

9th June 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

What a busy week we have had in School!

This week we welcomed Mr. Phil Scott from OFSTED into School for our OFSTED Inspection. Many thanks to all the people who completed the parent view form to help with this process and for all the messages of support. This has been much appreciated. We will share the outcome of the inspection with you as soon as we receive the final report. I am hoping that this will be prior to the Summer holidays.

As you can see from the flyer the children have had an amazing week learning and doing some really interesting things including a virtual author visit.

Many thanks to the Friends of Heddon School who organised a disco for the children today. As I write this I can hear the children singing and really enjoying themselves! Any funds raised will go towards further OPAL play equipment.

I am aware that the weather has taken a turn for the better this week and it is becoming hotter and sunnier. If this weather continues into next week it is important that your child comes to School with a water bottle, sun hat and sun cream which they can apply themselves in order to stay comfortable.

Well done to Year 3 with the best attendance this week of 99.3%.

I hope that you enjoy reading this flyer and that you have a fantastic weekend and that the weather remains warm and sunny.

Mr. A. Wheatley,
Headteacher

Attendance Matters



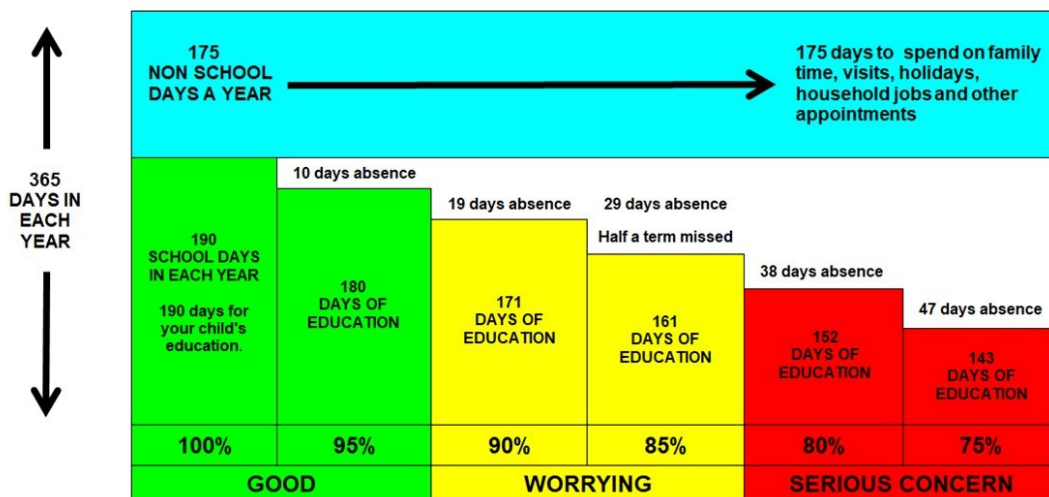
We continue to focus on attendance and punctuality so please remember that our School starts at 8.55am (9am for Nursery) and anyone arriving after this time will be marked as late.

Attendance for this week is summarised below:

Class	Attendance	Class	Attendance
Reception (Owls)	90.8%	Year 3 (Gibside)	99.3%
Year 1 (Wallington)	92.7%	Year 4 (Lindisfarne)	97.6%
Year 2 (Cragside)	94.7%	Year 5 (Bamburgh)	95.2%
		Year 6 (Dunstanburgh)	95.5%

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

Days off School add up to lost learning!



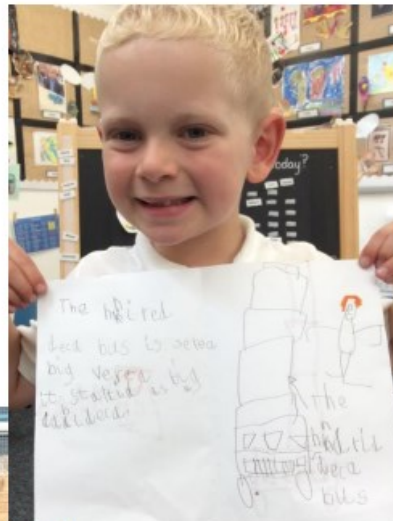
'Whatever you do work at it with all your heart'



This week in Nursery, we started our new topic, 'Splish, Splash, Splish!' We have been learning all about water, which has been perfect in this lovely weather! We have been busy splashing, pouring, mixing and measuring. What a fantastic week!

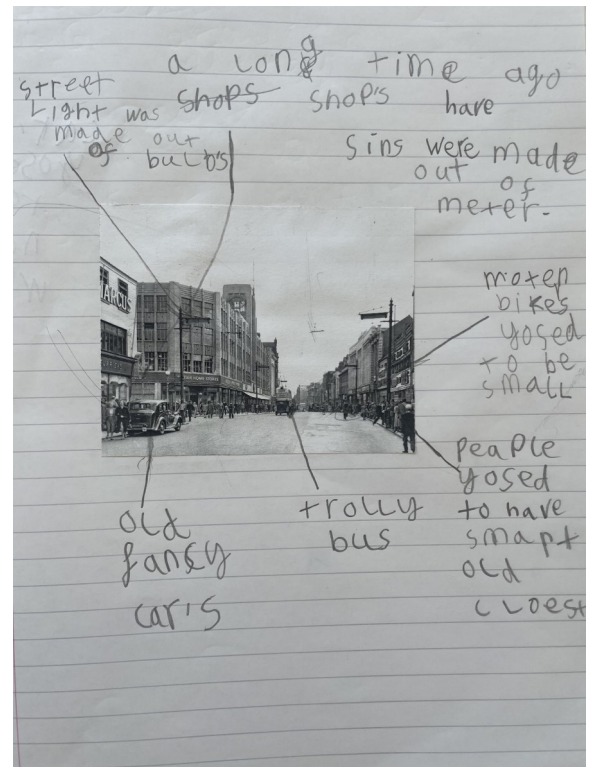
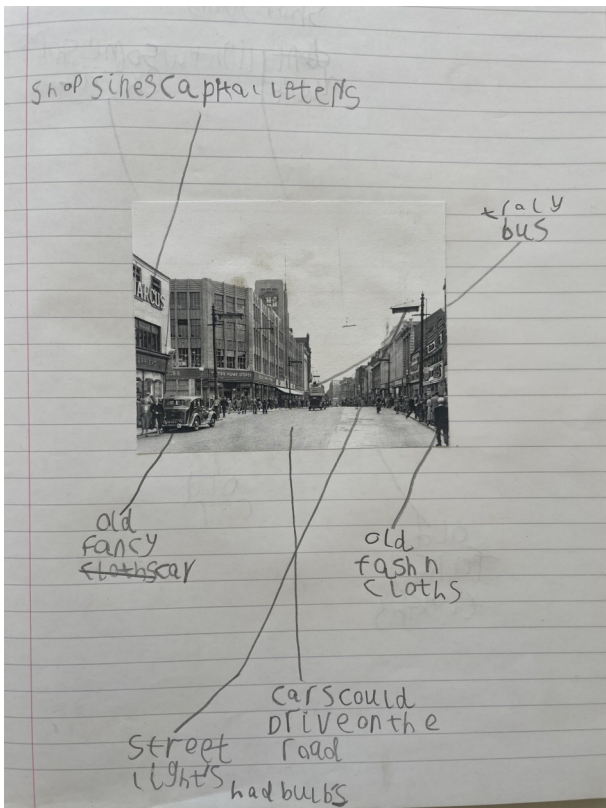


We have had such a brilliant week learning about journeys and transport. We read a super story called The Hundred Decker Bus; all about a bus on an exciting adventure. It inspired us to learn how to draw and label buses and bicycles, we compared buses from the past to modern day buses, we have made bus route maps, used loose parts to create our own buses and we have even our own super tall, multi decked bus! Phew! What a lot of fun learning we have shared this week.



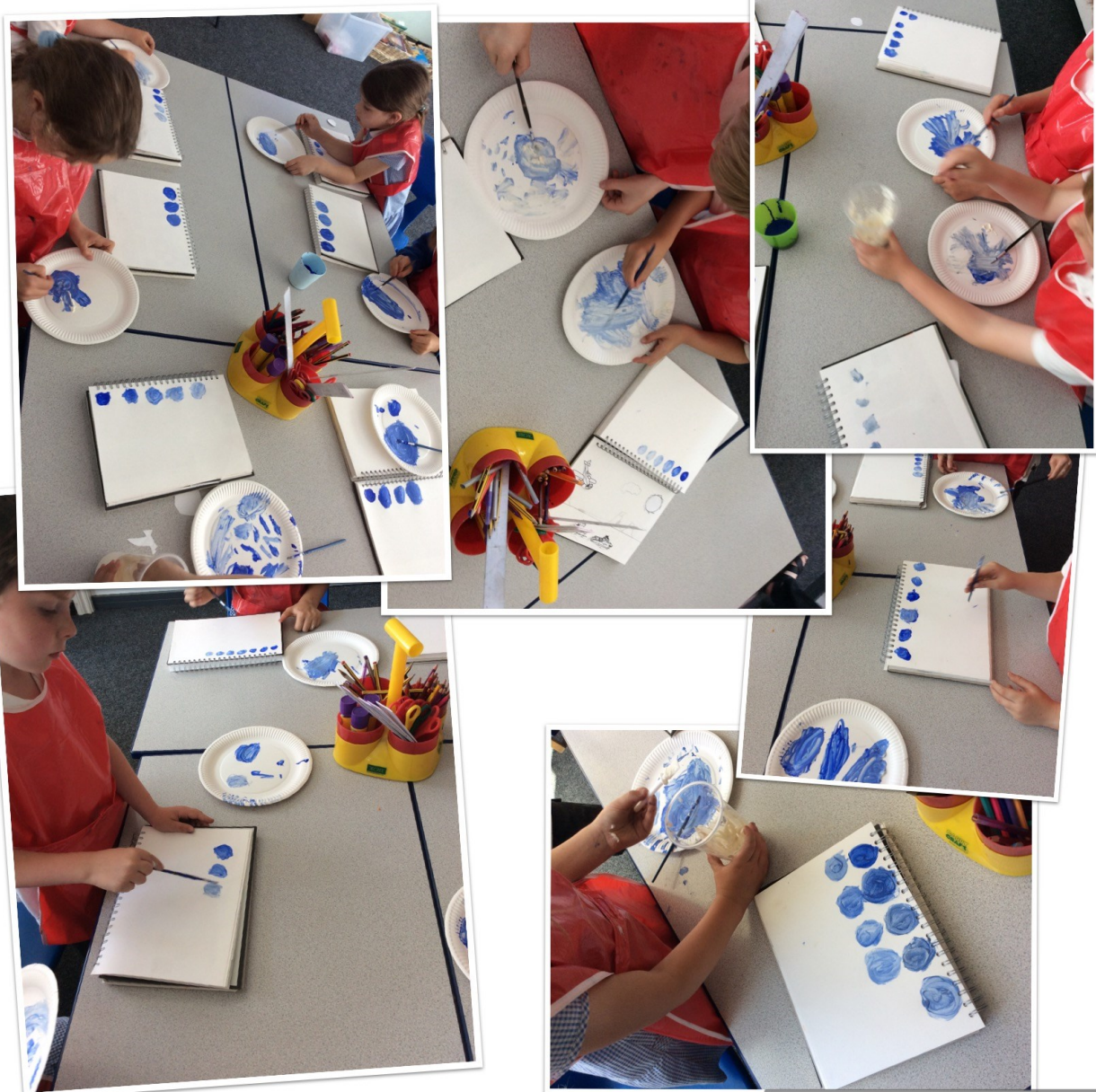
Exploring Northumberland Street with Year 1

This week in year 1 we started our new history enquiry question where we will discover how Northumberland Street has changed. We looked at old photographs of Northumberland Street, that were taken in the 1950's and 1960's, and discussed what we could see in the photographs and how they let us know they were taken a long time ago. We then created a spider diagram to annotate a photograph in our history books.



Exploring Colours with Year 2

Year 2 have been learning about how lighter colours often stand out more than darker colours on a piece of artwork. They have been making tints of a colour by gradually adding white paint to blue paint, to lighten the colour. Next week we will use these on our sea landscape collage.



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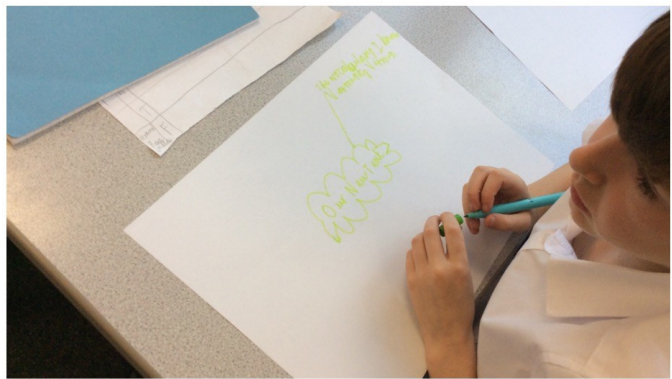
Meeting an Author with Year 2

Year 2 loved the author workshop with Alex Falase-Koya, the writer of Marv books and the Marcus Rashford series. We created our own super suits in recognition of Marv's 'kindness and imagination' suit.



What is Year 3's New Text?

In Year 3, we have started to think about our new text; we still don't know what it is! We have heard the word 'Varmints' and have explored vocabulary that could be linked. We have investigated some pictures from the text and have read some snippets, too. Lastly, we organised all of the clues we had gathered into a mind map before ordering them into a story prediction.



PIC•COLLAGE

A Fun Week with Year 4

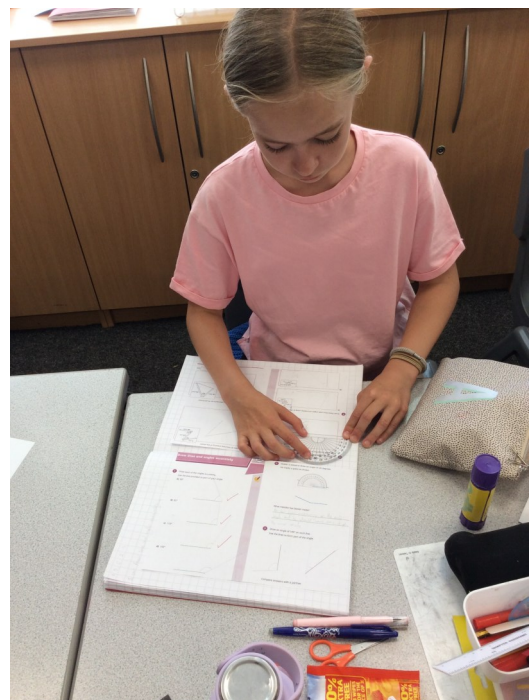
This week has been lovely! We have enjoyed music, sports and sunshine along with all of our usual learning. Here are some pictures of us enjoying our new gymnastic class, playing the ukulele and practicing our fielding skills during PE.



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Protractor work with Year 5

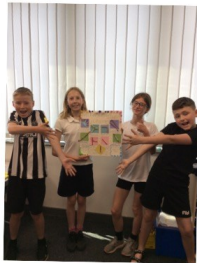
This week has been really enjoyable for Year 5 as we have been developing our protractor skills in Maths. We have been measuring angles and even drawing our own. We have become really confident with classifying, measuring and drawing angles. We also must remember to use the correct scale!



Design Technology in Year 6

Year 6 worked hard in Design Technology to explore different joining techniques. We will be using these skills to help us when building frame structures. Next lesson we will focus on how we can use triangulation to reinforce structures.

We are looking forward to Bee week next week, as part of our transition work. On Monday afternoon we will be meeting a local beekeeper who will be telling us all about the world of bees!



PIC•COLLAGE



At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about ANIME

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Anime, which originates from Japan, is currently one of the most popular sources of entertainment in the world. This style of animation goes back to the mid 20th century, with a broad audience ranging from children to adults. Known for its epic stories, anime often crosses over with video games and other avenues of pop culture via adaptations or spin-offs – such as Cyberpunk: Edgerunners, an anime web series based on the popular video game, Cyberpunk 2077. The most common intersect, however, is manga: a form of graphic novel from which most anime is adapted.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT



Some people assume that anime is safe for children purely because it's animation. However, a large amount is actually geared towards adults, often featuring swearing, graphic violence and nudity. Many anime series follow dark storylines, such as Cyberpunk: Edgerunners, which has swiftly become known for its extreme gore, sexual content and disturbing depictions of mental health conditions.

COMMON CROSSOVERS

It's easy for children to get drawn into anime through its many crossovers into video games, such as Fortnite and Call of Duty, while anime art styles are often used for other products, due to its popularity. Titles like the RPG Genshin Impact may look quite cute and accessible, but its loot-box mechanics can introduce young players to behaviours that have much in common with gambling.

DECEPTIVE APPEARANCE

It's easy to mistake anime graphics for a sign of harmless, child-friendly content. This style (big eyes, colourful hair and cute voices), however, can disguise some extremely adult themes. Yandere Simulator, for example, strongly resembles a child's game at face value, thanks to its art style, but in reality it features incredibly dark themes such as murder, kidnapping and torture.

ROBLOX REPRODUCTIONS

There are hundreds of user-created Roblox games which take their inspiration from anime and manga. While many of these titles will be perfectly age appropriate, there are some that prefer to focus on the storylines of adult and horror anime. Death Note, for example (based on the manga and anime series of the same name) would probably be extremely disturbing for most younger players.

MATURE MANGA



The majority of anime is adapted from manga: a form of Japanese comic book. Manga usually features an age rating on the back cover, and it's worth bearing in mind that just because it's a comic, that doesn't mean it's suitable for youngsters. In fact, most popular manga leans heavily towards darker subject matter, which is unquestionably aimed at an adult audience.

ADULT THEMES



Hentai is a type of manga, anime and video game which revolves around characters engaging in explicit sexual encounters. While anime of this kind is usually only found on pornography sites, some gaming platforms – such as Steam – do allow the sale of these titles (referred to as 'H-Games' in the community) and even feature them on the front of their store page when sales are on.

Advice for Parents & Carers

DO YOUR RESEARCH

Despite all the problematic content, there's still a lot of anime out there which is completely child friendly. Pokémon and One Piece are all long-running anime shows which have family-friendly stories and content. Make sure you check for age ratings and content warnings on streaming platforms when deciding if a particular anime series is suitable for your child.

IT'S NOT JUST TV

Anime is most often in the format of a TV series, but it is also presented as films. Studio Ghibli is often referred to as 'the Japanese Disney' due to the quality and number of films they produce. Most of their movies are fine for children, though they often feature more mature subject matter than western animation: Grave of the Fireflies, for instance, is set in Japan during the Second World War.

WATCH WITH YOUR CHILD

Anime covers a multitude of topics, so it's easy to find something that the whole family can enjoy. Anime shows typically involve action and adventure, superheroes, romance, comedy and much more. Watching this content alongside your child isn't only a way to spend quality time together – it will also help you to spot quite quickly if there's potential for any difficult topics to arise in the show.

CHECK GAMES' FEATURES

Often, crossovers with video games simply involve using anime characters as 'skins' to modify the appearance of characters while playing (as in Fortnite, for example). If your child's interested in an anime-inspired game that you're unfamiliar with, however, look online at the game's features and for any content warnings to gain a clearer idea of what your child might be exposed to.

Meet Our Expert

Daniel Upcombe is a writer specialising in technology, video gaming, virtual reality and Web3. He has also written 15 guidebooks for children, covering games such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Valorant, Roblox and Minecraft. With work published by the likes of PC Gamer, Kotaku, Pocket Gamer and V247, he has reviewed more than 50 games and products over the past year.



Source: <https://archive.org/details/cognitivelife060unse/page/79/mode/2up> | <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/1369118X.2018.1218526>
<https://www.allsides.com/media-bias/media-bias-chart>

Dates for your Diary



w/b Monday 19 th June 2023	Year 6 Bee Transition Project
Wednesday 21st June 2023	Music and Drama Showcase at 5pm in School Hall
Thursday 22nd June 2023	Year 4 visit to the Victoria Tunnel
Monday 26th June 2023 - Friday 30th June 2023	Year 6 Visit to France
Tuesday 27th June 2023	Year 3 to Dilston Physic Garden
Friday 30 th June 2023	Armed Forces Day
Monday 3 rd July 2023 – Wednesday 5 th July 2023	Bikeability for Reception using Balance Bikes which are provided
Wednesday 5th July 2023 & Thursday 6th July 2023	Year 6 Transition Days to High School
Friday 7th July 2023	French Spelling Bee for Pele Trust Primaries (selected children to attend)
Friday 7th July 2023	10am - RockSteady Concert for parents of children performing.

Dates for your Diary



Friday 7 th July 2023	Archery Session for Year 5
Monday 10 th July 2023 (am only)	Newcastle Eagles STEM Event for Year 5 and Year 6
Tuesday 11 th July 2023	Year 6 at St. James' Park for Toon Team Day
Wednesday 12 th July 2023	Crepe Day for Year 5 and Year 6 to celebrate Bastille Day
Tuesday 11 th July 2023	FLOW Project Exhibition at Ponteland High School - 8.30am-6pm
Wednesday 12 th July 2023	FLOW Project Exhibition at Ponteland High School - 8.30am-6pm
Thursday 13 th July 2023	FLOW Project Exhibition at Ponteland High School 8.30am-6pm including Choir Performance at 6pm followed by refreshments at Ponteland Primary School
Friday 14 th July 2023	Sports Day - <i>Further details about timings for each Key Stage will be sent out closer to the time.</i>
Friday 14 th July 2023	School Reports go out
Monday 17 th July 2023	Moving Up Morning
Monday 17 th July 2023	Parents Evening Drop In – 3.30pm-5pm
Wednesday 19 th July 2023	Heddon's Got Talent 1pm in School Hall (Children only)
Thursday 20 th July 2023	Year 6 Leavers Assembly for Parents – 2pm in School Hall
Friday 21 st July 2023	Summer Term Ends