

27th October 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

It is wonderful to welcome everyone back to School for an exciting half term leading up to Christmas. I have already heard the sounds of Christmas songs echoing around the School this week!

It was also a pleasure to see you all at Parents Evening this week and to hear the feedback given to the teachers. I would ask that if you were unable to attend that you contact the School Office to arrange either a new appointment or a telephone appointment. It is important that we can talk to you about how your child is doing so that we can work together to ensure that your child does the best that they can.

Please check out the article about the visit of Gill Booth, the new Diocesan Director from The Link Magazine which I have included in the flyer. There is a great picture and Gill has some lovely things to say about her visit to School.

I have included in the flyer a number of adverts for some Autism Family drop in sessions run by Northumberland Inclusive Services and parent and child workshops at Prudhoe Family Hub. Information about booking is later in the flyer.

The ever popular Messy Church is returning to Heddon Church on Sunday 2nd December 2023 with a Christmas / Advent theme. This is a great event where adults and children can have fun together with a variety of activities, crafts, food and prayer. Check out the advert for further information.

I have also had a letter from Santa himself! He is making his annual return to Heddon to see everyone in December. For details please see the letter later in the flyer.

Please could I remind you that you are not allowed to bring dogs onto the School site (this includes carrying them). If you bring your dog and tie it up outside of School please could you do so away from where the children will be walking. Thank you.

Well done to Year 2 with the best attendance this week: an amazing 100%!

I would like to remind you how important it is that your child attends School as much as possible. Each day missed is an English and Maths lesson missed. As the curriculum builds upon what has gone before, long periods of absence mean that children end up with gaps in their learning which will affect how well they do in School.

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

Mr. A. Wheatley,  
Headteacher

## Attendance Matters



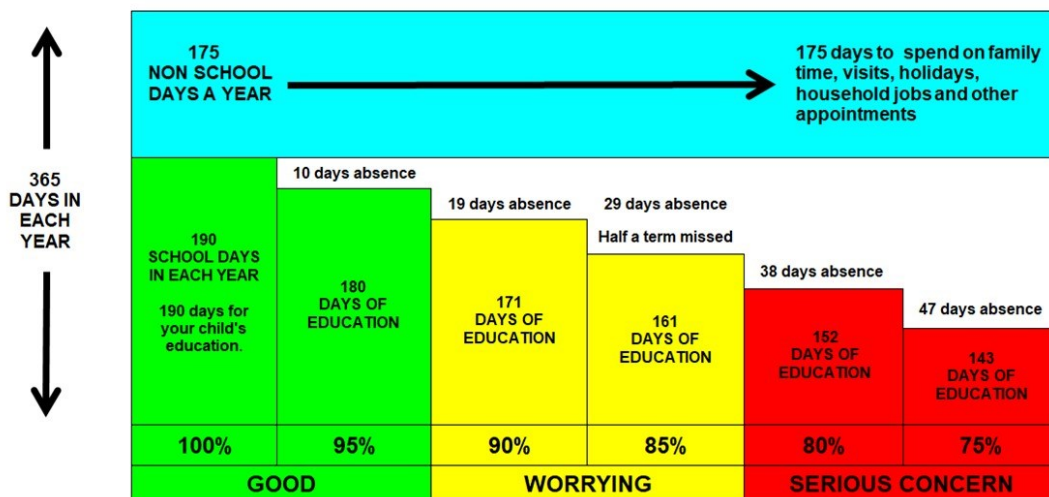
We continue to focus on attendance and punctuality so please remember that our School starts at 8.55am (9am for Nursery) and anyone arriving after this time will be marked as late.

Attendance for this week is summarised below:

Class	Attendance	Class	Attendance
Reception (Owls)	97.5%	Year 3 (Gibside)	99.2%
Year 1 (Wallington)	96.7%	Year 4 (Lindisfarne)	96.2%
Year 2 (Craggside)	100%	Year 5 (Bamburgh)	98.3%
		Year 6 (Dunstanburgh)	93.5%

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 The Hedgehogs and Owls went on a sponsored walk around Heddon village. We walked from school to the Roman Wall, back through the village and up the steep hill to school! Before we left we talked about resilience and how we were determined to achieve the challenge. Wow, we were absolutely blown away by your resilience .... not one complaint! We would like to say a huge 'thank you!' to the adults who helped us and anyone who has sponsored us!



Whatever you do work at it with all your heart

Colossians 3:23



The Owls and Hedgehogs love their PE lessons with Dom. This week, we have been developing our control and coordination. Dom gave us all a tennis ball each, and we practised keeping control of the ball. We then had to carefully roll it towards some cones. We were awarded points depending on how far away the cones were. What a great lesson!



PIC • COLLAGE



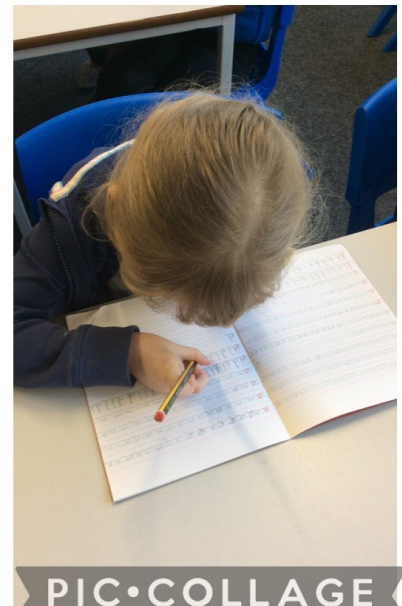
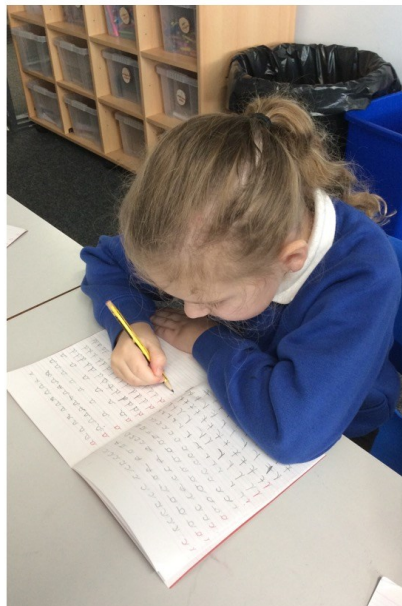
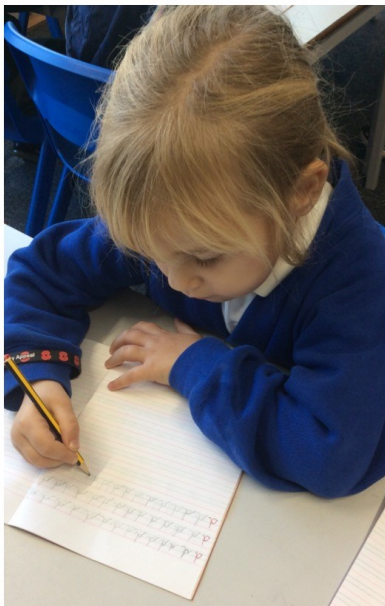
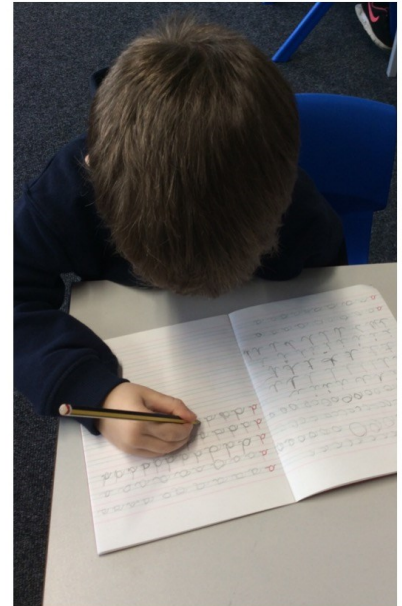
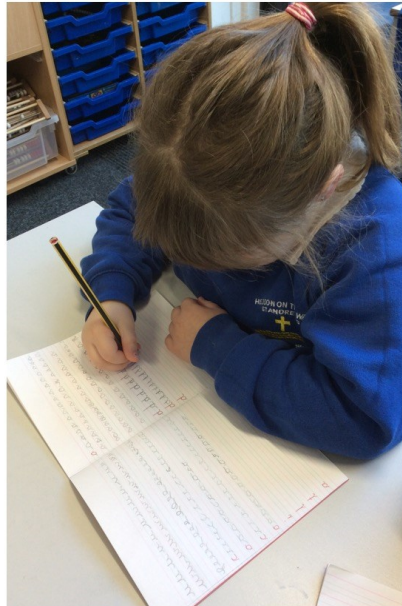
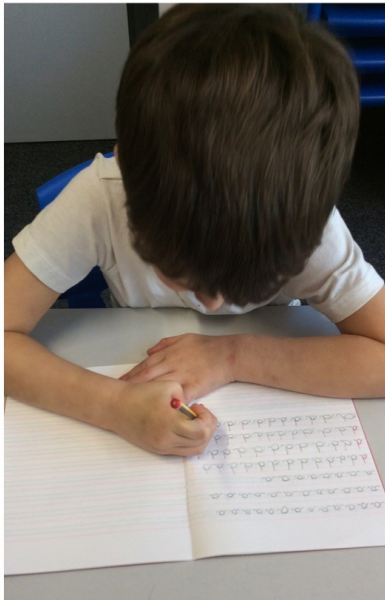
This week the Early Years children worked together to plant some bulbs for Spring. We planted, tulips, crocuses and daffodils. Huge thanks to West Jesmond Tree Surgery who donated the bulbs!



PIC • COLLAGE

## Handwriting with Year 1

Year 1 have been working hard since September to learn the lead in and lead out lines of letters using Letterjoin. This week we have been focusing on the letters a and d. We are all getting much better at writing our letters on the lines of our handwriting books correctly as well as thinking about which letters are ascenders and descenders. Our letter formation is really improving so keep up the good work Year 1!



PIC•COLLAGE

## Learning about Remembrance with Year 2

We have started celebrating Remembrance this week. In English we started looking at some clues about our new text. We were very good at being empathetic and thinking how the soldiers might be feeling.

In History we started talking about different annual events we remember and their importance. We loved making our own poppies for our classroom display.

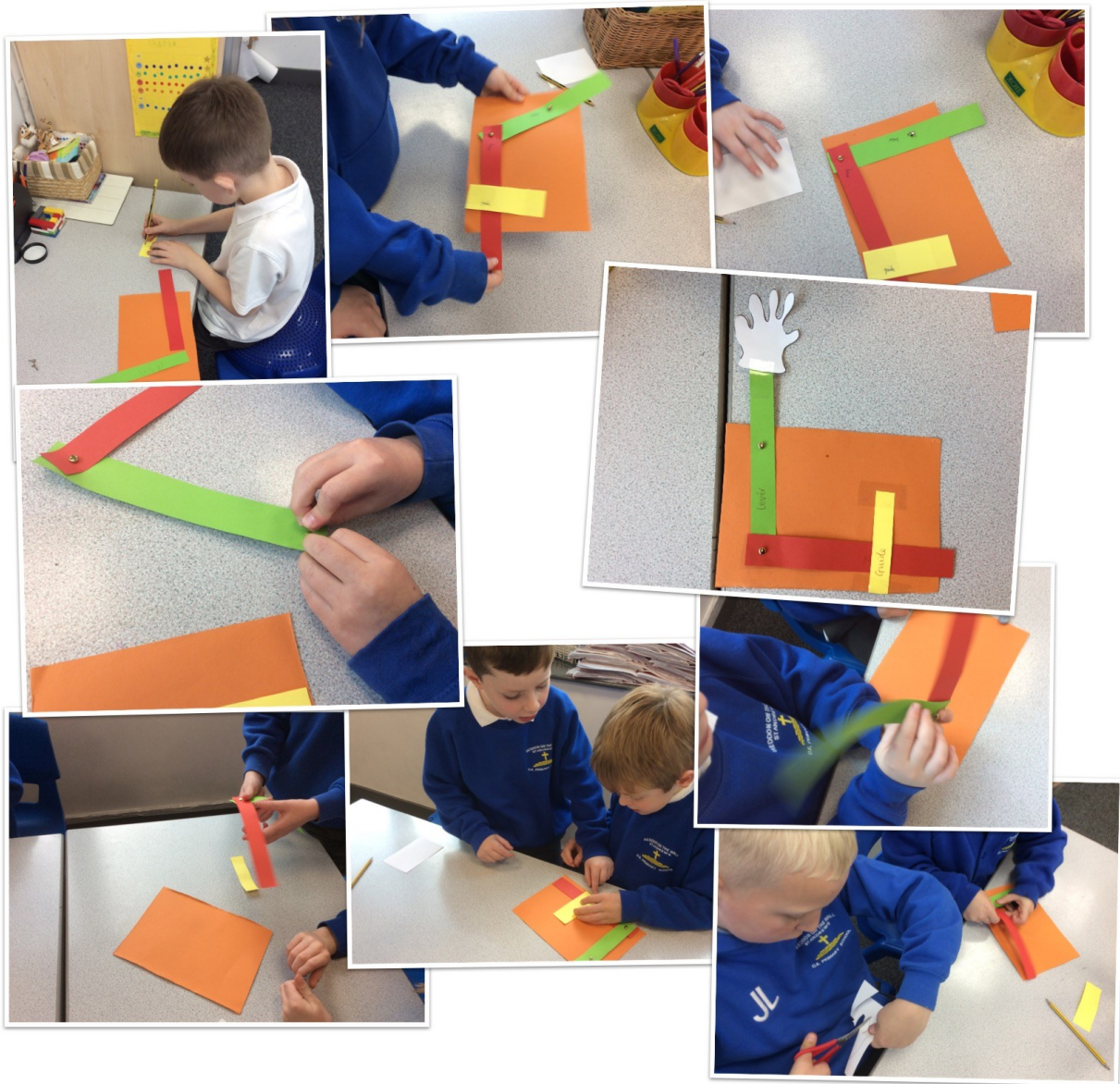


Whatever you do work at it with all your heart

Colossians 3:23

## Levers and Linkages in Year 3

Year 3 have had a great week back and are getting stuck into all of our new topics. Today we started our Design Technology topic looking at levers and linkages. Our focussed practical task looked at making a waving hand; thinking about the input and output.



PIC•COLLAGE



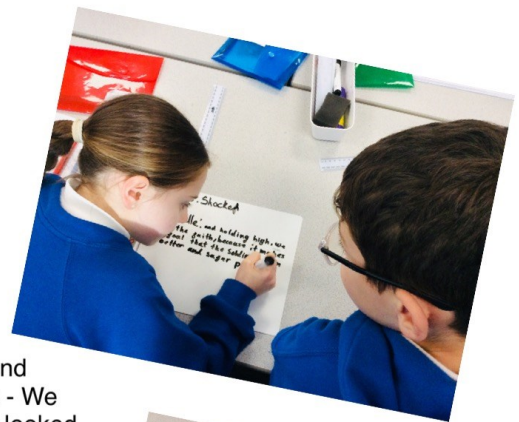
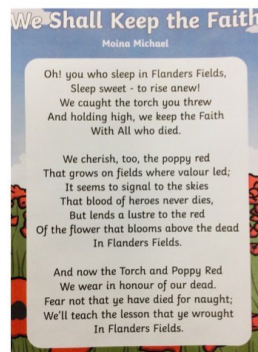
## Our New Text in Year 4

We have kicked off the new half term with a brand new text in our English lessons. Year 4 have absolutely loved using clues to make predictions about the plot and characters. One of our tasks this week has been to use words from the text to draw the 3 main characters.

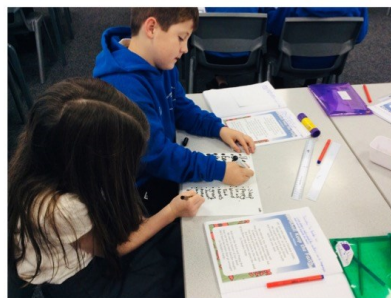
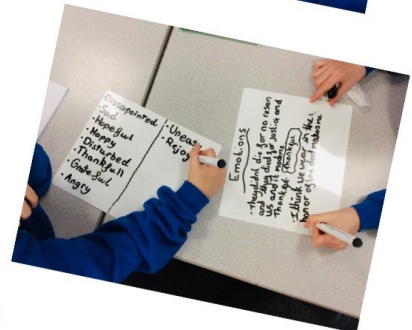
Year 4 are a very creative bunch!



## War Poetry in Year 5



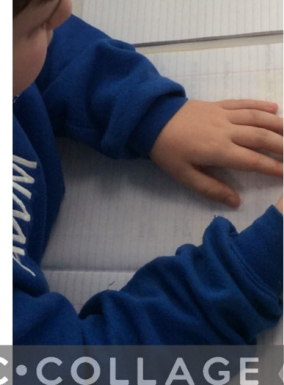
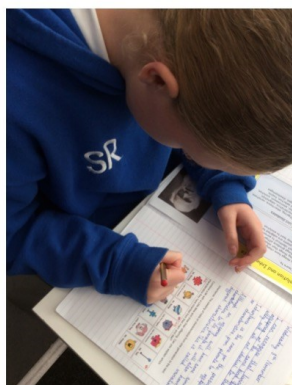
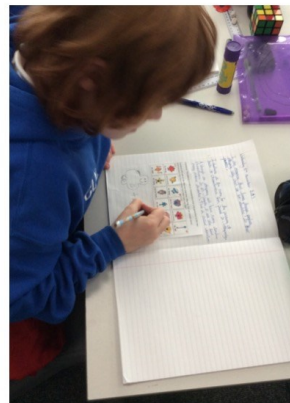
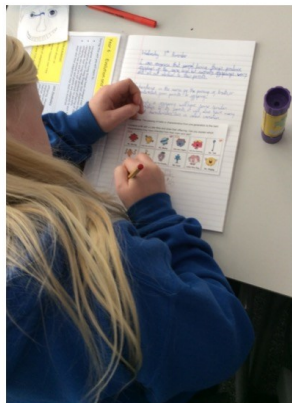
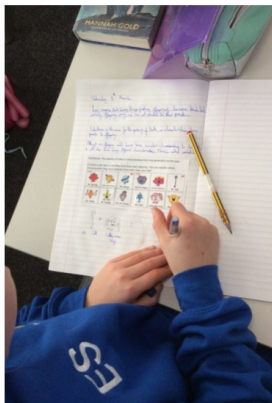
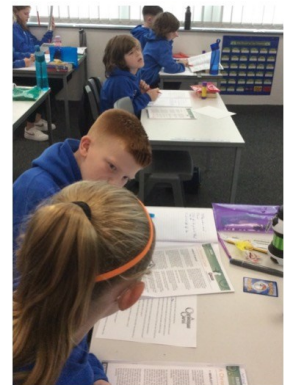
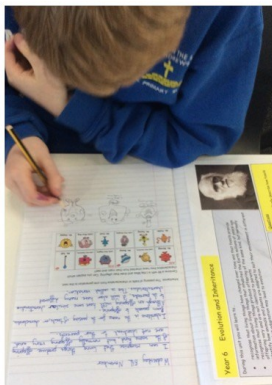
We have been reading and discussing Moina Michael's - We shall keep the faith. We have looked at Emotive Language and created visualisation maps showing the images that the poem brought to our minds. We are excited to use these to help us write our own poems next week!



PIC • COLLAGE

## Evolution and Inheritance with Year 6

To begin our new "Evolution and Inheritance" topic in Science, we looked at how offspring inherit certain characteristics from both parents. We used Mr Men and Little Miss characters to create our own offspring, making sure to note the genetically inherited traits. Our science work this half term will also link with our RE lessons, as we study a unit of work on Creation.



PIC·COLLAGE

## The Visit from our Diocesan Director

Early in the Autumn term we were visited by our new Diocesan Director, Mrs. Gill Booth. She met and talked to the children and looked around the School.

The Link (The Diocesan Magazine) published the article below which contains information about her visit to School.

It was lovely to see that Gill's comment that, *'It was a privilege to visit such an inclusive school who are living out their Christian values each day.'*

**A** new school term has started with a new Interim Diocesan Director Education (DDE) following the appointment of Gill Booth, in September.

Gill has stepped into the role vacated by Paul Rickeard, following his move to become full-time Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Learning Trust this summer.

A vastly experienced education professional, Gill is already well-known and respected across the North East and within our Diocese. For 13 years, she served as Headteacher and then CEO of Dayspring Trust (Ian Ramsey CE Academy in Stockton-on-Tees and Venerable Bede CE Academy in Sunderland), which now form the secondary arm of Northern Lights Learning Trust.

Gill, who has also carried out work as a school improvement partner in both Newcastle and Durham, shadowed Paul during the summer term in preparation for the handover. As she looks enthusiastically ahead, Gill is keen to acknowledge the work carried out by Paul during his eight years as DDE.

"Paul has helped our schools to thrive," she said. "I am fortunate to have a strong team of professionals working alongside me in the Joint Education Team (JET) across the Dioceses of Newcastle and Durham.

"Everyone has been very welcoming. I'm excited to be in a role that is pivotal in ensuring that our children are able to flourish and reach their potential, working alongside the

## Introducing our new Interim Diocesan Director of Education



Gill is pictured with pupils during a visit to Hedd-on-the-Wall St Andrew's Church of England First School.

Diocese and school leaders. Education in our Diocese is in a very strong place and we will do all we can to support schools and maintain the highest of standards.

"My hope and aspiration is that all children, staff and governors can live 'life in all its fullness' (John 10:10) through collaboration and partnership with one another."

A Durham Diocese Board of Education member for well over a decade, Gill has worked within both primary and secondary settings and also has vast experience of special educational needs and disability (SEND).

Gill is determined to be a visible presence and has already begun visiting schools in the Diocese, such as St. Andrew's in Hedd-on-

*"My hope and my aspiration is that all children, staff and governors can live 'life in all its fullness' (John 10:10) through collaboration and partnership with one another"*

- Gill Booth, Interim Diocesan Director of Education



Gill Booth.

the-Wall, part of the Pele Trust.

She explained: "It was a privilege to visit such an inclusive school who are living out their Christian values each day."

She added: "I hope to support school leaders to live out their Christian vision and feel honoured to work with our dedicated JET professionals. As a team, we are there to help school leaders overcome any challenges they may face and support them in providing the best possible education for our children."



## Harvest Collection 2023

Thank You!

October 2023

Dear *Julie*

Please pass on our heartfelt thanks to your pupils, their families and all your staff for the very generous harvest donations made to The People's Kitchen.

The donations we receive at this time of year really sustain our operation and enable us to continue providing a warm meal for our Friends 365 days of the year and we couldn't do it without all of our wonderful supporters.

With best wishes



*PP* Alison Curtis  
Administration Team Leader

## Courses We Offer

**Brilliant Babies** (0-6 months) 6 week course  
Supporting you and your baby with helpful tips on play, communication and baby's development.

**Early Explorers** (6-18 months) 6 week course  
Supporting you and your baby with helpful tips on play, communication and baby's development.

**LTPP** (0-5 years) weekly in term time  
Learning Together Through Play sessions are designed to give babies and children opportunities to socialise, take part in a range of activities, and for parents and carers to learn about a range of key themes.

**Henry A** wide range of parenting programmes  
Including Antenatal, 0-5 years, 4-12 years and one off workshops on various subjects.

**Tiny Talkers** (18 months +) 6 week course  
Support your child's journey through language and communication, play, stories, and fun activities.

**LTPP AND** (0-5 years) weekly in term time  
Learning Together Through Play - Additional Needs and Disabilities. Play, communication, behaviour and wellbeing.

**Incredible Years** (3 years +) 14 week course  
Support your child's learning, development and behaviour. Explore new skills, have opportunities to meet other parents and discuss positive parenting.

### Healthy Relationships

- Me You and Baby Too
- Arguing Better
- Getting It Right For Children

For more information on these courses please scan the QR code or visit [nland.cc/healthyR](http://nland.cc/healthyR)




### Midwife & Health Visitor Appointments


You can arrange to see your Midwife or Health Visitor at the Family Hub. Please contact them directly to book.

**Midwife  
Appointments -  
0344 811 8118**

**Health Visitor  
Appointments -  
0300 373 2488**


### Get In Touch

 **Phone**  
01661 839350

 **Email**  
[prudhoefamilyhub@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:prudhoefamilyhub@northumberland.gov.uk)

 **Facebook**  
@Prudhoe  
FamilyHub



 **Find Us**  
Prudhoe Family Hub  
Broomhouse Lane  
Prudhoe  
NE42 5FT

For more info on Family Hubs please visit [nland.cc/familyhubs](http://nland.cc/familyhubs)

## What's On Guide

# Prudhoe Family Hub

Nov-Dec  
2023



Keep an eye on  
our Facebook page for  
our Christmas sessions

### Monday

#### Learning Together Through Play

(0-5 years) Outdoor session  
10:00 - am-11:00am  
Weekly (term-time) Starting 6th November  
Booking required, please contact Hub

#### Learning Together Through Play

**At Ponteland**  
(0-18 mths)  
1.00pm-2.00pm  
Weekly (term-time)  
Drop in, no booking required

### Tuesday

#### Learning Together Through Play

(0-18 months)  
10:00am - 11:00am  
Weekly (term-time) Starting 7th November  
Booking required, please contact Hub

#### Infant Feeding Support

(0-8 weeks) running alongside LTPP  
(All ages) running alongside LTPP  
Weekly  
Drop in, no booking required

### Wednesday

#### Early Explorers

(6-18 months)  
10:00am - 11:00am  
Starting 9th November  
Request for Family Hub service form needed

#### Learning Together Through Play

**At Albemarle**  
0-5 years  
10:0am - 11:00am  
Weekly (term-time)  
Drop in, no booking required

### Thursday

#### Tiny Talkers

(18 months+)  
Starting 16th November  
9:30am - 10:30am  
Request for Family Hub service form needed

#### Brilliant Babies

(0-6 months)  
Starting 16th November  
11:00am - 12:00pm  
Request for Family Hub service form needed

#### LTPP AND

1:30pm - 2:30pm  
Weekly (term-time)  
Booking required, please contact Hub

#### Family Panel

Get involved in shaping plans across our family hub communities. Find out more below, [nland.cc/NFP](http://nland.cc/NFP)



### Available now...

#### The Dad Pad

An essential guide for new dads, developed with the NHS  
[nland.cc/dadpad](http://nland.cc/dadpad)



#### The Solihull Approach

FREE Online courses dedicated to improving emotional health and wellbeing in parents, carers, grandparents and teens! Sign up now at [nland.cc/soli](http://nland.cc/soli)  
Use access code: HADRIAN



### Friday

#### First Aid Course

9:30am-11:30am  
Friday 24th November  
Booking required



#### Virtual Weaning Sessions

Support for parents & carers  
Please book via Northumberland SPOC  
0300 3732488  
**HENRY - Online Course**  
Support for parents & carers  
Request for Family Hub service form needed

### How to Book



Our courses run every term. If you'd like to book a place, please complete an online Request for Family Hub Service form.

Please visit [nland.cc/fhreq](http://nland.cc/fhreq)



or scan the QR code with a smartphone



To book Learning Together Through Play, or for more info, please contact the Hub

## Autism Family Drop In Sessions



Come along for a cuppa and chat. 0-19 years. No  
diagnosis needed!


Join us at:

Blyth Central Family Hub - Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023 9.30am-12pm  
Hexham Family Hub - Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023 1pm-3.30pm  
Ashington Family Hub - Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023 1pm-3.30pm  
Berwick Family Hub - Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023 1pm-3.30pm

Facilitator - [robyn.mcgregor@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto: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

## Autism Family Drop In Sessions



Come along for a cuppa and chat. 0-19 years. No  
diagnosis needed!

Join us at:

Blyth Central Family Hub - Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024 9.30am-12pm

Hexham Family Hub - Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2024 1pm-3.30pm

Berwick Family Hub - Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2024 1pm-3.30pm

Ashington Family Hub - Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2024 1pm-3.30pm

Facilitator - [robyn.mcgregor@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto: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



**Advent and Christmas  
Messy Church**

**Heddon**

**2nd December**

**4-6pm**

**St. Andrew's Church**

**All families are welcome  
Advent and Christmas crafts,  
songs  
tea and cakes.**

**Any questions please contact  
[r.scheffer@newcastle.anglican.org](mailto:r.scheffer@newcastle.anglican.org)**



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

## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# X

AGE RESTRICTION  
**13+**

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

In October 2022, the enormously popular social media network Twitter was purchased by tech tycoon Elon Musk. That sparked a host of changes to the platform – not all which have been received positively by its fans. The alterations have continued with each passing month, many of them raising online safety concerns among the 530 million users of Twitter (now rebranded as simply X). With further adjustments reportedly in the pipeline, X has attracted more than its usual share of controversy and caution in recent times.

**CENSORSHIP**

### A BLOCK ON BLOCKING

X has announced plans to remove its blocking feature. Previously, this stopped other users from viewing your profile or sending you direct messages, while also hiding their posts from your feed. Only this latter function will now remain. The decision has been criticised by some members, who feel that blocking (in its current form) protects them from X users who promote denial and hatred.

### LIMITED REPORTING FEATURES

X offers a premium membership, with some functionality (such as controlling who can view and reply to your posts) increasingly being made exclusive to those who pay the subscription fee. Several commentators have speculated that X could one day become an exclusively paid-for service, with access to accounts being revoked for anyone unwilling or unable to take out a subscription.

### AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Many of X's less age-appropriate posts can feature anything from extreme political views to pornography. While accounts marked as 18+ are restricted from non-members, it's still fairly easy to stumble across this material accidentally. X's new 'For You' page also shows content from accounts that a user doesn't already follow – meaning that almost anything could end up on a child's feed.

### VERIFICATION FOR SALE

Historically, Twitter's moderators granted account verification: certifying someone as authentic by placing a blue tick next to their username. One of X's earliest changes was to place verification behind a paywall; this caused the number of celebrity impersonators to rise and left no way to distinguish, say, a legitimate influencer from a copycat fake account seeking to exploit other users.

**BLUE TICK SALE**

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### PROTECT PRIVACY

Unsavory characters may try to gain access to a young person's X account – either to view their posts and gather information on them, or to completely take control of it. To minimise risk, ensure the account has a strong password and enable the 'Protect Your Posts' feature (via the account settings), so that strangers can't view your child's posts without first being approved as a follower.

### DON'T RISE TO THE BAIT

To gain more views and followers, some X users post deliberately inflammatory comments on sensitive topics such as race, sexual orientation and gender issues. Many young people could find this upsetting. Emphasise that, if your child encounters someone spreading hate on X, it's best not to give that person what they want: an argument. Ignore them, mute their account and move on.

### STAY ALERT FOR IMPOSTERS

Make sure your child understands that X's blue ticks no longer guarantee the identity of anyone on the platform. While it might be exciting if a celebrity liked your child's post, it could just as easily be an imposter with malicious intentions. If your child's not 100% sure that an X user actually is who they claim to be, advise them to err on the side of caution and avoid interacting with that account.

### ONLY FOLLOW TRUSTED ACCOUNTS

Using the 'Following' tab on X helps to ensure that the only content your child sees has come from accounts they've chosen to follow: this should reduce the chance of them inadvertently being exposed to harmful, violent or explicit content. Show your child how to report another user's account if, say, they're behaving inappropriately by spreading misinformation or offensive opinions.

### BE READY TO TAKE ACTION

If your child suffers harassment on the platform or becomes the target of a hack, you could consider deactivating their account entirely. Recently, X's safety features have been criticised for allegedly failing to protect users' wellbeing – so if your child is being subjected to abusive messages or similar mistreatment on the platform, it might be prudent to remove them from X altogether.

### Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site GGRecon and has worked in the gaming media for around four years. Always eager to test out the latest apps, games and online trends, he's also a parent who understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar.



National Online Safety®  
#WakeUpWednesday

[@natonlinesafety](https://twitter.com/natonlinesafety)

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

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

[@national\\_online\\_safety](https://tiktok.com/@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: 01.11.2023

POST OFFICE SERVICE	
<b>IMPORTANT</b>	
MAGIC MAIL	X
NORMAL MAIL	

TO BE DELIVERED BEFORE	
15	DEC

EXPRESS MAIL DIRECT FROM  
NORTH POLE

# COMING TO HEDDON!

## FRIDAY 15TH DECEMBER

Dear Heddon,

I'm coming again to Heddon this year! The Elvettes & I can't wait!

Come and have a jolly holly evening as I visit your wonderful village.

Show us as always, your community and Christmas spirit!

This year, your Elvettes are delighted to support Heddon St Andrew's Church and Heddon Methodist Church. Any donation will be hugely appreciated. We would love to see your houses decorated and your children, everyone, young and less young waving from your drives, gardens and windows as Santa passes through.

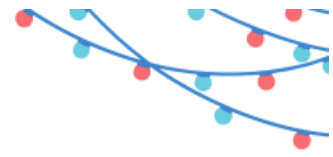
Please see Facebook for updates.

Love from

*Santa*



Direct hand delivery from Mr. Santa Claus, and the Elvettes!



# Cool Milk CHRISTMAS CARD Competition



## DESIGN A MILK-THEMED CHRISTMAS CARD!

Cool Milk is holding a competition for Primary School children, ages 5-11, to design their official Christmas Card for 2023

ENTRY DEADLINE:  
Monday, 4th December 2023



### \*Terms & Conditions:

- Entries must be milk-themed and received by 5pm 4th December by email to [marketing@coolmilk.com](mailto:marketing@coolmilk.com).
- Please write child's name, age and school in the body of the email.
- Entries must be on folded A4 and coloured in pencil, pen, marker or paint (no glitter or cotton wool).



# 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

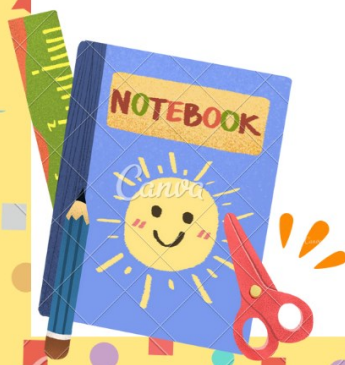


C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

£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



## Dates for your Diary - Autumn Term



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)
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	<b>AUTUMN TERM ENDS</b>