

28th March 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome to our first ever Thursday Flyer this week! The Spring term has really flown past and I can't believe we are now looking forward to the Summer. I would like to thank all the children and staff for their hard work since Christmas and I would also like to thank you for your support in helping your children and the School.

Despite there being only four days this week the staff and children have managed to pack in lots of fun and learning as you can see from the class pages.

It was lovely to see so many of you at our Key Stage 2 Easter Service this morning. I always look forward to this service where the children share the Easter story in song and acting ending the term on a note of joy and happiness with the risen Jesus.

Looking ahead to the Summer there are lots of exciting things planned such as the visits to France and Spain, Made in the North East week and Armed Forces Day to look forward to. It is also the season for Key Stage 2 SATS and Year 1 Phonic Screen so there is still lots of work for the children to do.

Year 5 and 6 drama club and choir are well underway learning their words and songs for a performance of 'The Tempest' which is happening in School as part of our Music and Drama Evening / matinee with the choir on Thursday 11th July 2024. Further details nearer the time!

Please check out the updated dates for the diary pages in the Flyer which has details of events in the Summer term.

For the crafty among you there is a village project to create a cascade of poppies from St. Andrew's Church to the Knott Hall. I know that this will appeal to our Year 6 children who are very keen to knit and crochet. Further details later in the Flyer.

We are sad to say goodbye to Madame Magee who is leaving us this this week. She will still be going to France with us though. Good luck for your future endeavours!

Well done to Year 5 with the best attendance this week of 98.7%

Well done to Year 4 for the best attendance for the year to date: 98.1%.

I hope that you enjoy reading this flyer and have a peaceful and relaxing Easter break. We look forward to seeing everyone safe and well back in School on Monday 15th April 2024.

Mr. A. Wheatley,
Headteacher

Attendance Matters



ATTEND today...
ACHIEVE tomorrow...
ATTENDANCE matters.

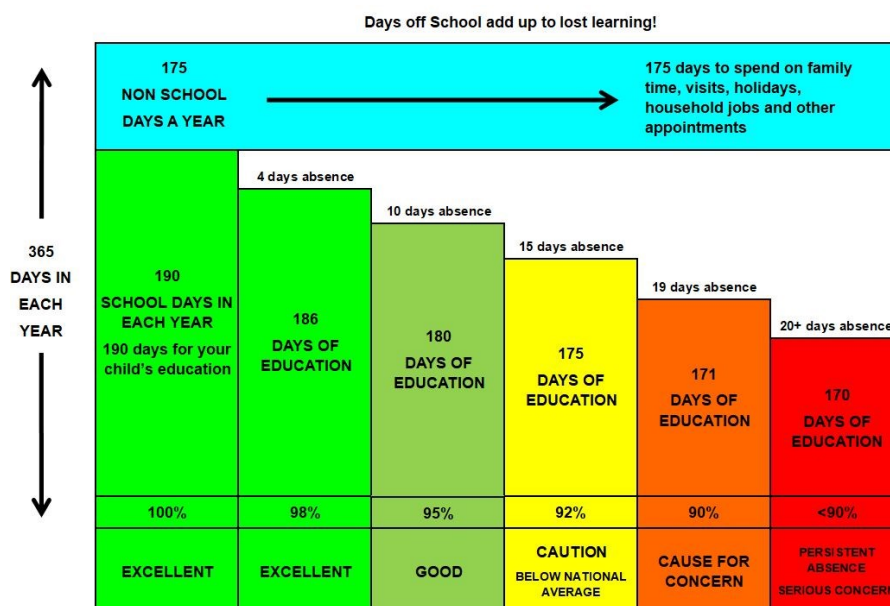


We continue to focus on attendance and punctuality so please remember that our School starts at 8.55am (9am for Nursery) and anyone arriving after this time will be marked as late.

Attendance for this week is summarised below:

Class	Attendance this week	Attendance this year	Class	Attendance this week	Attendance this year
Reception (Owls)	95%	93.7%	Year 3 (Gibside)	96.6%	98.0%
Year 1 (Wallington)	96.9	95.1%	Year 4 (Lindisfarne)	96%	98.1%
Year 2 (Cragside)	93.6%	95.9%	Year 5 (Bamburgh)	98.7%	97.3%
			Year 6 (Dunstanburgh)	91.9%	94.9%

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



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



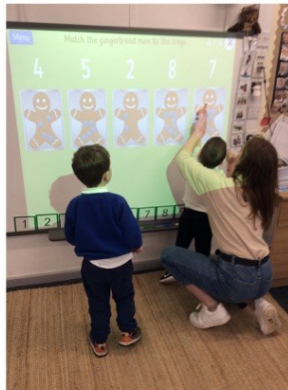
What a lovely morning we had with our friends and families at our Easter Open Morning 🐣



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Thank you all for coming to support us! We hope you had as much fun as we did!



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A special visit

This week The Owls were lucky enough to have a visit from a Submariner. His visit is a little delayed as he was working under water when we were learning about People Who Help Us last half term!



Mr Milne is an engineer on board a submarine and his job is to fix things that might go wrong. He works away for long spells ... the longest time he has spent under the sea is 100 days!



He showed us his rescue suit and dinghy and we all got to have a sit inside it.



What an amazing job! Thank you so much for coming to talk to us about it!



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Making Lighthouse Sculptures in Year 1!

This week has been all about sculptures in Year 1! We have been learning about and making different sculptures this half term, we finished our topic this week by making a mod rock lighthouse! Once it dried we decorated it to look just like our plan. We are all really proud of our work.



Kings and Queen's day Year 2

Year 2 had a fabulous 'Kings and Queen's Day' on Wednesday. Their challenge was to show bravery and creativity through a series of tasks in order to be knighted as 'Sir' or 'Lady' at the end of the day. All children accepted their mission and showed lots of skills and great knowledge. At the end of the day we enjoyed a banquet with dancing and an afternoon tea with scones and jam. A great way to end a super topic this term. Have a lovely Easter Year 2!



Designing and Making Sandwiches in Year 3

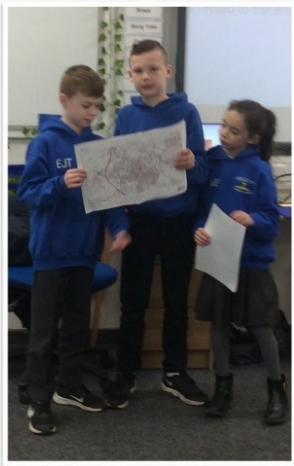
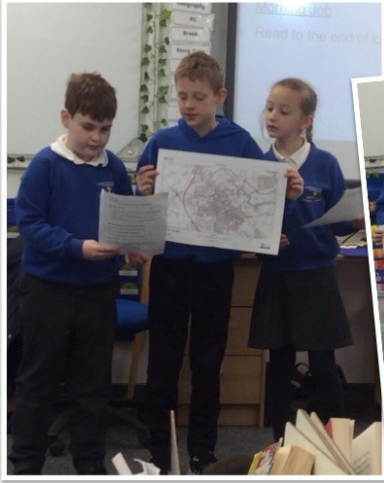
Y3 have completed their sandwich designs and have created, tasted and evaluated their sandwiches this week in Design Technology. We decided that some of our ingredients overpowered others and if we were to tweak our design; most of us who opted for banana, would remove it!



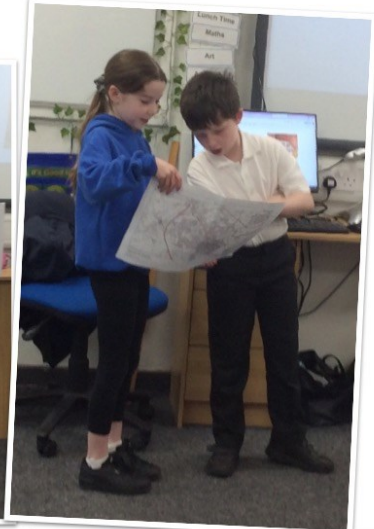
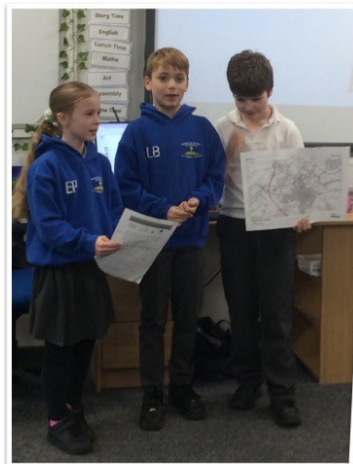
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Year 4 investigated flood defences then presented their plan to stop floods. They had 10 units to spend and had to decide which methods would be most effective. Mr Wheatley and Mrs Lowes were very impressed with their ideas.

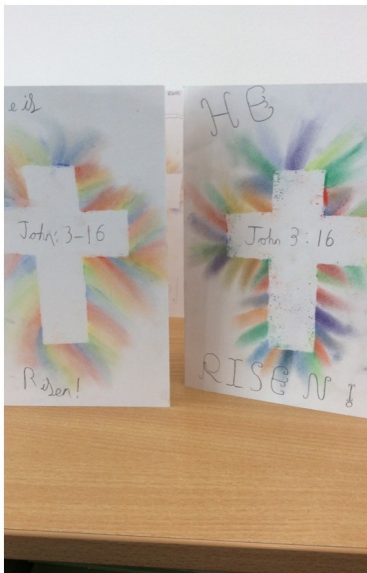


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Easter Cards in Year 5

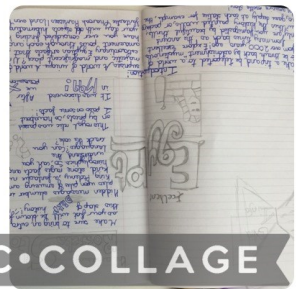
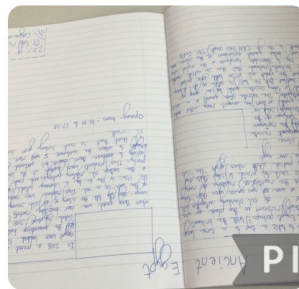
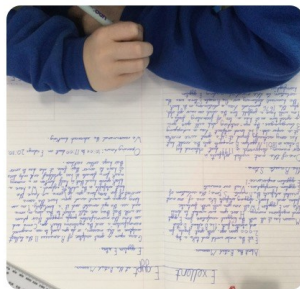
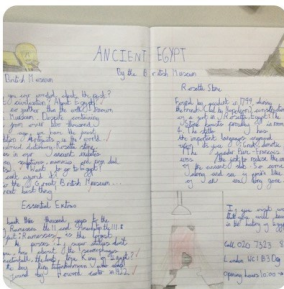
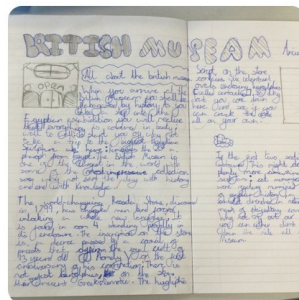
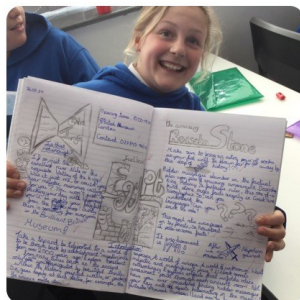
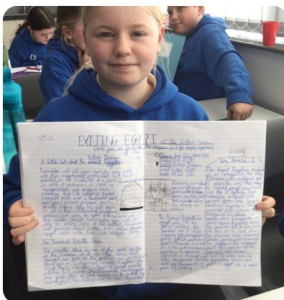
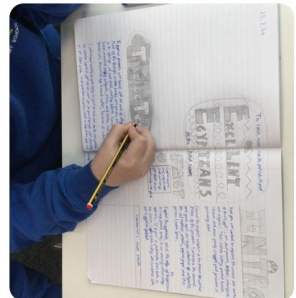
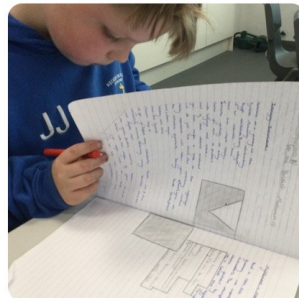
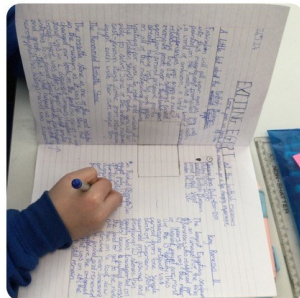
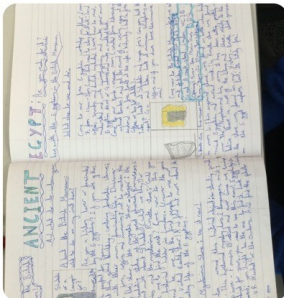
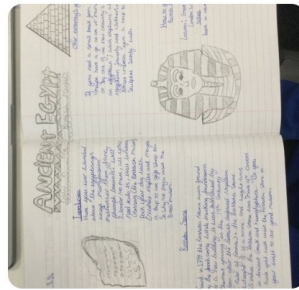
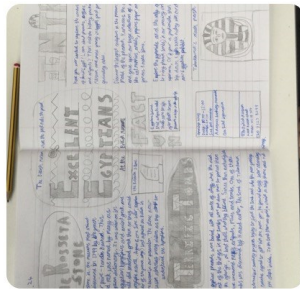
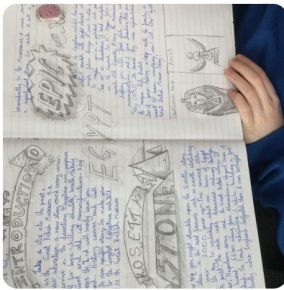
This week we have enjoyed creating our Easter cards. We used pastels to portray the beams of light behind the cross symbolizing Jesus rising from the dead. We placed a stencil in the middle of the card and then we used pastels to add rays of colour (smudging).

'He is not here; he is risen.'
Matthew 28:6



Persuasive Writing in Year 6

Year 6 presented their writing in a double page format this week. They were tasked with writing a persuasive text to promote the Egyptian exhibition at the British Museum. The range of punctuation and vocabulary made for some excellent pieces of work. Well done Year 6! I hope you enjoy your well deserved Easter break.



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Easter Service

Key Stage 2 had a great time sharing the Easter story with you in Church this morning. They enjoyed retelling it through song, readings and acting. We hope that you enjoyed it too. Thanks to Tom and Mrs. Milner for their work with the songs and music.



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Good Luck Madame Magee!

We are sad to say goodbye to Madame Magee who is our specialist French Teacher. We have really enjoyed our French lessons and have learnt lots. We are looking forward to being able to put our French into practice on the Year 6 visit to France. While Madame Magee will not be teaching us next term she is still able to go on the residential trip to France with the children in Year 6.

We will really miss her and we wish her all the best for her future endeavours.



Out of School Club Easter Fun

We have had lots of fun this week making various Easter crafts and some chocolate bunny nest cakes! Out of School Club is always a place where you get creative, let off lots of energy, make friendships outside of class, beat each other at Pool, and for some it is a great time to relax on the bean bags. We hope you have a very relaxing and fun Easter break!



Stay and Play Easter Party!

We had so much fun at our Easter party this week! What is a party without party food? Lots of you had to leave us a little early this week to take part in your Nursery open morning, it is so lovely to see the friendships you have made here at Stay and Play and how it has built your confidence for starting Nursery. I hope you all loved your Easter bags and toys, and hope you have a fabulous Easter!



Heddon's Carpet of Poppies



Over the last few years when passing through or visiting the various villages in Northumberland, just prior to Remembrance Sunday, the variety and number of poppy displays supporting the event have been amazing. It has been a itch which I could not ignore, why not one in Heddon.

So this year I have started, some of you will have noticed the poppy boxes in various locations:-

The Swan, The Tuns, Library, WI, Heddon Methodist Church, Knott Hall, St Andrews.

These are for donations of knitted or crochet poppies or simply wool for some to use. There has already been an amazing response and the poppies are growing but we will need lots, so if you would like to be involved, knit or crochet a poppy it's that simple.

What will it look like and where will it be

The size is of course dependant upon the number of poppies, these will be attached to a net and will flow down the grassed area at the side of Knott hall flowing down the bank from St Andrews Church, additionally there will be two art works to enhance the display, these are being sponsored by a Heddon resident and made by Michael Amos of Rusty Renovations.

Can you be involved - yes! it's all on the poster

Let see what we can achieve for Heddon

For more information please contact, Margaret Blackett

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At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about CLICKBAIT

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Clickbait is a controversial online marketing strategy which uses sensationalist (and frequently misleading) headlines to encourage engagement with an article, image or video – often playing on users' emotions and curiosity, while much of the actual content is of questionable accuracy. Clickbait is also sometimes used to disguise scams, phishing sites and malware.

HARMFUL MISINFORMATION

Clickbait tends to play fast and loose with the truth, opting for eye-catching content over objectivity. This is particularly dangerous for younger internet users, who are generally more susceptible to that type of material. A child could be presented with fake news, misleading articles and – in some cases – outright lies without fully understanding what they're viewing and why it's harmful.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Due to the misleading nature of many examples of clickbait, what may seem to be innocuous and child friendly could actually contain age-inappropriate material such as extremist political views or violent, pornographic or sexually explicit content. This is clearly a hazard for young people, who could be upset, disturbed or influenced by exposure to such subject matter.

HIDDEN MALWARE

While most clickbait is simply trying to promote engagement to earn companies additional revenue, some of it does redirect to dubious sites with the potential to infect devices with viruses or malware. This could put a child's sensitive data – such as their name, their location and their date of birth – at risk of being accessed and exploited by malicious hackers.

PRIVACY PROBLEMS

Some clickbait leads to sites which could coax a child into volunteering their personal data – using pop-ups to ask them for their email address and phone number, for example, in exchange for accessing additional content or subscribing to various services. Normally, this harvested information is then sold to third parties, who often utilise it for targeted adverts and other sales schemes.

A DRAINING DISTRACTION

Clickbait encourages spiralling consumption of online content, which could easily result in a young person spending hours scrolling aimlessly instead of doing something productive or interacting with family and friends. This can leave them tired, social and lacking focus – and, in the long term, can negatively impact their social skills, education and mental wellbeing.

IMPACT ON BEHAVIOUR

Depending on the type of clickbait a child is interacting with, you might notice negative changes in their behaviour. Weight loss scams, for example, are common among clickbait and have the potential to influence eating habits and body image – while deliberately inflammatory 'rage bait' articles can leave impressionable young people feeling irritable, restless or argumentative.

Advice for Parents & Educators

START A CONVERSATION

The sheer volume of clickbait can make protecting children against it quite challenging. It's vital to talk to young people regularly about the types of content they encounter online, so that they understand the risks of engaging with clickbait. If you're still concerned, it may also be wise to keep an eye on children's online activity to ensure they're not being tempted by clickbait headlines.

PROMOTE CRITICAL THINKING

Encouraging children to question the legitimacy of sensational headlines and too-good-to-be-true promises will help them to become savvier online – and far less likely to be drawn in by clickbait content. These critical thinking skills will also serve to protect them in other areas of the digital world where misinformation is becoming increasingly common.

SPOT THE TELLTALE SIGNS

There are certain common elements in clickbait, including headlines and images that use shock and outrage to grab people's attention – as well as numbered lists, such as "8 Facts You Won't Believe Are True". Some clickbait combines several of these tactics to snag users' interest. Learn to recognise these techniques for yourself so you can teach children to notice them as well.

TAKE CONTROL

Many parents opt to place limits on how long their children can spend online each day, which obviously reduces the chance of exposure to clickbait. Alternatively, most internet-enabled devices have built-in controls that allow parents to manage what sort of online content their child can access – including filtering by age, which can screen out a percentage of inappropriate material.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology writer with more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid *The Inquirer*, she is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant who writes for *Forbes*, *TechRadar* and *Wired*, among others.



Dates for your Diary - Summer Term



Thursday 28th March 2024	EASTER HOLIDAYS
Monday 15th April 2024	SUMMER TERM 1 BEGINS
29th April 2024	School Photographer in for individual photographs
Monday 6th May 2024	MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY
w/c Monday 13th May 2024	Year 6 SATS Week
w/c Monday 13th May 2024	Year 5 Spain Trip
Friday 25th May 2024	HALF TERM
w/c Monday 3rd June 2024	Made in the North East Theme Week
Monday 3rd June 2024	Year 5 Visit to Woodhorn Museum
Tuesday 4th June 2024	Year 2 Visit to Discovery Museum
Tuesday 4th June 2024	Year 4 Train Trip to Haltwhistle
Wednesday 5th June 2024	Year 1 Trip to Newcastle Quayside
Wednesday 5th June 2024	Year 6 Visit to Sunderland Maritime Museum

Dates for your Diary - Summer Term



Thursday 6th June 2024	Year 3 Visit to Castle Keep in Newcastle
Thursday 6th June 2024	Nissan Visit to talk to Year 4
w/c Monday 10th June 2024	Year 1 Phonic Screen Check Week
Monday 10th June 2024	Class Photographs
w/c Monday 17th June 2024	Year 6 Bee Week Transition Project
Wednesday 19th June 2024	Year 6 Leavers Service at St. Nicholas Cathedral in Newcastle.
Sunday 23rd June 2024 - Thursday 27th June 2024	Year 6 France Trip
Friday 28th June 2024	Armed Forces Day
Wednesday 3rd July 2024	Current Year 6 Parents Evening at Ponteland High School
Thursday 4th July 2024 & Friday 5th July 2024	Year 6 Transition Days at Ponteland High School
Thursday 11th July 2024	The Tempest - Music and Drama Showcase in School Hall (Matinee performance also)
Thursday 18th July 2024	Year 6 Leavers Assembly at 1.30pm in School Hall
Friday 19th July 2024	SUMMER HOLIDAYS