

9th September 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

It has been a great pleasure this week to welcome all of the children back into School. They have settled quickly into their new classes and are already tackling their work with their customary enthusiasm and resilience. It was particularly pleasing to see how quickly the children in Early Years settled into their new routine of coming to School to begin their educational journey with us.

As I am sure you will have seen there have been some big changes to the School building over the Summer. The windows and doors have been replaced all around the building and the front side of the building has been rendered so it all matches in together. Unfortunately the work is not yet complete with only the Hall remaining to be done. The contractors will be working on this over the next few weekends and hope to have it completed soon. In the meantime I would be grateful if you could make sure that your children are kept away from this area during pick up and drop off times.

Well done to the staff and children with special thanks to Madam Magee for their work last year leading to the School being awarded the Intermediate International School Award over the summer. (Picture later in the flyer)

Congratulations to all the winners from the Heddon Show. I saw lots of pictures on social media of our amazing art work and the School doing very well in the vegetable show and Heidi (and her dog Kit) winning 'dog with the waggiest tail'!

As I am aware that the first week of term sees a huge increase of photos of children in their new uniforms on social media I have attached some useful information about photo sharing online later in the flyer.

Please check out our calendar for the coming year. I would remind parents that these dates are subject to change. Further dates will be added as time goes on.

Well done to Year 1 and Year 2 with the best attendance this week with an amazing 100%.

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

Mr. A. Wheatley,
Headteacher

Attendance Matters



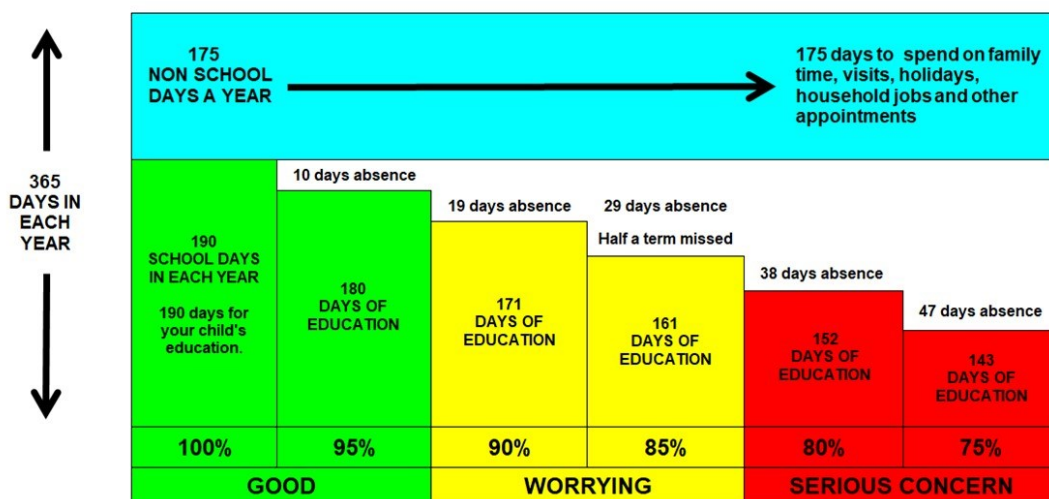
We continue to focus on attendance and punctuality so please remember that our School starts at 8.55am (9am for Nursery) and anyone arriving after this time will be marked as late.

Attendance for this week is summarised below:

Class	Attendance	Class	Attendance
Reception (Owls)	95%	Year 3 (Gibside)	94%
Year 1 (Wallington)	100%	Year 4 (Lindisfarne)	96.2%
Year 2 (Cragside)	100%	Year 5 (Bamburgh)	99.1%
		Year 6 (Dunstanburgh)	99.6%

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'

Colossians 3:23



A Fabulous First Week!

What a brilliant week we have had! We are all so impressed with how well our new starters have settled this week. And also a big well done to the children that have returned. You are such fantastic role models to our new children, well done!

We have loved exploring our classroom and have been busy learning all about what it means to be a 'Hedgehog' and making new friends.



PIC•COLLAGE



We have had such a lovely first week in The Owls' Class getting to know each other and exploring our new classroom. I am super impressed with you all!



PIC•COLLAGE

Settling into Year 1

The children have settled into Year 1 brilliantly! This week they have been writing their holiday news, sorting objects into different groups in Maths, learning how to write their first letter using lead in and lead out lines and had a super music lesson with Mrs Milner. What a busy week!



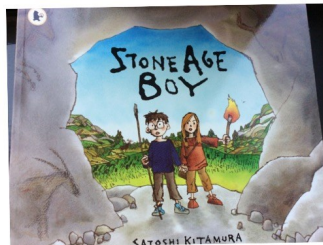
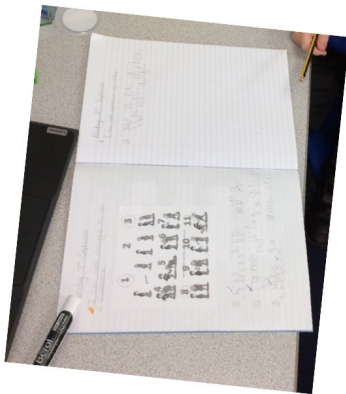
Exploring the UK in Year 2

Year 2 started Geography this half term and loved exploring maps in the Atlas. We identified where the UK is on a world map and where Newcastle upon Tyne is on a map of the United Kingdom. We can't wait to find out more about the world around us!



English in Year 3

Year 3 have had a brilliant first week back at school. We've loved discovering our new text and have made some great predictions about the story, written dialogue between characters and have read the book really well. Well done Year 3!



PIC•COLLAGE

Welcome to Year 4

Welcome to year 4! We have had a super week settling into Year 4. We can't believe how much we have packed into one week - from discovering our new English text, to recapping place value in Maths. We've also been learning about the Romans in history, planning a new DT project, discovering how sounds are made in science, using our hand staves in music and working on the Chromebooks - thankfully we also managed to squeeze in some extra outdoor time so everyone could catch up after the summer break. Enjoy the weekend - you deserve it!!



PIC•COLLAGE

Stained Glass Windows with Year 5

We have had an enjoyable and exciting start to our Year 5 journey this week. The children have been working really hard across all of areas of the curriculum. Today, Year 5 children have particularly taking pictures of the stained-glass windows in Heddon Church and discussing the stories that they tell. This is the focus for our unit of work in Art this half term.



A Busy Week in Year 6

A very busy first week back in Year 6! We started the week by writing a letter to our new teacher, before recapping place value in Maths and rhythm names in Music. In our Art session, we began to look at the work of William Morris. This half term, we will be using his designs to inspire our own wallpaper prints.



International School Award

We are pleased that our work to develop internationalism, links with Partner Schools developing an understanding of life in other countries and highlighting the benefits of learning from across the globe has been recognised by the British Council. The School has been awarded the Intermediate International School Award. Particular thanks to Madam Magee for her work in helping us achieve this award. To read the feedback from the British Council please check out our [International Schools page](#) on the website.



International School Award

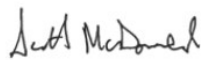
Certificate

This is to certify that

**Heddon-on-the-Wall, St Andrew's Church
of England First School**

has achieved

Intermediate level
Developing internationalism



Scott McDonald
Chief Executive, British Council



New Mental Health and Wellbeing Books

We are so grateful to the Education Training Trust in Heddon whose generous funding has allowed us to purchase some new books which deal with mental health and wellbeing issues in ways which are both appropriate and accessible for the children. We are really looking forward to be able to use these in School!!



Heddon Show Success!

The School Gardening Club did very well at the Heddon Show last weekend winning two third place prizes! Thanks to everyone involved in organising the show and making it such a great success.



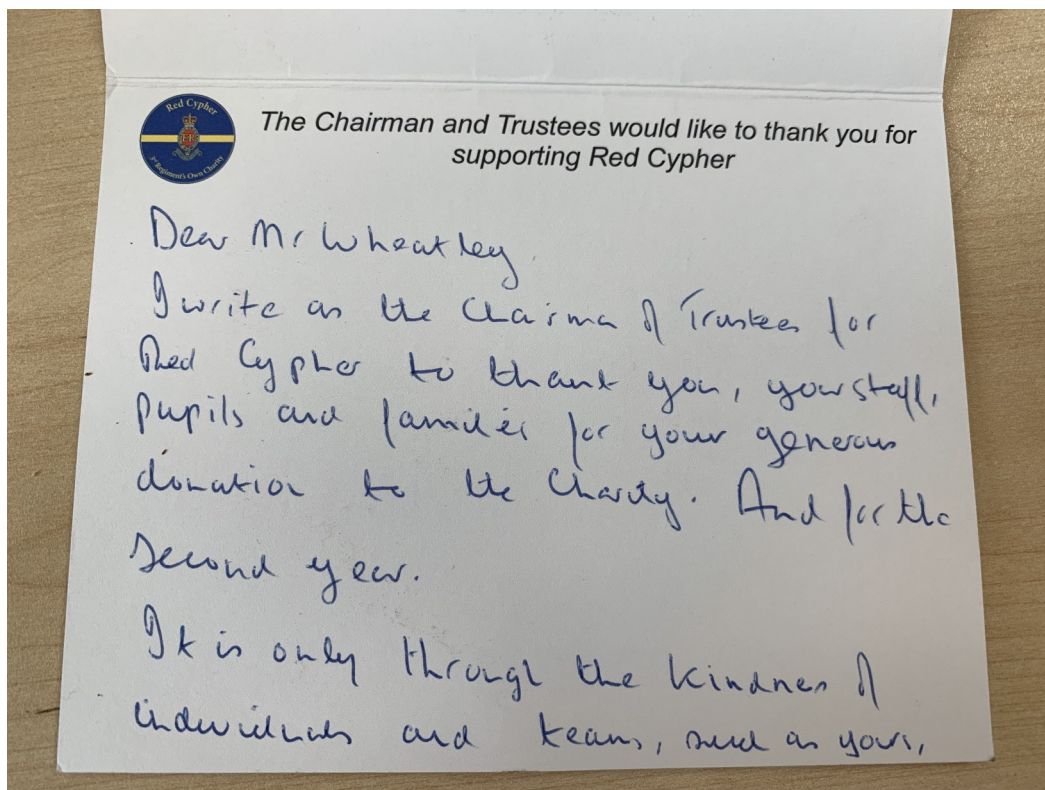
Heidi sent us a lovely picture which made us all smile of her dog, Kit, celebrating winning 'the dog with the waggiest tail' award at the show!



Thanks for our Armed Forces Day Donation

The School received a lovely letter of thanks from the Chairman of the Red Cypher charity to say thank you to the School for our donation following Armed Forces Day in June.

It is great to know that our donation will be going to help the servicemen and women of 3RHA who serve to protect our country.



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. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about — SHARING PHOTOS ONLINE

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

School is often a time chock-full of milestones for your child, and you may well be eager to share their accomplishments with the world. In today's digital age, sharing images of such precious moments on social media is commonplace, and – while that's a lovely thing to do – it does come with some risks attached. Our guide can help parents and carers to consider the potential dangers and make informed choices about safely sharing photos of their children online.

INVASIONS OF PRIVACY

Even with the right settings in place, absolutely nothing online is 100% private. Anyone who can view your photos could take screenshots and potentially share them elsewhere. Privacy settings are still important, though, so it's always wise to ensure your social media accounts have them set up; just bear in mind that you can't completely control what happens to anything once it's gone online.

REVEALING PERSONAL DETAILS

Small details in photos can often reveal personal information. Backgrounds can give clues to where you live, for example, while school logos on uniforms, sports kits, or bags could help someone identify which school your child attends. With interactive maps and reverse image searches commonplace online, information like this could easily be misused by an individual with malicious intentions.

MISUSE OF IMAGES

Once something's been shared online, it's almost impossible to get it deleted. Photos can show up in search engine results and be downloaded, manipulated, and shared without consent. There's the potential for someone's images to be used for advertising purposes (which in many cases, isn't illegal) or even more inappropriate reasons, such as cyber-bullying or serious forms of exploitation.

ONLINE GROOMING

Pictures that convey details about your child's interests, activities, or daily routines could arm an online predator with the kind of information they can deploy to gain a child's trust. They might use this knowledge to pretend to be the same age as the child or to have a shared hobby. Essentially, the more a predator knows about a young person, the easier it is for them to invent some 'common ground'.

PRESSURE TO PLEASE

When their parents or carers share notable moments and accomplishments in a child's life on social media, some children may begin to feel an expectation to always meet certain standards, to achieve things, or to behave in ways that are 'worth sharing'. Knowing that other people (even friends and family) can see these posts on social media might also add to the pressure they're feeling internally.

IMPACT ON DIGITAL FOOTPRINT

Every photo of a child posted online contributes to their digital footprint. Young people's lives have never been so closely and publicly documented as they are now, and this permanent online presence could affect a child's future opportunities or the choices they make as they grow up – in addition to influencing how they see themselves and, consequently, their emotional wellbeing.

Advice for Parents & Carers

REVIEW SETTINGS REGULARLY

Make sure your social media's secure in terms of who can view your content or see your location (only family and trusted friends, for example). Privacy settings aren't totally foolproof, but they do make it tougher for strangers to access your pics. Reviewing your settings regularly is also a good starting point for conversations with your child about managing their own social accounts when they're older.

CONSIDER OTHER CHILDREN

When taking a group photo, make sure you get parents' or carers' permission to share it on social media. There may be an important safeguarding reason for them not wanting their child's photo posted publicly online, or it might simply not tally with their personal beliefs or cultural background. A quick conversation in advance, just to make sure, is usually hugely appreciated.

CHECK YOUR PHOTOS

Photos of your child shouldn't provide any clues to where they live or go to school: even a house number, street name, or car number plate could be a giveaway. Cover up or blur out school logos, too. If you really want to share a particular pic, you could post a watermarked or low-res version, which can help to discourage misuse as those images are less appealing to download or reproduce.

THINK AHEAD

Try to consider the longer-term implications of what you post. Would you be happy with that photo being online in 10 years' time? Would your child still be OK with the image when they're older? Once your child is mature enough, you could ask for their consent before posting; it respects their privacy, fosters trust and understanding, and helps them to start thinking about their own online life.

Meet Our Expert

Gabriella Russo is a safeguarding consultant with more than 30 years' experience working with children, families, and adults in education, local authority, and mental health settings, both in the UK and internationally. She has developed online safety training for local authorities and foster care agencies across Britain and is the online safety expert for FosterWiki.



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#WakeUpWednesday

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[/NationalOnlineSafety](https://facebook.com/NationalOnlineSafety)

[@nationalonlinesafety](https://instagram.com/nationalonlinesafety)

[@national_online_safety](https://tiktok.com/@national_online_safety)

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Autism Family Support Drop In Sessions



Come along to access free support and advice in your local area. 0-19 years. No diagnosis needed!

Join us at:

Blyth Central Family Hub - Monday 25th September 11am-3.30pm

Hexham Family Hub - Tuesday 3rd October 11am-3.30pm

Ashington Family Hub - Tuesday 10th October 12pm-5pm

Berwick Family Hub - Thursday 19th October 11am-3.30pm

For more information, please contact Robyn via telephone 07517553426 or via email robyn.mcgregor@northumberland.gov.uk

Inclusive Education Services

 **Northumberland
County Council**

Our people. The heart of Northumberland 

Our vision: One council that works for everyone **Our values:** Residents first, Excellence and quality, Respect, Keeping our communities safe and well



HEXHAM ABBEY
HERITAGE • WORSHIP • COMMUNITY

CHOIR OPEN DAY

**No experience necessary
Open to all ages
Parents welcome**



- 4.30pm** Visit Abbey and Organ Loft!
- 5pm** Short Introduction and Rehearsal
- 5.30pm** Refreshments & Games
- 5.50pm** Short Rehearsal
- 6.10pm** Try on some Robes!
- 6.30pm** Sing in the Service
- 7.10pm** Finish!

**Wednesday 6 Sept (Boys)
Thursday 7 Sept (Girls)**

Contact Michael, Director of Music, on
07763062983

or
directorofmusic@hexhamabbey.org.uk

**OPPORTUNITIES TO TRAVEL, LEARN,
EARN AND MAKE FRIENDS**

Dates for your Diary



Thursday 14th September 2023 & Friday 15th September 2023	Bikeability for Year 6
Wednesday 20th September 2023	Music Lessons with Mr. Reay start
Friday 22nd September 2023	Welcome Service at Church - 9.30am for Early Years and Key Stage 1.
Thursday 5th October 2023	Year 6 Open Evening at Ponteland High School 5.30pm-7.30pm
Tuesday 24th October 2023	Flu Vaccinations
Friday 27th October 2023	Harvest Festival (Early Years and Key Stage 1) at Church 9.30am
Friday 27th October 2023	Harvest Festival (Key Stage 2) at Church 10.15am

Please note that these dates are all subject to change.

Further dates will be added as they are confirmed.

If you require further information about an event please do not hesitate to contact the School Office.

Heddon-on-the-Wall St Andrew's Primary School 2023/24

September 2023						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
35					1	2 3
36	4	5	6	7	8	9 10
37	11	12	13	14	15	16 17
38	18	19	20	21	22	23 24
39	25	26	27	28	29	30

October 2023						
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39						1
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41	9	10	11	12	13	14 15
42	16	17	18	19	20	21 22
43	23	24	25	26	27	28 29
44	30	31				

November 2023						
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45	6	7	8	9	10	11 12
46	13	14	15	16	17	18 19
47	20	21	22	23	24	25 26
48	27	28	29	30		

December 2023						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
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49	4	5	6	7	8	9 10
50	11	12	13	14	15	16 17
51	18	19	20	21	22	23 24
52	25	26	27	28	29	30 31

January 2024						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
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3	15	16	17	18	19	20 21
4	22	23	24	25	26	27 28
5	29	30	31			

February 2024						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
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7	12	13	14	15	16	17 18
8	19	20	21	22	23	24 25
9	26	27	28	29		

March 2024						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
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12	18	19	20	21	22	23 24
13	25	26	27	28	29	30 31

April 2024						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
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16	15	16	17	18	19	20 21
17	22	23	24	25	26	27 28
18	29	30				

May 2024						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
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19	6	7	8	9	10	11 12
20	13	14	15	16	17	18 19
21	20	21	22	23	24	25 26
22	27	28	29	30	31	

June 2024						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
22						1 2
23	3	4	5	6	7	8 9
24	10	11	12	13	14	15 16
25	17	18	19	20	21	22 23
26	24	25	26	27	28	29 30

July 2024						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
27	1	2	3	4	5	6 7
28	8	9	10	11	12	13 14
29	15	16	17	18	19	20 21
30	22	23	24	25	26	27 28
31	29	30	31			

August 2024						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
31				1	2	3 4
32	5	6	7	8	9	10 11
33	12	13	14	15	16	17 18
34	19	20	21	22	23	24 25
35	26	27	28	29	30	31

Bank holidays 2023/24 UK

25 December '23	Christmas Day	1 January '24	New Year's Day	6 May '24	Early May Bank Holiday
26 December '23	Boxing Day	29 March '24	Good Friday	27 May '24	Spring Bank Holiday
		1 April '24	Easter Monday	26 August '24	August Bank Holiday

School Holidays Bank Holidays Training Days