

18th October 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

This week we welcomed Mrs. Stacey Rand, the inspector for our SIAMS inspection from the Church of England. Thank you to all of you who gave up your time to speak to her and contribute to the process. We hope to receive the inspection report by the middle of November. We will share it with you as soon as we receive it.

Aside from this it has been another week filled with learning and fun in school. Year 1 were out and about exploring the village and creating their own maps and Nursery had a great time at Heddon Library. Reception had an exciting lesson using their noses and being scent detectives exploring smells!

We also had our final assessment on our OPAL Play journey. Our assessor visited school, observed OPAL Play in action, spoke to the adults on the OPAL Team and then spent time speaking to the children. The children were a real credit to you and the school. They spoke passionately and confidently sharing their thoughts. To see how we got on check out later in the Flyer.

Thank you to everyone who participated in Walk to School Week. It has been lovely to see children and parents walking to school, even if it is from parking the car a little further away. Walking, even a little bit, has a big impact on health, mental wellbeing and on the local environment. I have particularly enjoyed seeing the wonderful footwear in school today!

Well done to the girls who took part in the NUFC Girls Football Tournament. They had a great time and were amazing representatives for our school.

For parents of children in Year 6 I would like to remind you that the deadline for applications for High School places is Thursday 31st October 2024.

This week's parents guide is around PEGI ratings and films. The easy access to streaming services mean that it is more difficult to monitor and manage content. This guide provides some useful facts and tips about how to manage what children watch and how to support them if they have seen something which has upset them.

Well done to Nursery and Year 1 with the best attendance this week: an amazing 100%!

Well done to Year 5 for the best attendance for this year: 97.7%.

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.

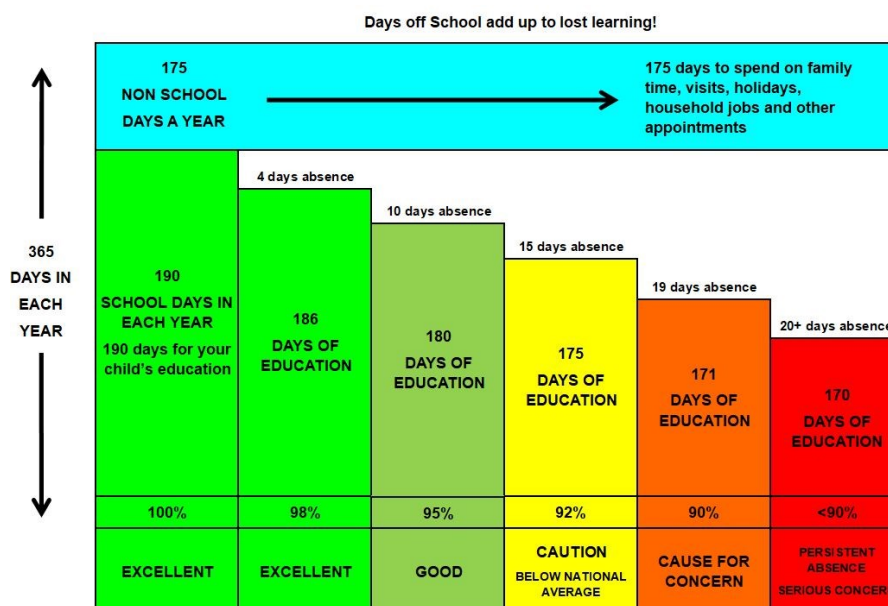


We continue to focus on attendance and punctuality so please remember that our School starts at 8.55am (9am for Nursery) and anyone arriving after this time will be marked as late.

Attendance for this week is summarised below:

Class	Attendance this week	Attendance this year	Class	Attendance this week	Attendance this year
Nursery (Hedgehogs)	100%	95.9%	Year 3 (Gibside)	95.3%	96.6%
Reception (Owls)	91.9%	93.7%	Year 4 (Lindisfarne)	98%	96.1%
Year 1 (Wallington)	100%	97.3%	Year 5 (Bamburgh)	98.4%	97.7%
Year 2 (Cragside)	98.3%	97.6%	Year 6 (Dunstanburgh)	97.9%	97.4%

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

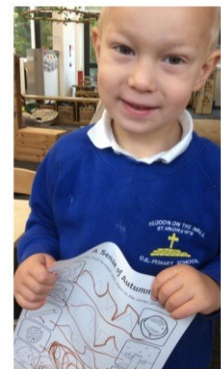


'Let all that you do be done with love'

1 Corinthians 16:14



This week, the Hedgehogs have started to learn all about Autumn. We have been learning about how the leaves begin to fall off the trees and change colour and how animals such as Hedgehogs, hibernate.



We have been developing our fine motor skills by making Autumn sun catchers and developing our cutting skills by cutting Autumn pictures.





We have been exploring our senses. We have been learning how to follow visual instructions and how to 'spot the difference'.



 Learning

PIC·COLLAGE

'Let all that you do be done with love'

1 Corinthians 16:14



## Walking Around Heddon with Year 1

On Tuesday we went on a walk around the village and as we went we labelled significant places within Heddon-on-the-wall. We learned a lot about our local area particularly in relation to the human and geographical features within our local area. The walk was a lot of fun and we even managed to visit Hadrian's wall on our walk!



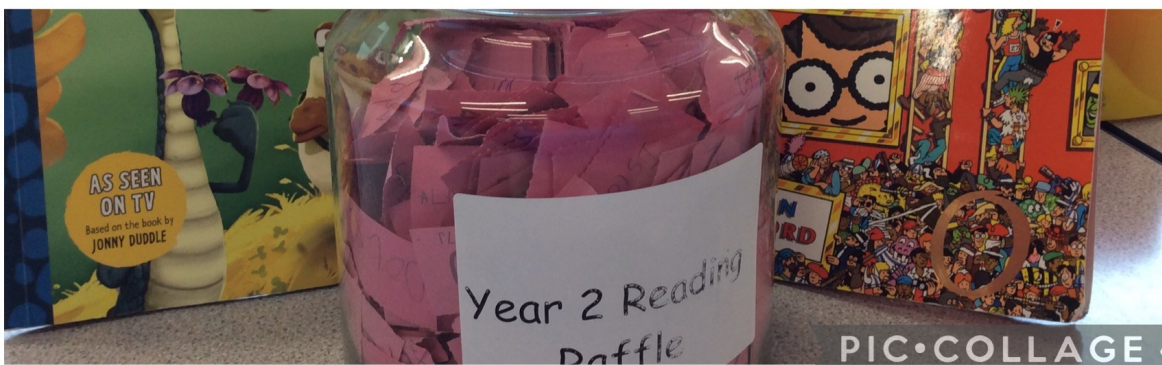
Learning

PIC•COLLAGE



## Remarkable Reading in Year 2

Year 2 have worked incredibly hard this half-term with their reading....just look at how many Reading Raffle tickets they have bulging out of the jar! They are really enjoying reading the rabbit & Bear series and have also given some fabulous Book Talks - well done, Year 2!



Life



Learning



This week in science we have been learning rocks and soils, year 3 took turns in our digging area using a magnifying glass to look through soil and identify different types of rocks.







In year 4 science this week we planned and carried out an experiment. Ask you child which is the best biscuit for 'dunking'.

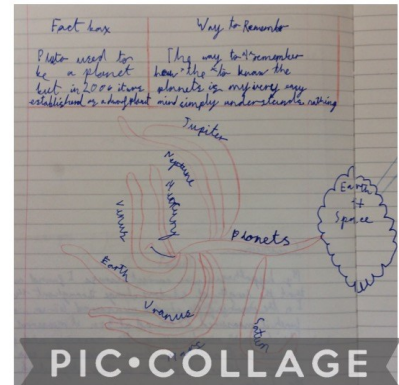
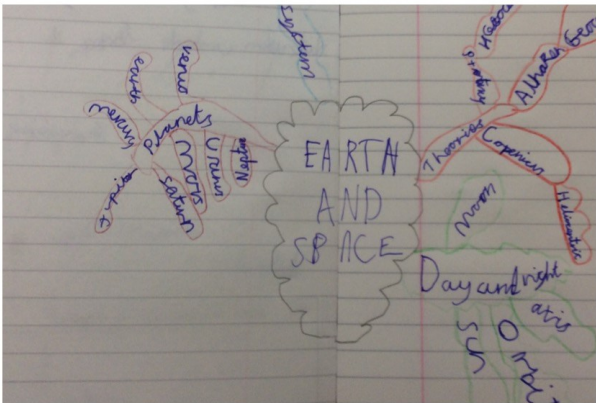


Learning



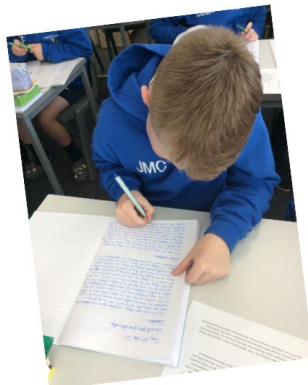
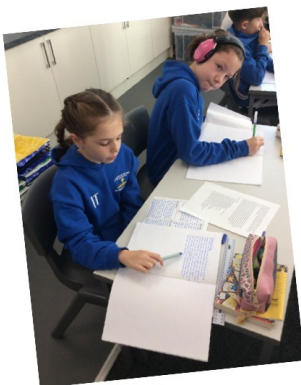
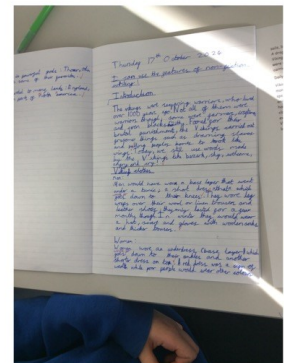
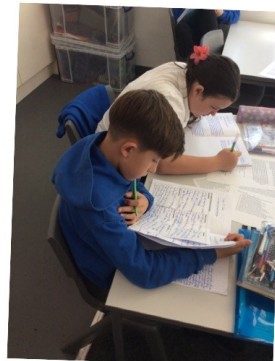
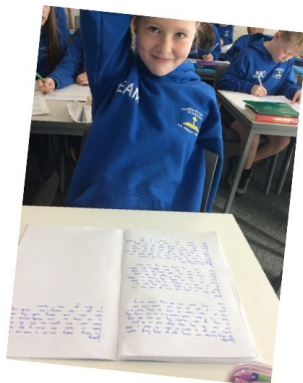
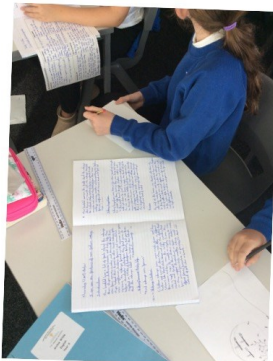
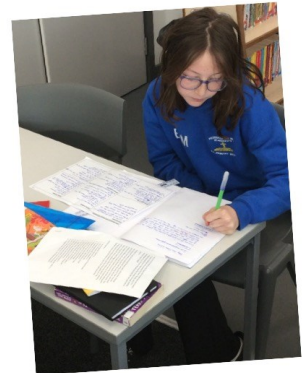
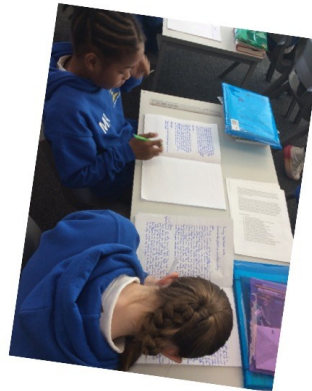
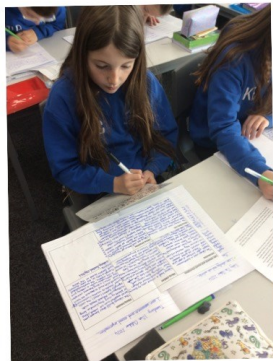
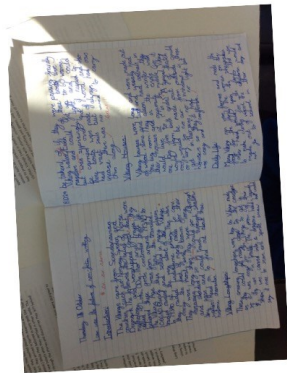
## Science Mind Maps with Year 5

This week, Year 5 have been creating Mind Maps for their end of topic Science Assessment. This is a creative and engaging opportunity for the children to show what they have learned over the past 6 weeks. We have been recording the key information in words, phrases and pictures, so that we can talk about what we have discovered and share our subject knowledge.



## The Vikings with Year 6

In Year 6 this week, we have been writing a non-fiction information booklet based upon the Viking way of life. The children have almost finished their first drafts, ready for editing and publishing next week!



PIC • COLLAGE



Earlier this week, Andrea from OPAL Play came to assess play in our school, as part of our final audit.



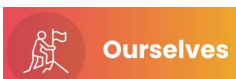
She examined our risk/benefit safety procedures, the variety of play on offer, interactions and pupil engagement.



At the end of a four hour assessment, I am delighted to say we were awarded a PLATINUM Award!



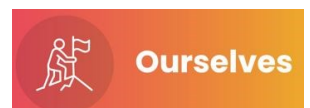
We are so proud of our amazing children who all spoke with passion about their play experiences.





## Walk to School Week

It was lovely to see so many children and adults walking to school this week and enjoying the Autumn sun. Even walking part of the way to school has so many benefits in terms of fitness and mental wellbeing as well as having a positive impact on the environment.



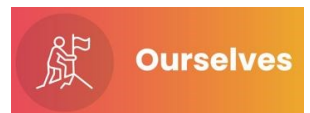


## Happy 'Shoesday'!

To celebrate the end of Walk to School week we all enjoyed wearing shoes that made us feel happy. I'm sure you will agree that there is an impressive range of footwear on show!



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## Opal Play

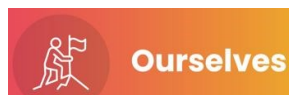
On Thursday 24th October there will be a non-uniform day for Opal Play:

### Non uniform Day 24<sup>th</sup> October

£1 donation or an old toy/item from the list below:

dinosaur  
farm animal/wild animal  
toy car/bus/boat  
dressing up outfit/hat/scarf  
Imaginary world piece – magic door, toadstool etc  
glass pebbles

pool noodle  
packet of wild flower seeds  
wooden plank  
cable reel  
log slice/s



Ourselves



Others



## Harvest Festival

This year we are collecting for the People's Kitchen and the West End Foodbank. Any donations would be greatly appreciated. If you are able to donate we can take them from Monday 7th October until Tuesday 22nd October. Thank you.



**THE PEOPLE'S  
KITCHEN** est. 1985  
NEWCASTLE

FOOD FRIENDSHIP FUTURES

## HOW YOU CAN HELP THE PEOPLE'S KITCHEN

Our work is only made possible thanks to your kindness and generosity. The People's Kitchen is run entirely by volunteers, so every penny donated goes directly to helping our vulnerable Friends who might be homeless, at risk, unemployed, lonely, or living in poverty.

Items we need	Examples
<b>Tinned Vegetables</b>	Tomatoes Plum and Chopped, Peas, Carrots, Sweetcorn, Potatoes, Baked Beans
<b>Tinned Fruit</b>	Peaches, Pineapples, Fruit Cocktail, Pears, Mandarin Oranges
<b>Soup</b>	Tinned or Instant Vegetable, Tomato, Chicken, Broth, Lentil, Potato & Leek
<b>Cooking/ Baking Ingredients</b>	Sugar, Self-Raising Flour, Plain Flour, Jam, Cocoa, Porridge Oats, Desiccated Coconut, Dried Fruit, Cooking Oil, Lentils, Broth, Pulses (Chickpeas, Kidney Beans, Butter Beans)
<b>Snacks</b>	Pot Noodles, Crisps, Biscuits, Chocolate, Sweets
<b>Drinks</b>	UHT Milk, Coffee, Tea, Hot Chocolate, Cartons of Juice, Fruit Squash
<b>Desserts</b>	Rice Pudding, Jelly, Angel Delight, Instant & Tinned Custard, Evaporated Milk, Golden Syrup
<b>Tinned Meat</b>	Ham, Corned Beef, Chilli, Curry, Minced Beef, Bolognese, Stewing Steak
<b>Cooking Sauces</b>	Indian, Thai, Chinese, Italian, Mexican, Coconut Milk
<b>Condiments</b>	Tomato Ketchup, Brown Sauce, Mayonnaise, Salt, Pepper
<b>Pasta &amp; Rice</b>	Lasagne, Egg Noodles, Rice
<b>Stock and Gravy</b>	Vegetarian, Beef, Chicken and Onion
<b>Toiletries</b>	Soap, Deodorant, Shampoo, Conditioner, Shower Gel, Razors, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Toilet Roll
<b>Cleaning/Other</b>	Washing Up Liquid, Washing Powder, Spare Carrier Bags
<b>Pet Food</b>	Dog and Cat Wet and Dry Food



THE PEOPLE'S KITCHEN LIMITED The Alison Centre, 56 Bath Lane, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 5SQ  
T: 0191 222 0699 E: info@peopleskitchen.co.uk [www.peopleskitchen.co.uk](http://www.peopleskitchen.co.uk)

Others





# You're Invited!

WORLD'S BIGGEST  
**COFFEE**  
MORNING

**MACMILLAN**  
CANCER SUPPORT



**Place: Horsley Village Hall, NE15 0NT**

**Date: Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October**

**Time: 10.30 – 12.30**



**Any queries to Clare W, Marlene or Julie**

**MACMILLAN**  
CANCER SUPPORT

 Registered with  
FUNDRAISING  
REGULATOR

Macmillan Cancer Support, registered charity in England and Wales (261017), Scotland (SC039907) and the Isle of Man (604). Also operating in Northern Ireland. MAC19933\_InvitePoster

Others





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](https://nationalcollege.com).

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about HORROR FILMS & AGE RATINGS

The 'on-demand' availability of streaming platforms in many homes creates extra possibilities for young viewers to be exposed to age-inappropriate content. Material which features horror or violence can cause anxiety and nightmares for children, especially since it can be hard for young ones to grasp that what they're watching isn't real.

## CLASSIFICATION BREAKDOWN

The British Board of Film Classification has the following age ratings:

U: Suitable for all ages

PG: For children aged 8 and above; this content shouldn't unsettle them

12A: Children under the age of 12 should not watch without an adult; this content potentially features bad language, nudity or sexual references

15: Suitable only for 15-year-olds and above

18: Exclusively for an adult audience, with potentially explicit themes of violence, nudity or sex



## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### STREAMING IS EVERYWHERE

Modern mobile devices make it very easy for children to watch streamed films without the need for a TV. The availability of inappropriate content has risen significantly on streaming platforms, almost all of which host 18-rated content. If not restricted by parental controls, this could be viewed by children who aren't quite ready for such adult themes, concepts and imagery.

### FACT VS. FICTION

Many children have no trouble separating fact from fiction. However, with modern day technology making pretend violence and horror look ever more realistic, it's becoming harder for youngsters to tell the difference. For instance, consider remakes of older films, where dated special effects (making it easy to discern that something wasn't real) have been replaced by far more convincing monsters and gore.

### PEER PRESSURE

Friends encouraging each other to watch the latest film featuring violence or horror can lead to children consuming content that they're not ready for. As 18+ content is available on many streaming platforms, youngsters can watch these together – potentially without their parents' or carers' knowledge.

TOO SCARED?

### CHILDREN SCARE DIFFERENTLY

It can be difficult to decide what content is appropriate for children. What's fine for one child could be extremely frightening for another. As many children admit to not sharing or discussing the content they watch with their parents, encouraging an open dialogue around the kind of media that young people consume can help avoid exposing them to any inappropriate content.

### PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACTS

Horror prides itself on its ability to startle or induce genuine fear in the viewer – so it's no surprise that this genre isn't usually intended for children. A natural side-effect of this is that 'jump scares' or a creepy, suspenseful atmosphere can have lasting effects on younger minds. The resulting anxiety can impact a child's sleeping patterns or eating habits.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### WATCH THE FILM FIRST

If you're concerned that a film might be unsuitable for children (whether it's their first dive into the horror genre or a step up in age classification), then take a look for yourself. There's no better way to judge whether this content is something you'd deem appropriate for a child – and if a parent, for example, has actually seen the film (or at least a portion of it), they can construct a far more credible case if they decide it's inappropriate.

### REMEMBER – IT'S NOT REAL

Emphasise to children that the content they're viewing is entirely fictional and has no chance of affecting them in real life. If a child is upset after watching a film, try to understand what exactly has unsettled them; this can help you approach the topic in a healthy and informative manner, to dispel any fears or anxieties they may have.

### DISCUSS THE CONTENT OF FILMS

If a child has seen a film that you think may have exposed them to potentially uncomfortable themes and ideas, don't shy away from talking about it, and answer any questions they may have. This is especially important if they watched the film without an adult present. Ask them to summarise the story for you, as this will give you an understanding of what they've learned from watching it.

### USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Most streaming platforms have the option to put age ranges on children's accounts. This means that films and shows that are inappropriate for children won't be advertised while they're browsing and won't even appear if a child specifically searches for them. This can be changed any time at parents' discretion, but it's wise to protect these settings with a password, so a child can't alter anything on their own.

### Meet Our Expert

John Insley is an assistant principal at a secondary school. He has been involved with e-safety in schools for over 10 years, writing policies and supporting various schools in developing their e-safety provision. John has introduced a range of strategies at multiple schools aimed at helping parents to better support their child in the ever-changing digital world.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/horror-films-and-age-ratings>

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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 16.10.2024



## Dates for your Diary - Autumn Term



Wednesday 23rd October 2024	Safer Relationships workshops in school run by Northumberland Domestic Abuse Service
Thursday 24th October 2024	Non-Uniform Day - See Opal Play page for more details
Friday 25th October 2024	Early Years and Key Stage 1 Harvest Festival at St. Andrew's Church - 9.30am
Friday 25th October 2024	Key Stage 2 Harvest Festival at St. Andrew's Church - 10.20am
<b>w/c Monday 28th October 2024</b>	<b>HALF TERM</b>
<b>Monday 4th November 2024</b>	<b>TRAINING DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED</b>
Tuesday 5th November 2024	Nasal Flu Vaccinations - Reception - Year 6
Tuesday 5th November 2024	Parents Evening
Thursday 7th November 2024	Parents Evening



## Dates for your Diary - Autumn Term



Thursday 5th December 2024	Choir Christmas Concert in School Hall at 5pm
Friday 6th December 2024	School Christmas Fair
<b>Friday 13th December 2024</b>	<b>TRAINING DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED</b>
Tuesday 17th December 2024	Early Years Nativity in School Hall at 10am
Tuesday 17th December 2024	Key Stage 1 Christmas Performance at St. Andrew's Church at 1.30pm
Wednesday 18th December 2024	Key Stage 1 Christmas Performance at St. Andrew's Church at 10am
Friday 20th December 2024	Key Stage 2 Carol Service at St. Andrew's Church at 9.30am
<b>w/c Monday 23rd December</b>	<b>CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS</b>