

24th April 2026

Dear Parents / Carers,

It has been lovely to welcome everyone back into school this week even though I cannot quite believe it is the Summer term once again! The children have returned to school and applied themselves to their learning with their customary enthusiasm and determination. As you will see in the flyer, the children have hit the ground running with their work and have had a busy week. From developing sporting skills in Year 6, exploring structures in Year 1 to lots of outdoor learning in Nursery it is wonderful to see the children's excitement and smiling, happy faces.

Over the Easter break we had an exciting OPAL play development with the installation of a new, large sandpit into our 'Zen Zone'. I am sure that this will prove popular with the children, especially as the weather improves. Please keep your eyes peeled for further developments which are coming soon!

Thank you to all the parents who attended our Emotion Coaching workshop run by Mr. Lee Hill from the Northumberland Emotional Wellbeing and Behaviour Service. I hope that you found the session both interesting and helpful. We received some positive feedback which we will share with you on next week's flyer.

Please also check out the 'What's On' guide from Prudhoe Family Hub who are offering a number of free sessions and workshops over the coming weeks.

I would like to thank you all for your patience this week while we waited for Open Reach to repair our internet and phone connection. I am pleased to say that it has been fixed and is fully operational again.

Well done to Year 3 with the best attendance this week: 98.8%.

Well done to Year 6 for the best attendance for this year: 97.9%.

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

Mr. A. Wheatley,

Headteacher



'Let all that you do be done with love'

1 Corinthians 16:14

Attendance Matters



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

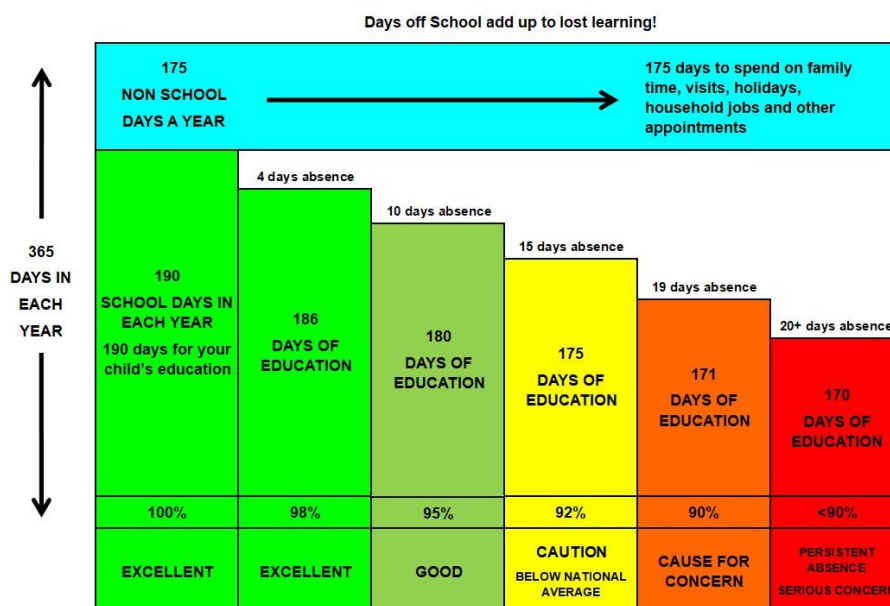


We continue to focus on attendance and punctuality so please remember that our School starts at 8.55am (9am for Nursery) and anyone arriving after this time will be marked as late.

Attendance for this week is summarised below:

Class	Attendance this week	Attendance this year	Class	Attendance this week	Attendance this year
Nursery (Hedgehogs)	95.9%	96.1%	Year 3 (Gibside)	98.8%	97.6%
Reception (Owls)	93.4%	96.2%	Year 4 (Lindisfarne)	96.9%	95.9%
Year 1 (Wallington)	97.6%	96.4%	Year 5 (Bamburgh)	93.2%	96.5%
Year 2 (Cragside)	95.5%	97.1%	Year 6 (Dunstanburgh)	98.6%	97.9%

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 had a lovely week getting to know their new friends. We have loved playing outside and making the most of this fantastic weather. What a brilliant week!

PIC•COLLAGE



A Lovely Week in Reception.

Reception have had a great first week back, enjoying our new topic; Our Wonderful World. The bright Spring weather has meant that we have been able to go on Spring hunts, enjoyed role-playing in the garden centre and built a fabulous den, as well as visiting the fire pit, during forest school with Nursery.



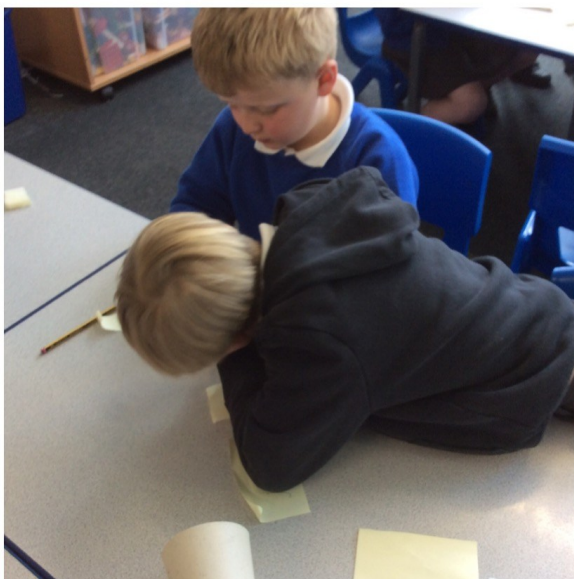
PIC • COLLAGE



Learning

Design Technology in Year 1

In Design Technology this half-term we are looking at making our own freestanding structures. During our lesson this week we discussed different structures that we might use in the park and talked about what makes them stable. Then we looked at some pictures of bridges and labelled the different components of the bridges.



PIC•COLLAGE



Learning

Seaside Collages with Year 2

In Art, we began our new unit focused on creating a seaside collage. Our lesson this week focused on colour mixing, with an emphasis on identifying and reinforcing primary and secondary colours, as well as observing and discussing the changes that occur when two colours are combined. Working in pairs, we used masking tape to secure our card to a tray before applying a water wash to dampen the surface. We then added drops of diluted paint in two chosen primary colours and gently tilted the tray to allow the colours to blend on the card. We each took turns to observe and discuss the changes as they happened. Afterwards, we repeated the process to mix two secondary colours.



A Busy Week in Year 3.

We have had a good start to the term in Year 3. We have started our new topic of cricket in PE in which we practiced throwing and catching, as well as aiming the ball to knock down the wickets. We have also started our new Art topic in which we have been looking at and recreating relief and bas relief tiles to mimic those made by Ancient Civilisations.

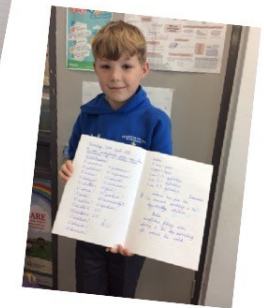
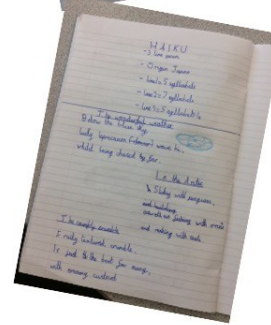
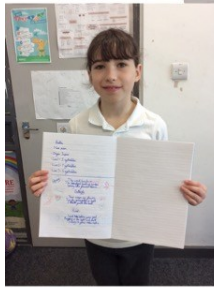
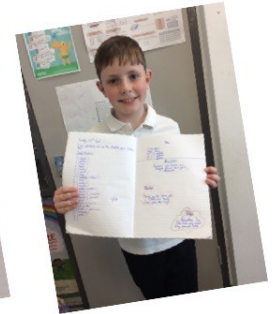
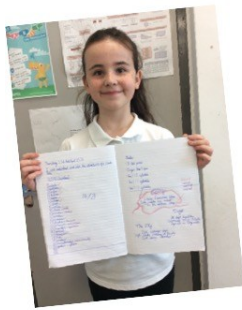


Learning

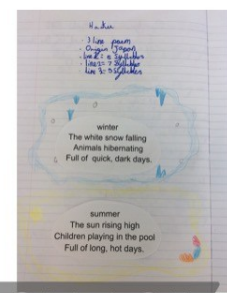
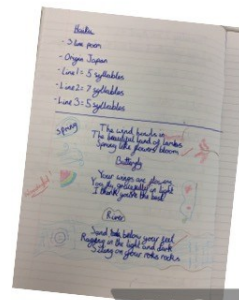
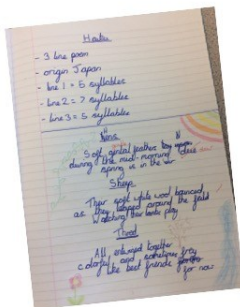
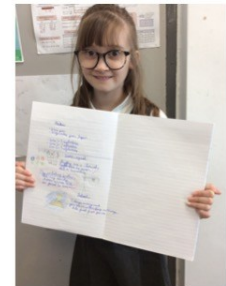
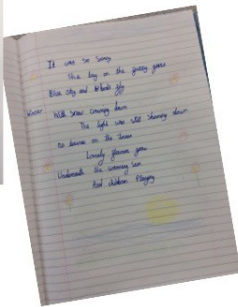
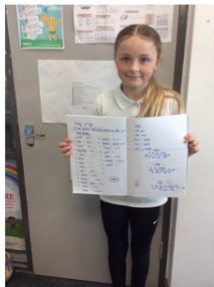
Exploring Greek Myths with Year 4

Year 4 have been delving into the fantastical world of Greek mythology this week; we have been examining a retelling of Theseus and the Minotaur. We have been working hard to securely internalise the text so that we can write our own versions over the next few lessons. To help us to rehearse the story and increase repeated exposure to the text, we have ordered pictures from the myth and labelled the story map with important sentence openers and other key vocabulary. I can't wait to see the writing produced next week!





Year 5 wrote their own
Amazing Haiku poems which
You can now enjoy!



PIC COLLAGES



Learning

Cricket with Year 6.

In our first cricket session this week, the children worked in teams to compete, with batters taking on the bowlers. The session focused on our throwing and catching skills, scoring a run and the importance of communication between our teammates. Here's hoping for many more PE sessions on the field across the summer term!



West Northumberland Family Hubs

April- May 2026



Contact

Prudhoe Family Hub
Broomhouse Lane
Prudhoe
NE425FT
01661 839350

What's on at Prudhoe Family Hub

These are some of our groups, pop in and see us!

FREE

Mondays

Empowering Parent Carer Programme*
9.30-11am
for 6 weeks
at Prudhoe Family Hub
Starting 20th April

Stay and Play
(0-2 years)
1-2pm
Weekly
at Ponteland
Medical Group
Starting 20th April

Tuesdays

Stay and Play
(0-18 months)
10-11am
Weekly
at Prudhoe Family Hub
Starting 21st April

Calm Stay and Play
1-2pm
Weekly
at Prudhoe Family Hub
starting 21st April

Wednesdays

Stay and Play
(0-5 years)
10-11.30am
Weekly
at Albemarle Barracks
Starting 22nd April

Brilliant Babies*
(0-6 months)
10-11.30am
for 6 weeks
at Prudhoe Family Hub
Starting 22nd April

Thursdays

Stay and Play
(0-5 years)
10-11am
Weekly
at Prudhoe Family Hub
Starting 23rd April

Early Communicators*
(15-36 months)
1.30-2.30pm
for 5 weeks
at Prudhoe Family Hub
Starting 23rd April

Fridays

Stay and Play
(0-5 years)
1-2pm
Weekly
at Prudhoe Family Hub
Starting 24th April

Please be aware
4th May and 25th May
are Bank Holidays so
the Family Hubs will
not be open



Find us on
Facebook
& Instagram

@WestFamilyHubs



***Get in touch for more information**

Please get in touch for
more information about
our groups, sessions &
digital offer



Sign up for
a group or
session



Online
Notice
Board



Parent Support & Skills

Workshops and discussions helping parents and carers strengthen relationships and support their children's wellbeing.

Dad Pad	The essential guide for new dads developed with the NHS
Dad Talk	Online workshop for dads, during pregnancy and beyond
Healthy Relationships	Support to reduce conflict and improve everyone's lives.
Togetherness	Free digital programme providing tools to support parents/carers & young people at each developmental stage togetherness.co.uk access code - HADRIAN
Sleep Workshop	Support & guidance available from trained sleep awareness practitioners

Additional Needs &/or Disabilities

Supportive sessions for children and young people with additional needs, and their families, to connect, relax, and share experiences.

Safe Space	A welcoming, safe space where you can make the most of our Family Hub facilities.
Empowering Parents & Carers Programme	Supportive wellbeing group for parents/carers of children with additional needs and/or disabilities
SEND Family Chill Out	Regular relaxed after school sessions
Calm Stay & Play	Weekly calm & fun sessions, with no booking required

Early Learning & Play

Fun and engaging sessions helping you support your children's learning and development through everyday activities.

Brilliant Babies	Specially designed supportive groups for families with young babies
Terrific Toddlers	Meet other families with toddlers at these social sessions with topical themes
Ready Steady School	Encourage your little one's independent skills with these fun, friendly sessions
Early communicators	For children between 15-36 months who are experiencing some difficulties with their understanding and/or use of language
Stay & Play	Regular fun sessions, with no booking required

Baby Support & Early Parenting

Friendly sessions for new and expectant parents to connect, learn, and explore their baby's growth and development together.

Building a Brain	A bitesize online workshop exploring brain development
Antenatal Group	Develop a healthy lifestyle for you and your baby, support for expectant mums and dads.
Feeding Friends	NHS partner support with breastfeeding and more
Weaning Workshop	A guide to starting solid foods with your little one
Toilet Training Workshop	Practical advice for parents and carers beginning the toilet training journey
Wellbeing Service	Tailored support for Mums or Dads living in Northumberland who are expecting a baby or have a child under 2 years of age.

Domestic abuse is everyone's business

You are not alone



Northumberland Integrated Domestic Abuse Support Service

- DASSN for adults (Harbour) – 01670 820199
- Children & Young People Counselling & Outreach (Acorns) - 0191 3498366
- Changing Behaviour (Harbour) - 03000 202525
- DA in Rural Areas (NDAS) – 01434 60 80 30
- DA Counselling (Cygnus Support) – 01670 853977

Visit: nland.uk/DomesticAbuse

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 YOUTUBE

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Almost anyone with an internet connection knows about YouTube. The Google-owned platform allows users to upload and share videos globally, making it a readily accessible resource with free content on almost any topic. However, with over 20 million videos uploaded each day, not all material is suitable for younger audiences.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed across multiple device types, even without an account. While some videos are marked as 'age restricted', this relies on uploader honesty and automated moderation, meaning children and young people may still encounter unsuitable content if these measures aren't taken.



TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

Popular trends and challenges can be entertaining and widely shared. While many are harmless, some can be risky or harmful if copied. For example, the 'salt and ice challenge' has caused injuries when imitated.



EXPOSURE TO EXTREME CONTENT

The platform's algorithm often promotes content that attracts high engagement, which can sometimes include videos containing extreme viewpoints, misinformation, or risky behaviour. As children and young people watch more of this content, similar videos are likely to be recommended by YouTube's algorithm, therefore reinforcing the exposure.



CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS

YouTube includes social features such as comments and direct messaging. This means young users can interact with people they don't know, potentially exposing them to inappropriate language, cyberbullying, or unwanted contact. Young content creators may be especially vulnerable.



SUGGESTED CONTENT

YouTube recommends videos based on what a user has previously watched. While this can enhance the experience, it may also encourage binge-watching and excessive screen time, particularly when Autoplay is enabled. Without an account, users are shown trending videos, which are not always age appropriate.



SHORT-FORM CONTENT IMPACT

YouTube Shorts – short, fast-paced videos – are designed for continuous viewing. This style of content can be highly engaging but may also contribute to increased screen time and difficulties with maintaining focus over longer periods.



Advice for Parents & Educators

CONSIDER YOUTUBE KIDS

YouTube Kids can help reduce young users' exposure to unsuitable content by filtering videos into age groups, such as preschool, younger, and older children. However, as moderation is automated, it should be used alongside active supervision.



CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

If a child in your care uploads content, consider setting videos to Private or Unlisted so they are only shared with trusted viewers. Disabling comments can also help reduce unwanted interaction from strangers.



USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Google Family Link allows adults to filter content, monitor usage, and manage younger users' screen time. Supervised Accounts offer a gradual step up from YouTube Kids, enabling children to explore the platform with appropriate safeguards.



WATCH TOGETHER

Spending time watching YouTube with the children and young people in your care can help you understand what they enjoy and guide your conversations about content. Tools like Downtime in Family Link can also help limit unsupervised viewing.



Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for publications including Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.



See full reference list on our website

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Dates for your Diary - Spring Term



Monday 4th May 2026	MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY - SCHOOL CLOSED
w/c Monday 11th May 2026	Key Stage 2 SATS Week
w/c Monday 25th May 2026	HALF TERM HOLIDAYS
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
Wednesday 3rd June 2026	Year 3 visit to Prudhoe Castle
Thursday 4th June 2026	Nursery visit to Whitehouse Farm
Friday 5th June 2026	Year 4 visit to the Stephenson Railway Museum
Wednesday 10th June 2026	School Photographs (Class photos)
Tuesday 16th June 2026	Year 6 Diocesan Leavers Service at St. Nicholas' Cathedral

Dates for your Diary - Summer Term



Wednesday 24th June 2026 - Sunday 28th June 2026	Year 6 Trip to France
Monday 29th June 2026	Sports Day
Thursday 2nd July 2026 and Friday 3rd July 2026	Year 6 Transition Days at Ponteland High School
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
w/c Monday 20th July 2026	SUMMER HOLIDAYS