

24th November 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

As you will see in the flyer, alongside their usual work, the children have been doing lots of practical activities this week including Christmas Carols on the ukulele, searching for signs of Autumn, exploring the village, making smoothies as well as a range of Design Technology and Science investigations. It is wonderful to see the children not only learning valuable skills but the real enjoyment that this brings. There have been lots of smiles and 'wow' moments this week!

I was pleased to welcome Mrs. Blain, Deputy CEO of Pele Trust (with responsibility for Primary) and Mrs. Robinson, Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Lead from Ponteland High School into School this week. They spent the day seeing what we do, speaking to staff and children. It was great to be able to share the work we do in School. The children spoke passionately and articulately about their learning in School.

We were also pleased to have Mr. Kirk Lester, Army Welfare Service, in School this week. Until the Christmas holidays he will be coming in on a Monday and working alongside Mrs. Walker with different classes doing Forest School activities. Key Stage 1 had an amazing time this week and enjoyed making stick people from natural materials they found in the School grounds.

Our Year 6 representatives had a great time at the NUFC Football Tournament at Cochrane Park this week. They played very well and qualified from their pool of 7 teams before finally losing in the semi-final to the eventual winners. Their attitude and conduct was exemplary throughout and they were fantastic ambassadors for our School. Well done!

We wish our second Year 6 football team luck for next week when they attend the Pele Trust Football Tournament at Ponteland High School.

I would like to remind you all about our upcoming School Christmas Fair on Friday 1st December from 1.30pm to 3.30pm. We have some fantastic raffle prizes including a signed Newcastle United football. Raffle tickets for this prize are on sale for £1 per strip. We would love to see you at this event.

We are really lucky to have secured a free parental workshop from the Family Hub. It is called 'Incredible Years' and takes place in School on Tuesday 5th December, 2pm-3pm. There are further details later in the flyer.

If either you or someone you know would like to join our School team we have a Teaching Assistant vacancy. Further details are later in the flyer.

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

This is the third week in a row Year 2 has had the best attendance!

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

Mr. A. Wheatley,

Headteacher

Attendance Matters



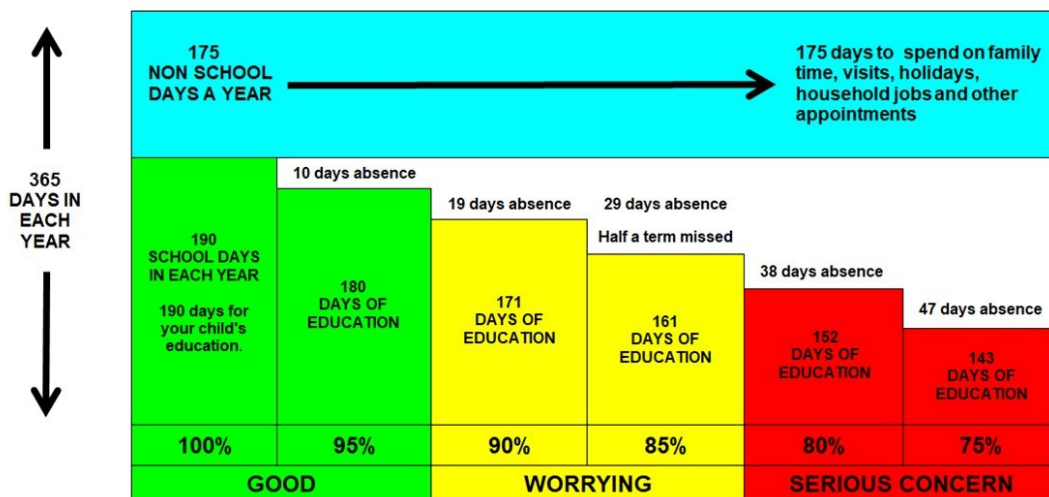
We continue to focus on attendance and punctuality so please remember that our School starts at 8.55am (9am for Nursery) and anyone arriving after this time will be marked as late.

Attendance for this week is summarised below:

Class	Attendance	Class	Attendance
Reception (Owls)	97.3%	Year 3 (Gibside)	94.7%
Year 1 (Wallington)	96.5%	Year 4 (Lindisfarne)	96.8%
Year 2 (Craggside)	99.2%	Year 5 (Bamburgh)	94.5%
		Year 6 (Dunstanburgh)	97.4%

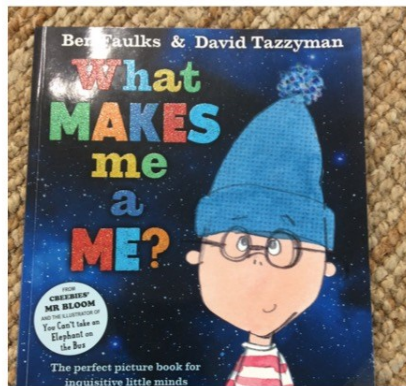
Please see the graphic below which shows the significant impact of absence over time.

Days off School add up to lost learning!



'Whatever you do work at it with all your heart'

The Hedgehogs have loved starting their new topic this week, 'Celebrating Us'. We have been focusing on our names this week and doing some fantastic writing. We have also been thinking about how we are all different and we painted our own self portraits. Wow, you are all superstars!



This week we took a drizzly walk around Heddon village to look at the different types of houses there are. We found detached, semi detached and terraced houses, bungalows, flats and even a caravan!



PIC•COLLAGE

A Busy Week in Year 1

This week in Year One, we investigated some interesting clues about our new Literature Works text, we found some vegetables, a superhero cape and a mask in our classroom! We also enjoyed an outdoor walk in Science, where we looked around for different signs of Autumn. We noticed lots of leaves on the ground that had turned orange, brown and yellow. We have had a great first week with our new teacher.



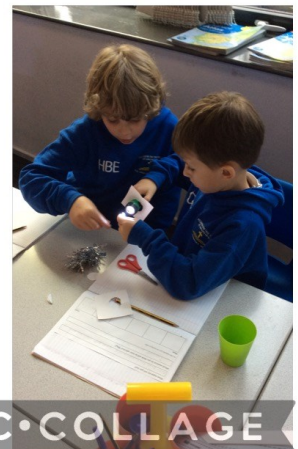
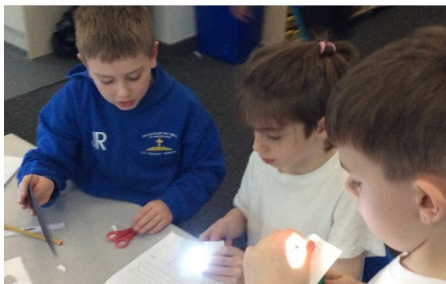
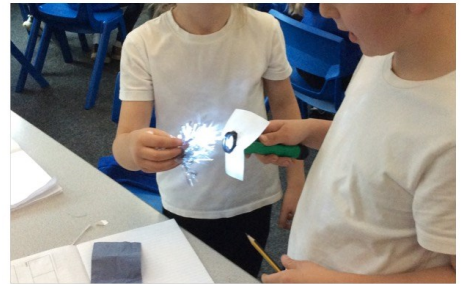
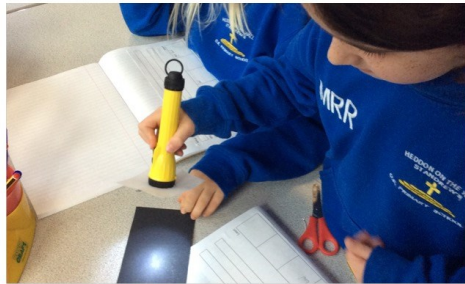
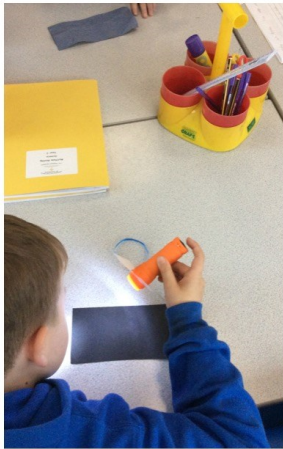
Smoothies with Mr. Bell in Year 2

We have had an exciting week in Year 2. We had a special visitor Mr. Bell the Pele Trust Catering Manager. He came in to help us with our Design and Technology lesson to make smoothies. He showed us how to use a knife safely to cut up fruit and helped us to peel, grate and blend our healthy fruit recipes. The smoothies tasted great!



Learning about Light with Year 3

Year 3 are focusing on Light in Science. This week we explored how different materials reflect light, using our torches. We are all really looking forward to our trip to the Centre for Life next week where we will be taking part in a workshop all about light (as well as ice skating!)



PIC•COLLAGE

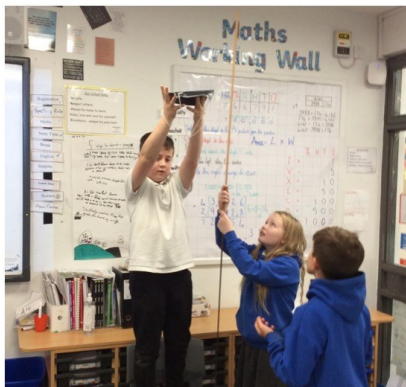
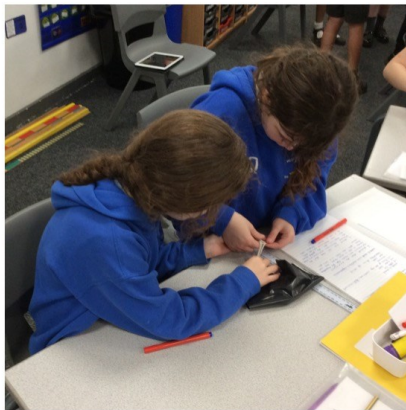
Christmas Ukulele Lessons in Year 4

Christmas arrived in Year 4 this week as we played Christmas carols in our ukulele lesson. We are now very good at all the basic chords and sang along merrily with our playing to Last Christmas, Silent Night, Jingle Bells, Run Run Rudolph and, everyone's favourite, Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer!



Exploring Air Resistance in Year 5

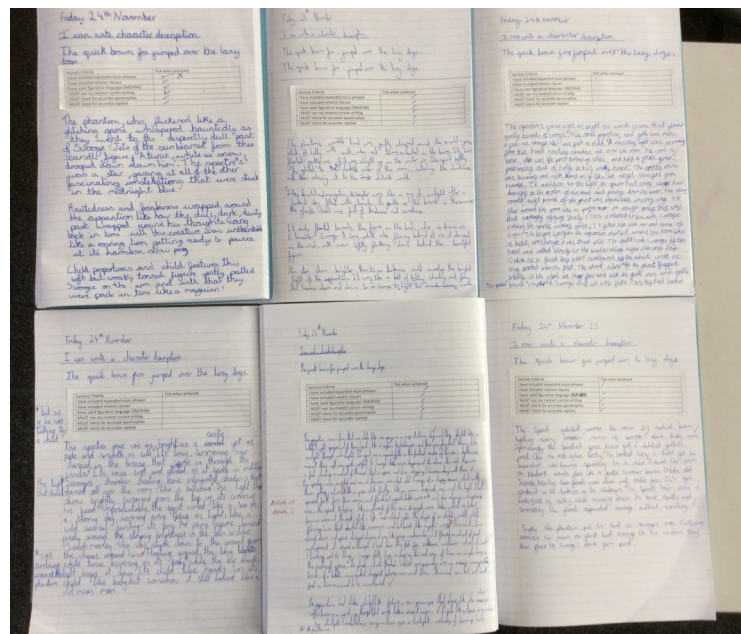
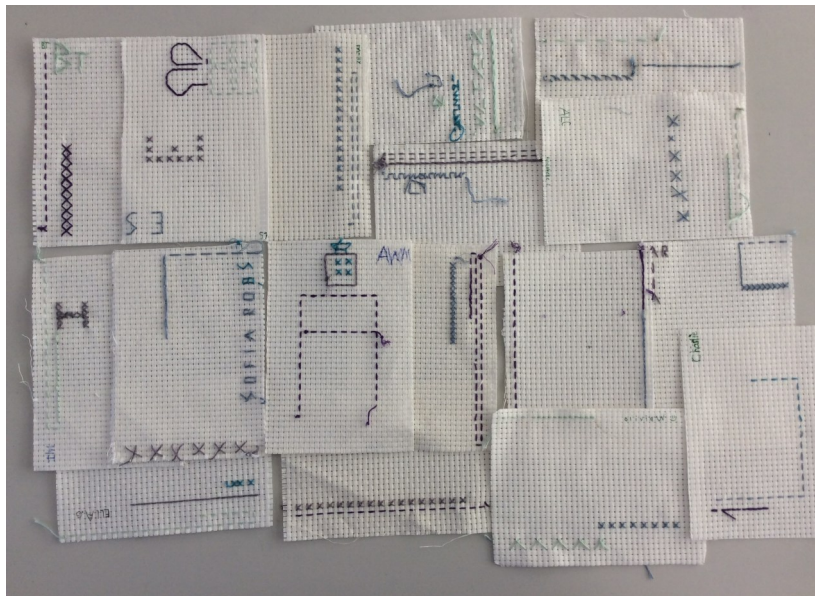
This week, Year 5 have been learning all about air resistance in our third forces lesson. We have enjoyed making, testing and evaluating our parachutes, whilst seeing the impact that surface area has on air resistance. We discussed the importance of fair testing and how that makes our results and data accurate and reliable. Each week, the children are growing in confidence as they are writing up their experiments, it is great to see them using the correct scientific vocabulary.



PIC-COLLAGE

A Busy Time in Year 6

This week started with the children practising their sewing skills in Design Technology, to prepare for their Christmas calendar work later in the half term. Using binca, we recapped how to complete the running stitch, back stitch and cross stitch. Next week we will be looking at how to attach buttons and other items onto fabric. The children ended the week with a lovely piece of descriptive writing, linked to the Ghost of Christmas Past in Stave 3 of our class text, 'A Christmas Carol'.



Whatever you do work at it with all your heart

Colossians 3:23

Forest School Activities

The children in Key Stage 1 had a great time working with Mr. Kirk Lester, Army Welfare Service, and Mrs. Walker this week doing some Forest School activities. As well as some warm up games they collected natural materials and made their own stick people.



PIC•COLLAGE

Year 6 Mixed Football Team

Well done to the Year 6 mixed football team for their efforts at Cochrane Park this week. The team qualified from their group of 7 schools in the Newcastle United Foundation Tournament before being knocked out in the semi-finals by Sacred Heart, who ultimately went on to win the competition. Not only were they excellent on the football pitch, their attitude and conduct was exemplary across the morning, once again making the school proud. Well done!



Many thanks to Heddon Juniors FC who sponsor our football strips.

Charity Update

Thank you so much for your generous donations last week for Children in Need. We have raised **£197.50** which will go towards supporting children across the UK.



The Early Years Welly Walk has to date raised an absolutely amazing amount of **£1148** which will go towards developing the outdoor area in Early Years.

Thank you so much and well done Early Years.



Would you or someone you know like to join our School team?

The School currently has a vacancy for a Teaching Assistant.

The Academy Committee of Heddton-on-the-Wall St. Andrew's CE Primary School are seeking to appoint a part time Teaching Assistant to this high achieving school. This is an exciting opportunity to join an effective school.

We are looking for someone who:

- Is an excellent teaching assistant with high expectations for learning;
- Is enthusiastic, highly motivated, energetic and creative;
- Enjoys new challenges and working as part of an effective team;
- Believes that all children can achieve success;
- Preferably has experience in Early Years.

In return we can offer:

- Committed, dynamic and supportive staff and Governors;
- An excellent work environment;
- Support for career development.

Contract type: term-time only; part time 19.5 hours per week

Grade / Salary: Band 3 with possible acting up opportunities

Closing date: Monday 4th December 2023

Full details are available on the North East Jobs website or by [clicking here](#)



The School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all pupils and expects all staff to share this commitment. Successful applicants will undertake an Enhanced Disclosure from the Disclosure and Barring Service.



INCREDIBLE YEARS

For children
aged 2-8 Years

A 10 week virtual group
exploring your parenting skills.



Ask your
Health Visitor
or Family Hub


Family Hubs
Here for everyone



louise.barwick@northumberland.gov.uk

Tel: 07973600834


Northumberland
County Council


The Incredible Years
Parents, teachers, and children training series


NORTHUMBERLAND
Early Help

The Incredible Years sessions look at different topics related to parenting to support your child's learning, development and behaviour.

Some of the sessions look at handling separations, distraction, routines, tools to help with managing behaviour, promoting independence, household rules and routines to support you in the home.

Parents are shown strategies to support their child which you can then use at home.

This is a relaxed and informal group which will give you and your child the opportunity to meet others.

www.incredibleyears.com


Family Hubs
Here for everyone

To Join - scan the QR code
or visit nland.cc/fhreq



2023

oneplusone

Healthy Relationships

Do you want to get on better together?

Quotes from a parents:

*'I really did not think this would help.
This course is life skills! Wish we did this sooner,
really enjoyed the videos.'* ~ dad

*'We are now communicating a lot better, we can
talk about feelings rather than ignoring them. I
can see my child is happier too'* ~ mum



Listen to others, watch videos with a relationship support worker.

Relaxed **x3 week** virtual sessions, 1 hour a week in the comfort of your own home.

Me, You and Baby Too

*for soon-to-be
& new parents*

Wed 7th June
7:30 - 8:30pm

Thurs 14th
September
10:00 till 11:00

Getting it Right for Children

for separated Parents

Wed 5th July
7:30 - 8:30pm

Wed 11th October
7:30 - 8:30pm

Arguing Better

*for parents and anyone
who cares for children*

Tues 12th September
7:30 - 8:30pm

Wed 15th November
7:30- 8:30pm

Contact: vicki.collins@northumberland.gov.uk
or call 07955 310 917

If you are unable to join virtual sessions,
additional advice and support is available

Free


Family Hubs
Here for everyone



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 nationalcollege.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

Top Tips for Safer Online Shopping on

BLACK FRIDAY AND CYBER MONDAY

Black Friday and Cyber Monday have become established as two of the year's biggest shopping events, giving consumers the opportunity to snap up a stash of stunning bargains. While this is generally good news, of course, the resultant retail frenzy can lead to people dropping their guard – especially online. In previous years, a seasonal surge in cyber-crime has seen schemes such as phishing emails and credit card scams being unleashed on unwary buyers. Our guide has some essential pointers on keeping your details – and your money – safe while you shop.

ENSURE A SITE'S SECURE

Before inputting sensitive information (like your card details) into a website, check that the site's secure. The key thing is to look for a padlock symbol in the address bar and check that the URL begins with "https://" – the "s" indicates that the web address has been encrypted with an SSL certificate. Without that, any data entered on the site could be intercepted by criminal third parties.

TRUST YOUR INSTINCTS

If a deal seems too good to be true, then it probably is. Be especially wary if a site offering unbelievable discounts doesn't look professional (for example, if it's covered with pop-up adverts or it looks particularly outdated) – this often serves as a red flag that the seller might not be entirely trustworthy. Minimise risk by sticking with well-known, reputable retailers instead.

REVIEW BANK STATEMENTS

Even if you've followed all our tips, it's probably worth checking your next bank statement for any unusual transactions. Criminals know that on Black Friday and Cyber Monday, lots of people make numerous purchases online: they're hoping that any stolen money will get lost in the crowd of other transactions. If you see a payment or payee you can't identify, raise it with your bank straight away.

BWARE OF SUSPICIOUS EMAILS

Black Friday and Cyber Monday often bring a significant spike in phishing emails, as criminals use the events' sense of urgency as cover for stealing personal information. Even if they look legitimate, be wary of emails requiring you to do something unusual or suspicious: providing your personal details in exchange for access to last-minute deals, for example, or clicking on a link to an unfamiliar site.

CHECK IT'S THE REAL DEAL

It's not just cybercriminals you need to be wary of. Research has shown that some online retailers increase the price of certain items in the weeks before Black Friday and Cyber Monday – enabling them to then advertise "discounts" (which, in reality, have simply restored the cost to normal levels). Use an online price comparison tool to verify whether these "reductions" truly equate to a saving.

MINIMISE MICROTRANSACTIONS

Black Friday and Cyber Monday promotions extend to digital items as well as physical ones. Some gaming companies will offer discounts on in-app and in-game microtransactions such as loot boxes. If you're concerned about how much your child might spend on these upgrades, you can restrict their ability to make purchases (via their device's settings) or remove any linked payment methods.

SET STURDY PASSWORDS

A strong, unique password is one of the most straightforward ways to protect yourself from cyber-crime. As most of us have multiple online shopping accounts, it can be tempting to use the same password for them all – but this puts your personal data at greater risk. You could try using a password manager to create a different, robust password for each online retailer that you visit.

DITCH THE DEBIT CARD

Where possible, it's safest to shop online with a credit card (as opposed to a debit card) because it offers additional protection: if a purchase is made fraudulently on your credit card, there's a fair chance of your bank reimbursing you. Should criminals obtain your debit card details, however, they could empty your account in moments – and it can be difficult to recover your money.

RESIST THE INFLUENCE

Recommendations from social media influencers are another thing to remain vigilant for on Black Friday and Cyber Monday. While many of these will be legitimate, remember that influencers are often paid to promote products – and to publicise deals that aren't quite as amazing as they might seem. Don't feel pressured into buying purely on their advice; look at everything with a critical eye.

TAKE CARE ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media scammers are more active on Black Friday and Cyber Monday, as they know people are hunting for deals online. These scammers tend to concentrate on platforms such as Facebook and Instagram, posting malicious links that can compromise shoppers' personal details. Other scammers, meanwhile, falsely advertise products in an attempt to trick users out of their hard-earned cash.

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.



Dates for your Diary - Autumn Term



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	Incredible Years Parenting Workshop for Parents of children aged 2-6 years. Free workshop in School Studio from 2pm-3pm. (Run by the Family Hub)
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