

13th January 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

I hope that you all had a wonderful Christmas break and New Year.

It has been lovely to welcome all the children back into School this week along with our new starters in Nursery. All of the children have settled back into School life and are approaching their work with their usual enthusiasm.

Returning to School following the holidays and mixing with friends particularly at this time of year can see an increase in colds and other infections. To help minimise this there are some simple things that you can help with including: encouraging handwashing and use of tissues and if your child has a fever or is unwell keeping them at home until the fever has resolved. If you are not sure whether to send your child to School the NHS have produced a helpful guide available [here](#).

I would like to take this opportunity to ask all parents who bring their children to School by car to park showing consideration to our neighbours and safely to make sure that both children and adults can use footpaths safely and that there is sufficient space on the road for emergency vehicles to be able to get past. This is essential to ensure that the children are as safe as possible.

I hope that you enjoy reading this flyer and have a lovely weekend.

Mr. A. Wheatley,
Headteacher

Attendance Matters



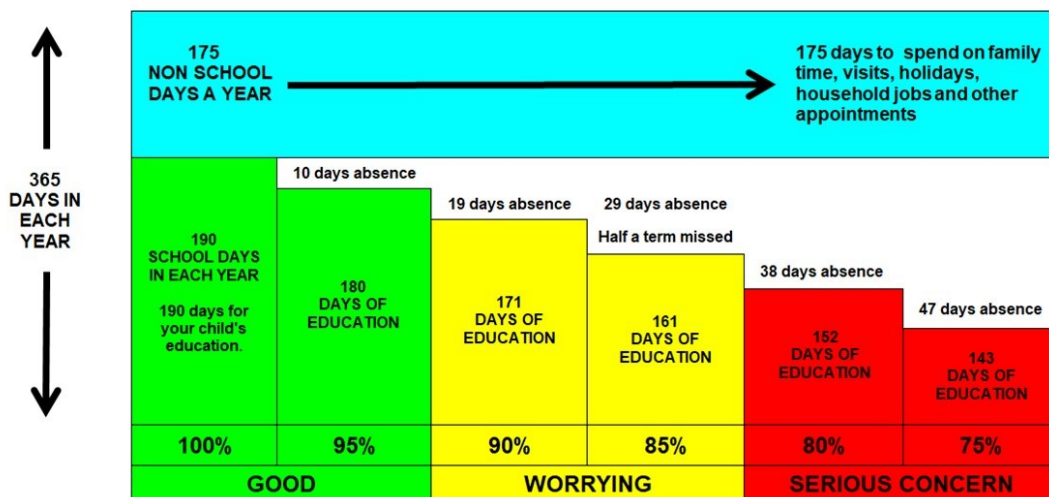
We continue to focus on attendance and punctuality so please remember that our School starts at 8.55am (9am for Nursery) and anyone arriving after this time will be marked as late.

Attendance for this week is summarised below:

Class	Attendance	Class	Attendance
Reception (Owls)	95.1%	Year 3 (Gibside)	99.3%
Year 1 (Wallington)	96%	Year 4 (Lindisfarne)	96%
Year 2 (Cragside)	96.7%	Year 5 (Bamburgh)	96.8%
		Year 6 (Dunstanburgh)	99.3%

Please see the graphic below which shows the significant impact of absence over time.

Days off School add up to lost learning!



'Whatever you do work at it with all your heart'

New Friends and a Busy Week in Nursery

This week in Nursery, we have been joined by some of our new children. They have been absolutely fantastic in exploring their new environment! We have all been super busy painting, exploring outdoors and dressing up in our home corner. We have also been exploring repeating patterns this week and have enjoyed making our own.



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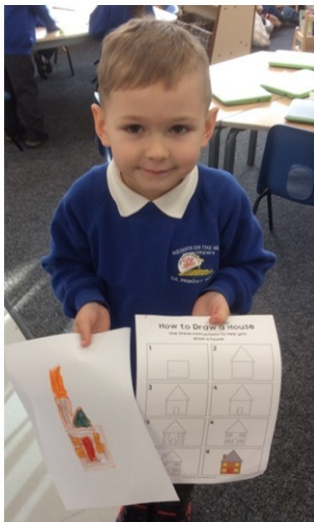
Houses and Homes

This week Reception have been thinking about Houses and Homes.

We have shared our own homes on Tapestry and talked about and why they are so special to us.

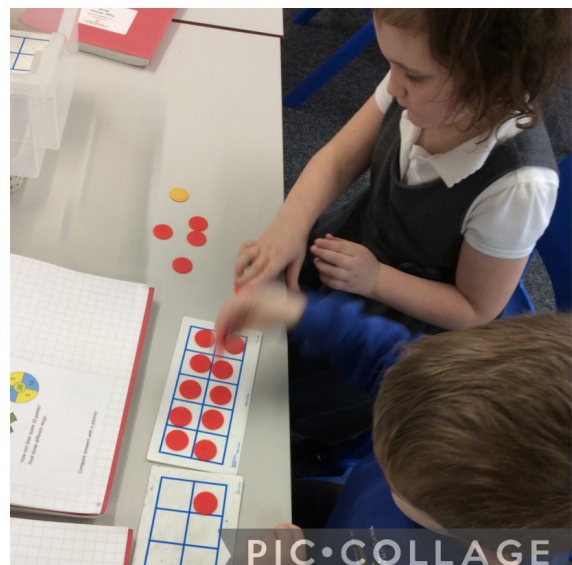
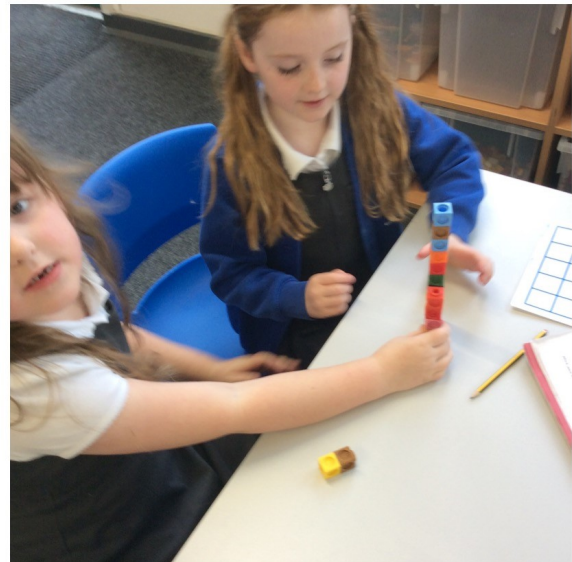
We enjoyed 'building' homes and following instructions to draw a house.

What a super first week back everyone!



Super Maths in Year 1

This week in Year 1 we have been using a range of manipulatives to help us to understand and represent numbers up to 20. Great counting Year 1!



Stable Structures in Year 2

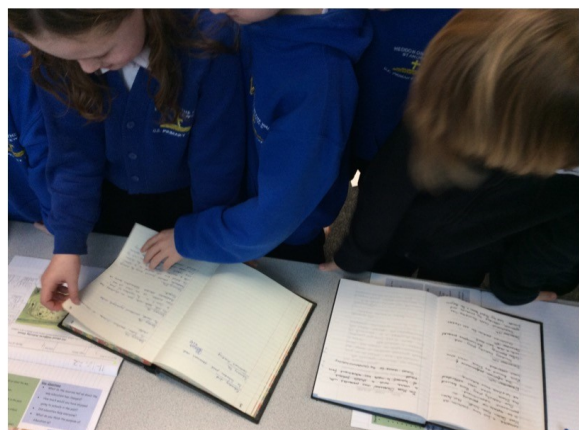
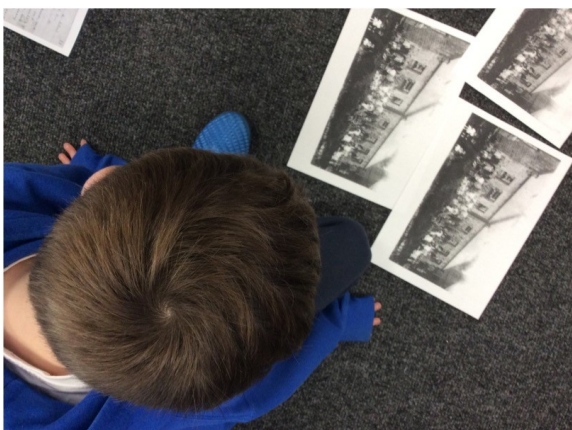
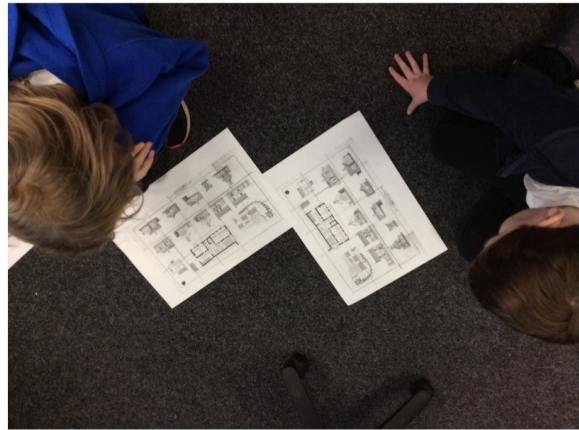
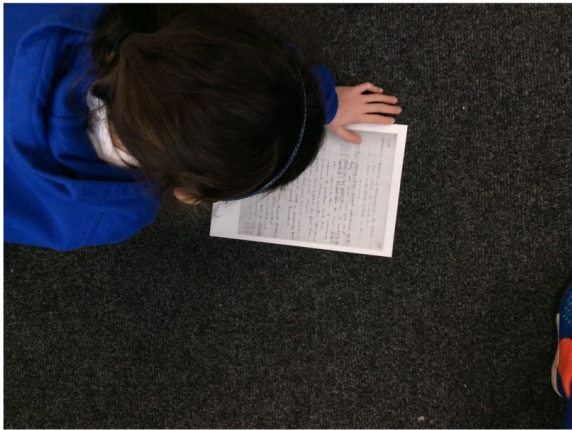
Year 2 have been learning about free standing, stable structures in Design Technology. By using buttresses or making their base wider; they were able to make their structure more stable. Have a look at our great designs that are constructed with Polydron, Magnetix or Lego.



PIC•COLLAGE

Going to Heddon School in the 1880s!

Year 3 have started their new History topic looking at how schools and education have changed over time. We were lucky enough to have access to real historical sources that were from our school here in Heddon; photographs, school log books and even building plans. Our favourite source was the school log book from the 1880s as it detailed the punishment given to a pupil at Heddon School for 'subordination'!



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Super Science in Year 4

In Science this week, we started our new Electricity unit. We began by identifying and sorting appliances, both electrical and non electrical. We discussed how some appliances require mains electricity and others work using batteries. The children created their own groupings to show this!



PIC•COLLAGE

Fairground Rides

This week, Year 5 have been very busy with designing fairground rides using mechanical systems such as pulleys and gears. After a short discussion, the children decided on their final design and began creating their Carousels or Ferris Wheels. This has been great fun and the children have enjoyed planning, building and creating their designs.



Whatever you do work at it with all your heart

Colossians 3:23

Kasper, Prince of Cats

After reading the beginning of our new text, "Kasper, Prince of Cats", Year 6 children completed a visualisation session. Here, we retrieved information about one of the characters in the story (Countess Kandinsky) and made inferences about her personality. We then drew the character based upon this information.

