

22nd September 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

It was wonderful to spend this morning in Church with Early Years, Key Stage 1 and their parents and carers at our annual service to welcome our new Early Years children. The children sang and shared what makes School special for them as Nursery take the first steps in their journey with us.

We were also delighted to welcome our new Diocesan Director of Education, Mrs. Gill Booth into School this week. She had a lovely morning meeting the children and staff and having a tour of the School.

Following the success of the Masterchef competition last year, Mr. Bell, the Pele Trust Chef, in conjunction with Geordie Bangers, the local sausage company, is launching a competition to design a new sausage filling. The winner will have their sausages made professionally by Geordie Bangers, get 5kg of their sausage for home and have it put on the Pele Trust menus. It's time for our budding chefs to get busy!

I would like to remind parents of the two Church run events coming up - the ceilidh and messy church. You are cordially invited to attend if you wish.

Could I also remind you that dogs are not allowed on School premises (even if being carried) and I would be grateful if you have a child in Year 1 or Year 2 that you do not let them climb on the wall outside the classrooms to prevent potential accidents.

In order to safeguard and protect the children we would ask that they do not wear smart watches to School. This includes watches which can either record video, audio, take pictures, connect to apps or the internet. Many thanks for your co-operation with this.

Please check out the additional dates which have been added to the 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 with the best attendance this week with 97.9%.

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

Mr. A. Wheatley,
Headteacher

Attendance Matters



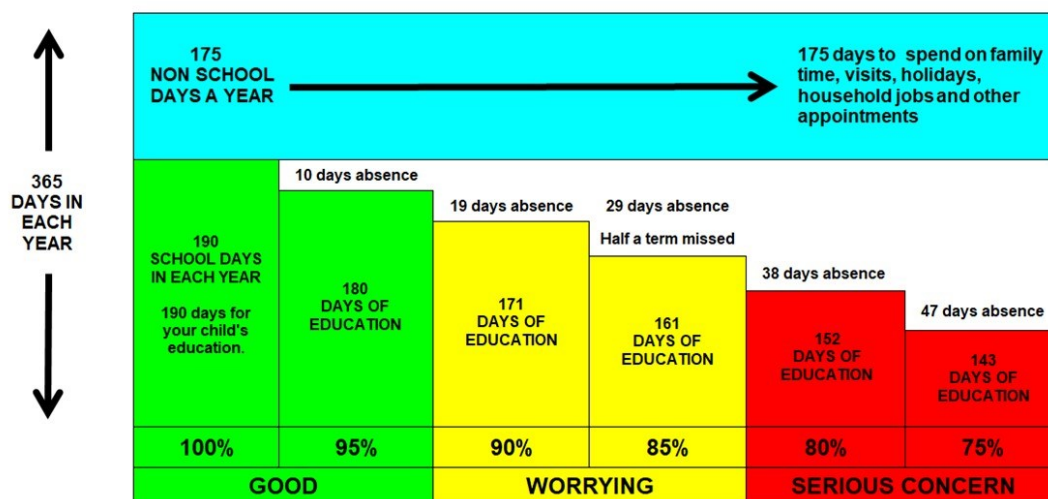
We continue to focus on attendance and punctuality so please remember that our School starts at 8.55am (9am for Nursery) and anyone arriving after this time will be marked as late.

Attendance for this week is summarised below:

Class	Attendance	Class	Attendance
Reception (Owls)	94.7%	Year 3 (Gibside)	96.7%
Year 1 (Wallington)	97.9%	Year 4 (Lindisfarne)	96.2%
Year 2 (Craggside)	93.2%	Year 5 (Bamburgh)	95.9%
		Year 6 (Dunstanburgh)	91%

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



In Nursery this week, we have been focusing on 'colours'. We read the story, 'Wow! Said the Owl' and we have been super busy identifying colours, grouping by colour and we made our own rainbows too.

We have also been encouraging the children to be more independent. They have been accessing the paint on their own and washing up after themselves and they have been getting their own snack out and having it independently on the snack table.

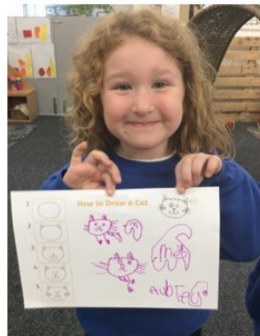
What a great week!



PIC•COLLAGE

Fabulous Phonics!

This week we have been learning about the 'c', 'k', 'ck' sound. We followed instructions to draw a cat and to make some fabulous kites. We are also enjoying blending some sounds together now to make and read words!



Whatever you do work at it with all your heart

Colossians 3:23

The Lost Son in Year 1

This week in RE Year 1 have been focusing on the parable 'The Lost Son'. After listening to the parable and discussing the meaning behind it the children used puppets to retell the story.



PIC•COLLAGE

Year 2 at the Welcome Service

This morning, Year 2 went to St. Andrew's Church to take part in the Welcome Service. The children spoke and sang beautifully. Well done Year 2. Thank you to the parents who helped us to walk to and from church safely.



PIC•COLLAGE

Ukuleles in Year 3

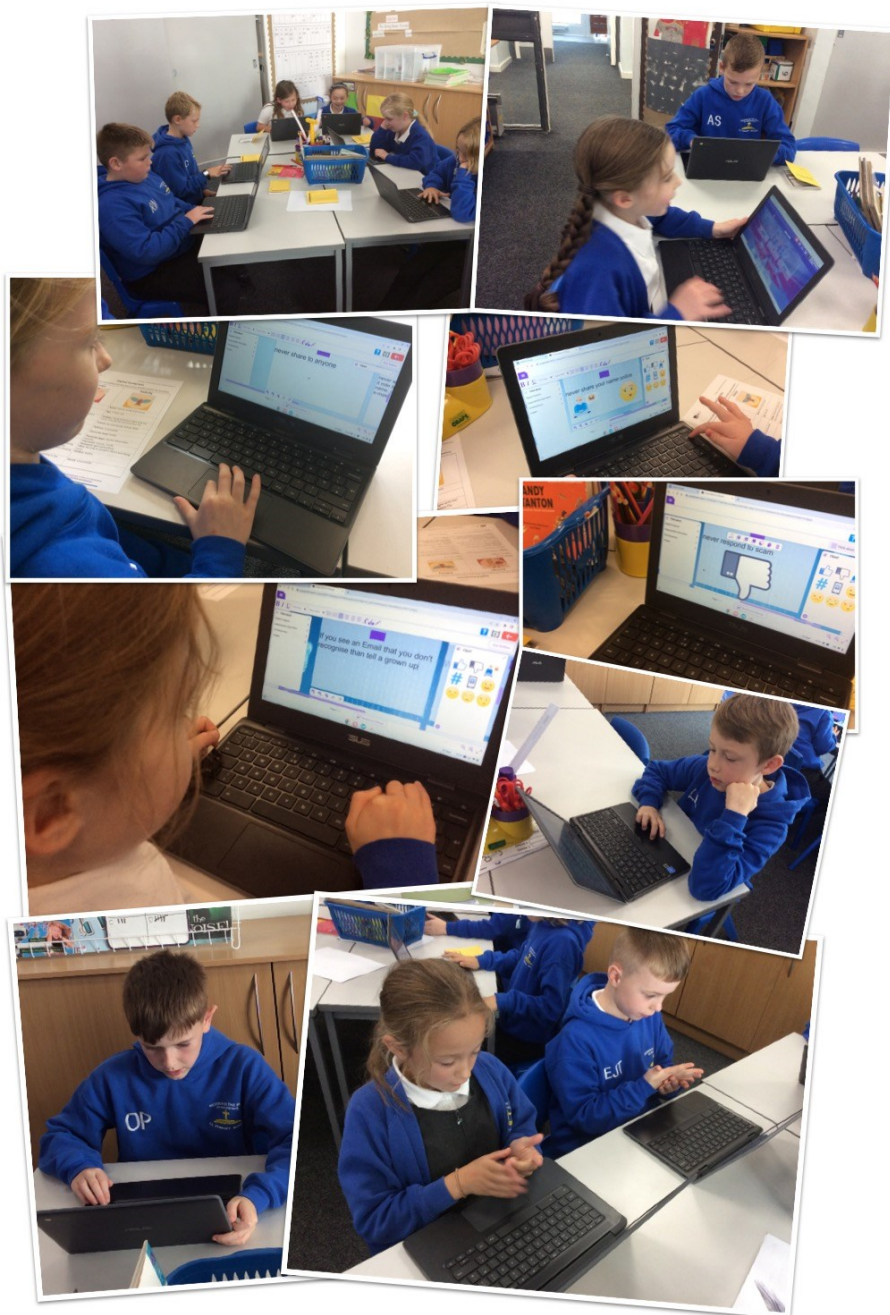
Year 3 thoroughly enjoyed their first ukulele lesson with Mr Reay this week. They learnt how to hold the instrument correctly and started to learn their first notes - well done Year 3!



PIC•COLLAGE

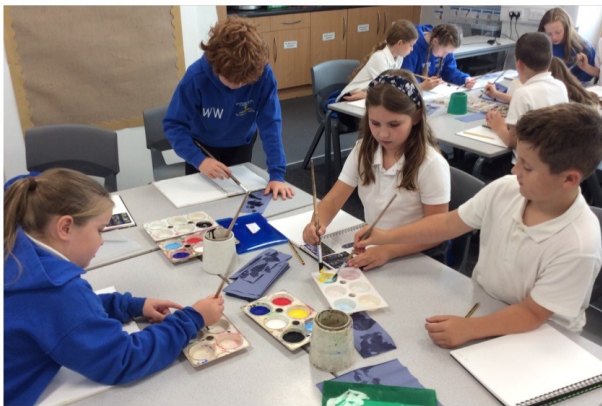
Learning about Phishing in Year 4

In computing this week, we have been learning about online safety and the meaning of the term 'phishing'. Ask your child to explain the term to you and what they would do if they received a 'phishing' email. We also discussed our digital footprint and how important it is to keep our identify private when we are online. The children began creating posters to help others understand this very important message.



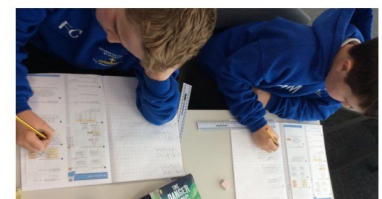
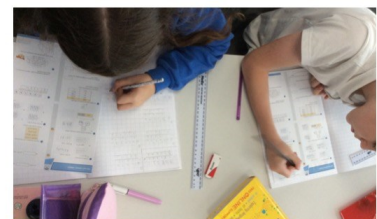
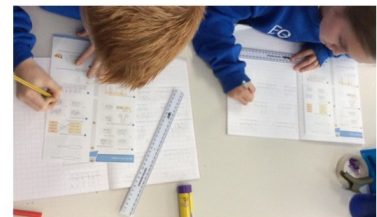
Colour Palettes in Year 5

This week Year 5 have had an enjoyable Art lesson. We have been making our own colour palettes using red, yellow and blue. Our focus this week has been to recreate Mediaeval stained glass windows and we discussed how during this time period they were limited with the amount of colours they could use.



Place Value in Year 6

After completing our Place Value unit in maths, we ended the week in Year 6 with a recap of addition and subtraction. Over the coming weeks we will be working on all four operations. Addition and subtraction questions have now been set up on Sumdog, and extra optional content has been added to Google Classroom, for those who are keen to practise their skills! Well done Year 6 on another hard-working week.



PIC•COLLAGE



We were pleased to welcome our new Diocesan Director, Mrs. Booth, into School this week. She enjoyed looking around school and meeting everyone.

PIC•COLLAGE

Lego Club Competition

Lego Club had a really tricky challenge this week where the children had to work together to build the tallest free standing tower that they could.

It took a lot of thought and careful design as well as their expert building skills.

I am sure you will agree they have done an amazing job.





THE GREAT GEORDIE BANGER OFF

Get ready for some **sausage-tastic** fun as we've teamed up with our pals at the Geordie Bangers to create their next big flavour in a **Pele Trust wide competition.**

THE COMPETITION

Entrants will need to come up with the name, ingredients and drawing of their tasty creation to impress the judges.

THE PRIZES

The winning sausage will be made by Geordie Bangers and will appear in the next menu cycle for all schools within the trust. The winner will also receive 5 Kilos of their new sausage to take home and enjoy with their family.

There will also be runner up prizes for each primary school, with each finalist receiving a certificate, as well as their sausage being created and put into mini sausage sandwiches for the whole class to enjoy.

Entry forms will be available from w/c 23rd October 2023

We can't wait to see what wonderful creations you come up with!

Richard Bell | Area Catering Manager
Vin & David McDonad | Geordie Bangers



Taster Session



NORTHUMBERLAND YOUTH ENSEMBLE

**OPEN TO YR5
AND ABOVE**

**SATURDAY 7TH OCTOBER
10AM – 1.30PM
MORPETH 1ST SCHOOL**

DO YOU WANT TO:

- HAVE FUN WHILE LEARNING
NEW MUSIC** 
- BUILD UP YOUR CONFIDENCE
PLAYING IN A GROUP** 
- LEARN LOADS OF NEW SKILLS** 

NEXT 

**BE AT MORPETH 1ST SCHOOL,
LOANSDEAN, NE61 2AP,
FOR 10AM
BRING YOUR INSTRUMENT
AND A PACKED LUNCH.**

IMPORTANT 

**YOU MUST BRING A PARENT/CARER WITH YOU TO COMPLETE SOME
PAPERWORK REGARDING MEDICAL ISSUES AND EMERGENCY CONTACT
DETAILS.**

(PARENTS/CARERS ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US FOR THE LAST HALF AN HOUR FROM 1-1.30PM OR CAN JUST PICK UP THEIR CHILD AT 1.30PM)

CONTACT US 

**WANT A BIT MORE INFO? CONTACT US VIA
ENSEMBLES@NORTHUMBERLAND.GOV.UK
01670 624045**

[HTTP://MUSIC.NORTHUMBERLAND.GOV.UK](http://MUSIC.NORTHUMBERLAND.GOV.UK)

 Northumberland
County Council

Supported using public funding by
 Department
for Education

 **ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



Heddon Harvest Ceilidh Party

30th September

5.30-8.30pm

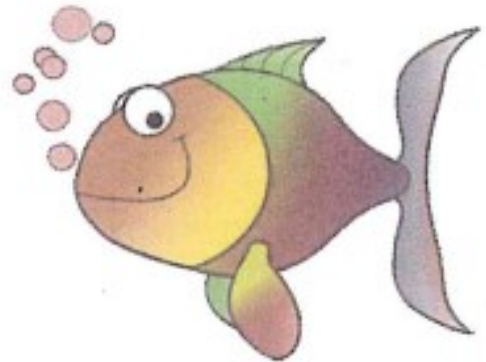
We would like to invite everyone to a Ceilidh Party in the Knott Hall.

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

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 23rd 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
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 apps 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 WHATSAPP

...MSG ME...

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

With more than two billion active users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents, as well as making voice and video calls, WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service. Its end-to-end encryption only allows messages to be viewed by the sender and any recipients: not even WhatsApp itself can read them. This privacy issue has been in the spotlight recently, as the UK's Online Safety Bill proposes to end such encryption on private messaging. WhatsApp is unwilling to do so and has reportedly considered withdrawing its service in the UK should this legislation go ahead.

AGE RESTRICTION
16+
in UK and Europe; rest of the world 13+

EVOLVING SCAMS

WhatsApp's popularity makes it a lucrative hunting ground for scammers. Recent examples include posing as the target's child, requesting a money transfer because of a spurious 'emergency'. Plus a scam where fraudsters trigger a verification message by attempting to log in to your account, then (posing as WhatsApp) call or text to ask you to repeat the code back to them, giving them access.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

To start a chat, someone only needs the mobile number of the WhatsApp user that they want to message. If your child has ever given their number out to someone they don't know, that person could then contact them via WhatsApp. It's also possible that your child might be added to a group chat (by one of their friends, for example) containing other people that they don't know.

FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp's connectivity and ease of use allows news to be shared rapidly – whether it's true or not. To combat the spread of misinformation, messages forwarded more than five times on the app now display a "Forwarded many times" label and a double arrow icon. This makes users aware that the message they've just received is far from an original – and might not be entirely factual, either.

VIEW ONCE CONTENT

The facility to send images or messages that can only be viewed once has led to some WhatsApp users sharing inappropriate images or abusive texts, knowing that the recipient can't re-open them later to use as evidence of misconduct. People used to be able to screenshot this 'disappearing' content – but a recently added WhatsApp feature now blocks this, citing increased privacy.

CHAT LOCK

Another new option allows users to store certain messages or chats in a separate 'locked chats' folder, saved behind a passcode, fingerprint or face ID authentication. The risk here is that this function creates the potential for young people to hide conversations and content that they suspect their parents wouldn't approve of (such as age-inappropriate material).

VISIBLE LOCATION

WhatsApp's 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, which can be helpful for friends meeting up or parents checking that their child's safely on the way home, for example. However, anyone in your child's contacts list or in a mutual group chat can also track their location – potentially letting strangers identify a child's home address or journeys that they make regularly.

Advice for Parents & Carers ...TYPING...

EMPHASISE CAUTION

Encourage your child to treat unexpected messages with caution: get them to consider, for example, whether the message sounds like something a friend or relative would really send them. Make sure they know never to share personal details over WhatsApp, and to be wary of clicking on any links in messages. Setting up two-step verification adds a further layer of protection to their WhatsApp account.

THINKING BEFORE SHARING

Help your child to understand why it's important to stop and think before posting or forwarding something on WhatsApp. It's easy – and all too common – for content to then be shared more widely (even publicly on social media). Encourage your child to consider how an ill-judged message might damage their reputation or upset a friend who sent something to them in confidence.

ADJUST THE SETTINGS

It's wise to change your child's WhatsApp settings (go to 'Privacy', then 'Groups') to specify which of their contacts can add them to group chats without needing approval: you can give permission to 'My Contacts' or 'My Contacts Except ...'. Additionally, if your child needs to use 'live location', emphasise that they should enable this function for only as long as they need – and then turn it off.

CHAT ABOUT PRIVACY

Some parents like to check in with their child about how they're using WhatsApp, explaining that it will help to keep them safe. If you spot a 'Locked Chats' folder, you might want to talk about the sort of chats that are in there, who they're with and why your child wants to keep them hidden. Also, if your child has sent any 'view once' content, you could discuss their reasons for using this feature.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and eating behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

...HEY OSCAR...

National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://blog.whatsapp.com/an-open-letter> | <https://faq.whatsapp.com/10770883958232> | https://faq.whatsapp.com/36005986189245/?helpref=faq_faq
<https://www.whatsapp.com/security> | <https://blog.whatsapp.com/chat-lock-making-your-most-intimate-conversations-in-your-app-more-private>
<https://www.aura.com/learn/whatsapp-scams>

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10 top tips for safely using SMARTWATCHES

Kids love gadgets, and smartwatches – available to buy from as little as £20 online – make a tempting gift. As with any type of mobile technology, though, smartwatches can pose risks to children unless they're used safely. Receiving unwanted calls, cyber-stalking and distracting a young person when they're crossing the road are all known risks associated with smartwatches. However, these devices can bring plenty of benefits for children and parents alike – so let's examine the pros and cons of smartwatches.

AVOID CHEAP OPTIONS

A quick search online yields a torrent of cheap smartwatches for kids, costing as little as £20. It's wise to avoid this bargain basement tech: it tends to deliver a poor experience with inferior battery life, and it's hard to have faith in the software's safety. There have been cases of smartwatches being hacked to track or contact children; stick to known brands who have a reputation to protect.

CONTROL CALLING

Many smartwatches have the facility to make or take calls. As with a phone, you may want to restrict who your child can call – or be called by. On Apple Watches, you can select trusted contacts who are allowed to ring your child, while other watches' controls vary hugely. Some need to connect to a linked phone for calls, so you may be able to block unknown contacts via that device instead.

BEWARE HIDDEN COSTS

For a smartwatch to allow calls independently (that is, without being connected to a phone via Bluetooth), it will need its own mobile data plan. This might take the form of a tiny SIM card that you slot into the watch – or an eSIM, where the physical card is replaced by software settings. Either way, this will incur an additional monthly cost that you'll need to factor into any buying decision.

ENABLE FAMILY SHARING

Apple Watches aren't cheap, but they do offer superb safety features – allowing parents to control calls, messages and emails on the device, as well as a location tracking system that can send alerts if kids wander beyond pre-set boundaries. Their SOS function enables children to contact emergency services instantly if they're in trouble, which simultaneously also alerts parents and carers.

MAKE THEM COOL FOR SCHOOL

Some schools have banned smartwatches, as pupils have been using them as substitute phones. If your child's school does permit them, some devices can be set to prevent distractions in class. For example, Apple's Schooltime feature turns their watches into ordinary time-keeping devices during school hours. The display changes in this mode, showing teachers that it isn't being used for other purposes.

TRACK ITS LOCATION

Both Apple and Android devices have apps which allow you to track a smartwatch's location. They can also initiate an audio alert – avoiding those cushion-hurling panics when a treasured device can't be found at home. If you're planning to track your child's location via their watch, make them aware of that in advance. You could even make it a condition of them getting the watch in the first place.

THINK 'SAFETY FIRST'

Smartwatches are often worth hundreds of pounds, which can make young people wearing one a target for thieves. Advise your child to keep the watch hidden in public (when possible) and not to resist if muggers demand their watch. If you manage to track a stolen device, pass that information to the police: location data isn't always accurate, so you could end up wrongly accusing someone.

STORE MEDICAL INFO

Devices including the Samsung Galaxy Watch and Apple Watch can store the owner's medical details (such as their blood group and any pre-existing medical conditions), potentially giving emergency services access to vital information in a crisis. These devices also have 'heart fail' detection, which sends a text message to selected contacts along with a map showing the wearer's location.

USE THEM AS MOTIVATION

If you're worried your child's spending too much time slumped on the sofa staring at screens, smartwatches are great fitness trackers and can be a powerful incentive to get moving. Some devices will alert the wearer if they've been inactive for a long time and encourage them to do some exercise. Many watches record the user's daily step count and measure other health metrics.

BE MINDFUL OF BEDTIME


Many smartwatches offer sleep tracking, which some (usually older) children use to justify wearing them to bed. However, that also presents a temptation to message friends or check social media late at night, even if their phone is downstairs. Unless there's a valid reason not to, you could encourage your child to remove the watch in the evenings and ensure the charger stays in a different room.


Meet Our Expert


Barry Collins has been a technology journalist and editor for more than 20 years, working for titles such as the Sunday Times, Which?, PC Pro and Computeractive. He's appeared regularly as a technology pundit on television and radio, including on BBC Newsnight, Radio 5 Live and the ITV News at Ten. He has two children and writes regularly about internet safety issues.





National Online Safety
 #WakeUpWednesday

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Dates for your Diary



Tuesday 26th September 2023	Phonics Workshop for Early Years Parents - 5pm
Tuesday 3rd October 2023	Year 4 visit to Arbeia Roman Fort
Thursday 5th October 2023	Year 6 Open Evening at Ponteland High School 5.30pm-7.30pm
Wednesday 18th October 2023	Year 6 visit to Nissan
Friday 20th October 2023	Sports Leader Training
Tuesday 24th October 2023	Flu Vaccinations
Wednesday 25th October 2023	Year 1 visit to Wallington Hall
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
w/c Monday 30th October 2023	HALF TERM
Wednesday 13th December 2023	Christmas Dinner Day

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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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
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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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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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5	29	30	31				

February 2024							
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March 2024							
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13	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

April 2024							
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17	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
18	29	30					

May 2024							
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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
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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
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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