8.45am and 6pm

We are holding two workshops on Tuesday for parents and carers to learn more about how we teach phonics across school. These will be led by Mr Innes and Miss Butler and will last around half an hour. Mr Innes will give you an overview about our Sounds Write Programme, Miss Butler will explain the teaching approach in Reception before Mr Innes talks about the teaching process in Year 1 and Year 2 and Lower Key Stage 2. The sessions will take place in the Junior Hall at 8.45am and again at 6pm. We look forward to seeing you then!

Tuesday 4th October – Tiny Tweeties in School

Our Reception children have a real treat on Tuesday morning when we welcome Tiny Tweeties into school for a wonderful session with them. They will enjoy a morning of music and drama and will hopefully tell you all about it over tea on Tuesday evening!

Wednesday 5th October – EYFS and Year 1 Harvest Celebrations

Our youngest children will be enjoying their Harvest celebrations in school on Wednesday when they all meet together in the hall for stories and singing.

Wednesday 5th October – India Meeting

We are holding a meeting at 5pm for all parents and carers of children who are going on the visit to India in January. We have made the decision to hold this meeting in person as it is important for everyone to be able to ask as many questions as they want. We would also like all parents to bring along their child's passport and birth certificate so that we can start applying for their visas. We will be talking in more detail about travel, accommodation, itinerary and Mrs Veena Soni, the consultant who is helping to lead this visit, will also be talking to you all.

Thursday 6th October - Space Day Special Menu

We are all really looking forward to tasting our interplanetary space food, prepared by our very own Kitchen Aliens (we have been told they come in peace) on Thursday 6th October. ET has phoned home for supplies and they are all ordered now! Let's hope it is enjoyed by all!

Friday 7th October - Morning

There is a girls football tournament at Meadowfield for our girls football team on Friday morning – details will be sent out in due course once they have been confirmed.

Sunday 9th October – Erasmus+ Visit to Latvia

Miss Butler and Mrs Moralee are accompanying 4 very excited Year 6 girls to our partner school in Latvia and they depart on Sunday 9th October. I know the girls will be great ambassadors for the school and I hope we will all be able to read about their adventures in the next newsletter!

Early Years News

Can we please remind parents of Nursery children that if your child is still in nappies, you must provide your own nappies and wipes as we do not have these in school for general use. All children should have a drawstring bag kept in school with at least one full change of clothes, including socks, in case of accidents in school. Please check that these are replenished at regular intervals.

We would appreciate it if you could please promptly return any Nursery clothing that your child has been changed into. We have very few pairs of girls' knickers and socks, so please think of us if you have an older child and you have outgrown items. Our Nursery staff will work with you to support your toilet training plan, but for further advice around toilet training, please see your health visitor or take a look at this helpful guide online: <https://www.eric.org.uk/pages/category/potty-training>

Reception are looking forward to a visit from Tiny Tweeties next Tuesday morning. These visits are always anticipated with excitement. We know your children will have a wonderful session and hope that they tell you all about it.

Thank you for your offers of tractor tyres for the EYFS outdoor area. We are very grateful! Now to our next plea... if you have any old or unused photo frames, we would be very grateful for these to use in our Nursery Birthday display. We would also like to ask for any flowers that are past their best. We love exploring petals and leaves in EYFS, especially for our outdoor mud kitchen, so if you have a bunch of flowers that you are going to throw away, we would love to use the flower heads. If you could drop them off when you drop off your child, they will be very welcomed by our children.

Applications for Reception School Places are now open and close on Sunday 15th January 2023. It is essential that you apply within these timescales as late applications are not guaranteed a school place. We are full in Reception this year with a waiting list so it really is essential that you apply for a school place on time.

Please follow this link to apply for a school place: <https://www.durham.gov.uk/article/2189/Apply-now-for-a-primary-school-place-deadline-15-January-2023>

Key Stage 1 News

We have had a great start to the year in KS1. The children are settling in well and getting used to their new routines. This half-term's topics are very popular with the children: Y1 are loving learning about Dinosaurs and Y2 are enjoying their Pirate topic too. It has been wonderful to go into the classrooms and see the children so engaged and eager to learn.

Mrs Startup and Mr Osmond had a fantastic trip to the Trincomalee ship in Hartlepool last week. The children had a fabulous day exploring the ship and learning all about life at Sea. Mrs Startup and Mr Osmond would like to say a huge thank you to all those who volunteered and came to help on the trip.

Year 1 are looking forward to their trip to the Hancock Museum on the 11th October. **So far, we have only had 2 offers of help for the trip, so if you are available on the 11th and could help out we would really appreciate it!** Please contact Mr Innes by email if you are available to help – g.innes@lanchesterep.net
Next week Mr Innes will be running a parents Phonics session on Tuesday 4th October. This session aims to explain our approach to Phonics teaching so you can support your child with reading at home. If you are available, we would love you to come along! The session is running at 8.45 am and 6pm.

Also, just a reminder that children need their reading books and reading records in school every day. Please ensure your child has them with them every day in their book bag.

Finally, as the weather is getting colder and wetter the children are needing their wellies in school more often. If you haven't already, please can you bring a pair of wellies for your child to keep in school. Thank you.

Key Stage 2 News

It has been a very busy but exciting start to the new academic year in Key Stage 2. The children have returned to school full of enthusiasm and have been very settled in their classrooms. All staff have been impressed with the children's attitude and behaviour.

In class, each year group has started their new topic. Year 3 have travelled back in time to the Stone Age as part of their Tribal Tales topic, whilst Year 4 have been finding out about life across the Atlantic Ocean in 'Road Trip USA.' Our Year 5 children are launching themselves into Space with 'Stargazers' and finally, Year 6 are enjoying finding out about the traditions and myths of Ancient Greece as they learn about 'Gods and Mortals.' If you want more information about our topics or want to know how you can support your child's learning, please refer to the 'Parent

Information' leaflets sent out at the start of the year. These can also be found on the school website and your child's eSchools page.

All children in Key Stage 2 now have a book from our Accelerated Reader scheme. The children have selected their own books from the school library and should be bringing them home each day so you can listen to them read and talk to them about their reading. Once the children have finished their books, they take an online quiz about what they have read before they choose a new book. If you have any questions about your child's reading, please contact their class teacher. Please note that we are holding a parental workshop about Accelerated Reader on Wednesday 12th October at 8.45 am and 6pm.

Finally, the children will receive their homework each Thursday to be handed in the following Wednesday. Each week, the children will be given a piece of Maths and English homework (one of which will be online) and spellings to learn. Please support your child by ensuring work is handed back on time and talking to them about their tasks. Thank you.

Dubai Residential

The flights have now been booked for this residential. We will fly to and from Newcastle, leaving on Friday 24th February and returning on Friday 3rd March. We will hold a meeting about this visit on Thursday 17th November at 6pm in school when we will be able to talk in more detail about arrangements and the itinerary.

Advance Notices

Holiday Club Dates – October & December

LJG Coaching will be running the holiday clubs in school on the following dates:

24th – 26th October

21st – 22nd December

If you would like to book onto any of these dates, please fill in the online form here: [Holiday Club Booking](#), or email ljgsportscoaching@gmail.com for more information. Please note, children must be 4 years old to attend.

Advance Diary Dates

Sunday 2 nd October	Children leading Harvest Service in All Saints Church
Sunday 2 nd October	Pet Blessing Service at 3pm on the Village Green
Tuesday 11 th October	Year 1 at The Hancock Museum
Wednesday 12 th October	Accelerated Reader Parent Workshops at 8.45am and 6pm
Thursday 13 th October	Friends of the School Meeting at 5.45pm
Tuesday 18 th October	Parents' Evening in School
Wednesday 19 th October	Fire Brigade with Year 5 & Year 6 – Fire Safety Talk
Thursday 20 th October	Year 6 at Newcastle Mosque
Thursday 20 th October	Parents' Evening in School
Monday 7 th November	Year 4 trip to Jorvik – early drop off to school required
Thurs. 10 th & Fri. 11 th November	Year 5 at National Space Centre, Cadbury World and Birchwood School
Sunday 20 th November	Confirmation Service at Leadgate St Ives Church–time to be confirmed
Monday 12 th -Friday 16 th December	Erasmus+ Visit to Ajka, Hungary

Positive Thinking

***You may not have the power to change the past,
but you are in full control of where you'll go from here.***

Best Wishes,

Jane Davis

Mrs Jane Davis
Head Teacher