

20th March 2026

Dear Parents / Carers,

What a busy week we have had in school! As you can see in the Flyer the children have been working hard on their learning and have had a number of additional activities this week ending with Red Nose Day today. It is lovely to see the children in costumes, their own clothes and Comic Relief attire raising money for such a good cause.

Year 5 have been out and about this week in the village practising their map reading skills using six figure grid references. They were amazing ambassadors for our school being respectful and impeccably behaved while walking round the village.

We were pleased to welcome Mrs. Suddes, Pele Trust School Improvement Lead, and Mr. Hetherington, Headteacher at Longhoughton CE Primary School, into school this week. They spent time in classrooms and speaking to children and staff looking at behaviour and attendance. As always, the children spoke articulately and passionately about the school and their experiences here.

We also welcomed Karen from Young Carers Northumberland into school this week. She led an assembly explaining what a young carer was, how to join Northumberland young carers and the benefits of doing so. If you think that your child might be a young carer (supporting or looking after someone in your family with a disability or medical condition) please see the page later in the flyer or speak to your child's class teacher.

I would like to congratulate our School Choir who competed in the Ryton Festival last Friday afternoon. Against some strong competition we won a cup for 'Junior Choir - Own Song Choice' and were only 1 point off being overall winners. Thanks to Mrs. Milner, Tom and Mrs. Graham for freely giving up their time to run the choir.

This week also saw our termly Rocksteady Concert. The bands enjoyed performing to their families as well as Years 3 and 4. Please see later in the flyer for more details.

Please could I request that the children only wear their PE kit on days when they have PE. I would also ask that children do not wear football shirts for PE. Children need a plain t-shirt and PE shorts / tracksuit bottoms. If your child wishes to wear shorts either for PE or on non-PE days please can these be appropriate PE shorts and not leisure / short lycra cycling shorts. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

Well done to Year 4 with the best attendance this week: 99.6%.

Well done to Year 6 for the best attendance for this year: 98%.

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

Mr. A. Wheatley,

Headteacher



Attendance Matters



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

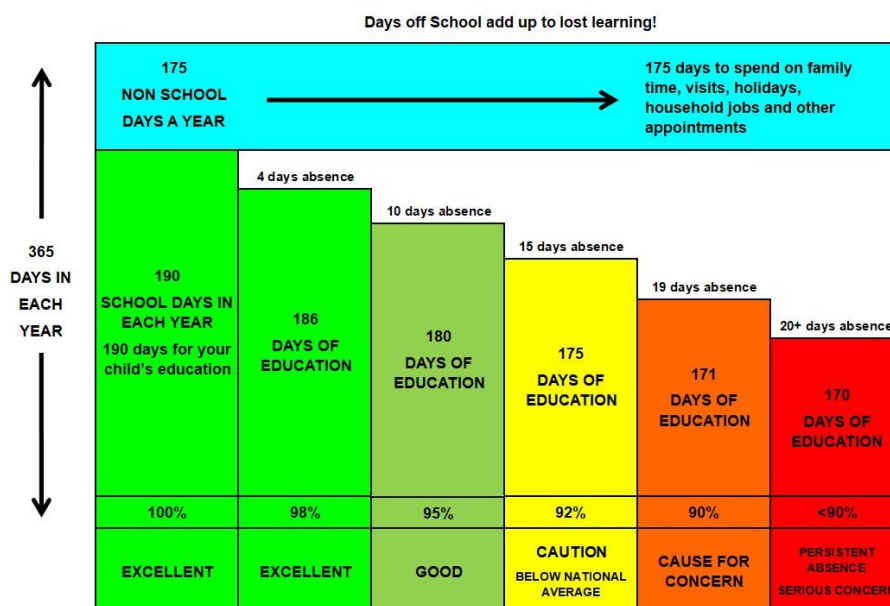


We continue to focus on attendance and punctuality so please remember that our School starts at 8.55am (9am for Nursery) and anyone arriving after this time will be marked as late.

Attendance for this week is summarised below:

Class	Attendance this week	Attendance this year	Class	Attendance this week	Attendance this year
Nursery (Hedgehogs)	93.9%	96.3%	Year 3 (Gibside)	97.2%	97.4%
Reception (Owls)	99%	97.4%	Year 4 (Lindisfarne)	99.6%	95.8%
Year 1 (Wallington)	98.4%	96.5%	Year 5 (Bamburgh)	94.2%	97.4%
Year 2 (Cragside)	99.4%	97.3%	Year 6 (Dunstanburgh)	99.3%	98%

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



We have had such a lovely week in Nursery! We have started to learn all about plants. We started to read our new story, 'Jasper's Beanstalk', we have planted beans, painted our own flowers and explored 2D shapes. Well done, Hedgehogs!



PIC • COLLAGE

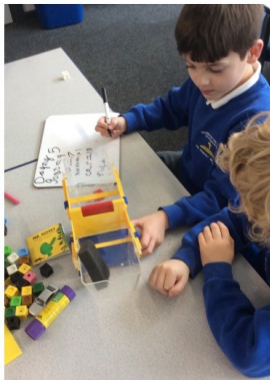
## The Three Billy Goats Gruff with Reception.

Reception have been focusing upon The Three Billy Goats Gruff this week. We've become master bridge builders to get the goats over the river; created goat masks; written some fabulous 'Wanted' posters to try to catch the troll; followed instructions to draw a goat and spent lots of time working on our gross motor skills outside in the sunshine.



## Comparing Mass with Year 1

This week in Maths we have been comparing the mass of different objects. To do this we measure the mass of an object using cubes then we repeated this with another object. After finding out the mass of each object we compared which object was heavier and which was lighter.




PIC-COLLAGE



*In PE this week we have been practising our underarm throwing technique. Mr Smith has taught us to stand side on, point our arm not holding the ball in a star position and throw. If you are trying to hit a moving target then the underarm throw is best! We played lots of Gladiator games to test this out. Great work Year 2!*



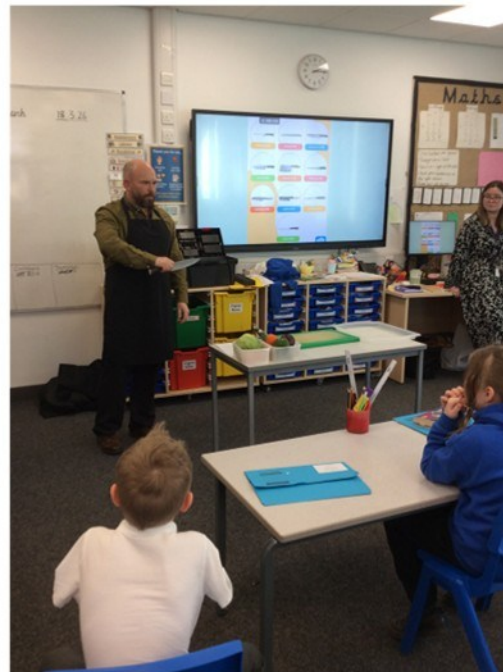
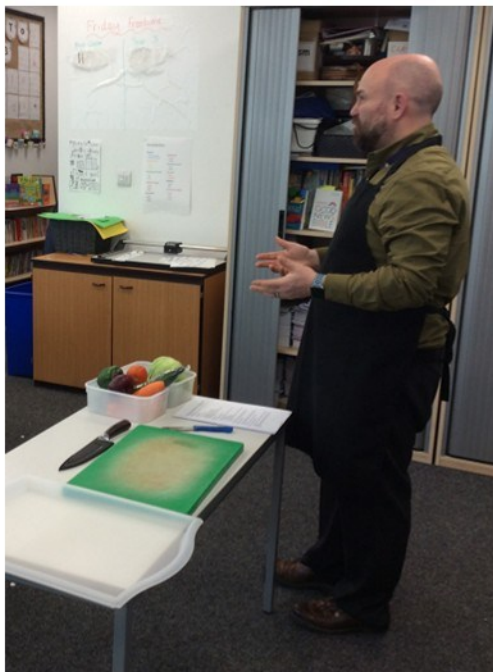
 Ourselves

 Learning

PIC•COLLAGE

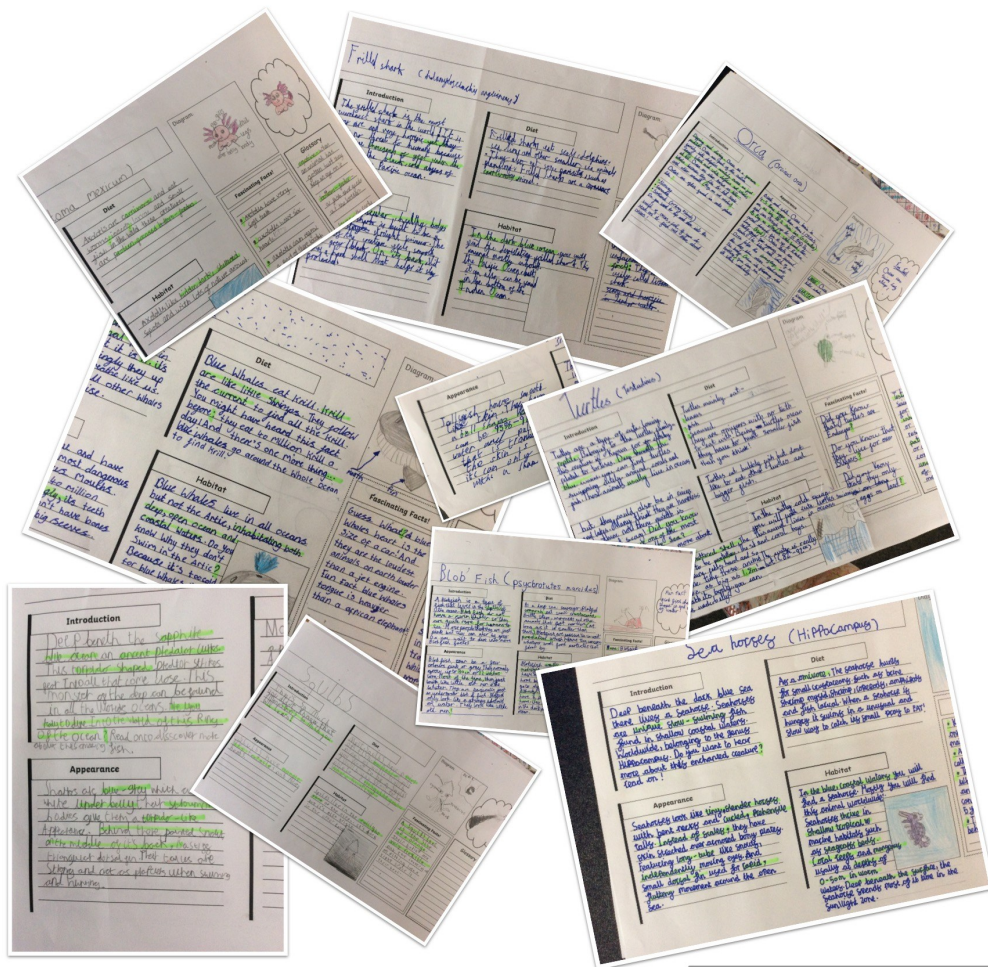
### Using Knives Safely with Year 3.

This week in Year 3, we were very lucky to be visited by Mr Bell. As part of our Design Technology project, Mr Bell was teaching us how to use knives safely and correctly when in the kitchen. He taught us how to use the pinch, claw and bridge grips and other key tips on how to keep safe when using knives.



## Diving into Discovery: Our Year 4 Marine Biologists!

I am incredibly proud to present this stunning collection of sea-creature factfiles, soon to be officially bound and ready for the school library! Over the past few weeks, our classroom has been transformed into an underwater research station as the children delved deep into the mysteries of the ocean. From the ancient, slow-moving Greenland shark and the majestic sea turtle to the powerful orca and the bizarre, bioluminescent siphonophore, the breadth of species explored is truly impressive. This project was a rigorous journey through the writing process. Our young authors didn't just write; they became experts. They navigated research, organised their findings into professional non-fiction layouts and meticulously redrafted their work. A key focus was developing technical vocabulary, resulting in high-quality glossaries to help their readers understand specialised terminology.



PIC • COLLAGE

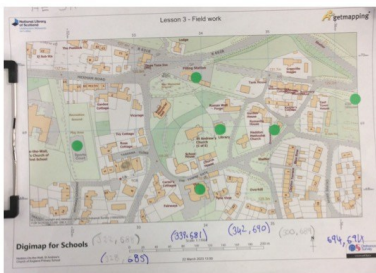


'Let all that you do be done with love'

1 Corinthians 16:14

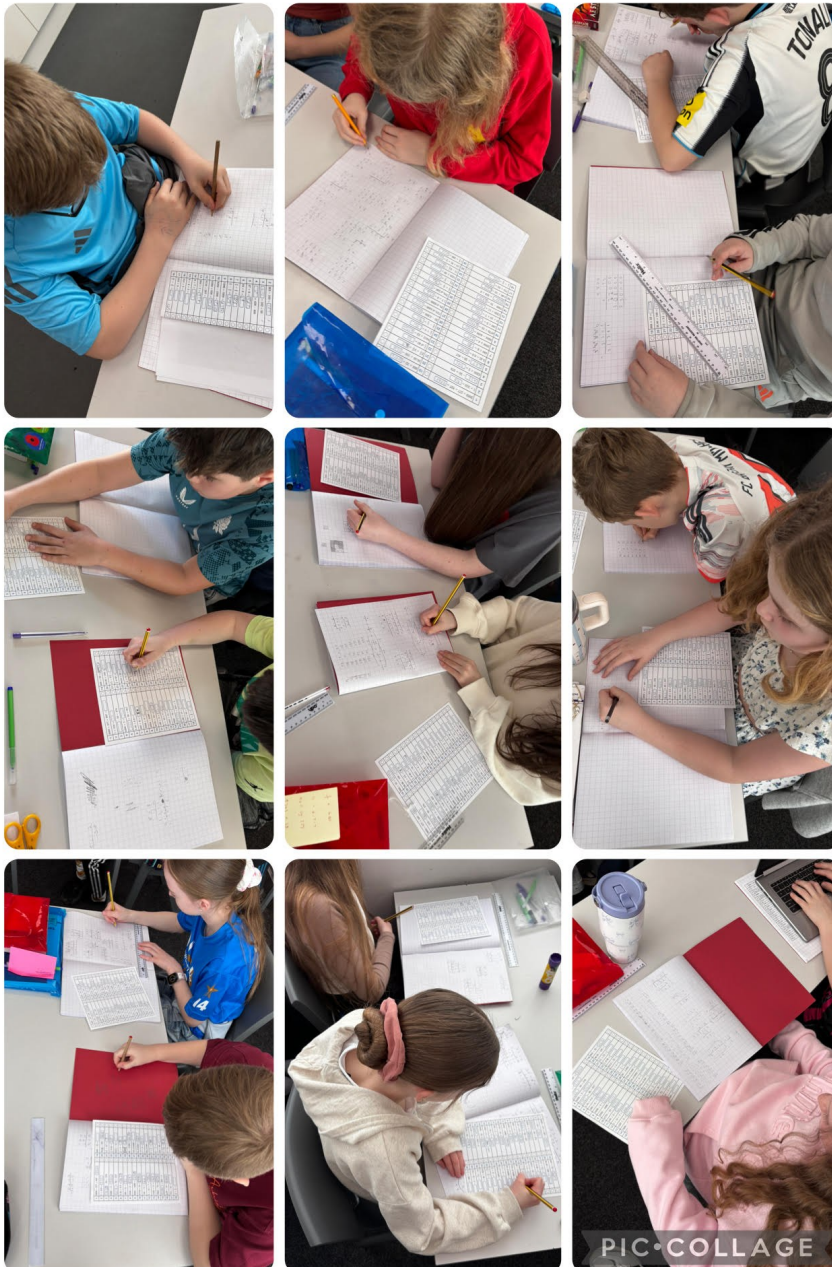
## Using Six Figure Grid References with Year 5.

Our Year 5 class had an exciting day exploring the local village using six-figure grid references. We carefully located points of interest and practised orientating our maps to match the real world around us. It was amazing to see how these skills helped us navigate like real geographers! By the end of the trip, everyone felt more confident using maps and understanding their surroundings.



## An Escape Room Challenge with Year 6.

I was so impressed with the children during an arithmetic check in this morning. They worked with pace and accuracy and it is clear that their hard work is paying off. Many children were very proud of their scores. We will continue with Friday arithmetic across the next few weeks; if your child would like any extra practice on a particular questions, please let me know and I can provide additional resources to them. Well done Year 6!



## Rocksteady Concert

Our Rocksteady bands had an amazing morning performing in front of the rest of the school. They had a great time and really showed off their skills. I am always in awe of anyone who is prepared to perform either playing an instrument or singing in front of a big audience. A big thanks to Mike from Rocksteady for working with us each week. Well done everyone!



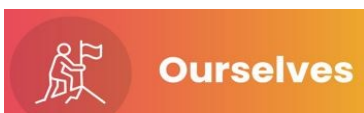
← The Tantrum Strummers performed 'Someone you Loved' by Lewis Capaldi

Spark performed 'Firework' by Katy Perry.



← Repulsive Rock performed 'Radioactive' by Imagine Dragons.

The Young Pipsqueaks performed 'Another Brick in the Wall' by Pink Floyd



## Success at the Ryton Festival

Last week on Friday afternoon, our wonderful school choir took part in the Ryton Music Festival and brought home the Dryden Bell Trophy.

It was awarded for their own song choice, 'A World of my Tomorrow' by Lin Marsh. It is a beautiful song and the children look forward to singing it for you.

The children were amazing, sang with confidence and enjoyment. The judge remarked on their 'relaxed style' which he much admired.

We are so proud of the children in the choir. They work so hard throughout the year and show total commitment, as does Mrs. Milner, Tom and Mrs. Graham who freely give their time to run the choir. Thank you for all of your support in everything that the choir does.



## OPAL Play Update





We are here to support young carers across Northumberland, ensuring that children and young people have the support they need to learn, develop and thrive, to enjoy positive childhoods and to achieve their full potential.

### Who are Young Carers?

A young carer is someone under 18 who helps look after someone in their family, who is ill, disabled, has a mental health condition or misuses drugs or alcohol. They might help with practical tasks at home, physical care, emotional support, look after siblings, run errands, go shopping or remind the person they look after to take their medication.

### How it works

Referrals are taken through the Northumberland County Council's website by completing the Young Carer Wellbeing Check. This is then passed on to the Young Carers Support Worker at Carers Northumberland. You can find the form here:



<https://tinyurl.com/25k2v5je>

### What can Carers Northumberland do?

Our service uses a whole family approach, which ensures that both children and parents are able to get the support they need.

All young carers will have an assessment of their needs which identifies the level of caring and how this is impacting on the young person's life. A Plan is then put in place with the young carer and their family to support to reduce the impact of caring, and ensure that the young person is allowed the same life opportunities as their peers.

We will help to access things like:

- o Young Carers Assessment
- o Whole family support
- o One to one support sessions
- o Free activities & events
- o Newsletter

### Want to know more?

Get in touch today!

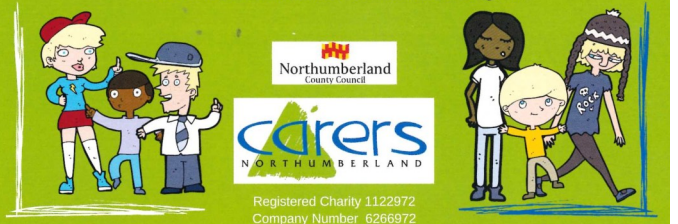
Call: 01670 320025

Email: [youngcarers@carersnorthumberland.org.uk](mailto:youngcarers@carersnorthumberland.org.uk)

Facebook: [CarersNland](https://www.facebook.com/CarersNland)

Twitter: [@CarersNorthumb](https://twitter.com/CarersNorthumb)

Website: [www.carersnorthumberland.org.uk](http://www.carersnorthumberland.org.uk)



**Ourselves**

**Others**



# Be Considerate to our neighbours



**Safer Parking**  
around our school

**We care about our neighbours, please, never park across driveways or on corners or junctions.**

As a driver you have a responsibility to park in a safe and considerate manner.

Park with care and help make the area near and around our school a safer place for everyone.



**Fewer cars at the school entrance will help make it safer for everyone**

What you could do instead....

- ✓ Try walking, cycling or scooting – even if its just one day a week, it can make a big difference.
- ✓ If you need to drive your child to school, consider parking away from school and walking the remainder of the way or car share with other families.

**Walking, cycling or scooting** to school contributes to the recommended daily physical exercise for you and your children.

It also helps to **reduce congestion** around school and **improves air quality**, providing benefits for everyone.



## Dates for your Diary - Spring Term



Monday 23rd March 2026	Year 6 SATS meeting for Parents in Year 6 classroom - 4.45pm-5.15pm
Thursday 2nd April 2026	Key Stage 2 Easter Service at St. Andrew's Church - 9.30am
Thursday 2nd April 2026	Year 2 visit to Alnwick Castle
<b>Friday 3rd April 2026</b>	<b>GOOD FRIDAY - SCHOOL CLOSED</b>
<b>w/c Monday 5th April 2026</b>	<b>EASTER HOLIDAYS</b>
<b>Monday 4th May 2026</b>	<b>MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY - SCHOOL CLOSED</b>
w/c Monday 11th May 2026	Key Stage 2 SATS Week
<b>w/c Monday 25th May 2026</b>	<b>HALF TERM HOLIDAYS</b>
w/c Monday 1st June 2026	Made in the North East Week
Monday 1st June 2026	Reception visit to Red Hemmel Farm
Monday 1st June 2026	Year 5 visit to Woodhorn Museum
Tuesday 2nd June 2026	Year 6 visit to Sunderland Maritime Centre
Tuesday 2nd June 2026	Year 2 visit to the Discovery Museum
Wednesday 3rd June 2026	Year 1 visit to Newcastle Quayside

## Dates for your Diary - Summer Term



Wednesday 3rd June 2026	Year 3 visit to Prudhoe Castle
Wednesday 10th June 2026	School Photographs (Class photos)
Tuesday 16th June 2026	Year 6 Diocesan Leavers Service at St. Nicholas' Cathedral
Wednesday 24th June 2026 - Sunday 28th June 2026	Year 6 Trip to France
Monday 29th June 2026	Sports Day
Friday 3rd July 2026	School Summer Fair
Monday 6th July 2026	Year 6 Visit to St. James' Park
Thursday 9th July 2026	Music and Drama Summer Showcase at 4.30pm in School Hall
Friday 10th July 2026	Rocksteady Concert for Parents in School Hall at 10am
Monday 13th July 2026	Moving Up Morning
Monday 13th July 2026	Heddon's Got Talent Finals (Children only)
Thursday 16th July 2026	Year 6 Leavers Assembly at 2pm in School Hall
<b>w/c Monday 20th July 2026</b>	<b>SUMMER HOLIDAYS</b>