

8th November 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back everyone! It is great to be back in school this week as we begin perhaps the busiest and most exciting term of the year. Not only are the children busy with their learning but we begin the magical and exciting run up to Christmas. As I write this the sounds of classes practising their Christmas songs is ringing around the corridors. Please check out the Diary section at the end of the Flyer for the dates of our Christmas events.

It has been lovely to see so many of you at parents evening this week. If you were unable to attend the school will be contacting you to arrange a telephone appointment with your child's teacher. Staff in school are always happy to speak with you should you wish to do so.

Well done to our Key Stage 2 bowling teams who took part in the Panthalon Bowling competition at Hexham this week. Our upper Key Stage 2 team came second and our lower Key Stage 2 team came third. Well done to you all. You were excellent ambassadors for our school.

Well done also to our Year 4 Rugby team who represented the school this week at this event at Ponteland High School.

Well done to Libby who won the runner up prize in the Pele Trust Geordie Banger competition with her Geordie Pease Pudding Banger!

Please check out the parent guide later in the flyer. This week it has lots of helpful tips in supporting your child to develop their ability to show respect.

The school Christmas fair is coming up soon on Friday 6th December 2024. The Friends of Heddon School who are helping to organise this event are keen to welcome new members. If you are interested please speak to Heidi in school who can give you more details.

Well done to Year 1 with the best attendance this week: 98.8%.

Well done to Year 1 for the best attendance for this year: 98.2%.

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.

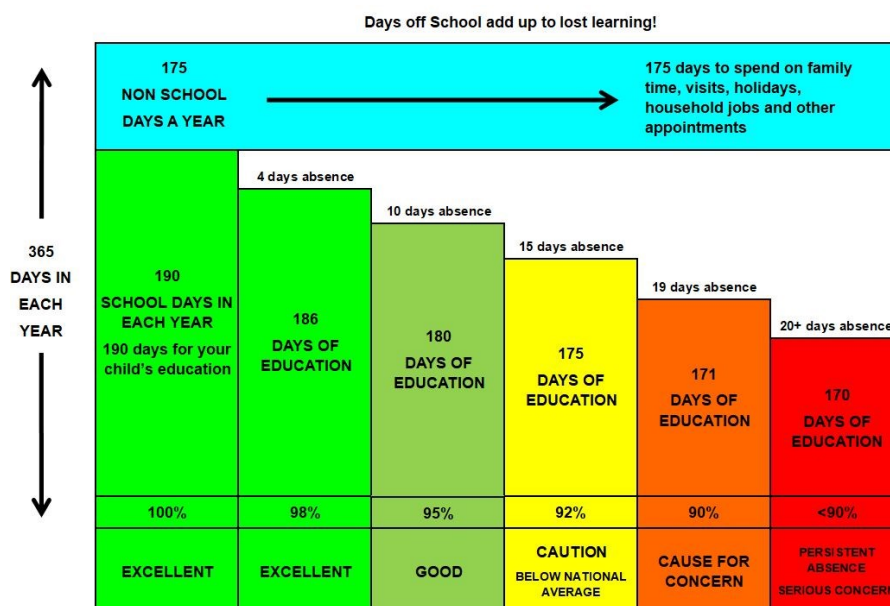


We continue to focus on attendance and punctuality so please remember that our School starts at 8.55am (9am for Nursery) and anyone arriving after this time will be marked as late.

Attendance for this week is summarised below:

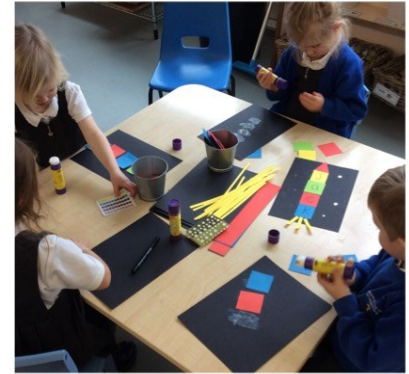
Class	Attendance this week	Attendance this year	Class	Attendance this week	Attendance this year
Nursery (Hedgehogs)	97.6%	97.1%	Year 3 (Gibside)	95.9%	96.1%
Reception (Owls)	98.7%	96.2%	Year 4 (Lindisfarne)	97.9%	97.4%
Year 1 (Wallington)	98.8%	98.2%	Year 5 (Bamburgh)	95.9%	96.8%
Year 2 (Cragside)	96.5%	97.0%	Year 6 (Dunstanburgh)	94.8%	95.9%

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



Wow, what a busy week in Nursery! The Hedgehogs have loved learning all about Bonfire Night and Diwali. We have been using toilet tubes to create our own firework paintings. We have also been learning to put the letters in our names in the correct order, by making our own rockets.



Learning

This week we have been learning about how Bonfire Night is celebrated.
We have also learned how Diwali, the festival of light, is celebrated.



We dropped paint on to salt and watched the paint spread, before adding glitter to make some beautiful firework pictures.



We explored Rangoli patterns too, aren't they beautiful?

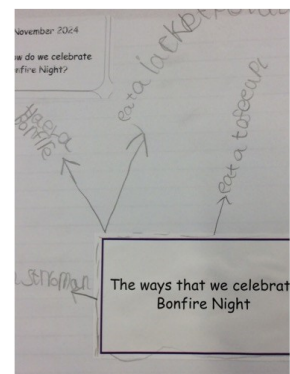
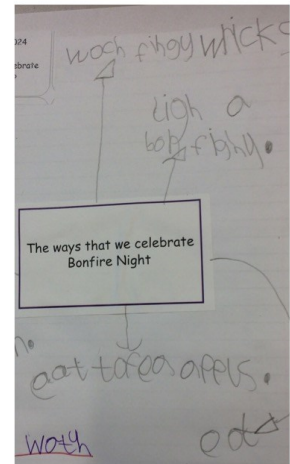
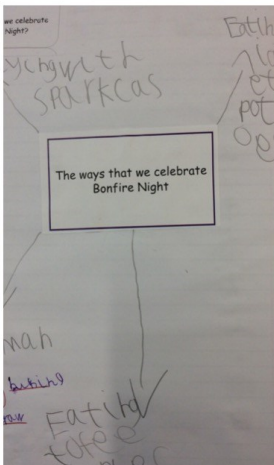
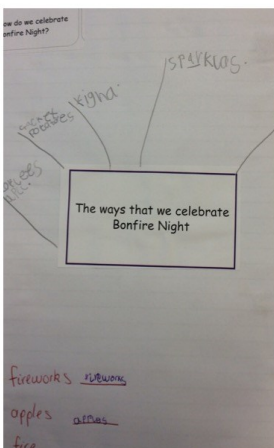


Outside, we had fun chalking a firework display and building our own bonfire!



Bonfire Night with Year 1

What a lovely week back we have had in Year 1! We had our first History lesson on Tuesday and we have started to learn all about the Gunpowder Plot. This week we went around the classroom to explore the different ways that people celebrate bonfire night, then we wrote these in our books using a spider diagram. Whilst we weren't doing our writing we were creating our own firework pictures.



Learning

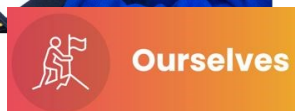
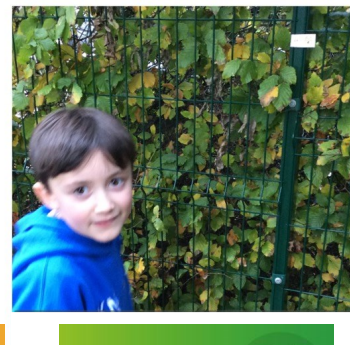
Exploring Materials in Year 2

Year 2 have been exploring everyday materials. They have categorised the objects based on their properties; rough or smooth; shiny or dull; opaque or transparent. We also looked at rigid and flexible materials.

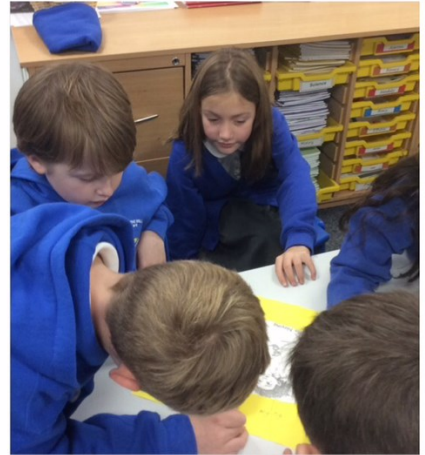


Code Breaking in Year 3

In PE we are focusing on communication and team building. After our warm up we were set a code breaker challenge! We were split into teams of 3 and each team was given a sentence that was made up of an emoji and the clues to find out which letter each emoji represented were hidden around the yard. Each team was given a map of the yard with red spots to show where clues were located and only one member of each team could go to a location at a time and they had to let the rest of the team know the emoji they had found and what letter it represented. We all had great fun and managed to solve the code breaker!



The Creakers with Year 4



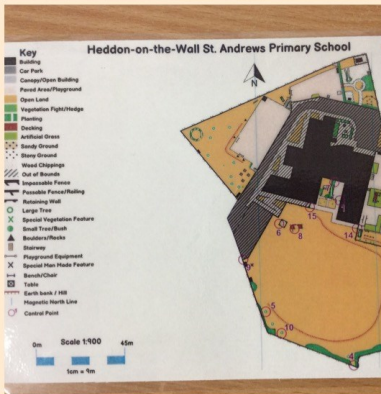
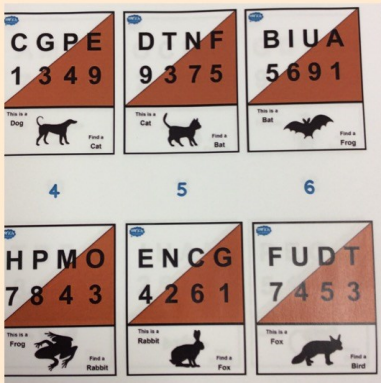
We started the half term with a new text in English and so far everyone is loving it! We are reading *The Creakers* by Tom Fletcher and we began with some activities to help us get to know the main characters.

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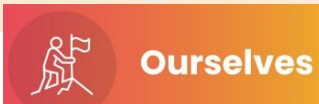
Orienteering with Year 5

This has been a very exciting week in Year 5! We have started our new Outdoor Adventurous Activity unit in PE. Children in Year 5 have thoroughly enjoyed map reading, locating control points as well as working as a team. Orienteering has really engaged the children and they are excited to see what next week has to offer.



*Almost
Friday!*

PIC•COLLAGE



Ourselves



Life

The Cat and Dog Shelter with Out of School Club

Out of School Club are collecting for the Cat and Dog Shelter! Any donations would be greatly appreciated and these can be dropped off at the School Office.

Things needed most are:

Dry or tinned food

Towels and blankets

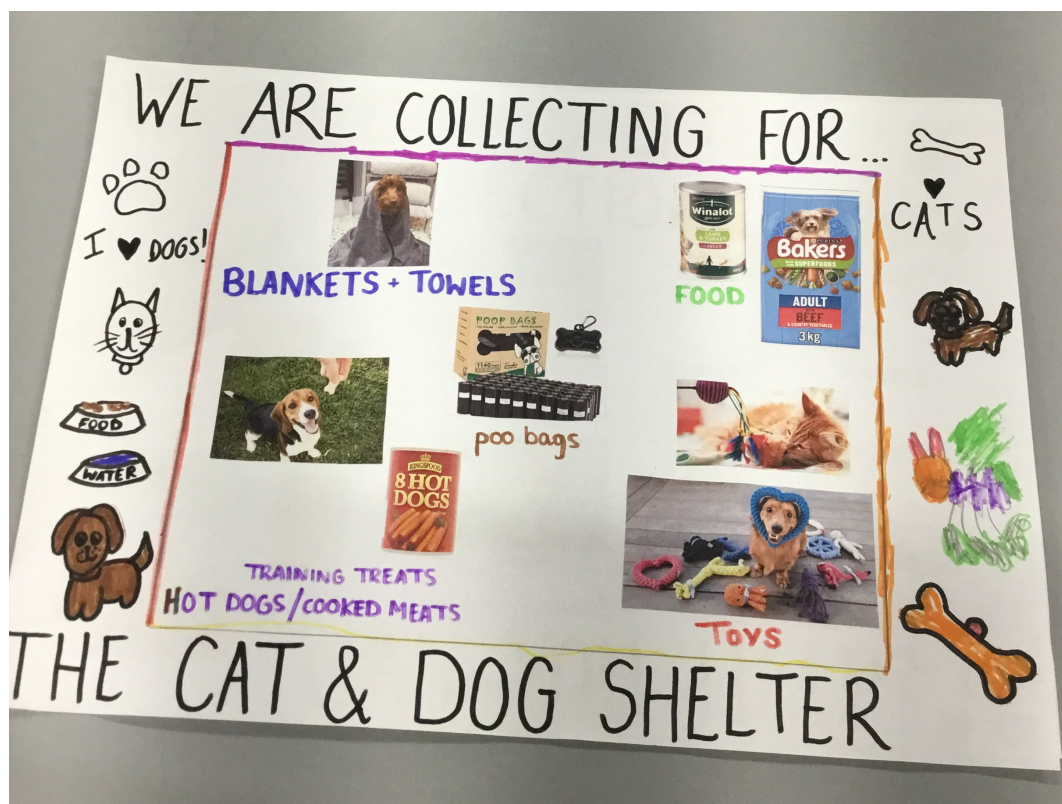
Tinned hot dogs and cooked meats (used for training)

Toys

Poo bags

Bowls and other utensils

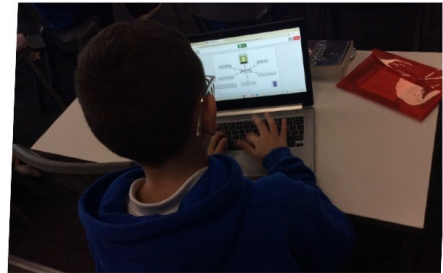
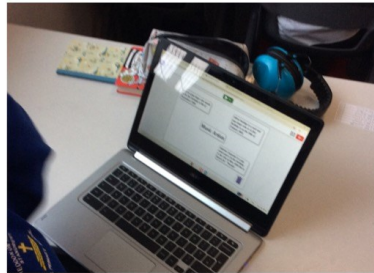
Thank you!



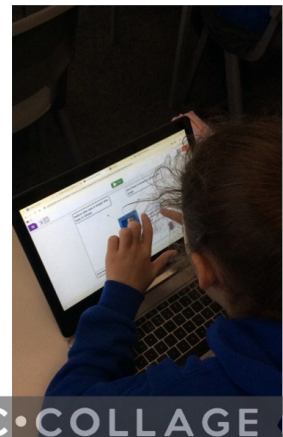
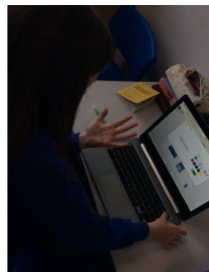
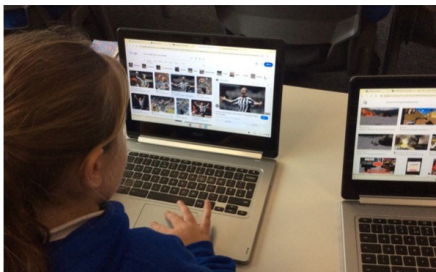
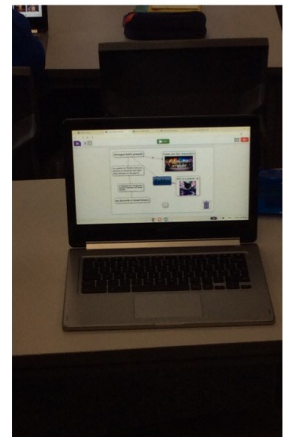
Others



Blogging in Year 6



Year 6 have started to plan their own blog posts this week, as we begin our new computing unit. The children have been using their mind mapping skills from Year 5 to record their research.



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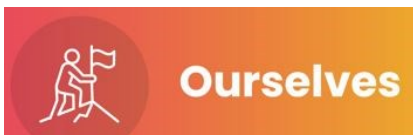


Learning

Key Stage 2 Panathlon Bowling Competition

Well done to our two Key Stage 2 bowling teams. The children had an amazing afternoon competing against other schools and showing off their skills. Our upper Key Stage 2 team took second place with a silver certificate and our lower Key Stage 2 team took third place with a bronze certificate.

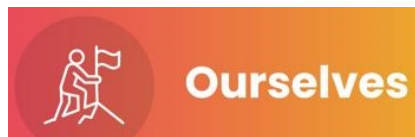
A special mention must go to Jackson who was awarded a special certificate for scoring over 100 points - the only person there to do so!



Year 4 Rugby

Well done to our Year 4 Rugby team. They had an brilliant, if somewhat cold, time at the Rugby Festival at Ponteland High School. As well as practicing their skills and teamwork they also really enjoyed themselves.

They worked together well and were amazing representatives for our school. Thank you to the great Sports Leaders who helped run the event for us and for the lovely positive comments about the behaviour of our children.



News from St. Andrew's Church



The Advent Journey

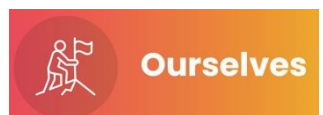
We are going on a journey and we would love you to come with us.
We invite children and their adults to Heddon Methodist Church
30th November 10am-12noon
to come along and use our imaginations and art skills
and help us make something really special.
There will also be stories to enjoy, singing and refreshments.

Places must be booked by either emailing
r.scheffer@newcastle.anglican.org
or sending a WhatsApp to
07916681128
£1 per child

Rev. Rachel has shared this information about the services and events happening at St. Andrew's Church over the Christmas season.

There is an open invitation to attend any or all of these events. She has indicated that the Christingle Service on Christmas Eve will be particularly suitable for children.

Both Rev. Rachel and the Church would love to see you over the festive period.



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.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators ENCOURAGING CHILDREN TO CHOOSE RESPECT

Sometimes, differences between children can escalate into bullying, potentially impacting their mental health in a way that can persist into adulthood. While it's natural to disagree sometimes, teaching children the importance of respect is essential – especially in difficult situations. This guide provides strategies for encouraging considerate behaviour, even during a dispute, to foster a kinder, more inclusive environment for everyone.

1 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

As adults, we play a crucial role in modelling respectful behaviour for children: they observe and learn from our actions every day. Be mindful of the way you interact with others in front of children. Keep in mind that you should always approach others with an attitude of mutual respect, even if you disagree with them. Demonstrating this behaviour can influence young people and help them to handle their own conflicts in a healthy way.

2 AGREE TO DISAGREE

Make sure children know that it's fine to have differing opinions – and that disagreeing with someone doesn't mean you can't get along or respect each other's point of view. Help them understand that sometimes we can 'agree to disagree'. Using active listening skills when doing this can also help to build empathy and understanding of others.

3 PROMOTE ACTIVE LISTENING

Teach children about the importance of active listening: that is, making a genuine effort to listen to the other person's perspective without interrupting, before responding in a way that shows you understand their viewpoint, even (or perhaps especially) if you disagree with it. This makes people feel respected and allows for a better comprehension of their point of view, which in turn can make it easier for you to communicate your own opinions to them.

4 ENCOURAGE THE USE OF "I" STATEMENTS

If a child finds themselves in a disagreement with someone, it can be useful to encourage them to use "I" statements during the discussion. Framing their thoughts and feelings using statements like "I feel..." or "I think..." can help them avoid an accusatory tone and encourages them to take responsibility for their own emotions.

5 FOCUS ON BEHAVIOUR, NOT CHARACTER

When disagreements happen, encourage children to focus on critiquing and addressing the specific actions or behaviours that caused this upset, rather than attacking the person's character. For example, "I didn't like how you interrupted me" is better than "You're so rude". This can help children avoid hurting someone's feelings, which is likely to inflame the situation.

6 STAY CALM AND TAKE BREAKS

It's perfectly normal to feel upset during a disagreement – especially if it's getting heated. Remind children that if they feel overwhelmed, they should try to take deep breaths or even go for a short break to help them stay composed. If a conversation becomes too intense, remind them it's OK to suggest continuing it later or in a different setting. This can prevent things getting out of hand, allowing cooler heads to prevail.

7 START CONVERSATIONS ABOUT RESPECT

Talk openly to children about what respect means – to you and to them. Discuss how they might show respect to each other, to friends, to strangers and even to people we might disagree with. You could use examples of considerate or inconsiderate behaviour in books, films or TV to open discussions about the importance of giving others due regard.

8 SEEK COMMON GROUND

When a disagreement has occurred between children, they may find it hard to move past it. You can support them in finding a more positive way forward by helping identify areas of agreement or common ground with the other party. This can help to build bridges between differing opinions and foster a more cooperative atmosphere, as well as preventing those involved from demonising each other.

9 AVOID MAKING THINGS PERSONAL

It's important that we make it clear to children they must avoid name-calling, swearing or derogatory remarks in a disagreement with others. Respectful language sets a positive tone and helps keep the conversation productive. Reminding children to stay calm and take breaks – as mentioned previously – can help them avoid getting too emotional and saying or doing something hurtful.

10 REFLECT AND LEARN


After a child has had a disagreement, encourage them to reflect on the experience and think about what they can learn from it. What did they handle well? How might they improve their communication skills to handle conflicts more effectively in the future? You could use role play, writing and drawing pictures, or hypothetical examples to further develop their skills in showing respect during a disagreement.

Meet Our Expert

The Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA) co-ordinate Anti-Bullying Week each year. ABA is a unique coalition of organisations and individuals, working together to achieve their vision to stop bullying and create safer environments in which children and young people can live, grow, play and learn. They welcome membership from any organisation or individual that supports this vision and support a free network of thousands of schools and colleges.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/choose-respect>

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Dates for your Diary - Autumn Term



Friday 22nd November 2024	Choir Singing at the Knott Hall Christmas Market at 5.30pm
Thursday 5th December 2024	Choir Christmas Concert in School Hall at 5pm
Friday 6th December 2024	Rocksteady Concert in School Hall at 10am
Friday 6th December 2024	School Christmas Fair
Thursday 12th December 2024	Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Dinner Day
Thursday 12th December 2024	Year 6 visit to see Ponteland High School production of 'We Will Rock You'.
Friday 13th December 2024	TRAINING DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED
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
w/c Monday 23rd December	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
Monday 6th January 2025	SCHOOL REOPENS