

27th June 2025

Dear Parents / Carers,

School has seemed strangely quiet this week with many of our Year 6 children being in France with Mr. McDonald and Year 6 children from the other Pele Trust Primaries. I know that they have had a great time and I am sure they are looking forward to returning home tonight.

However, the rest of the school has been very busy this week with lots of exciting activities which you can see in the Flyer. Nursery even got to visit Bays Leap Farm to have a delicious ice cream and see the very cute calves.

We were pleased to welcome the Heddon Craft group into school this week to work with the Year 6 children who remained in school. They taught the children to make quilled cards which were amazing! These children also got to participate in some transition activities with their peers from the other primaries too.

Our Year 5 and 6 representatives had a great afternoon at the Newcastle United Foundation event. They trained and got to play some games. They were amazing ambassadors for our school.

It was lovely to see so many of you at our Summer Fair last Friday. I am pleased to let you know that we raised £1252.20. This will be shared equally between school and the Red Cypher Charity which supports the armed forces personnel at Albemarle Barracks. Special thanks to Heidi and the Friends of Heddon who organised this event.

After the great success of the Kaleidoscope performance at the Tyne Theatre were an now excitedly looking forward to the art exhibition. This is taking place at Ponteland High School between Tuesday 8th July and Thursday 10th July (8am-9pm) The children would love for you to come and see their amazing art work!

Following a number of requests from parents about support with sleep we are pleased to let you know about a free online sleep workshop being run by the Family Hub. This will be taking place between 10am and 12pm on Wednesday 9th July 2025. Please see later in the Flyer for more details including how to join the workshop.

Well done to Year 3 for the best attendance this week: 98.4%.

Well done to Year 1 for the best attendance for this year: 97.4%.

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

Mr. A. Wheatley,
Headteacher



Attendance Matters



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

Northumberland
County Council

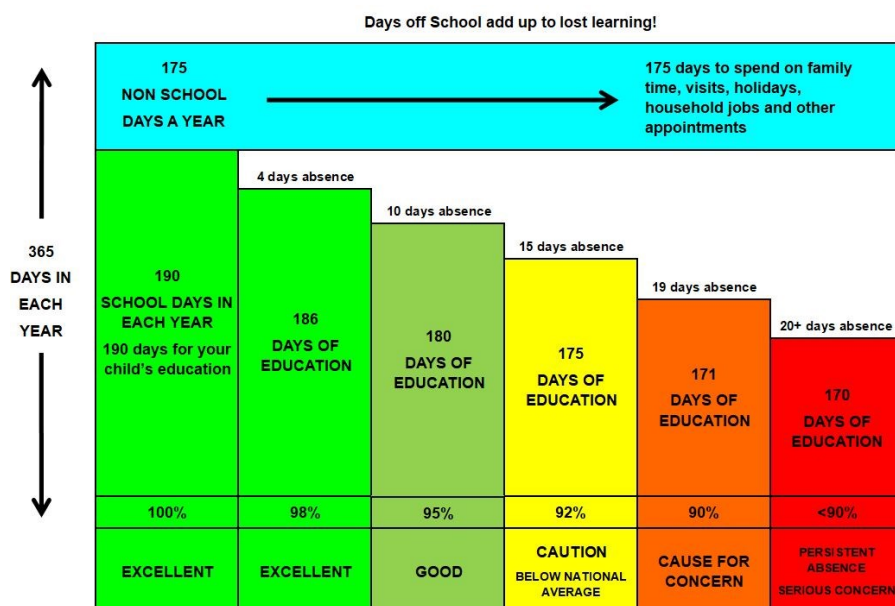


We continue to focus on attendance and punctuality so please remember that our School starts at 8.55am (9am for Nursery) and anyone arriving after this time will be marked as late.

Attendance for this week is summarised below:

Class	Attendance this week	Attendance this year	Class	Attendance this week	Attendance this year
Nursery (Hedgehogs)	85.3%	95.4%	Year 3 (Gibside)	98.4%	96.3%
Reception (Owls)	97.2%	95%	Year 4 (Lindisfarne)	94.2%	95.8%
Year 1 (Wallington)	96.8%	97.4%	Year 5 (Bamburgh)	98.1%	97.2%
Year 2 (Craggside)	94.4%	96.2%	Year 6 (Dunstanburgh)	96.6%	97%

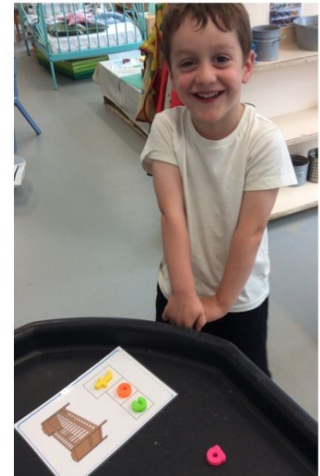
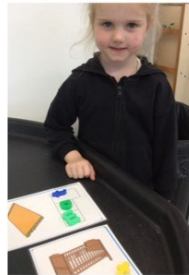
Please see the graphic below which shows the significant impact of absence over time .



'Let all that you do be done with love'

1 Corinthians 16:14

As part of our 'Tell Me a Story' topic, the Hedgehogs were introduced to their new story this week, the Gingerbread Man! They had some clues so they could guess their new story... a fox, an oven, a rolling pin and a bag of flour. We used our fantastic baking skills to make our own Gingerbread men but one ran away! I wonder where he will end up next?!



PIC•COLLAGE



Learning

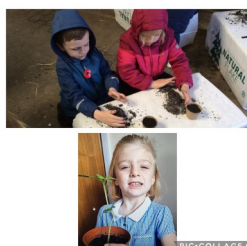
A Busy Week in Reception

We've had another exciting week exploring our 'Let's Go and Explore' topic. This week, our theme was air travel, and the children have absolutely loved getting creative with this topic. We made and tested our very own paper airplanes, aiming for a target and calculating scores to see whose design could fly the furthest and most accurately. Last week we started making paper mache hot air balloons, we continued with these this week, things got messy but the children had lots of fun. Budding engineers in the making.

We read the Worrysaurus and talked about the zones of regulation, helping us understand and talk about our feelings. The children shared ideas about how they calm down when they're in the 'red' or 'yellow' zones, and we saw thoughtful contributions from everyone.

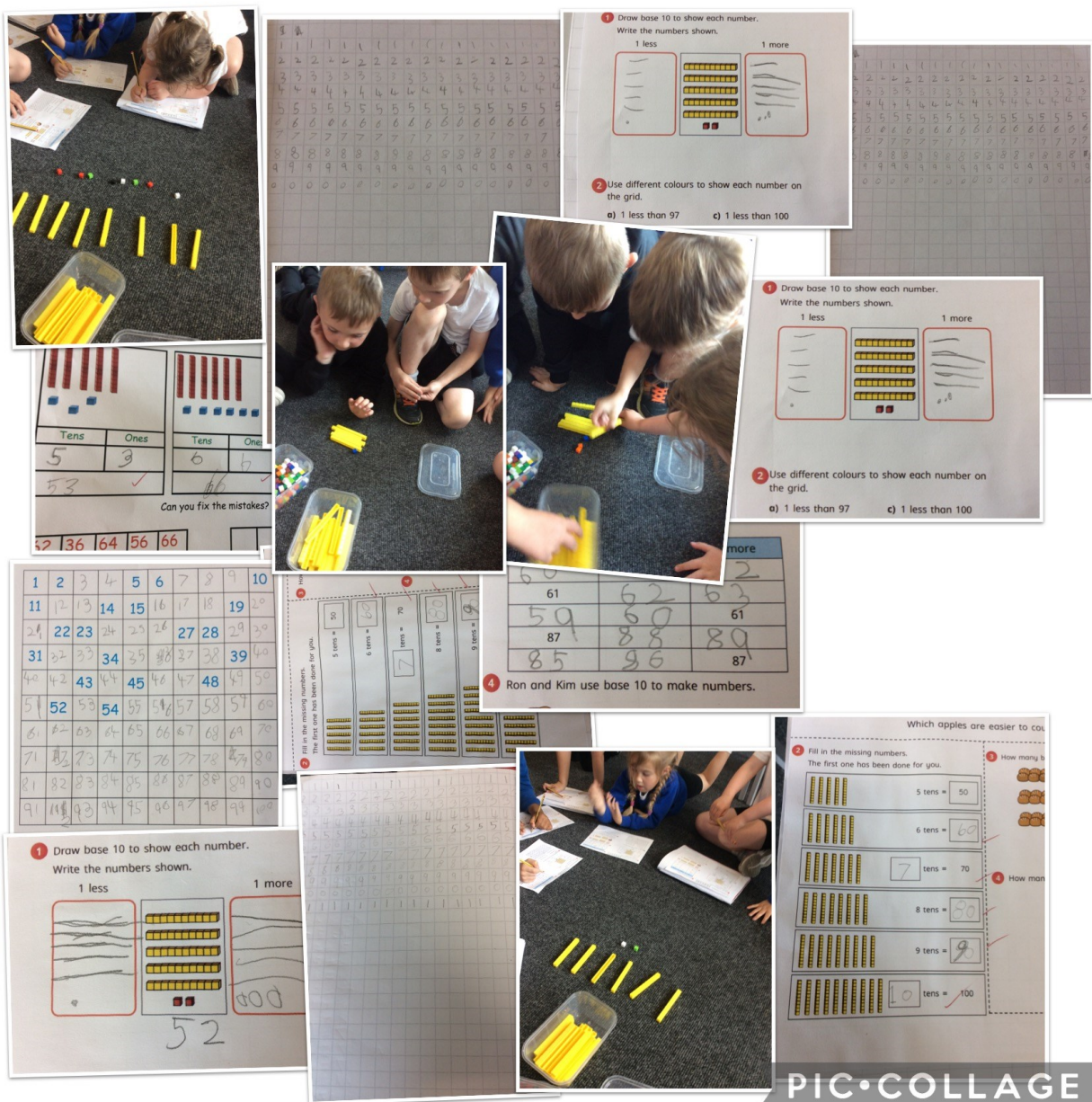


We're amazed by Oliver's pea shoots, which have been thriving thanks to his careful tending over the past few months. And a big shout out to Harriet, whose sunflower from the farm is also growing well.



Counting to 100 with Year 1

This week in Year 1 we have been busy working with numbers up to 100. First we practiced our counting skills, then we have been using number lines that go from 0-100; along with finding one less and one more. Everybody has been working super hard!



PIC•COLLAGE

A Busy Week in Year 2

Year 2 have had a busy week hunting for microhabitats around school as well as starting to create our own moving vehicles with wheels, axels and a chassis.




PIC•COLLAGE









Learning


Animal Diets with Year 3


This week, in Science, Year 3 have been looking at the diets of animals and discussing if all animals eat the same food. We looked at a selection of foods and different animals and thought about some of the foods they might eat and then decided if they were herbivores, carnivores or omnivores. We thought about how often different animals need to eat and what would happen if they ate the wrong foods. We then created our own mini fact files about animal diets.



<p>Animal: Barred Dragon</p>	<p>Picture:</p> 
<p>Diet: A Barred Dragon is a carnivore. • mealworm • cricket • insects</p>	<p>How much food and how often?</p> <p>3 times a day</p>
	<p>What would happen if they weren't fed the right food?</p> <p>get ill and die</p>

<p>Activities:</p>  <p>Hunger</p>	<p>Activities:</p>
<p>Diet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Buckwheat - Barley - Kale - Taro - Ham - Spinach - Carrots - Eggs - Potatoes <p>Humans are omnivores</p>	 <p>How much food and how often?</p> <p>5 times a day - at home</p>
	<p>What would happen if they weren't fed the right food?</p> <p>Die or get hungry</p>

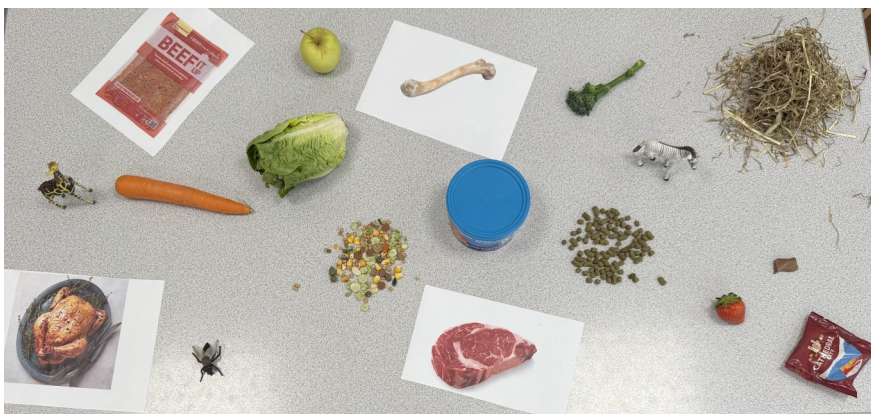
<p>Animal:</p>  <p>Diet:</p> 	<p>Picture:</p> 
 <p>reggie + nide</p>	<p>How much food and how often?</p> <p>1 meal</p> <p>What would happen if they weren't fed the right food?</p>

Animal: <i>dog</i>	Picture: 
Diet: <i>dog food, chicken, meat, beer, caviar</i>	How much food and how often? <i>twice a day</i>
	What would happen if they weren't fed the right food? <i>that would get dogs and die</i>

<h1>Fish</h1>	
<p>Diet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Omnivore • Smaller fish • Fish food • Algae 	<p>How much food and how often</p> <p>1st a day</p>
	<p>What would happen if they weren't fed the right food?</p> <p>They would get sick and die</p>

Animal: 	Picture: 
Diet: dogs are omnivorous they eat meat and plants	How much food and how often? 2 times a day What would happen if they weren't fed the right food?

PICT-COLLAGES



The Writing Process in Year 4

Here is an insight into the writing process in Year 4. First, we completed a SPaG lesson to hone our ability to use fronted adverbials. Then, we read chapter 6 of *Stich Head*; we met Fulbert Freakfinder, the ringmaster of Unnatural Wonders, who posted a leaflet to try and convince Stich Head to join his carnival. We looked at some persuasive leaflets and highlighted the key features in a number of examples to become familiar with the writing style. Once we were comfortable with the genre, we took part in a guided write where Mrs March 'thought out loud' about authorial choices. Finally, we created our own leaflets in draft form. At the start of next week, we will get busy editing our work and redrafting our wonderful writing.

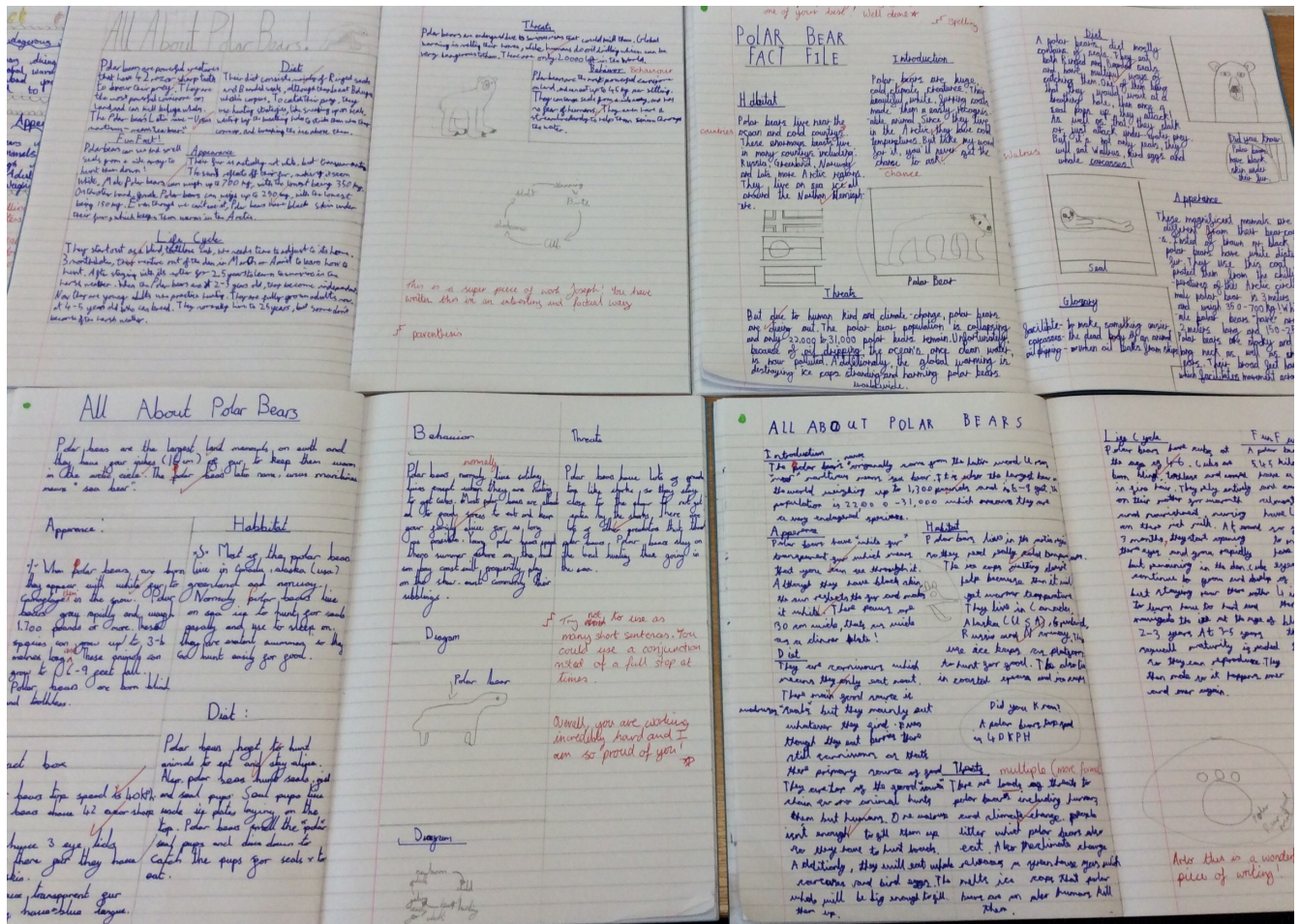


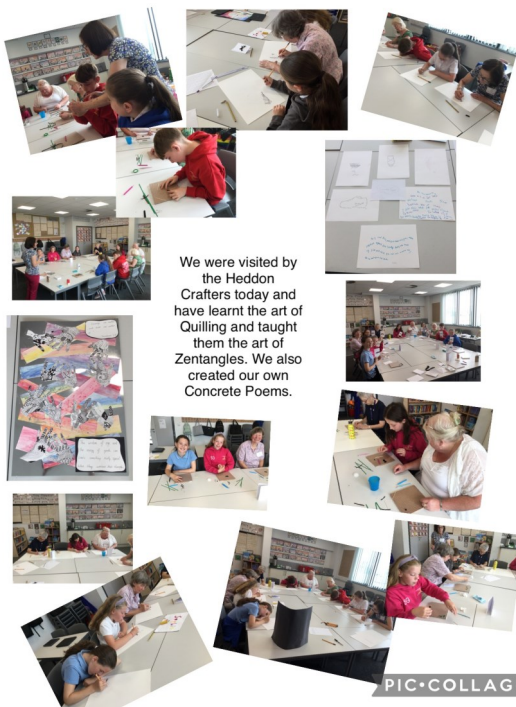
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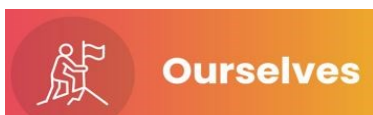
Polar Bears with Year 5

This week has been full of excitement and creativity in Year 5! We've been busy researching Polar Bears in order to create our very own fact files. The children have loved having the freedom to choose which facts to explore and how to present their information in a layout of their choice. It's been a busy week, but incredibly worthwhile – the final results are impressive and reflect a lot of hard work and curiosity!





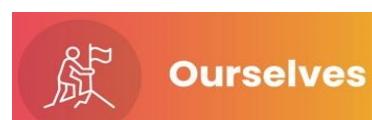
Our fantastic seven year 6 children have had a busy fun filled week. From learning about Graphic design and creating concrete poems and being exceptional role models as sports leaders for keystage 1 and helping nursery to walk to Heddon library and reading fabulous stories with them to visiting the Metrocentre to watch Minecraft and visit the bowling alley. They have also worked with Heddon Crafters learning the art of Quilling and have sampled Bays leap ice cream. Phew! What a week!





Our Year 5 and 6 representatives had a great afternoon at the NUFC Foundation. They got to see the Carabao Cup, train together and then play in some competitive matches against other schools.

The children had a great time. Their behaviour and attitude was exemplary and they were fantastic ambassadors for our school. Well done!



Kaleidoscope

USING OUR DIFFERENCES TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Kaleidoscope

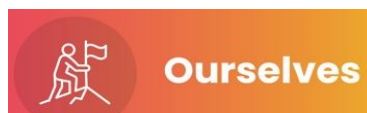
USING OUR DIFFERENCES TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Pele Trust Schools invite you to an exhibition of creativity, community, and young voices. Join us for the Kaleidoscope Exhibition.

Tuesday 8th to Thursday 10th July, 8am–9pm

Ponteland Leisure Centre



Ourselves

Others



Life



Free Family Hub Virtual Sleep Workshop

The Family Hub has designed this workshop at the request of our staff in response to the needs of the school and from parental requests. It is a single online session which will help with all the sleep secrets you might need including:

Understanding sleep cycles;

Causes of sleep issues;

The importance of sleep;

What you can do to help your child sleep better.

The session is on Wednesday 9th July 2025 between 10am-12pm.

Book now by clicking the following link: nland.cc/fhreg

Is your child struggling with sleep?



*For children and young people aged between 4-25 years

- Understanding sleep cycles
- Causes of sleep issues
- The importance of sleep
- What you can do to support your child to sleep better

Virtual Sleep Workshop

Delivered **virtually** over one session.

BOOK NOW



Wednesday 9th July 10am-12pm

http://



Visit our website

nland.cc/familyhubs



READY, STEADY, SCHOOL

NEW!

For
Nursery/
Pre-School

FREE

Family Hubs
Here for everyone

peep
supporting parents and
children to learn together

PRUDHOE

What is Ready Steady School?

FREE

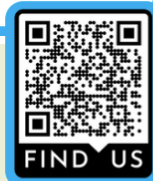
Ready, Steady, School sessions are for
children who will soon be starting nursery or school.

Give your little ones a flying start at school or nursery, with hints and tips to encourage development and independent skills as they take their next steps. Led by Family Hub Practitioners these sessions will offer support whilst your little ones have fun.

**Starting Thurs 4th August (for 3 weeks)
1:30–2:30pm at Prudhoe Family Hub**

Call: 01661 839350

Scan the QR code
and contact
your local *Family Hub*
for more details.



Family Hubs
Here for everyone

peep
supporting parents and
children to learn together



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 NINTENDO SWITCH 2

Nintendo launched its Switch 2 games console in early June 2025 – its first new console in eight years. While it builds on the original's success by remaining compatible with certain existing games, it also adds powerful hardware and new features like GameChat and a USB-C camera. As more children look to upgrade, it's important to understand how this new console might affect their play and safety.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

EASIER TO ACCESS MATURE CONTENT

18
CENSORED

Despite Nintendo's reputation for family-friendly titles, mature games like Cyberpunk 2077 and Hitman have been released onto the platform. With the Switch 2's improved performance, developers will be able to port even more mature-rated games. These may appeal to children due to their popularity, but they contain content that is highly unsuitable for young audiences.

IN-APP & GAME STORE PURCHASES

The Nintendo eShop enables purchases with just a few taps. If payment details are saved and PIN protection is disabled, children may unknowingly make costly purchases – including game add-ons, cosmetic items or entire new releases – without parental approval.

UNRESTRICTED ONLINE PLAY IN SOME GAMES

While GameChat is one feature, Switch 2 also connects to the broader Nintendo Switch Online service. Many free-to-play titles like Fortnite or Splatoon 4 allow voice or text chat with strangers unless chat settings are adjusted, meaning children could encounter inappropriate language or unwanted contact.

GAMECHAT & REAL-TIME VOICE COMMUNICATION

GameChat enables live chatting with up to 12 people, even across different games, with optional video and screen-sharing. Though children under 16 are restricted to chatting only with approved friends, the sheer interactivity could raise privacy concerns or create pressure to remain online longer.

CAMERA COMPATIBILITY & PRIVACY CONCERNS

The optional USB-C camera supports video calling and facial overlays in games; however, this also raises the risk of cyberbullying or the unwanted sharing of personal images. The camera can be disabled, removed or covered, and parental controls are essential to manage how and when it is used.

POWERFUL PULL OF FAMILIAR CHARACTERS

Nintendo's mascot, Mario – along with Pikachu, Donkey Kong and others – remains hugely appealing to younger audiences, especially after the success of the recent film, 'The Super Mario Bros. Movie' (2023). These beloved icons are central to Nintendo's branding and often feature in merchandising, adverts and in-game promotions, creating strong emotional attachments in children and a sense of urgency to keep up with their peers.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CHECK RATINGS & USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Every Switch and Switch 2 game comes with a PEGI age rating. Before buying one, ensure the content matches your child's age. Use the Nintendo Parental Controls app to monitor gameplay, set screen-time limits and manage friend requests.

REVIEW FRIEND LISTS AND CHAT PERMISSIONS

Child profiles are restricted to chatting with approved friends only, but it's good practice to regularly check their friend list and communication settings. Use the Parental Controls app to switch off voice or video chat if necessary.

REMOVE OR RESTRICT PAYMENT METHODS

Avoid accidental spending by unlinking credit cards from the device. Instead, consider adding funds via prepaid eShop cards or requiring a PIN for purchases. Some banking apps can also be set to approve transactions manually.

ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Teach children how to block, report and capture any behaviour or content that makes them uncomfortable. The console's built-in tools allow them to create screenshots and video clips, which can aid in reporting any issues. Keeping an open dialogue helps children feel supported and safe.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Games Editor of Daily Star and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for five years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published on sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College®

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Heddon-on-the-Wall St Andrew's CE Primary School 2025/26

September 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
36	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
37	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
38	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
39	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
40	29	30					

October 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
40			1	2	3	4	5
41	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
42	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
43	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
44	27	28	29	30	31		

November 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
44						1	2
45	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
46	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
47	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
48	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
49	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
50	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
51	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
52	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
1	29	30	31				

January 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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2	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
3	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
4	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
5	26	27	28	29	30	31	

February 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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6	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
7	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
8	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9	23	24	25	26	27	28	

March 2026							
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9							1
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11	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
12	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
13	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
14	30	31					

April 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
14			1	2	3	4	5
15	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
16	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
17	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
18	27	28	29	30			

May 2026							
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19	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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21	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
22	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
23	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
24	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
25	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
26	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	29	30					

July 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
27			1	2	3	4	5
28	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
29	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
30	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
31	27	28	29	30	31		

August 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
31						1	2
32	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
33	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
34	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
35	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
36	31						

Bank holidays 2025/26 UK

25 December '25	Christmas Day	1 January '26	New Year's Day	4 May '26	Early May Bank Holiday
26 December '25	Boxing Day	3 April '26	Good Friday	25 May '26	Spring Bank Holiday
		6 April '26	Easter Monday	31 August '26	August Bank Holiday

School Holidays

Training Days

Data provided 'as is' without warranty

Dates for your Diary - Summer Term



w/c Monday 30th June 2025	Bikeability for Year 5
Thursday 3rd July 2025 and Friday 4th July 2025	Year 6 Transition Days at Ponteland High School
w/c Monday 7th July 2025	Kaleidoscope Exhibition at Ponteland High School
Tuesday 8th July 2025	Year 6 Stadium Tour at St. James' Park
Wednesday 9th July 2025	Crepe Man visit to see Year 4, 5 and 6
Thursday 10th July 2025	Pele Trust Choir Concert (part of Kaleidoscope project)
Friday 11th July 2025	Rocksteady Concert for Parents/Carers in School Hall at 10am
Friday 11th July 2025	School Reports sent out
Monday 14th July 2025	Moving Up Morning
Monday 14th July 2025	Heddon's Got Talent Final (for children only)
Tuesday 15th July 2025	Music and Drama Showcase at 5pm in School Hall
Thursday 17th July 2025	Year 6 Leavers Assembly in School Hall at 2pm
w/c Monday 21st July 2025	SUMMER HOLIDAYS