

15th September 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

It has been another busy week in School with lots of exciting things happening including Bikeability for Year 6 teaching the children how to safely ride their bikes on the road. The children really enjoyed this despite the awful weather today!

We have been pleased to welcome two new members of staff in School. Mr. Smith is the Pele Trust Primary Lead for PE and he will be working with the children in Key Stage 2 each Monday this term. Mr. Smith will be teaching PE across all the Pele Trust Primary Schools. We have also been joined by Dominic from Newcastle United Foundation who will be working with the children in Early Years and Key Stage 1 delivering their PE this term.

The School has updated our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy in light of changes to Government legislation (Keeping Children Safe in Education, 2023). You can read the policy [here](#).

As we start the new year I would like to remind you of the importance of your child having good attendance at School. The Government say: *'Every child has the right to a good education. We want our children to thrive, and to be healthy and happy. For this to happen the majority of young people need to be attending school, seeing their friends, and learning in the classroom. Most children in England agree with this assessment.'*

Please see later in the Flyer for information of some events being run by the Churches in Heddon. The ever popular Messy Church is taking place at the Methodist Church on Saturday 23rd September 4pm-6pm. This is a chance to learn about the harvest of the seas, have fun with crafts and share food together. There is also a Ceilidh at the Knott Hall on 30th September with all proceeds going to St. Andrew's Church in Heddon. If you like to dance the night away with some good food thrown in then this is the event for you!

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 2 with the best attendance this week with 99.6%.  
I hope that you enjoy reading this flyer and have a relaxing weekend.

Mr. A. Wheatley,  
Headteacher

## Attendance Matters



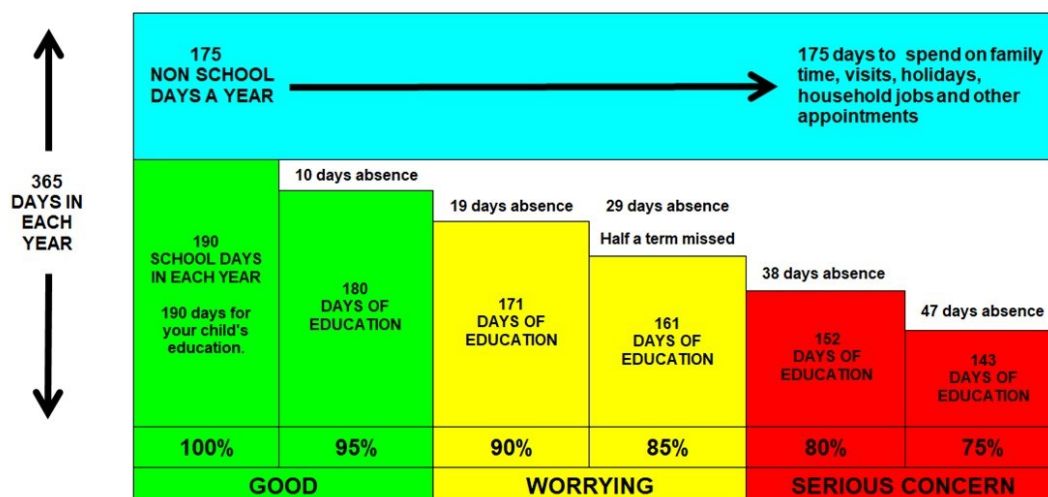
We continue to focus on attendance and punctuality so please remember that our School starts at 8.55am (9am for Nursery) and anyone arriving after this time will be marked as late.

Attendance for this week is summarised below:

Class	Attendance	Class	Attendance
Reception (Owls)	94.7%	Year 3 (Gibside)	88%
Year 1 (Wallington)	93.8%	Year 4 (Lindisfarne)	94.6%
Year 2 (Craggside)	99.6%	Year 5 (Bamburgh)	94.8%
		Year 6 (Dunstanburgh)	96.8%

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

Nursery have had such a brilliant week as we have continued to learn about being in the 'Hedgehog' class. This week, we have all made a handprint as part of our 'promise' to always follow our rules. You have all been super stars at this and you have demonstrated how fantastic you are at listening, sharing and being fantastic friends. Well done, Hedgehogs!



PIC•COLLAGE



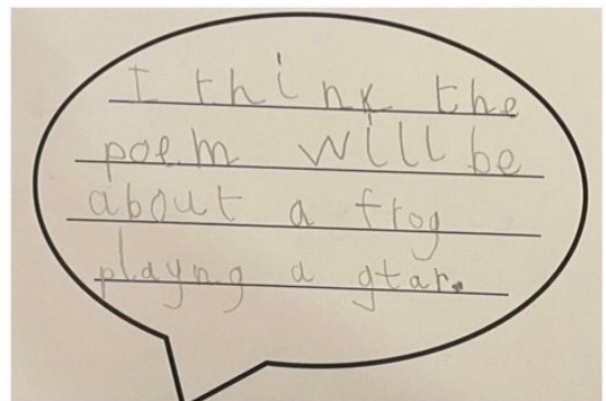
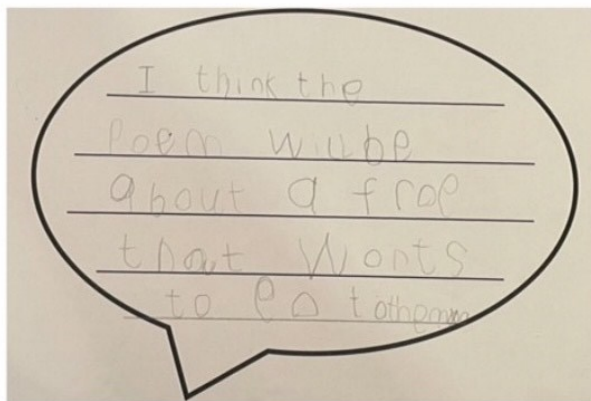


This week we have been thinking about how we are the same, different and similar to each other. We looked closely at our facial features and painted these amazing self portraits! We also shared our favourite stories, colours, hobbies and teddies! What a lovely week we have had learning more about each other! Great work, Owls!

**PIC•COLLAGE**

## Our New Text in Year 1

This week Year 1 began to look at their first Literature Works text. They found lots of pictures and objects around the classroom that gave them clues about the poem. They discussed their ideas on what they think the poem will be about then wrote their predictions.

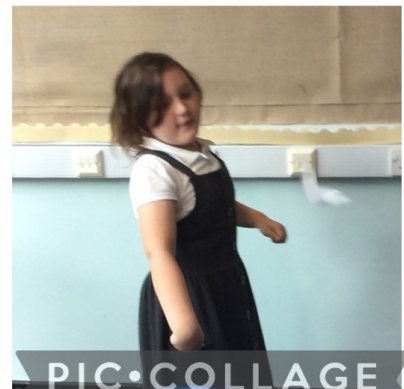


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## Plants with Year 2

In our Science lesson this week, Year 2 started our new topic - Plants. We were looking at how seeds dispersed. We all tried making a paper helicopter seed (like a Sycamore seed). Some of our paper seeds floated very well. Well done Year 2, they were tricky to make!



## Fantastic French in Year 3

Year 3 really enjoyed their French lesson with Madame Magee this week.  
Counting in French is lots of fun when you can play hopscotch!

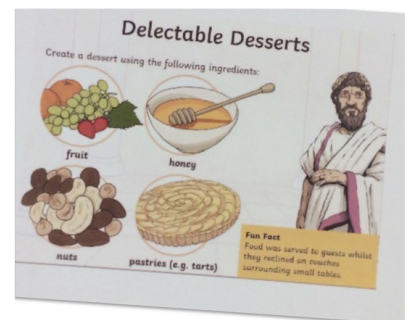
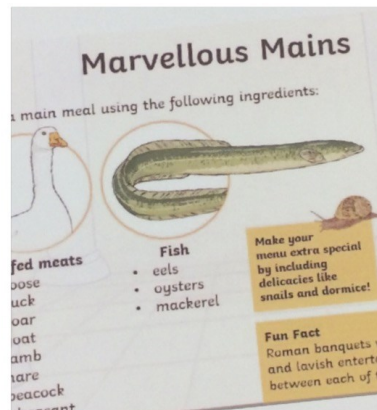
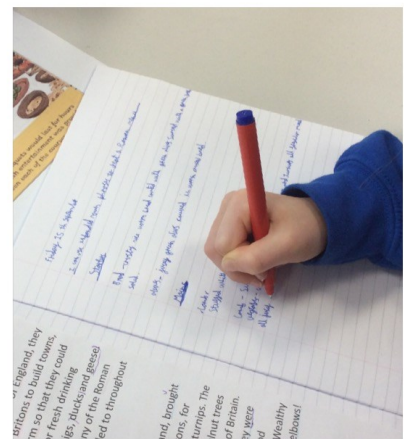
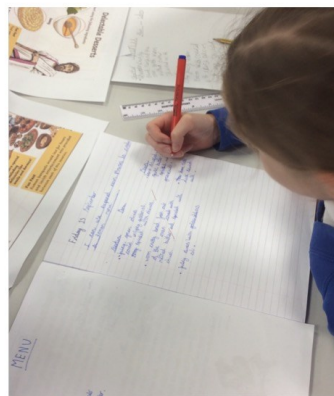
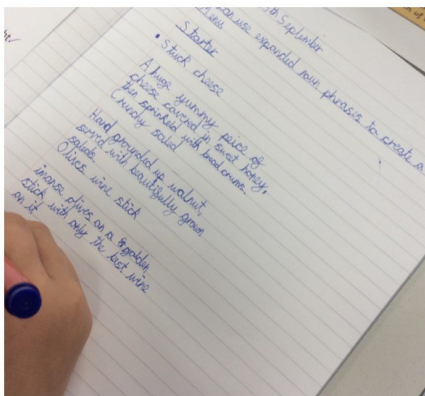


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## Rampaging Romans in Year 4

This week in year 4 we have continued reading our non-fiction text in English, The Rampaging Romans. We focused upon the Roman diet and realised that we are much happier with the food we have now compared to what the Romans ate. Today we designed our own menu for a Roman using expanded noun phrases.

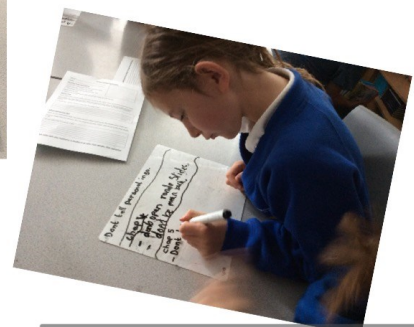
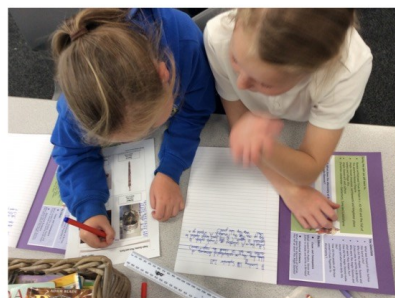


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## Online Safety in Year 5

This week Year 5 have been learning all about Online Safety. We watched some short videos of the SMART Crew and took notes on how we can keep ourselves safe online. We enjoyed creating a whole class mind map of strategies and things to look out for when accessing the internet.



**PIC•COLLAGE**



## Year 6 Bikeability

Another busy week in Year 6, with the highlight for most of the children being their Bikeability sessions. The instructors were impressed with the knowledge the children had retained from their first session way back in the summer term, and were very complimentary about their behaviour and attitude when cycling on the roads. Well done Year 6 for your hard work when developing this important life skill!





## Out of School Successes

We are pleased to see that Poppy has been cast as the young Anna in Disney's Frozen Jr at the Phoenix Theatre in Blyth.

Well done Poppy, we are sure that you will be amazing!



## Year 6 Opening Evening at Ponteland High School

There is a great opportunity for the children in Year 6 and their parents to visit Ponteland High School on Thursday 5th October 2023 at 5.30pm.

You will hear a talk from the Headteacher, Mr. McElwee and have the opportunity to have a look around the facilities the School has to offer,

Please see the poster below for further details.



**Ponteland High School**

# **Y6 OPEN EVENING**

The Crescent  
Callerton Lane  
Ponteland  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
NE20 9EG



**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023 5.30-7.30pm**

Listen to the Headteacher talk and take the opportunity to visit our fantastic curriculum areas

Aiming for our students to be happy, feel safe and secure, and achieve exceptionally well





# Heddon Harvest Ceilidh Party

## 30th September

### 5.30-8.30pm

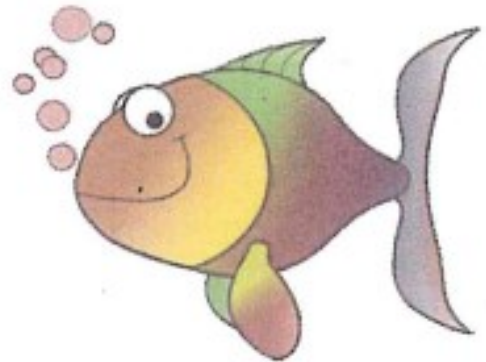
We we would like to invite everyone to a Ceilidh Party in the Knott Hall.

We will have a Chilli and Jacket Potato supper  
(with an alternative that is veggie, gluten free and less spicy)  
followed by a Ceilidh lead by Panhaggerty Ceilidh Band.

A bar will be available.

To book places please email: [r.scheffer@newcastle.anglican.org](mailto:r.scheffer@newcastle.anglican.org)

There will be a basket for donations on the night.  
Suggested minimum donation of £5 for children and £10 for adults  
All profits will go to St. Andrew's Church, Heddon.



**Heddon Messy Church**

**at the Methodist Chapel**

**Celebrating Harvest of the sea**

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 4-6pm**

**Lots of fun and craft activities, story-time and songs,  
for all the family.**

**And food! - fish-fingers or baked potato and beans!**

**For more information contact [deaconmaggiep@gmail.com](mailto:deaconmaggiep@gmail.com)  
or just come along!**



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](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

# Top Tips for SETTING BOUNDARIES AROUND GAMING

If your child loves video games, then you'll probably be aware that how long they spend gaming – and what they're actually playing – can occasionally become a source of concern or conflict. The UK's trade body for interactive entertainment, Ukie, has recently launched a campaign to promote safer and more responsible gaming among young people – with parents and carers helping by setting sensible and fair boundaries. Our guide has tips on key areas where you could agree some healthy ground rules for your child's gaming activity.

## PROMOTE SAFER GAME CHOICES

Deciding which online games are OK – and which should be avoided – is tricky. Some titles allow children to cooperate or compete with strangers, which creates potential risks. Watching your child play online for a while could provide more insight into a particular game, while the parental controls on most consoles allow you to limit who can chat to your child or send them friend requests. Remind your child of the hazards around strangers online when you discuss this boundary with them.

## ENCOURAGE REGULAR BREAKS

Help your child understand the need to take regular breaks, playing in shorter bursts rather than marathon sessions. Bear in mind that some games (such as role-playing games) require time investment from the player, while others (online team games, for example) can't be stopped or paused at a moment's notice. A quick break every hour or so is good practice, and you could suggest some things to do in these breaks, such as having a drink of water or getting some fresh air.

## AGREE SPENDING LIMITS

There's no doubt that gaming can be expensive, and younger players often don't realise how much paying for digital items and subscriptions can add up to. Many young gamers love to buy new skins or upgrades for their character, so you could settle on a fixed amount that your child is allowed to spend on in-game items each week or month. This sort of boundary will not only help your child to manage their expectations but will also make you more aware of the price of these items.

## DISCUSS AGE RATINGS

Children often ignore the age ratings on games – or are unaware they even exist. If you're happy with your child playing a particular game even though it's rated above their age, then establish that as a boundary: emphasise that you've made an exception, and talk about what age ratings mean and why they're important. You could add context to this boundary by browsing games' boxes together while shopping, discussing why some games might have earned certain age ratings.

## FACTOR IN FRIENDS

If your child is a keen video gamer, the chances are that they'll have other gamers among their social circle, too. When friends visit, do they instantly dash to their console or computer? You could put boundaries in place before their guests arrive by agreeing on a length of gaming time. Bear in mind, though, that they may try to extend this once they're together. Try coming up with activities or challenges for them during screen breaks – if they join in, they earn a little extra time on their game.

## ENJOY GAMING TOGETHER

Setting time aside to play video games together can be an enjoyable bonding exercise. Undeniably, some young gamers may be less enthusiastic about a parent or carer joining in, but it can be a productive way of encouraging them to share their hobby with you. Setting goals or tasks might be useful if they love Minecraft, choose something to build together; if Fortnite's their favourite, ask to try out some of the fun game modes, like Prop Hunt, which don't require high skill levels.

## TALK ABOUT EMOTIONS

Help your child to monitor their emotions as they play. Discuss what is (and isn't) an acceptable level of competitiveness to show while gaming. Are they allowed to trash talk other players, for example? Can they notice when they get angry if they lose? Do they think these emotions are healthy? Some games can provoke anger, but others can bring joy, humour and the thrill of overcoming a challenge. Try to steer your child towards games that tend to produce these more positive feelings.

## BE PREPARED FOR TROLLS

A frequent problem when gaming online is other players who are deliberately troublesome. Make sure your child knows how to report and block someone who makes their experience a negative one. Between you, decide if or how they should deal with these online trolls. Talk about where your child's boundaries are in terms of what they think is acceptable: what behaviour by other users is merely frustrating, and what crosses the line to become upsetting or abusive.

## Meet Our Expert

Daniell Lipscombe is a writer specialising in technology, video gaming, virtual reality and Web3. He has also written 16 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 Voz24, he has reviewed more than 50 games and products over the past year.

Source: <https://hipal.app/about/privacy.html>



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## Dates for your Diary



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							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
44			1	2	3	4	5
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46	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
47	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
48	27	28	29	30			

December 2023							
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49	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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51	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
52	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

January 2024							
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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							
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March 2024							
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12	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
13	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

April 2024							
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14	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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17	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
18	29	30					

May 2024							
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21	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
22	27	28	29	30	31		

June 2024							
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22						1	2
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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