

27th October 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

As we reach the end of the longest half term that I can remember I would like to offer my thanks to all the staff in School who have worked so hard with your children. I'd also like to recognise the huge amounts of hard work that the children have put in since September. We are already seeing them make real progress and mature this year.

I would like to let you know that when Miss Kerridge begins her maternity leave Year 1 will be taught by Miss Graham. Miss Graham is an experienced Key Stage 1 and Year 1 teacher. She will be meeting with Miss Kerridge and the children after half term and with you at Parents Evening after half term.

Thank you to everyone who joined us today for our Harvest Festivals at St. Andrew's Church. We are always overwhelmed at the number of people who turn out to support the children at these services. We very much hope that you enjoyed them as much as the children did. Please see the pictures later in the flyer.

Thank you very much for your amazing generosity in donating items for our Harvest Collection which has been collected by both the Foodbank and the People's Kitchen. It is great to be able to make a real difference to people in our local community.

As well as seeing all the amazing things your children have been doing this week, Mrs. Cabbage has added the Autumn OPAL Play newsletter so you can see all the developments taking place at lunchtimes along with pictures of the children.

I would like to let you know that our non-uniform day raised £180 for OPAL Play which will be used to purchase storage bins so that the children can access the resources independently.

The online portal for applications for places for Reception opens on **Wednesday 1st November 2023**. If your child is in Nursery you will need to apply for a place for Reception. If you have any questions about this process please contact the School Office.

Next week are two big events in the children's calendars - Halloween and Bonfire Night. While both nights are tremendous fun for the children it is important that they enjoy them safely. I have added a couple of sections into the flyer with some safety tips to help both nights happen safely for the children.

Please could I ask that anyone who brings their child to School by car parks and drives showing respect to other drivers and residents. If you see parking or driving which you feel is unsafe please can you contact the Police on 101.

Well done to Year 2 with the best attendance this week: 99.2%

I would like to remind you that School reopens on **Tuesday 7th November 2023**.

I hope that you enjoy reading this flyer and have a relaxing and peaceful half term.

Mr. A. Wheatley,  
Headteacher

## Attendance Matters



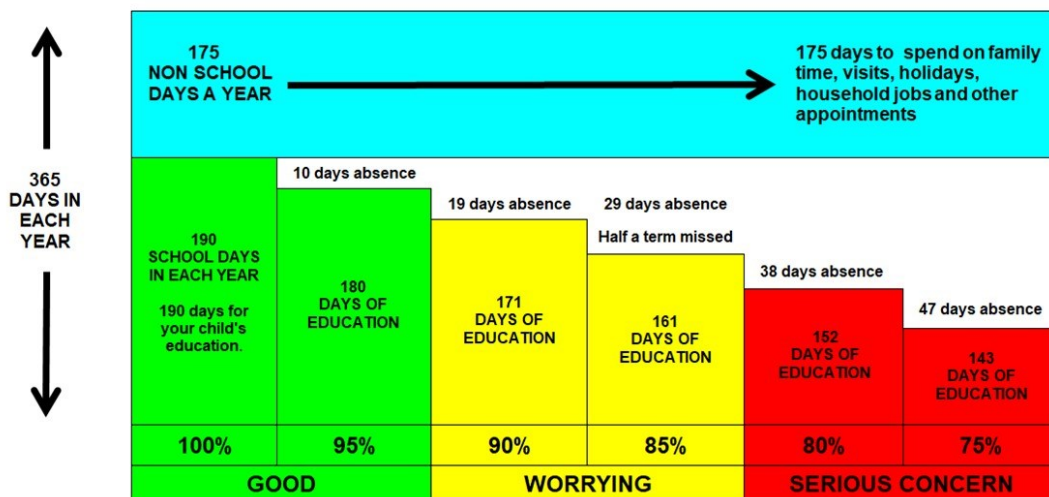
We continue to focus on attendance and punctuality so please remember that our School starts at 8.55am (9am for Nursery) and anyone arriving after this time will be marked as late.

Attendance for this week is summarised below:

Class	Attendance	Class	Attendance
Reception (Owls)	96.3%	Year 3 (Gibside)	90%
Year 1 (Wallington)	92.4%	Year 4 (Lindisfarne)	94.6%
Year 2 (Craggside)	99.2%	Year 5 (Bamburgh)	91.7%
		Year 6 (Dunstanburgh)	90.3%

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'

The Hedgehogs have had a fantastic week continuing to learn all about Autumn and Harvest. We have been busy doing some observational drawings of pumpkins, using tweezers to pick up spiders from a spiderweb and making Autumn sun catchers. What a great week!



PIC • COLLAGE



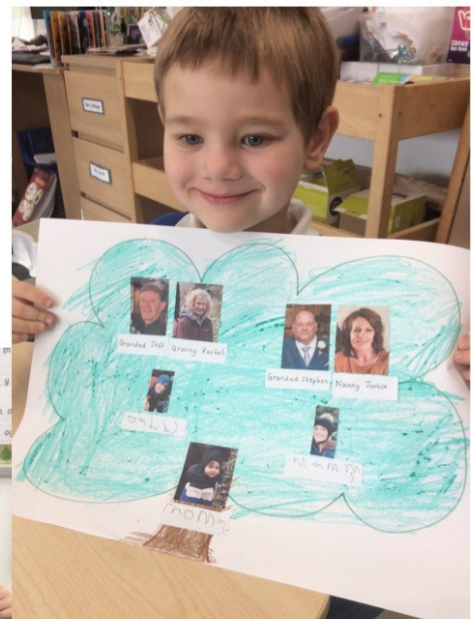
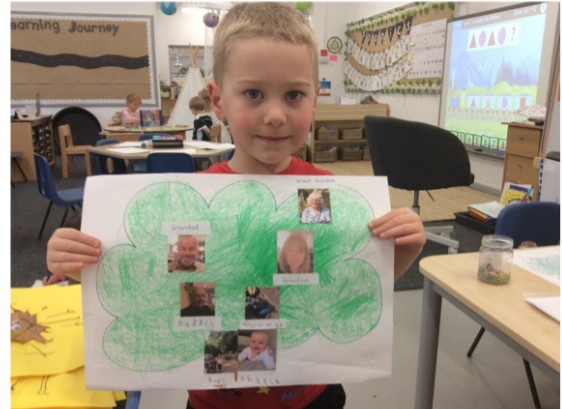
Whilst we have been learning all about Autumn, we made some Autumn leaf biscuits. We all took turns to do some measuring, mixing, and rolling. They were absolutely delicious, well done Hedgehogs!



PIC•COLLAGE



This week we have been thinking about families and how they are all different, all special and all have one thing in common .... love!



We have been thinking about our own families and making our own special family trees.

PIC•COLLAGE





Celebrating all things Autumn! 🍂



Whatever you do work at it with all your heart

Colossians 3:23



## At Wallington Hall with Year 1

Year 1 had a great trip to Wallington this week! The children explored the play fort and little acorns play area, walked through the woodlands, performed our class poem by a pond and visited the wildlife hide to do some bird spotting.

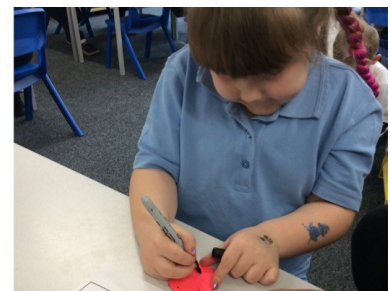
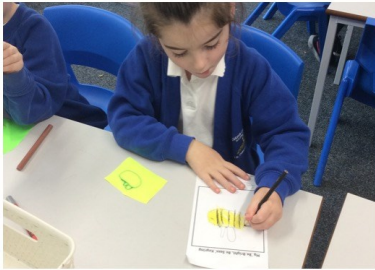


PIC • COLLAGE



## Be Bright Be Seen with Year 1

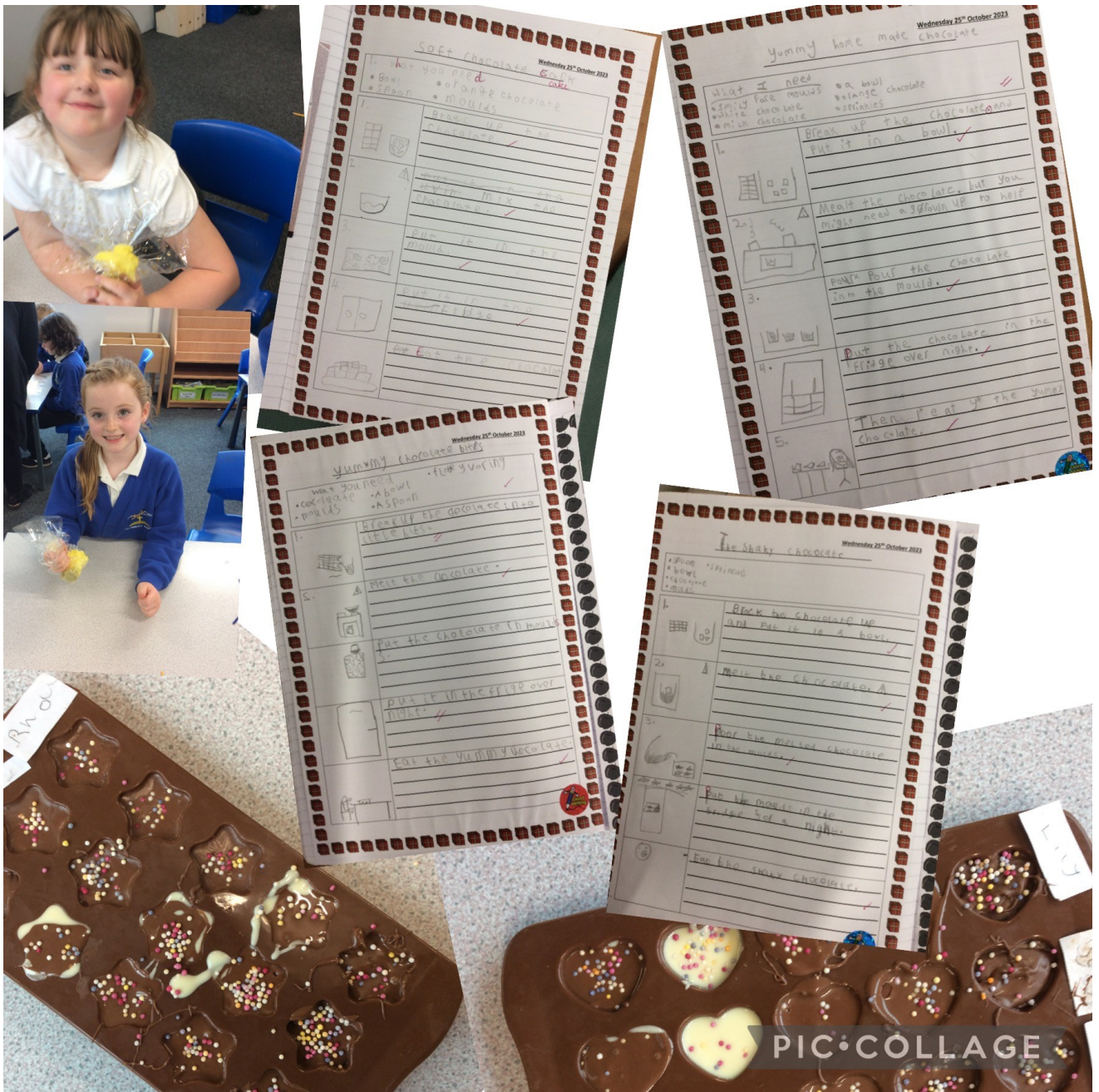
This week in Year we have been thinking about the 'Be Bright, Be Seen' campaign with the mornings and evenings beginning to get darker. We discussed the importance of wearing bright colours during the day and reflective colours at night so that we can be seen. today the children started to make their own keyring that they can attach to their coats or book bags to help them be seen on their way to and from School. The children will be finishing their keyrings after half term.





## Learning about Chocolate with Year 2

In Year 2 this half term we have been reading 'From Bean to Bar', to find out where chocolate comes from and how it is made. This week we had a go at making our own Chocolates and wrote instructions. I hope you all enjoyed eating your yummy chocolates!





## A 'Big Dig' with Year 3

Year 3 have had a fabulous 'Big-Digging' couple of days! They have excavated, cleaned, sorted, observed and recorded all of their finds - a great end to our Stone Age to Iron Age topic!



Whatever you do work at it with all your heart

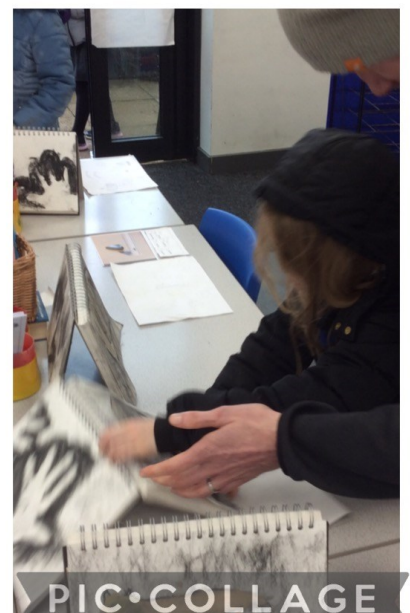
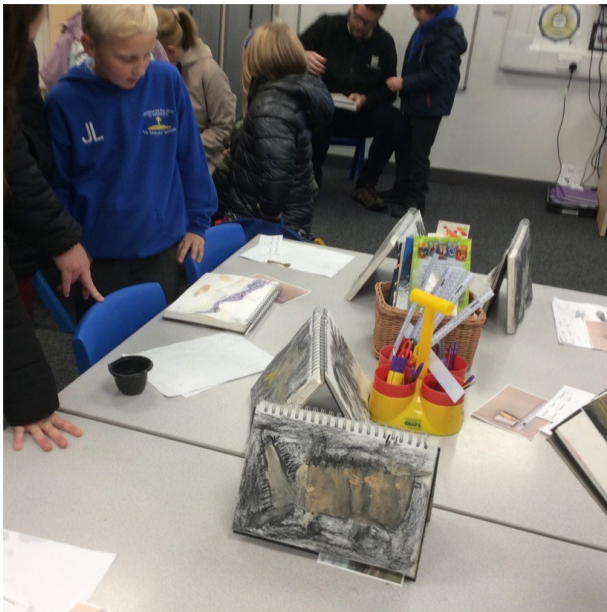
Colossians 3:23



### The 'Big Dig' Museum Year 3

Year 3 created and opened their special 'Big Dig' Museum this afternoon to showcase all the things they found during their archeological excavations!

They loved sharing their finds with their grown ups at the end of the day.



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## Making Roman Bullas with Year 4

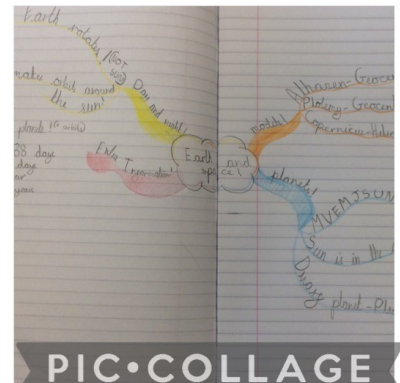
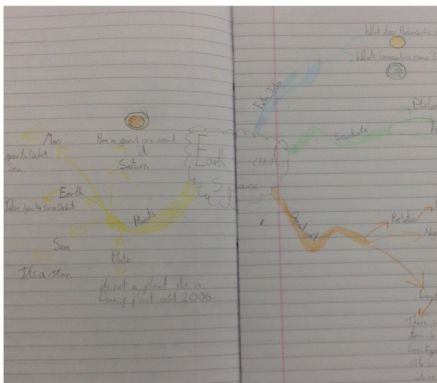
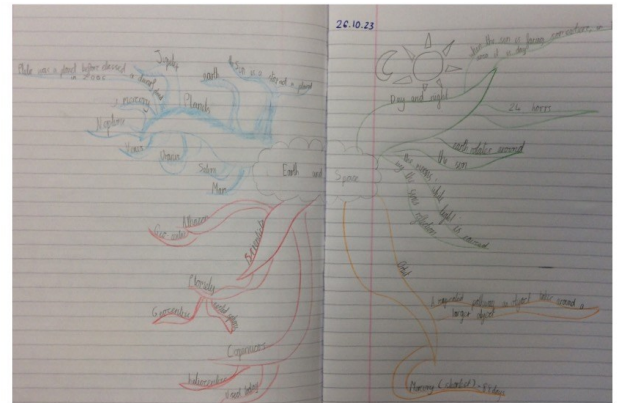
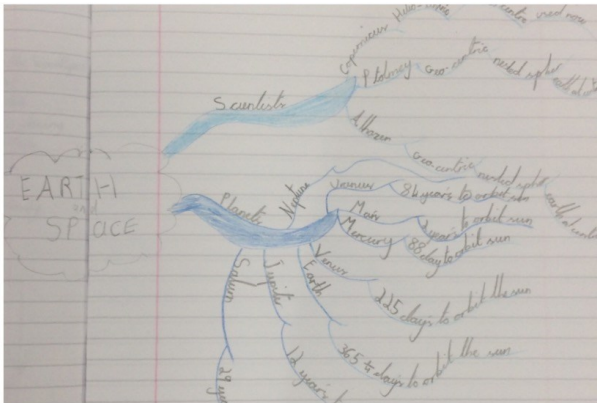
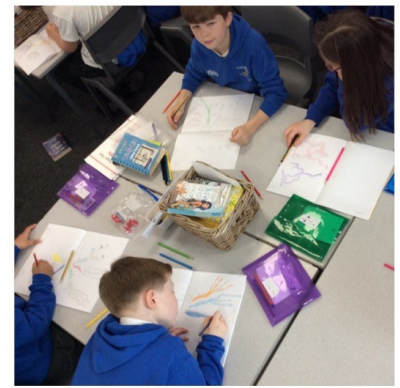
This half term in DT we have researched, designed and made Roman Bulla's. Making the bulla's took lots of patience and really tested our resilience skills. Sewing is a tricky skill to learn and everyone persevered and did a super job! Look at how proud we are of our fabulous creations!





## Science Mind Maps in Year 5

This week we have been creating 'Mind-maps' for the Science topic we have studied this half term. The children in Year 5 have had to work really hard to try and remember all of the key information that they have learned over this unit of work. We have loved showing off our knowledge of a subject in a new way that helps us remember more!



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## Block Printing with Year 6

Year 6 had a successful yet difficult art lesson this week, as we entered the final stage of our William Morris printing unit. We used rollers to apply printing ink to our polymer blocks, before pressing and rolling our blocks onto the card. This was then repeated to create patterns, replicating the processes used by Morris originally.

Additionally, I would like to give a big well done and thank you to all of Year 6 this week, for completing their first round of mock sats papers. The children's efforts and determination has been clear to see; they should be very proud of themselves. Marked papers will be returned to the children after the half term so that they can have a look through their answers with a parent or carer at home. This will be the children's homework set on the first week back.



PIC•COLLAGE





Early Years and Key Stage One were fantastic at Church this morning. Unfortunately we were unable to get a photograph of Year 1 but they were amazing too. Well done everyone!





Key Stage 2 were amazing at the Harvest celebration this morning. They enjoyed singing and sharing their poems as well as all the things we say thank you for at Harvest. Well done everyone!



PIC•COLLAGE



## Harvest Collections

This year the donations of food are going to the People's Kitchen ([peopleskitchen.co.uk](http://peopleskitchen.co.uk)) and West End Foodbank ([newcastlewestend.foodbank.org.uk](http://newcastlewestend.foodbank.org.uk))

These charities support people in our local area who are in need of food and other essential items. The foodbank gave out 23,709 food parcels out in the last year.

Your generous gifts will make a real difference to people in our local community. Jesus said the greatest commandment was to 'love your neighbour as yourself.' The gifts you have donated are a real example of this love in action.



Whatever you do work at it with all your heart

Colossians 3:23

## Out of School Club

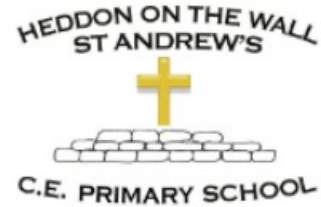
In Out of School Club this week the children all did a scavenger hunt outside to collect various types of nature to make our Autumn pictures. They collected leaves, twigs, grass... anything they could find! They made some very creative pictures to take home, well done everyone. Some of us got very messy with paints and pumpkins! What a fun week we have had.





Autumn 2023 Edition

 **OUTDOOR PLAY**  
**AND LEARNING**  **at**



Since our Spring OPAL Newsletter, we have made some super additions to our play offer! We have had roll bars installed to allow the children to develop their strength, coordination and balance by pulling themselves up onto the bars and spinning over! The bars have been a big hit and the children are hoping for a second set so that more children can 'roll' at once!



We have purchased **some** storage solutions in the form of four brilliant brand new sheds to store all of our equipment! We are continuing to fundraise for easily accessible storage for the children to use on a daily basis.



*We are always looking to add to our play resources, please think of us before you throw out any old; suitcases, prams, small world toys, dressing up clothes etc. we can put them all to good use!*



We have very recently purchased some new den posts and poles to build shelters with ... perfect for this inclement time of year!

There are also so many physical and health benefits with children lifting and moving items as well as the cooperation and teamwork involved creating their fantastic constructions.

*We would love to further develop our loose parts play - if you work in industry and could supply new pallets /cable reels/cones/barriers/crates—then please do get in touch with us. We would also welcome large sheets of material/tarpaulins for den building and shelter.*



We are so grateful to our fabulous Play Rangers. Play Rangers support children in their play, and adults with setting up, safety checking and organising resources. They are highly visible to all and are a great asset to the Outdoor OPAL Team! Thank you Play Rangers!



We love playing in all weathers; however, in order to play on the grassed areas, during wet and muddy weather - children must wear wellington boots/walking boots. We do require children to bring in their own from home and ideally, leave them in school. **We also need more mud/waterproof trousers if you have any spare, please.**





We have purchased a range of new equipment for the Sports Zone including basketball nets, mini golf sets, cricket sets, a net and tennis equipment.



We have also added a stile to the entrance of the Zen Zone, a lovely quiet space for children to chill out. Thanks to FOHS, we purchased a super seating area which can be used by a whole class during lesson time as well as by the children during OPAL time.

### Did You Know?

We see first hand, the benefits of OPAL but here are some interesting facts to show just how important quality play can be!



Children attend primary school for seven years. Of those seven years, around 1.4 years will be spent outside actively playing, making 'playtime' by far the most dominant element within the curriculum. Unlike sport and PE lessons, children's active play can claim 100% engagement, provided it is delivered with the right expertise, consistency and understanding of children's social, emotional and environmental needs.

#### More teaching time

Most schools report ten minutes more teaching time per teacher with happier, more creative, and well exercised children who settle to classes much more quickly.

#### Improved behaviour

OPAL schools report up to 80% decreases in use of behaviour policies and 90% drops in senior leadership time spent in resolving playtime issues.

#### Faster core skills development

Children at OPAL schools rapidly develop creativity, imagination, cooperation, resilience, stamina and confidence.

#### Inclusion

OPAL's approach makes play better for every child, every day...no exceptions!

#### Happiness and wellbeing

Play is a human need and a human right. Children and staff at OPAL's schools report feeling less stressed and happier, and more excited about school.

Each week, our OPAL Team set weekly challenges for our pupils. These have been a huge success! We have had Autumn Art Attack, den building, obstacle courses, the great guttering challenge, treasure hunting and Find Otto the Otter! Check out our OPAL notice board for the challenge of the week!





# STAY & PLAY!

At Hedd-on-the-Wall, St Andrew's CE Primary School

Wednesday  
mornings  
during term time  
9:00-10:30am

HEDDON ON THE WALL  
ST ANDREW'S

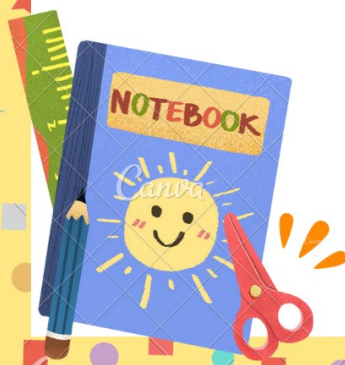


C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

£1

For more information  
go to  
[www.hedd-on-school.co.uk](http://www.hedd-on-school.co.uk)  
or phone  
01661 853350

- Make new friends!
- enjoy a range of toys and crafts
- meet other parents and carers
- refreshments included
- changing facilities available
- suitable for babies up to age 3







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 games which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [nationalcollege.com](http://nationalcollege.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# FIVE NIGHTS AT FREDDY'S

AGE RESTRICTION  
PEGI  
12

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Five Nights at Freddy's is a series of indie point-and-click horror games whose word-of-mouth success and widespread spin-off content on YouTube have helped each of the nine instalments so far to sell almost five million copies on Steam (the PC gaming platform) alone. Set in various deserted locations at night, with creepy animatronic characters suddenly coming to life, the games are rated PEGI 12 for disturbing/violent content, mild profanity and horror themes.

### FRIGHTENING THEMES

Five Nights at Freddy's (FNaF for short) doesn't feature bloodshed like many horror games – but it does build tension and use jump scares, which may be too intense for young players. The sinister animatronic characters and the sensation of being trapped and defenceless could be particularly unsettling, as could the inclusion of disturbing elements such as murder or possession by evil spirits.

### AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

18

As a result of FNaF's popularity, a sizeable YouTube community based on fan-made content has developed around the game. While the majority of this material is still child friendly, there are a number of channels which are geared more towards mature audiences: they contain adult and disturbing themes, for example, and (in some cases) age-inappropriate language.

### STRESSFUL SITUATIONS

Due to FNaF's suspenseful atmosphere, it can be extremely stressful for players. Constantly checking that one's surroundings are safe is a crucial part of the gameplay and could create residual stress or even obsessive-compulsive behaviours. Several media reports have suggested that some younger children have experienced severe nightmares or sleep anxiety after playing games from the series.

### PLAYING IN ISOLATION

Many parents will be relieved to learn that Five Nights at Freddy's is a single-player game which doesn't include any online chat functionality. Conversely, however, this could also make playing FNaF quite an isolating experience – especially if your child is spending a lot of time investigating the game's spooky, shadowy environments alone in their room, for example.

### IN-GAME SPENDING

FNaF doesn't foreground in-game purchasing as strongly as many other well-known games, but some titles in the series do offer additional content that promises to enhance the experience. Five Nights at Freddy's: Help Wanted, for instance, is complemented by a Halloween-themed expansion pack called 'Curse of Dreadbear' (costing £8.99), which unlocks new levels and mini-games.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Five Nights at Freddy's doesn't have conventional parental controls. However, if you're concerned about the potential impacts of the game's themes and content, you can simply choose not to let your child play it. If they use an Android or iOS device for gaming, you can adjust Apple and Google's built-in parental controls to restrict your child's access to certain content.

### TRY IT YOURSELF

Every child is different, of course, so it could be worth playing Five Nights at Freddy's yourself for a while to gauge how your young gamer might cope with the series' more frightening and disturbing aspects. If they're old enough, you could spend some time playing it together – after all, it usually only takes between two and ten minutes to complete a level.

### LIMIT SPENDING

Unlike many popular titles, Five Nights at Freddy's at Freddy's doesn't bombard players with tempting in-game purchase offers. It's worth noting, however, that some instalments in the series do provide the option for players to spend real-world money. With that in mind, it's important to either keep a close eye on your child's expenditure or limit their access to digital payment options.

### SPOT THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that your child might be spending too much time on Five Nights at Freddy's, or you're worried that the game's scary themes are taking a toll, watch out for warning signs. Young people may start to prioritise gaming over everyday essentials like schoolwork or sleep; irritability or a lack of concentration could also indicate that their gaming sessions are going on too long.

### TALK ABOUT THE RISKS

Before you allow your child to play Five Nights at Freddy's, it's wise to have a conversation about the game so that they're aware of the potential risks. Ensure that your child understands that the series is purposely designed to be tense and unsettling, and that they should stop or take a break if the intensity of the gameplay is making them feel uncomfortable or putting them on edge.

### Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



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National Online Safety®  
#WakeUpWednesday

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@nationalonlinesafety

@national\_online\_safety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 25.10.2023



# Halloween Night Fact

## Did you know...

There have been 70 road related injuries in Northumberland over the last 5 years!



**Pedestrians and Cyclists**

**Be Bright.  
Be Seen.**

 Northumberland  
County Council

**STOP.  
LOOK.  
LISTEN.  
THINK.**

 Northumberland  
County Council

**Drivers: Beware when parking and driving**

# Halloween

## Safety Tips



Younger children should always walk with an adult. Older children should always walk in a group.



Only go to houses where you can see a light on.



Use torches, glow sticks or reflective tape to make it easier to be seen in the dark.



Only go to houses where you know the people who live there.



Pay attention when walking past driveways to make sure cars aren't pulling in or out.



Be aware of flames e.g. lit candles, and keep at a safe distance.



Costumes and shoes should fit properly to avoid trips or falls.



Costume accessories, such as swords, shouldn't be sharp. They should be soft and flexible.



Do not eat any sweets / treats until your adult says you can.



Cross at a safe place along the road.



Walk, don't run.



# Firework Code



**Always supervise young children**

**Light sparklers one at a time**

**Keep pets indoors**

**Keep them in a closed box**

**Follow all instructions carefully**

**Stand well back**

**DO's**

**&**

**Don'ts**

**Never return to a lit firework**

**Don't give sparklers to under 5's**

**Don't set fireworks off after 11pm**

**Never put them in your pocket**

**Never throw them**

**For more information visit:**

[www.lancsfireandrescue.org.uk/bonfires-and-fireworks.aspx](http://www.lancsfireandrescue.org.uk/bonfires-and-fireworks.aspx)



## Dates for your Diary - Autumn Term Page 1



w/c Monday 30th October 2023	HALF TERM
Tuesday 31st October 2023	Online portal for Secondary School applications closes
Wednesday 1st November 2023	Online portal for Reception applications opens
Monday 6th November 2023	TRAINING DAY
Tuesday 7th November 2023	Parents Evening
Thursday 9th November 2023	Parents Evening
Monday 13th November 2023	Diwali Festival of Light Theme Day Lunch Menu
Friday 17th November 2023	Non-Uniform Day for Children in Need
Tuesday 28th November 2023	Year 3 visit to Centre for Life
Friday 1st December 2023	School Christmas Fair (1.30pm - 3.30pm)



## Dates for your Diary - Autumn Term Page 2



Tuesday 5th December 2023	Choir Christmas Concert in School Hall at 5pm
Friday 8th December 2023	Year 6 visit to Beamish
Wednesday 13th December 2023	Christmas Dinner Day and Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children charity
Friday 15th December 2023	Rocksteady Concert in School Hall at 10am
Tuesday 19th December 2023	Early Years Nativity in School Hall at 10am
Tuesday 19th December 2023	Key Stage 1 Performance at Church at 1.30pm
Wednesday 20th December 2023	Key Stage 1 Performance at Church at 5pm
Friday 22nd December 2023	Key Stage 2 Carol Service at Church at 9.30am
Friday 22nd December	AUTUMN TERM ENDS

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.