

5th September 2025

Dear Parents / Carers,

It has been a great pleasure this week to welcome all of the children back into School. They have settled quickly into their new classes and are already tackling their work with their customary enthusiasm and resilience. It was particularly pleasing to see how quickly the children in Early Years settled into their new routine of coming to School to begin their educational journey with us.

We are pleased to welcome Miss Cook into our school family as our Year 3 class teacher.

As I am aware that the first week of term sees a huge increase of photos of children in their new uniforms on social media I have attached some useful information about photo sharing online later in the flyer.

To see what your child will be learning this half term please check out the curriculum leaflets on your child's class page on the school website by [clicking here](#).

As we start the new year I would like to remind you of the importance of your child having good attendance at School. The Government say: *'Every child has the right to a good education. We want our children to thrive, and to be healthy and happy. For this to happen the majority of young people need to be attending school, seeing their friends, and learning in the classroom. Most children in England agree with this assessment.'*

Next week you will receive our Home School Agreement electronically. This will be a Google Form and you can agree with the agreement by clicking in the form. I would ask that you read it and share it with your child(ren) as there is a specific section for them.

Please check out our calendar for the coming year. I would remind parents that these dates are subject to change. Further dates will be added as time goes on.

There is a four way tie for the best attendance this week with Year 2, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 having an amazing attendance of 100%!

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

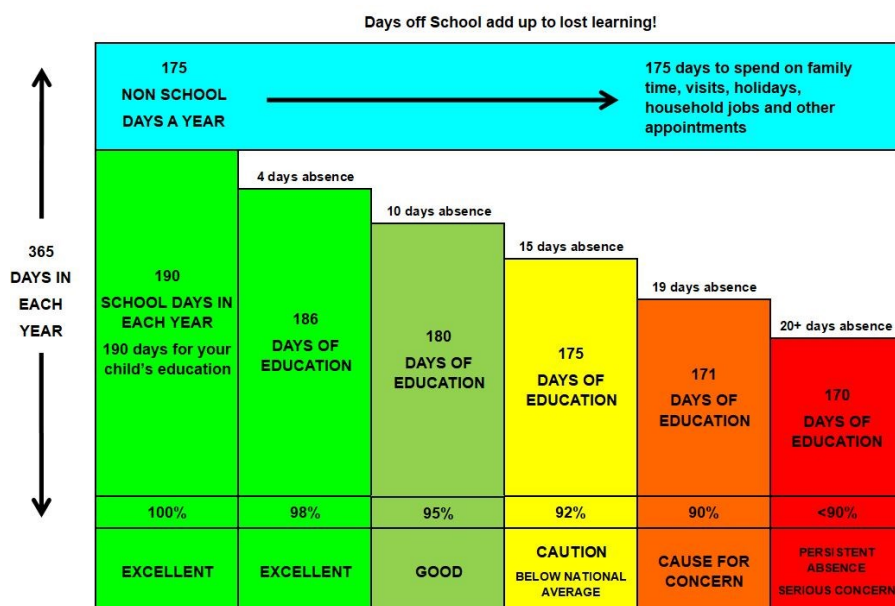


We continue to focus on attendance and punctuality so please remember that our School starts at 8.55am (9am for Nursery) and anyone arriving after this time will be marked as late.

Attendance for this week is summarised below:

Class	Attendance this week	Attendance this year	Class	Attendance this week	Attendance this year
Nursery (Hedgehogs)	96.6%	96.6%	Year 3 (Gibside)	99%	99%
Reception (Owls)	97.2%	97.2%	Year 4 (Lindisfarne)	100%	100%
Year 1 (Wallington)	99.5%	99.5%	Year 5 (Bamburgh)	100%	100%
Year 2 (Craggside)	100%	100%	Year 6 (Dunstanburgh)	100%	100%

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



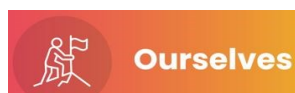
'Let all that you do be done with love'

1 Corinthians 16:14

The Hedgehogs have had such a brilliant first week. Everyone has settled in so well and it has been so lovely to see lots of new friendships starting to grow. We are so proud of all of you and we can't wait for all of the fun, learning and adventures still to come.



PIC•COLLAGE

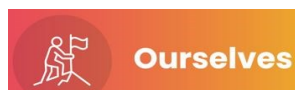


A Super Start in Reception!

We have had a super start to Reception this week. All of us have tried really hard to be brilliant friends, kind, caring and super listeners - well done Owls!



PIC•COLLAGE



An Amazing Week in Year 1

What an amazing first week back we have, everyone has worked really hard and settled into their new classroom. We have been super busy this week learning lots of new things, in Science we learnt about the parts of the human body and in Geography we learned what an aerial plan is. During our Literature Works lessons we have all been writing a prediction based on some clues about what story we are going to be reading. We have also been making some plates for monsters and some monster menus. Well done Year 1!



Learning

Outdoor Art with Year 2.

In Art, Year 2 explored drawing on different surfaces. We went on a walk around school to find different types of surfaces we could draw on from the path, bench, trees to the wall. Once back in class we had to think of which surface was our favourite and least favourite as well as explaining why.



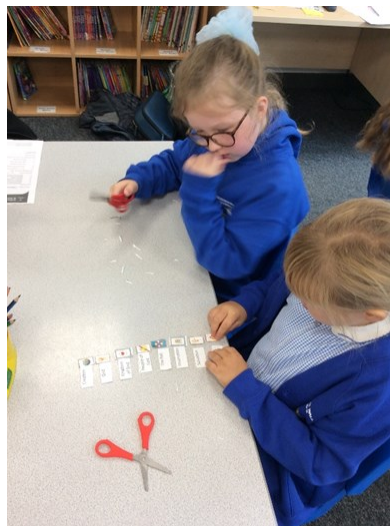
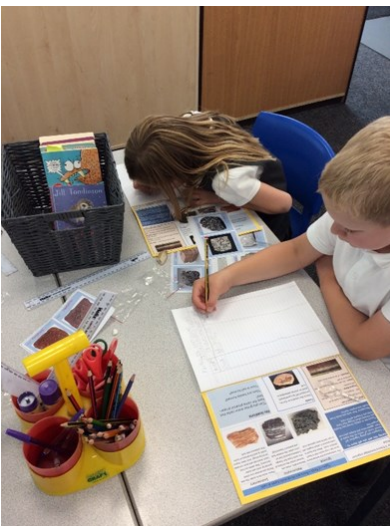
PIC•COLLAGE



Learning

A Busy Week in Year 3

We have had a great start to Year 3 this week. The children have done a good job welcoming me to the school and have come back from the holidays ready for a new challenge. We have started our new book 'How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth' and have been exploring the new vocabulary that links it with our history topic 'Prehistoric Britain'. The class have had their first French lesson which they were very excited about and learned a song about greetings. In Science, we have started our new 'Rocks' topic and the class have had fun examining different rock types with magnifying glasses, don't be surprised if they start foraging in the garden for them! It has been a lovely way to start the term and I am looking forward to seeing what the rest of the term brings us.



Learning

All About the Romans with Year 4!

Year 4 have had an utterly fabulous start to the year; they have had a superb attitude to learning and their behaviour has been exemplary! In History, they were introduced to their new topic of The Romans. Each child created their own shield and used it to practise army formations. The children were then hooked in and ready to order some key dates from the Roman period.



PIC•COLLAGE



At St. Andrew's Church with Year 5

Year 5 have made a fantastic start to the new school year and have settled in brilliantly during their first week. A real highlight was our visit to the local church, where we explored the stained glass windows. The children were captivated by the colours and designs, and we enjoyed discussing the features, the stories they tell, and even some of the pros and cons of stained glass. It was a fun and thoughtful afternoon that really brought our learning to life.

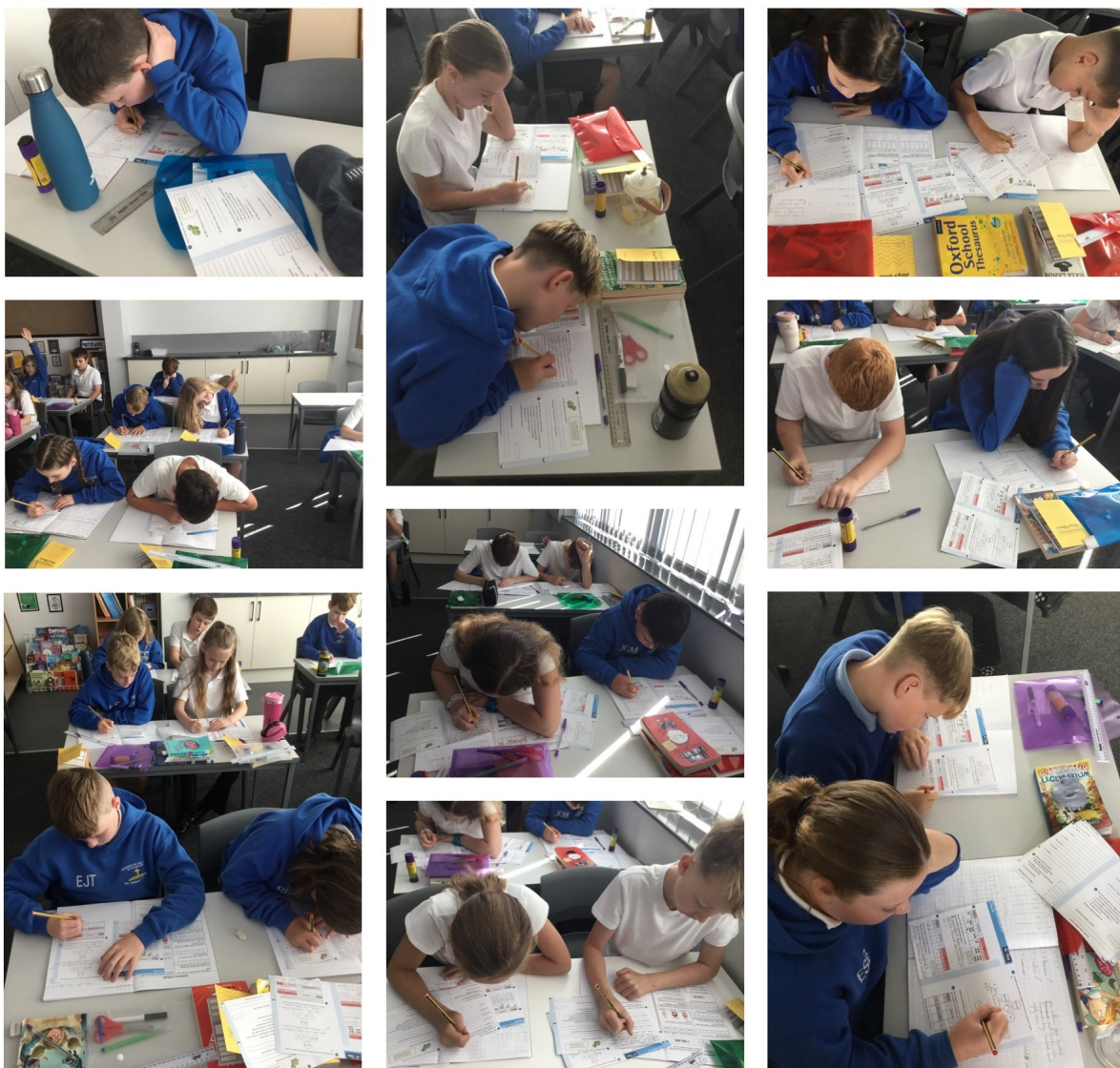


Learning

Marvellous Mathematicians in Year 6

I have been very impressed with Year 6's attitude and application in Maths lessons this week. We have been looking at the place value of large numbers; the foundation for all of the mathematics we will be covering this year.

The children have been given their Times Table Rockstars log in details and I encourage them to access this at home. Well done for your hard work this week, Year 6!



PIC•COLLAGE



Learning

A visit from our County Councillor!

It was lovely to welcome Michaela Horncastle into school today. Michaela is our local County Councillor who represents our area in Northumberland County Council.

Michaela enjoyed looking around the school, meeting both staff and children and finding out about our school. The children, as usual, were amazing ambassadors for our school.

We look forward to welcoming Michaela back into school to share some of our events with the children.



Red Cypher Charity

I was pleased this week to receive a handwritten card from Andrew Bude on behalf of the Red Cypher charity. This charity specifically supports serving personnel and veterans of the 3rd Royal Horse Artillery who are currently based at Albemarle Barracks. Following your generous donations at Armed Forces Day in June we were pleased to be able to once again support their valuable work. As the armed forces do so much to keep our country safe it is always wonderful to recognise their often difficult and dangerous work through supporting this charity.



Dear Mr. Wheatley.

Once again I find myself writing to thank you, your staff, your pupils and their families for the incredible generosity in supporting Red Cypher. We are so grateful for your continued support that allows us to provide support to both serving and veterans from 3RHA.

One of the highlights from this year has been helping a serving soldier to get home to Fiji where his daughter became seriously ill. We could not do this without your support.

Thank you from all of us.

Andrew

Others




Virtual Sleep Workshop

Prudhoe Family Hub is running another virtual sleep workshop for parents / carers. The workshop is free to attend as in virtual, meaning it can be done from the comfort of your home.

I know that sessions about sleep have been requested a number of times by parents across school. This session is being run twice and you can book onto it by [clicking here](#).

For more details please see the flyer below:


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 

Thursday 11th September 12:30-2:30pm
Wednesday 15th October 10:30-12:30pm

 Visit our website
<http://nland.cc/familyhubs>



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. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about — SHARING PHOTOS ONLINE

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

INVASIONS OF PRIVACY

Even with the right settings in place, absolutely nothing online is 100% private. Anyone who can view your photos could take screenshots and potentially share them elsewhere. Privacy settings are still important, though, so it's always wise to ensure your social media accounts have them set up; just bear in mind that you can't completely control what happens to anything once it's gone online.

REVEALING PERSONAL DETAILS

Small details in photos can often reveal personal information. Backgrounds can give clues to where you live, for example, while school logos on uniforms, sports kits, or bags could help someone identify which school your child attends. With interactive maps and reverse image searches commonplace online, information like this could easily be misused by an individual with malicious intentions.

MISUSE OF IMAGES

Once something's been shared online, it's almost impossible to get it deleted. Photos can show up in search engine results and be downloaded, manipulated, and shared without consent. There's the potential for someone's images to be used for advertising purposes (which in many cases, isn't illegal) or even more inappropriate reasons, such as cyber-bullying or serious forms of exploitation.

School is often a time chock-full of milestones for your child, and you may well be eager to share their accomplishments with the world. In today's digital age, sharing images of such precious moments on social media is commonplace, and – while that's a lovely thing to do – it does come with some risks attached. Our guide can help parents and carers to consider the potential dangers and make informed choices about safely sharing photos of their children online.

ONLINE GROOMING

Pictures that convey details about your child's interests, activities, or daily routines could arm an online predator with the kind of information they can deploy to gain a child's trust. They might use this knowledge to pretend to be the same age as the child or to have a shared hobby. Essentially, the more a predator knows about a young person, the easier it is for them to invent some 'common ground'.

PRESSURE TO PLEASE

When their parents or carers share notable moments and accomplishments in a child's life on social media, some children may begin to feel an expectation to always meet certain standards, to achieve things, or to behave in ways that are "worth sharing". Knowing that other people (even friends and family) can see these posts on social media might also add to the pressure they're feeling internally.

IMPACT ON DIGITAL FOOTPRINT

Every photo of a child posted online contributes to their digital footprint. Young people's lives have never been so closely and publicly documented as they are now, and this permanent online presence could affect a child's future opportunities or the choices they make as they grow up – in addition to influencing how they see themselves and, consequently, their emotional wellbeing.

Advice for Parents & Carers

REVIEW SETTINGS REGULARLY

Make sure your social media's secure in terms of who can view your content or see your location (only family and trusted friends, for example). Privacy settings aren't totally foolproof, but they do make it tougher for strangers to access your pics. Reviewing your settings regularly is also a good starting point for conversations with your child about managing their own social accounts when they're older.

CHECK YOUR PHOTOS

Photos of your child shouldn't provide any clues to where they live or go to school: even a house number, street name, or car number plate could be a giveaway. Cover up or blur out school logos, too. If you really want to share a particular pic, you could post a watermarked or low-res version, which can help to discourage misuse as those images are less appealing to download or reproduce.

CONSIDER OTHER CHILDREN

When taking a group photo, make sure you get parents' or carers' permission to share it on social media. There may be an important safeguarding reason for them not wanting their child's photo posted publicly online, or it might simply not tally with their personal beliefs or cultural background. A quick conversation in advance, just to make sure, is usually hugely appreciated.

THINK AHEAD

Try to consider the longer-term implications of what you post. Would you be happy with that photo being online in 10 years' time? Would your child still be OK with the image when they're older? Once your child is mature enough, you could ask for their consent before posting; it respects their privacy, fosters trust and understanding, and helps them to start thinking about their own online life.

Meet Our Expert

Gabriella Russo is a safeguarding consultant with more than 30 years' experience working with children, families, and adults in education, local authority, and mental health settings, both in the UK and internationally. She has developed online safety training for local authorities and foster care agencies across Britain and is the online safety expert for FosterWiki.



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Dates for your Diary - Autumn Term



Friday 12th September 2025	Early Years Reading Picnic at 2pm
Wednesday 17th September 2025	Music Tuition with Mr. Reay starts
Friday 26th September 2025	Welcome Service at St. Andrew's Church - 9.30am Early Years and Key Stage 1
Monday 13th October 2025	Nasal Flu Vaccinations (Reception to Year 6)
Friday 24th October 2025	Early Years and Key Stage 1 Harvest Festival at St. Andrew's Church - 9.30am
Friday 24th October 2025	Key Stage 2 Harvest Festival at St. Andrew's Church - 10.20am
w/c Monday 27th October 2025	HALF TERM HOLIDAY
Monday 3rd November 2025	TRAINING DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED
Thursday 4th December 2025	Choir Christmas Concert in School Hall at 5pm
Friday 5th December 2025	Friends of Heddon Christmas Fair from 1.30pm
Tuesday 17th December 2025	Early Years Nativity in School Hall at 10am
Tuesday 17th December 2025	Key Stage 1 Christmas Performance at St. Andrew's Church at 1.30pm
Wednesday 18th December 2025	Key Stage 1 Christmas Performance at St. Andrew's Church at 10am
Friday 20th December 2025	Key Stage 2 Carol Service at St. Andrew's Church at 9.30am