

7th June 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

It is lovely to welcome all the children back for the final half term of the school year.

What a week we have had in school this week. It has been our 'Made in the North East week' and the children have been learning about different aspects of life and the history of the North East. All the children have had the opportunity to participate in a visit this week or next related to the what they have been learning about.

We have been to places as diverse as our local farm at Bays Leap with Nursery, the bridges across the Tyne with Year 1 to exploring our industrial heritage with Years 5 and 6 exploring mining at Woodhorn and shipbuilding at Sunderland Maritime Museum respectively. Year 4 even got to ride on a real train and learn about rail safety.

The children was all amazing when out and about and were a real credit to the school.

It was wonderful to spend time in classes this week to hear the children talking with a real excitement about their visits and learning.

I would also like to extend thanks to all the parent helpers who gave up their time this week to volunteer and accompany the children on their visits. Your help is very much appreciated.

Good luck to Year 1 who will complete the Phonic Screening Check next week.

Good luck also to Year 4 who will complete the Multiplication Check next week.

I would like to remind you that on Monday 10th June 2024 our school photographer is in to take class photographs.

On Friday 14th June 2024 Kirk Lester is back in school to do some Forest School work with Year 3 and Year 4. Please could they come dressed appropriately for outdoor sessions. Thank you.

Well done to Reception with the best attendance this week with an amazing: 100%.

Well done to Year 4 for the best attendance for the year to date: 96.2%.

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.*

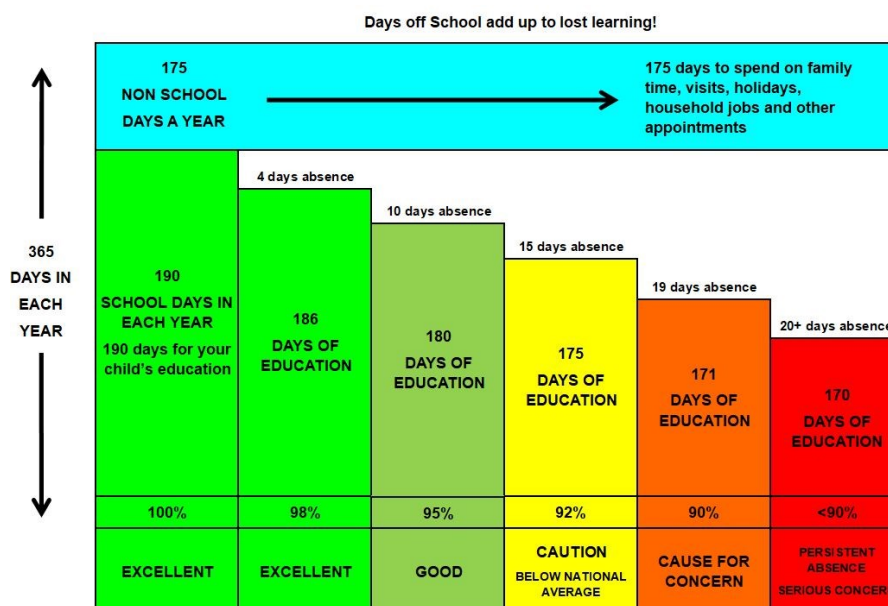


We continue to focus on attendance and punctuality so please remember that our School starts at 8.55am (9am for Nursery) and anyone arriving after this time will be marked as late.

Attendance for this week is summarised below:

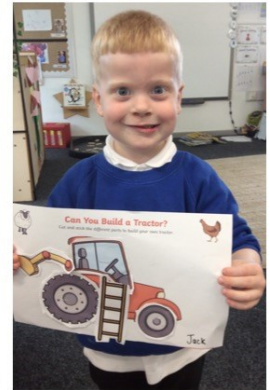
Class	Attendance this week	Attendance this year	Class	Attendance this week	Attendance this year
Reception (Owls)	100%	96.1%	Year 3 (Gibside)	91%	94.5%
Year 1 (Wallington)	96.7%	95%	Year 4 (Lindisfarne)	95.2%	96.2%
Year 2 (Cragside)	94.9%	95.8%	Year 5 (Bamburgh)	91.7%	94.7%
			Year 6 (Dunstanburgh)	97.4%	95.9%

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 brilliant week we have all had! As part of 'Made in the North East Week', we have been learning all about farming. We have been developing our cutting skills by making tractors, painting cows, making farm animals using play dough, exploring a sensory farm scene and making tractors outside using loose parts.



PIC•COLLAGE



What a lovely time our younger children had walking to Bays Leap Farm this week. We enjoyed a delicious ice cream and we even got to see the cows walking back to the field. What a yummy trip!



PIC • COLLAGE

The children in Reception visited La Luna Farm as part of Made in the North East week.



We met pigs, ducks, herded sheep, groomed horses, had an egg hunt and planted a sunflower seed. What a lovely visit!

PIC•COLLAGE

Learning about Bridges in Year 1

We had an amazing week for Made in the North East Week! Our theme was bridges. We have been painting bridges, making model bridges and we had an amazing day visiting the Quayside to see the famous bridges in Newcastle. We stopped off on the Millennium Bridge and did some sketches of the Tyne Bridge and Swing Bridge.

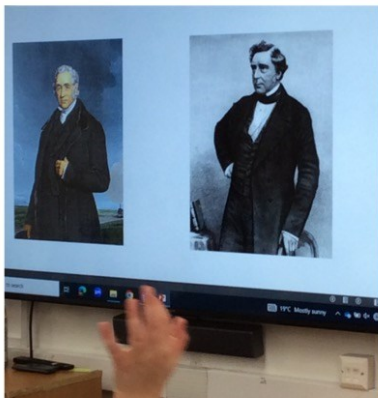
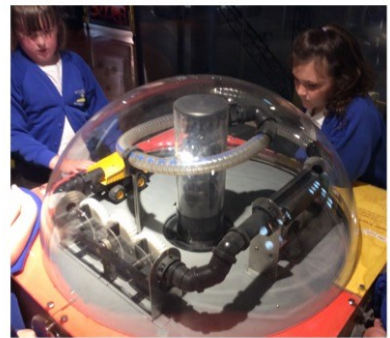
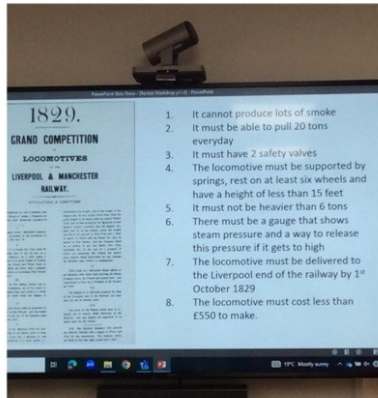


PIC•COLLAGE

North East Inventors with Year 2

For Made In the North East Week in Year 2, we have been learning about North East Inventors. We began looking at George Stephenson's amazing Rocket and learnt a lot about the Rainhill Trials. Whilst visiting the Discovery museum we had a fabulous workshop where we learned more about his Steam Engine and even made our own models which we entered into the 'Discovery Museum Trials' and enjoyed racing them. We learned about other amazing inventors from the North East throughout the week and finished by thinking of our own ideas for inventions!





PIC•COLLAGE

At the Castle Keep with Year 3

Year 3, as part of their Made in the North East Week, had a fabulous time at Newcastle Castle on Thursday. We enjoyed a tour of the Black Gate and Castle Keep, great views over Newcastle's skyline and created our own medieval banquet....complete with a poisoned food taster! Thank you very much to the parent helpers who accompanied us on this trip.



PIC • COLLAGE



Year 4 were lucky enough to experience a train ride from Prudhoe to Haltwhistle (thank you parents for the support with drop off and pick up changes). We enjoyed a walk from the station to the viaduct where Fiona from Tyne Valley railway partnership pointed out features of the railway. We also spent time role playing in the old ticket office, using pictures from across many decades to discuss the history of the railway and tracing old maps to identify how the landscape has changed over time.

PIC·COLLAGE



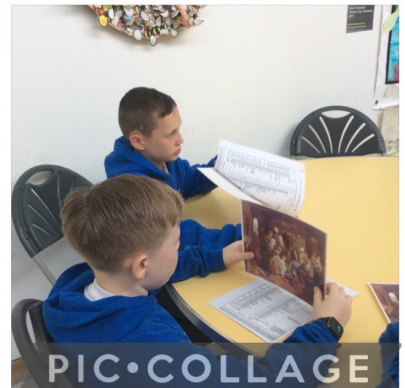
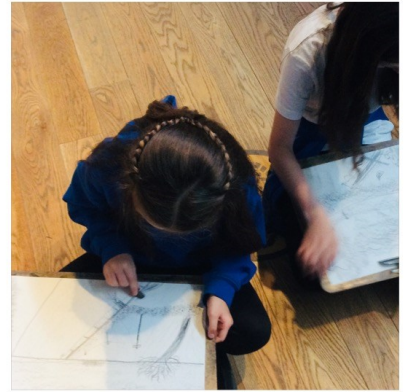
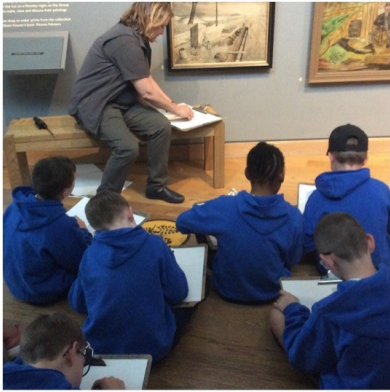
What a week!
Learning about transport in the North East has been really fun. We have enjoyed a train journey, learned about Nissan cars and took part in a local traffic survey. We used our research skills to learn about George Stephenson, map skills to see how the area has changed over time and our creative skills to design art work for a new Metro station. Well done, Year 4,



PIC • COLLAGE

At Woodhorn Museum with Year 5

A very different week for Year 5 this week as it started off with a trip to Woodhorn Colliery. The children really enjoyed walking around the museum, asking questions and learning interesting facts about Pitmen Painters and the dangers of mining in the 1800s. We have had an amazing Made in the North East week and the children have loved creating projects and reports that they can use to share all that they have learned.



At the Maritime Museum with Year 6!

Year 6 had a wonderful time at the Sunderland Maritime Heritage Museum. They learned about the history of the North East's ship building, explored a model of HMS Venerable, listened to the story of Jack Crawford's heroism and some even had a go at using a few tools. The trip provided the children with a chance to get hands on with some artefacts, from cannon balls to the cat o'nine tails. Thank you Year 6 for another enjoyable trip!





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. This guide focuses on one of many games which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit nationalcollege.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

FIVE NIGHTS AT FREDDY'S



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Five Nights at Freddy's is a series of indie point-and-click horror games whose word-of-mouth success and widespread spin-off content on YouTube have helped each of the nine instalments so far to sell almost five million copies on Steam (the PC gaming platform) alone. Set in various deserted locations at night, with creepy animatronic characters suddenly coming to life, the games are rated PEGI 12 for disturbing/violent content, mild profanity and horror themes.

FRIGHTENING THEMES

Five Nights at Freddy's (FNaF for short) doesn't feature bloodshed like many horror games – but it does build tension and use jump scares, which may be too intense for young players. The sinister animatronic characters and the sensation of being trapped and defenceless could be particularly unsettling, as could the inclusion of disturbing elements such as murder or possession by evil spirits.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

18

As a result of FNaF's popularity, a sizeable YouTube community based on fan-made content has developed around the game. While the majority of this material is still child friendly, there are a number of channels which are geared more towards mature audiences: they contain adult and disturbing themes, for example, and (in some cases) age-inappropriate language.

STRESSFUL SITUATIONS

Due to FNaF's suspenseful atmosphere, it can be extremely stressful for players. Constantly checking the one's surroundings are safe is a crucial part of the gameplay and could create residual stress or even obsessive-compulsive behaviours. Several media reports have suggested that some younger children have experienced severe nightmares or sleep anxiety after playing games from the series.

PLAYING IN ISOLATION

Many parents will be relieved to learn that Five Nights at Freddy's is a single-player game which doesn't include any online chat functionality. Conversely, however, this could also make playing FNaF quite an isolating experience – especially if your child is spending a lot of time investigating the game's spooky, shadowy environments alone in their room, for example.

IN-GAME SPENDING

FNaF doesn't foreground in-game purchasing as strongly as many other well-known games, but some titles in the series do offer additional content that promises to enhance the experience. Five Nights at Freddy's: Help Wanted, for instance, is complemented by a Halloween-themed expansion pack called 'Curse of Dreadbear' (costing £8.99), which unlocks new levels and mini-games.

Advice for Parents & Carers

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Five Nights at Freddy's doesn't have conventional parental controls. However, if you're concerned about the potential impacts of the game's themes and content, you can simply choose not to let your child play it. If they use an Android or iOS device for gaming, you can adjust Apple and Google's built-in parental controls to restrict your child's access to certain content.

TRY IT YOURSELF

Every child is different, of course, so it could be worth playing Five Nights at Freddy's yourself for a while to gauge how your young gamer might cope with the series' more frightening and disturbing aspects. If they're old enough, you could spend some time playing it together – after all, it usually only takes between two and ten minutes to complete a level.

LIMIT SPENDING

Unlike many popular titles, Five Nights at Freddy's doesn't bombard players with tempting in-game purchase offers. It's worth noting, however, that some instalments in the series do provide the option for players to spend real-world money. With that in mind, it's important to either keep a close eye on your child's expenditure or limit their access to digital payment options.

SPOT THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that your child might be spending too much time on Five Nights at Freddy's, or you're worried that the game's scary themes are taking a toll, watch out for warning signs. Young people may start to prioritise gaming over everyday essentials like schoolwork or sleep; irritability or a lack of concentration could also indicate that their gaming sessions are going on too long.

TALK ABOUT THE RISKS

Before you allow your child to play Five Nights at Freddy's, it's wise to have a conversation about the game so that they're aware of the potential risks. Ensure that your child understands that the series is purposely designed to be tense and unsettling, and that they should stop or take a break if the intensity of the gameplay is making them feel uncomfortable or putting them on edge.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry, previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer. Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



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Dates for your Diary - Summer Term



w/c Monday 10th June 2024	Year 1 Phonic Screen Check Week
Monday 10th June 2024	Class Photographs
Monday 17th June 2024	Sports Day
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)
Friday 12th July 2024	Rocksteady Concert at 10am in School Hall
Thursday 18th July 2024	Year 6 Leavers Assembly at 1.30pm in School Hall
Friday 19th July 2024	SUMMER HOLIDAYS