

Lanchester E. P. Prímary School



# Spring 2 Newsletter (4)

The year seems to be flying and it is hard to believe that it is March already! This is the term when the children eagerly anticipate the school field being dry enough for them to start playing on it. Let's just hope this lovely spring weather continues for as long as possible so we can make the most if it this half term!

We have a lot of residentials this half term – six in total – which is quite a challenge to organise. We had the exciting trip to Dubai at the start of the month, then we have four children and staff in our partner school near Aarhus in Denmark this week. Next week is the turn for our Year 3 and Year 4 children and I am delighted to say that we have 115 out of a total of 118 children going on these overnight visits. Due to the size of the year groups, we are taking one class at a time which does cause a challenge for us with staffing but it is worth it as the children just get so much out of these residentials. Busy but exciting times – and it is so lovely to be back to being full of busy! It is also great to have so many staff willing to give up their own time to accompany the children on these residentials.

This half term is a very important one in terms of academic progress for all our children but especially those in Year 2 and Year 6 who are preparing for the end of year statutory assessments. Year 6 have additional booster sessions while Year 2 should not even know they are taking them. We also have the Year 1 phonics screening in June as well as the new multiplication test for our Year 4 children. It really is business as normal as far as the testing programme goes!

Please do not forget that your child's class teacher can be contacted at any time by emailing them. Teachers are instructed to only reply to emails during their normal working day so please just be aware of this. All email addresses follow the same format of "initial.surname@lanchesterep.net" - for example: j.davis@lanchesterep.net, a.knighton@lanchesterep.net. The email addresses of all our teachers can also be found on the website via this link: Meet Our Staff, and are also available on your child's class page.

Jane Davís



#### Staffing

I am delighted to let you know that Mrs Nicola Newby will be returning to work full-time from Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April. She will be working in both Year 4 and the Nursery as she has been doing for the last few weeks on her KIT (Keeping In Touch) Days so already knows the children well. She may not be quite as delighted as we are - we all know how hard it is to return to work after the arrival of a child!



#### Lost Property

Please, please, PLEASE, label your child's belongings, especially jumpers, cardigans and coats. As the weather gets warmer, we have more jumpers and cardigans left lying around and we cannot reunite these with their owners if they are not named! Our uniform supplier will initial your sweatshirts and cardigans free of charge and biro on washing labels is also a really effective and cheap way to make sure your children do not lose their uniform. Thank you!

# RED

#### **Red Nose Day**



Thank you so much for your great generosity for Red Nose Day last Friday when we managed to raise an amazing £346. It is a huge amount to raise, especially with it being so close to our fundraising event for Ukraine. Thank you all for your donations.



#### **Durham Local Offer**

WWW The Durham Local Offer website contains a wealth of information to help parents and carers, especially parents and carers of children with additional needs. You can find information about different groups, charities and organisations that run all across County Durham. This may be especially useful for parents who are looking for activities to support their families during the school holidays. The website can be found by going to <u>www.countydurhamfamilies.info</u> or you can ask Mr McLoughlin for more information.

#### Year 3 Overnight Residential

The Year 3 children are all really looking forward to their overnight residential at Birdoswald Roman Fort which will enhance their learning about the Romans this

half term. It makes such a huge difference to the children's learning to be able to actually go to the Roman Wall, stay overnight there, meet a Roman Soldier, have a story in one of the mile castles and have a tour of the Roman Fort too!

A reminder to all parents that a packed lunch is needed for the first day. It would be wonderful if the weather was to hold out for these visits next week wouldn't it?! Don't forget that Mrs Coyle's class go on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March and Mr Stephenson's class from Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022. A maximum of £10 spending money can be brought. All the bedding is provided for this visit. Children should not take electronics on this trip.

#### Year 4 Overnight Residential

Our Year 4 children are really looking forward to going up the coast to Alnwick and Seahouses next week. This is the third time this visit has been postponed so we are really looking forward to it actually happening this year! Miss Jackson's class go on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March to Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> March followed by Mr Keeton's class on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> March to Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2022.

A reminder to all parents that a packed lunch is needed for the first day. Year 4 children do need to take a sleeping bag, pillow and pillow case and wellingtons would also be useful for the water fountains at Alnwick Castle! A maximum of £10 spending money can also be brought. Children do not take electronics on this trip.

#### Miss Martin's Reception Parents' Evenings

Miss Martin's postponed Parents' Evening appointments have now been rearranged for Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April, from 3.30 – 6.00 pm. This will be available to book on eSchools from Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 4.00pm – you can book this yourself, or if you get in touch with the School Office they will be able to book an appointment for you.

#### Ukraine Appeal

I just wanted to thank you all again for such staggering generosity for the donations sent in to raise money to provide emergency hygiene kits for the refugees of Ukraine. The Village Voice are also writing an article about the appeal and got back in touch with me twice to double check the amount raised as they commented that it seemed so high! As a school community, we have once again, demonstrated just how strongly our core values of love, compassion and hope are lived out.



#### **Recount of Our Trip to Dubai**

After a long flight, we finally arrived in Dubai and suddenly realised how different the weather was to Lanchester. The intense heat was so hot that we were told that dur-



ing the summer, you can fry and egg on the ground due to the scalding heat. During this amazing week away, we were fortunate to visit outstanding places as well as partake in some fun activities. One of these fun activities included visiting the Wild Wadi Water Park. We slid down some of the tallest and quickest slides, keeping cool from the warm sun. In addition to the fun water slides, we also tested our nerves by going up to the top of the world's biggest building, the Burj Khalifa. The Burj Khalifa offered some phenomenal views of the city and the vastness of the land surrounding it.

In addition to the more adrenaline pumping activities, we also went to visit a local school in Dubai called Hartland International School. From this, we were able to see how school life compared to back home. Hartland was enormous and has some brilliant facilities such as an extensive library and an outdoor swimming pool. Within this school, we met some amazing children who we can now call friends. School life was not the only cultural learning we had conducted during our time in Dubai. We also went to one of the local Mosques where we began to learn about the religious values in the United Arab Emirates. When we entered the Mosque, it was a sign of respect to remove our shoes as well as ensuring that the Mosque remained really clean. We learned that the dome structure in the Mosque is used as a means of transporting the sound of









the prayer due to its excellent acoustics. Focusing on the prayer, the sound of the prayer is echoed around the city and the Mosque itself can be identified by its tall towers. These tall towers also help people find the Mosque during the day.

Overall, we had an amazing time and learnt so much about the culture in Dubai as well as enjoying some of the fun activities on offer. Even the plane journey was fun as we got to sit in some comfortable chairs and watch some movies on the back of the seat in front of us.

By: Kate Gowan, Sophia Raw & Charlotte Roe (Year 5)



Social Media, Internet and Issues Around the Russia/Ukraine Conflict

Watching the horrors of war unfold has been very difficult for many of us recently. TV and Radio news are full of information about the awful attacks on the Ukrainians and, perhaps one advantage of social media, is letting us all see what happens when one country invades another. Much of the information on TV has, to a certain extent, been sanitised with the most horrific content removed, but this is not the case on social media.

We have recently become concerned that some of our children are seeing horrific pictures and videos of the war, and some are struggling to cope with what they have seen. There is not one particular app or website that is worse than the others. Pictures and videos of the war are available on YouTube, Instagram, TikTok, Snapchat and probably lots of other social media sites too.

We strongly recommend you take some actions to help your children:

1. Discuss this with your children - have they seen upsetting content? Explain what you would like them to do if they see something scary (for example, turn the device upside down and get a parent or carer – they are not in trouble).

2. Carefully consider what social media (if any) is suitable for your children. The minimum age for most platforms is 13 because the content providers cannot guarantee that it is suitable for a younger audience.

3. Set up parental controls on devices. Many apps have settings which try and limit the most graphic content – but even with safety features turned on, content is not guaranteed to be "child friendly". The website "Internet Matters" <u>https://www.internetmatters.org/</u> is particularly useful in providing advice on most apps and security settings.

4. Talk and listen to your children. We cannot pretend this is not happening and they may well have questions and worries which are better discussed than kept secret.

5. If you have serious concerns then please talk to the school as staff there may be able to help, or it might be that other children from the school are equally affected.



### Year 6 Parents' Meeting about SATs



On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April at 6pm, we will be holding a meeting for all Year 6 parents when we will talk about their forthcoming statutory tests. You will have the opportunity to look at old SAT papers, try some for yourselves and also hear about the timetable for the week itself. It is an important meeting and we look forward to seeing you all there!

#### Erasmus+

#### Erasmus+ Projects

Erasmus+

These projects are all funded by the British Council and they have had a huge, positive impact on school life. We have had a very busy month with two projects, simply as a result of trying to catch up for lost time! The visitors we had last week are from our 'European Tunes for Peer Bullying' and they had a week of being immersed in music and how we use it to support and educate our pupils.

We have 4 staff and children in Denmark this week and they are learning all about how to use the Outdoors to enhance children's education. Partners from Poland, Sweden, Denmark and Spain then come to us during the last week of term to do the same. Our final visit is to Madrid immediately after the Easter break and four of our Year 5 pupils will be visiting there with 4 staff.

Sadly, we have only one year left with the European Tunes Project and the Happy Life Project as we are now unable to participate in these projects due to Brexit. We have been involved in these and formerly Comenius for 12 years (2010 was our first project based around traditional dance) and they have really enriched the work we do in school, as well as giving almost 100 children opportunities to visit European schools and countries that they may not have been able to do otherwise.



#### **Durham University Student Teachers**

As a partner school for Durham University, we are very fortunate to train and host some amazing students. We currently have three final placement students across

school. Mr Adamson is based in Year 5 in Mr Taylor's class, Miss Quinn is in Year 4 and Miss Jackson's class while Miss Pinkerton is in Mrs Startup's class in Year 2. I am sure your children will have talked to you about them as their teaching time in class increases.

It really is a great boost for our children to have such competent students as they benefit from having two teachers for so much of the time. It also makes a difference to us as we employed both Miss Martin and Mr Keeton after they had placements here!



#### **Easter Events**



We are thrilled to be able to hold some Easter events this year and hope you might be able to join us for some of them.

On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April at 1.30pm, we have our Easter Service in All Saints Church. It will be three years since this last happened which will make it an even more special event. We will be having it this year for KS2 children only with Year 3 and Year 5 leading the service. Parents and carers are invited to attend the service as well. KS1 and Early Years will be holding their own service in school on the same day.

We are also holding Easter-themed Stay and Play sessions on the following dates for our Early Years children: Nursery - Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March from 9-10.30am and 1-2.30pm Miss Butler's class - Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April from 8.45 – 10.30am Miss Martin's class - Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April from 8.45 – 10.30am

On the final day of term, Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April, the children will be enjoying their usual egg decorating competition



during the morning. For this, we ask the children to bring a couple of hard boiled eggs into school and any specific items to decorate it. It always amazes me how many highly imaginative ways there are to decorate an egg! Please note - this activity is to be completed at school and not at home and is for children in Years 1 - 6. Early Years will be participating in their own Easter-themed events.

As usual, we would love people at home to join in too and we will be holding our usual competition for you (and the staff – which they hate!). If you would like to make an entry, it is important that it is brought into school before 12 noon on the Friday. I am sure this will continue to be a highly competitive event and one which is enjoyed more by adults than children!

We will also be holding a Coffee Afternoon on the final afternoon, Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April from 2.15 pm which will give you the opportunity to see all the decorated eggs and even glean some good ideas for next year! It is so lovely to be able to open our doors to welcoming you back into school again!



#### **Eco Rangers and Earth Hour**

An enthusiastic group of children have been meeting once a week this half term. The first week we ensured that there were plenty of tasty treats for the birds in the woodland area.

This week we were fortunate to work with Mr Radner from Oases. He did a short lesson with the children about how electricity is made and they experimented with some alternative energy equipment when they investigated wind turbines and solar panels.

On Friday 25th March we are taking part in Earth Hour from 2pm until 3pm. We are encouraging everyone in school to turn off as may electrical appliances as possible during that time. When he comes back on the

31st, he is going to show them the school electricity consumption graph for that day so that they can see the impact of their Earth Hour publicity. We are also conducting a tour of the school and looking for places where energy is being saved or wasted as well as testing some appliances to see how much energy each uses. All very interesting and very topical at the moment! 🕥

#### Holiday Club

Mr Graham and LJG Coaching will be running their holiday club again over Easter from 11<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> April. For more information, and to book your child in, please fill in the online form here,

where you can also book your child's place for the holiday clubs running from 30<sup>th</sup> May – 1<sup>st</sup> June and 22<sup>nd</sup> July – 5<sup>th</sup> August.

#### **Punctuality**

(+)**[H**] This is another reminder that all doors and gates close at 8.45 am every morning. We have a flexible drop off across the whole school allowing parents to leave their child from 8.30 am onwards in all year groups. All children should be in their classrooms ready to start work at 8.45 am. We

appreciate you helping us to make sure this can happen. Please remember, if your child is late for any reason, you MUST accompany them into the school through the main entrance. This is to ensure your child enters school safely. Thank you.

### **Fun and Fitness Week**

We are planning an action-packed week again for the whole school for Fun and Fitness Week which takes place from Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May until Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May. During the week we will be enjoying some cricket coaching, dance coaching, a huge inflatable assault course, wheels day, Year

5 & 6 cycle rides and Skip2Bfit. It will no doubt be another hugely enjoyable week for us all!

#### Fairtrade

Fairtrade Fortnight began this year on 21<sup>st</sup> February with the theme 'Choose The World FAIRTRADE You Want' during which Lanchester EP Fairtrade Steering Group devised and presented an

informative and interesting assembly to fellow pupils and staff explaining the importance and benefits of purchasing Fairtrade products, in the hope that many others would be inspired to make the world a fairer place by choosing to buy products featuring the Fairtrade logo.

Two local Co -Op workers visited our school during Fairtrade Fortnight to share their evolving Fairtrade journey within the community. Every Fairtrade Steering Group member felt inspired by their good practice. The Fairtrade Steering Group members set up a stall within school to serve Fairtrade products to fellow pupils and staff. Judging by the positive comments and smiles, every food treat was deemed to be delicious and Fairtrade Fortnight was a resounding success!

We are looking forward to continuing to raise awareness of the importance of buying Fairtrade products so that we may continue to support farmers throughout the world. I wonder what the next Fairtrade event will be within Lanchester EP School? Watch this space!

by Fairtrade steering group member, Kate Gowan

#### Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2022 - Year 1 at Washington Wetlands

Year 1 are visiting the Washington Wetlands on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> March. They are to wear full school uniform for this visit and will need a packed lunch. The trip will consolidate the work they are learning about in class and they will have a learning session on 'What Lives in a Pond' and 'What Lives in this Habitat'. A letter has already been sent to Parents & Carers of Year 1 children and the trip is still available on ParentPay. They will return to school in time for the end of the school day.

### **Covid Information**

Whilst the rules have changed so much regarding Covid, we are once again starting to get more cases in school and we have been receiving a number of questions from parents as to

what to do if they or their children have Covid, so we thought it would be useful to give you all the following information. Whilst there is no longer a legal obligation to self-isolate, the public health advice is still the fol-













lowing:

- Anyone with Covid symptoms and/or a positive LFD test should no longer take a PCR test, but should report to the NHS.
- They should stay at home for five days from the day after symptoms starting/a positive test
- LFD tests should be carried out on day 5 and 6, if these are both negative then they can end isolation and return to school, as long as they don't have a high temperature.

If your child is absent due to Covid, please make sure you inform the School Office and your child's class teacher, and they will make sure that there is work for them to carry out whilst they are isolating if they are well enough to complete it. Please note that if your child is poorly with Covid, we will not expect them to work.

#### Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations – Garden Party

Come one, come all as we celebrate the Golden Jubilee this summer. On Wednesday May 25<sup>th</sup> we will be hosting a very special garden party in the school grounds. It will be a wonderful community event where we can all get together, hopefully in the sunshine, to celebrate Her Majesty's milestone. We have some very special plans in place which we will excitedly share with you nearer the time, but for now let us whet your appetite with news of fairground games, a selection of delicious food vans, live music and all the candy floss you can eat! It is shaping up to be a party not to forget! Tickets will be on sale after the Easter holidays; watch this space and save the date!!

#### **Office News**

#### Cost of School Dinners

From April 4<sup>th</sup> 2022, the cost of school meals will increase to £2.20 per day; £11 per week. We would like to politely remind you to ensure that your child's dinner money account on ParentPay is kept up to date and in credit. This is also the case for wrap around care as we are seeing an increase in high amounts owed to the school so can we please ask that all ParentPay accounts are checked regularly and prompt payments made. Thank you.

#### Ski Trip

1.1

The next instalment for the eagerly anticipated ski trip is due 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. Please ensure that you keep to the payment schedule as this is in line with the invoice schedule from Ski Bound. Any late payments result in late invoice payments which can jeopardise the trip if we do not adhere to the terms and conditions. Please also inform the school office immediately if your child no longer wishes to go on the trip. In addition, we can still add places to the trip so if you have a child who now wishes to go, please contact the office.

#### Year 5 PGL Residential

The next instalment for the Y5 PGL trip is due on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April. Final payments are due by Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May.

#### Year 6 Residential to Northern Ireland

For this trip, £110 (£40 for FSM children) should have been paid so far, with the next payment due on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April and the final payment due on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May. Please check that you are up to date with these trips if your child is attending.



#### **Special Educational Needs Information**



In each half-termly newsletter, we will be sharing some tips on how to support your child with different challenges that they may be having related to school. These may

be tips around how to support with academic challenges, social difficulties or heightened emotions. This half-term, we are sharing some information about 'After School Restraint Collapse,' which is something

that many parents talk to us about. We try very hard to ensure that our school day finishes with every child leaving happy, settled and regulated, but we also recognise that 'After School Restraint Collapse' is something that many of our families deal with throughout the school year. The information below will hopefully be of help. If this is something that your family is struggling with, please speak to your child's class teacher so



that we can support you and your child.

Many parents will be familiar with those days where you pick your child up from school, the teacher says they've been 'fine' all day, but as soon as you step over the doorstep of your home, or even on the journey, your child seems to just lose it.

It might look like crying, anger, whining, defiance, stubborn silence, or a full-blown meltdown, but the chances are that what your child is experiencing is something known as 'after-school restraint collapse'.

Navigating the school day takes effort from every child. Hours spent sitting still, listening carefully, learning new things, managing relationships, remembering equipment, following instructions - it all takes mental, physical and emotional work. By the end of the day it's no wonder children are sometimes exhausted and it's when they get home, where they feel safe to let their emotions out, that the stresses and strains of the day can erupt.

While after-school restraint collapse can affect any child, for children with additional needs, sensory difficulties, anxiety and other challenges, it can become acute. Tiredness, hunger and illness can also exacerbate the problem.

Here are some ways that you can support your child if after-school restraint collapse is affecting your family:

- No matter how your day has gone, or how your child's day has gone, greet your child with a hug and a smile.
- Address your child's basic needs, such as tiredness and hunger. Being prepared with a healthy snack and a drink might help, especially if it is something your child can be chewing, crunching or sucking on the journey home.
- Avoid bombarding your child with questions about their day. They may feel overwhelmed and need time and space to settle, so save the conversations about school until later.
- While some children need a quiet, still space to re-group, others may benefit from physical activity. Try walking, scooting or cycling home from school or rhythmic activities like swinging or bouncing on a trampoline.
- If you travel by car, try playing some music or an audiobook on your journey to create a calm space.
- Leave homework until later if you can after several hours at school, your child will likely need a break before starting on more work.
- Make sure your child knows that you are 'holding them in mind' while they are at school place little notes in their lunchbox, let them take a transition object from home, or draw a little kiss on their arm and another in the corresponding place on your arm.
- Finally, make sure you are taking care of yourself. If after-school restraint collapse has been a feature in your home for a long time, it is likely that you feel your own anxiety and tension levels rising as home time approaches. Remember that after-work restraint collapse is also real, so make sure you are doing what it takes to look after yourself before you welcome your child home.

(This advice has been adapted from an article originally published by Adoption UK)



# Autism Acceptance Day

To celebrate Autism Acceptance Day, Durham County Council is holding an information event at County Hall for parents and carers of autistic children, as well as any families who would like more information about support available. This will take place on Friday 1st April from 10am until 2pm. Tickets are free and can be reserved online by following this link:

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/296623568077

#### **Early Years News**

Our EYFS staff are looking forward to welcoming parents and carers to our first Stay and Play sessions in more than two years. Since COVID restrictions prevent-



ed us having parents in school, we know that so many of you will enjoy having the opportunity to see what goes on in our classrooms.

Our sessions will have an Easter theme with an Easter Treasure Hunt to complete with your child and Easter crafts for you to take part in together. Nursery will have their Stay and Play Session on Wednesday 30th March from 9-10.30am and 1-2.30pm. Miss Butler's class will have their Stay and Play Session on Tuesday 5th April from 8.45 – 10.30am. Miss Martin's class will have their Stay and Play Session on Thursday 7th April from 8.45 – 10.30am.

To help us to plan for the event, please respond via this form <u>https://forms.office.com/r/aswDa6czS3</u>. Please note that you will need to let your child come into school then come in through the Main Entrance to allow us to secure our EYFS area before the session starts.

An appeal to our Nursery, Reception, Year One families – if you are clearing out your child's drawers at home, we are always desperately short of socks and underwear for our younger children in EYFS. Please think of us before you pass on your child's outgrown smalls!

#### **Nursery Places for September**

We were hoping to be able to send the information out to parents and carers of children who will be attending Nursery in September about their place offers this week. However, we are still looking at this, and hope to get them out to you by the end of next week instead. Apologies for the delay.



#### <u>Musical at Consett Empire Theatre – 'One Sun, One World'</u> <u>Wednesday & Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> July 2022</u>



It is hard to believe that it will be three years this summer since we performed 'Ocean World' in Consett Empire and we are thrilled that we have managed to book the theatre

again this year for their amazing performances!

This year, we will be performing 'One Sun, One World' which was commissioned by WWF-UK for their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations (2011/12). The muscial celebrates our astonishing planet in all its rich diversity but also examines changes brought about by human activities in a modern world. The musical's characters: the oak tree, the panda, the polar bear, the tiger and Cacao (the chocolate plant) remind us of the great wonders and beauties of the earth and the intricate threads of life linking every living thing.

The children of the world tell us about the amazing web of trade and communication which has produced our exciting modern world with its global transport systems and its ever-changing technology. But as the musical unfolds, the characters become increasingly worried by changes beyond their control. The children of the world wonder how they can help to protect this wonderful life we all know.

Rehearsals will be starting after Easter and auditions for the main roles of the oak tree, panda, polar bear and tiger will all be held after Easter too. It will be interesting to see how our pyramid that was built for our performance of Joseph nine years ago which was transformed into a rainforest, then an ocean, will now become a sun!

This musical will involve Years 3 – 6 on the stage but we do intend to include every single child by recording them and showing that in the body of the musical too. The performances will take place on the evenings of Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July at 6pm and tickets (which will be in high demand) will go on sale nearer the time. Please keep these dates free as all children in KS2 will have an important part to play in this daring and exciting production!



#### **Botanical Gardens Visit for Year 5**

Mr Taylor's class had a great visit to the Botanical Gardens this week and Mrs Grayson's class will now be going on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April. They will need a packed lunch for



this trip.

#### **Donated Uniform**



The Spring budget has not been hugely helpful for many of us, and it seems like increasingly people are feeling the pressure as bills are on the rise. In order to try and alleviate some of the stress, from next week we will have pre-loved uniform hanging up outside the school office (weather dependent) please feel free to take what you want. Likewise, if anyone has any old uniform in good condition that they can no longer make use of, please drop it off to the school office so that we can add it to the donations. Thank you.

## School Holidays - Academic Year 2021 - 2022

Holiday	Closing Date	Date re-open for teaching purposes
Easter Holiday	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> April 2022
May Day	Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2022
Summer Half Term	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> May 2022	Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> June 2022
Summer Holiday	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2022	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> September 2022

#### School Holidays - Academic Year 2022 - 2023

Holiday	Closing Date	Date re-open for teaching purposes
School Year Begins		Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> September 2022
October Half Term	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> October 2022	Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2022
Staff Training Day	Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> November 2022	Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> November 2022
Christmas Holiday	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2023
February Half Term	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> February 2023
Easter Holiday	Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2023
May Day	Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> April 2023	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2023
Summer Half Term	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2023
Summer Holiday	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2021	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> September 2023

# Important Dates for 2022

KS1 Statutory Assessment Tests - May 2022

KS2 Statutory Assessment Tests - Week Beginning Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Year 1 & Year 2 Phonics Screening Check - Taking Place from Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2022

Year 4 Multiplication Test - Taking Place from Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> - Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2022

DIARY DATES				
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Overnight	Year 4 (Miss Jackson's Class) Residential to Seahouses		
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	5.30pm	Zoom Meeting for Parents of New Nursery Starters		
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	All Day	Year 1 at Washington Wetlands		
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	Overnight	Year 4 (Mr Keeton's Class) Residential to Seahouses		
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> March	9 – 10.30am	Nursery Stay and Play Sessions		
	& 1 – 2.30pm			
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> March	Overnight	Year 3 (Mrs Coyle's Class) Residential to Birdoswald		
Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Afternoon	Talk to Years 5 & 6 from Community Police about Use		

		of Social Media			
Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Overnight	Yr 3 (Mr Stephenson's Class) Residential to Birdoswald			
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	3pm	Year 3 Return from Birdoswald			
Week Beg. Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	All Week	Erasmus+ Visitors at Lanchester EP			
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	All Day	Mrs Grayson's Year 5 Re-Arranged Trip to Botanic Gardens			
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> April	All Day	European Visitors at Seaham for Beach Day			
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> April	All Day	European Visitors at Beamish Museum			
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> April	3.30-6.00pm	Miss Martin's Reception Class Parents' Evening			
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> April	1.30pm	Easter Service			
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> April	3.30-6.00pm	Miss Martin's Reception Class Parents' Evening			
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> April	Morning	Egg Decorating in school			
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> April	2.15pm	Coffee Afternoon in Junior Hall			
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> April	5.00pm	School Closes for Easter Break			
LJG Holiday Club on M	onday 11 <sup>th</sup> – Th	ursday 14 <sup>th</sup> April: online booking <u>here</u>			
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> April	7.30am	School Re-Opens for Summer 1 Half Term			
Week Beg. Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> April	All Week	Erasmus+ Visit to Madrid with Year 5 pupils			
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	All Day	School Closed for May Day Bank Holiday			
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	All Day	Captain Chemistry in School			
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	All Day	Captain Chemistry in School			
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Overnight	Birchwood Primary School Staying Overnight in School			
Week Beg. Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	All Week	Year 6 Statutory Tests			
Week Beg. Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	All Week	History Week			
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	All Day	Historical Characters Dress Up Day			
Week Beg. Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	All Week	Fun and Fitness & Celebrations Week			
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	All Day	Skip2Bfit in School			
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	3.30pm	Garden Party for Parents and Children			
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	5.15pm	School Closes for Half-Term Break			
LJG Holiday Club on Mon	day 30 <sup>th</sup> May –	Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> June: online booking <u>here</u>			
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	7.30am	School Re-Opens for Summer 2 Half Term			
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	10.30am	Year 6 Leavers' Service in Durham Cathedral			
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	All Day	Captain Chemistry in School			
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	All Day	Captain Chemistry in School			
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	All Day	Class Photographs and Leavers' Photographs			
Week Beg. Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> June	All Week	Year 6 Residential to Northern Ireland			
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> –Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	4 Days	Year 5 Residential to PGL, Ford Castle			
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	6pm	Musical at Consett Empire			
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	6pm	Musical at Consett Empire			
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	5.15pm	School Closes for Summer Holiday			
Sports Day, Year 6 Sleep Over and Yr 5 & 6 Cycle Ride Dates TBC					
LJG Holiday Club on Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July and Weeks Beginning 25 <sup>th</sup> July and 1 <sup>st</sup> August: online booking <u>here</u>					

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