

15th November 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

As you are aware the school was inspected in October by the Church of England SIAMS team. I am pleased to be able to share the final report with you. You can read the report by [clicking here](#). We feel that the report really captures what our school is all about and the impact that we have. This outcome is not something that can be done alone. I would like to thank all the staff and adults involved with school life, you as parents and carers for the support that you give and the children for being enthusiastic and caring learners.

This week the children have not only thought about Remembrance on Monday but it has been Anti-Bullying week. Each class has explored the idea of 'choosing respect' through a variety of activities. Our exciting week has been rounded off in a blur of yellow and spots with our celebration of 'Children in Need' day. We have raised £182 so far!

Special thanks this week to Mrs. Gibson whose brother lent Out of School Club some amazing World War 2 artefacts for the children to look at, touch and wear. This really helped them to explore what life was like for soldiers fighting to keep our country safe and brought their learning about remembrance day to life.

The school is currently working on a project, 'Start Small Dream Big', which is all about developing Careers education in primary schools. To support this Mr. McDonald will be sending out a Google Form to you. We would like parents who are willing to be interviewed and videoed by their own children about their job. We would then share these videos in school to not only inspire children but to open their eyes to the wide range of careers available. We are really keen to build up a library of videos covering all the different job sectors. If you are willing to help with this please return the form. Thanks.

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 and Year 6 with the best attendance this week: 99.3%.

Well done to Year 1 for the best attendance for this year: 98.3%.

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.

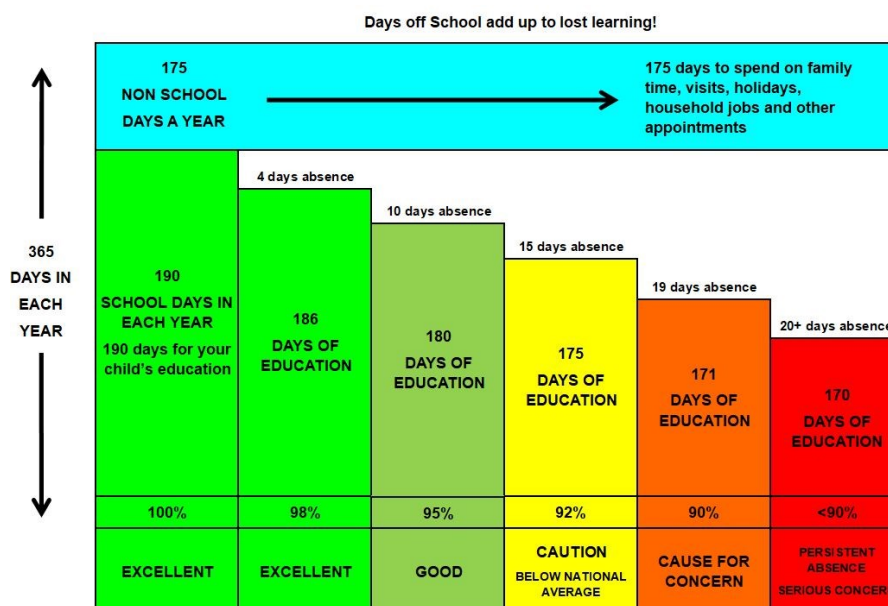


We continue to focus on attendance and punctuality so please remember that our School starts at 8.55am (9am for Nursery) and anyone arriving after this time will be marked as late.

Attendance for this week is summarised below:

Class	Attendance this week	Attendance this year	Class	Attendance this week	Attendance this year
Nursery (Hedgehogs)	89%	94.9%	Year 3 (Gibside)	99.2%	96.9%
Reception (Owls)	79.6%	91.4%	Year 4 (Lindisfarne)	97%	97.2%
Year 1 (Wallington)	99.3%	98.3%	Year 5 (Bamburgh)	99.2%	97.6%
Year 2 (Cragside)	96.7%	97%	Year 6 (Dunstanburgh)	99.3%	97.1%

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



On Monday, the Hedgehogs and the Owls spent the day learning all about Remembrance Day. We discussed the significance of poppies and why we wear them. We also shared a two minute silence together.

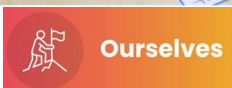
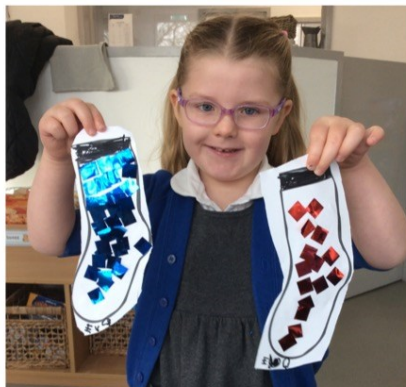


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Learning

The Hedgehogs loved celebrating both 'Odd Socks Day' and 'Nursery Rhyme Week' this week. For Odd Socks Day, we thought about all of the ways we are different, as well as the word 'respect'; we considered all of the different ways we can be a good friend. For Nursery Rhyme Week, we have focused on a different nursery rhyme each day, including some of our favourites such as 'Twinkle Twinkle' and 'Incy Wincy Spider'.



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This week we have been thinking about how to stay safe when crossing the road.



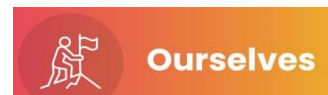
We talked about where the safe places are to cross and how we must ALWAYS stop, look, listen and think before we step out onto the road.



We went outside to practise what we had learned.



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Wearing odd socks  
for anti bullying  
week and  
celebrating Children  
in Need 2024



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## Choosing Respect with Year 1

In support of Anti-Bullying week we have been looking at the ways that we can choose to show respect to others. We talked about what happens and how it feels when we disagree with someone and then shared ways in which we could respectfully resolve any conflict. On a leaf we wrote and drew ways that we could show respect to others and then stuck them onto our tree of respect.



## Remembrance Day with Year 2

Year 2 have been thinking about Remembrance Day as part of their history topic. We visited the war memorial in Heddon and laid our own wreath before walking around to look at the fantastic poppy cascade.



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Others



Learning



### Ukuleles in Year 3

Year 3 have been working hard in their ukulele lesson this week! They are beginning to learn Christmas songs including Jingle Bells, Last Christmas and Silent Night. They will be performing these songs, along with others, in a ukulele concert for their parents towards the end of this term.



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Learning

Life



## Learning about Respect with Year 4

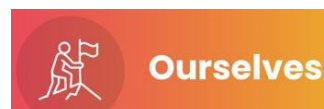
For anti-bullying week, Year 4 have been thinking about respect and how important this is to friendships. We enjoyed doing some role play about how to show respect to our friends in different scenarios and wrote our thoughts in speech bubbles.



Anti-Bullying  
week 2024  
Choose Respect!

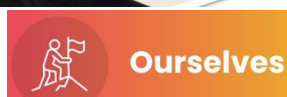
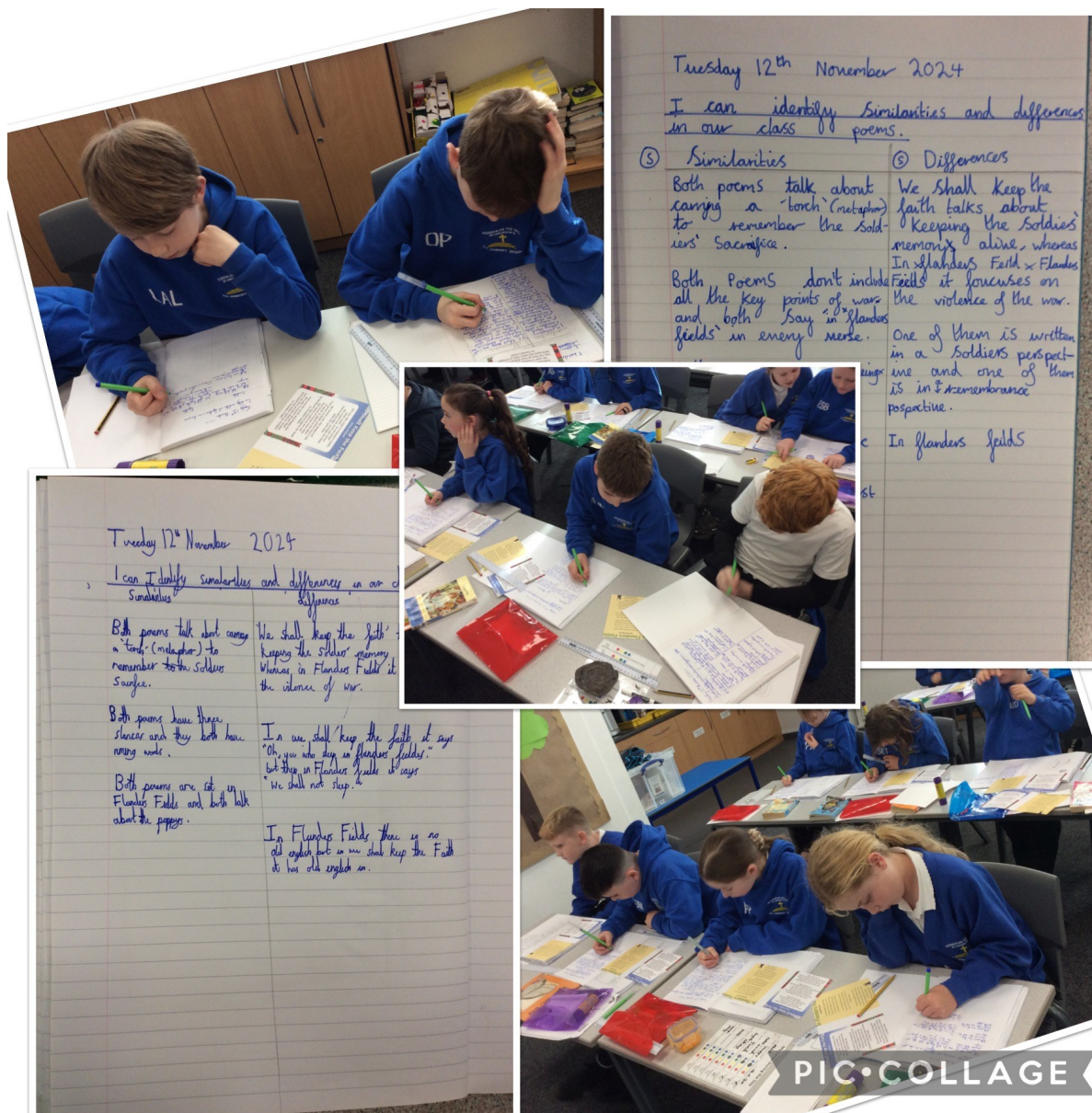


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## War Poems with Year 5

This week has been very busy for Year 5! We have been spending time discussing and evaluating War Poems. Two poems that we have read this week are 'We Shall Keep the Faith' by Moina Michael and 'In Flanders Fields' by John McCrea. We have spent time identifying themes and structures that occur across both poems, whilst also discussing the impact of the poets use of figurative and emotive language.



## Exploring Evolution in Year 6

In year 6 we started the week looking at inherited traits and characteristics, to begin our topic of "Evolution". The children used Mr Men characters to demonstrate their understanding of how offspring inherit physical characteristics from both parents. Then, on Tuesday we used cue cards to facilitate discussion around respect and friendship as part of the work we have completed in Anti-Bullying Week.



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## Remembrance Day with Out of School Club

This week in the Out of School Club we were very lucky to have some WW2 items to share with everyone. We had a variety of real WW2 memorabilia including uniforms, helmets, first aid kits, ammunition tins, bullet shells and Gas masks etc. Our year 6 students did some research on the laptops and found out some fascinating facts on each item and shared them with us as a group. We respectfully passed around items and tried on some of the uniforms. A fantastic way to appreciate what the soldiers had to endure during the war.

"At the going down of the sun, and in the morning, we will remember them"



## Bright Smiles Bright Futures

As you will be aware the top reason for children being admitted into hospital in the UK is for tooth extractions. This can be prevented with good oral hygiene and regular brushing.

In order to support this all the children from Nursery to Year 4 have received a toothbrush and some toothpaste as part of the 'Protecting Your Child's Smile' project from Colgate.

They also have a leaflet which has a useful 5 step guide to ensure that your child's smile lasts a lifetime.

### 5 steps to ensure your child's smile lasts a lifetime



#### Brush teeth twice a day

with a fluoride toothpaste, before bed and on one other occasion.

Spit, don't rinse; rinsing washes the fluoride protection away.



#### Limit sugary snacks & drinks

Frequent sugar intake is bad for your teeth. Watch out for hidden sugars in fruit, smoothies and cereal bars. Try to limit sugary drinks and snacks.



#### Supervise your child

Supervise your child during toothbrushing until they are at least 7 years old.



#### Visit your dental professional regularly

Make dental check-ups a fun habit for your child. Consider establishing a fun post check-up routine, like an outdoor activity or watch a new film.

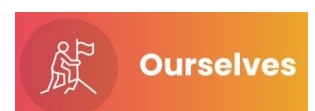


#### Change your toothbrush every 3 months

If the bristles on your toothbrush are looking worn, they won't remove as much plaque so it's time for a new one!

To find out more about Colgate® Bright Smiles, Bright Futures™, please visit [www.colgate.co.uk](http://www.colgate.co.uk)

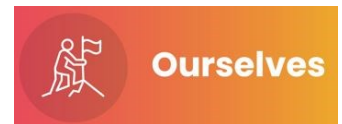
\*Colgate® Brand, Toothpaste, UK, Dentist Survey 2023. To verify contact [ukverification@colpal.com](mailto:ukverification@colpal.com). \*\*Superior bacteria reduction on teeth, tongue, cheeks and gums vs non-antibacterial fluoride toothpaste after 12 hours after 4 weeks of continuous use. \*\*\*Sugar acid shield is provided by fluoride. 1. Wolff M et al. J Clin Dent 2013; 24(Spec Iss A): A45-54. 2. Santarpia Pet al. Am. J. Dent 2014; 27(2):100-5.



## Year 5 Football Tournament

Our Year 5 football team attended the NUFC Year 5 football tournament at Cochrane Park in Newcastle on Monday this week.

They had a great time competing and playing against schools from across the region. They showed great sportsmanship and were amazing ambassadors for our school. Well done!



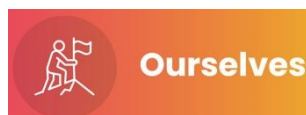
## Well Done Poppy!

Poppy has been competing in her latest dance competition and has done amazingly well. She placed in the following categories:



- 1st in acro modern song and dance ballet tap and duet
- 3rd in lyrical
- 1st for senior non classical troupe, classical junior troupe
- 2nd and 3rd in junior non classical troupe
- Finalist in improv and selected standout in the workshop
- 3rd in the supremes and judges future star.

Well done Poppy. We are so proud of you.

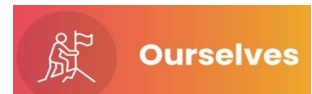


## 40 Books Before Bedtime Challenge

Unbelievably it is now only 40 bedtimes until Christmas! This means it is time for the 40 Books Before Bedtime Challenge. Can you and your child read / share 40 books before Christmas? (1 per night). Research shows the positive impact that sharing and reading books with your child can have not only on their reading skills but on their wellbeing and future life chances. Your child will bring home a sheet with all the information you need to take part. Happy reading!



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## A Thank You!

We received a card to thank you all for your generosity at Harvest in providing items to make a difference to people in our local community through supporting The People's Kitchen.



*Dear Friends at  
Heddon on the Wall  
Primary School*  
**THANK YOU!**  
*from everyone at The People's Kitchen  
for your kind donation*  
*with our best wishes*  
*Pat MacDonnell*  
*- Admin -*





# AND CHILL OUT

## Additional Needs & Disabilities

Promotes the well being of children, parents, carers & siblings, and is a calm sensory experience.

For children aged between 4-14 years, who have any type of additional need, learning or physical disability.

An opportunity to meet other children, young people and their families.

Drop-in session for the whole family. Siblings welcome too!

Come along to Prudhoe Family Hub...

Tuesday 19th November  
3:30-4:30pm

Tuesday 3rd December  
3:30-4:30pm

Tuesday 17th December  
3:30-4:30pm



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).

## 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

# TEACHING CYCLE SAFETY

Cycling is an amazing way to spend quality time together as a family, as well as keeping everyone healthy and active – and it's an excellent exercise, whatever the age of your children. Getting started can sometimes be daunting, and there are obvious safety concerns over youngsters who are still getting used to a bike – so follow our top tips to help you ride with confidence.

### 1 CONSIDER CYCLE TRAINING

Courses like Bikeability are extremely useful, and training in general has come a long way since cycling proficiency began; there are Bikeability courses for adults, too. Cycle training teaches invaluable skills (such as good road positioning, signaling and visibility), and can help both parents and children feel more at ease on busy streets.

### 2 USE A SUITABLE BIKE

Find a bike of an appropriate size for its rider and resist the temptation to have children 'grow into' theirs by buying one too large for them. A bigger bike will be heavier and more difficult to control, making accidents more likely and potentially putting youngsters off cycling forever. If your child has any specific physical needs, or has dyspraxia, then try out a trike, handcycle or other adaptive cycle to see what works best.

### 3 TRY A CARGO BIKE

Cargo bikes, particularly the box-bike style, are ideal for transporting small children around. Depending on the type of bike chosen – as well as the size and age of the children – it can be possible to transport up to four little ones in this way, with additional space for other cargo as well.

### 4 INSPECT YOUR CYCLE

It's a good idea to do some routine checks on any bike before going for a ride to make sure everything's working correctly. The 'M check' is particularly useful: assessing the condition and position of the bike's wheels, handlebars, brakes, pedals, chain and saddle, working from front to back. Online tutorial videos can also teach you how to carry out basic repairs if needed. For more complicated fixes, head to your local bike shop.

### 5 BRING SUITABLE GEAR

Ensure whatever you're wearing, and any attachments for your bike, are suitable for the ride. A waterproof jacket will let you cycle safely in almost any weather. Make sure any helmets are fitted correctly. If you're riding after dark, remember to fit your bikes with a white front light, a red rear light and a red rear reflector. These are required by law.

### 6 STICK TO FLAT TERRAIN

Take a smooth, flat route if possible, so it's more suitable for younger cyclists. You might be surprised by how many quiet roads or back streets there may be in your area. Don't be put off by an indirect but easier path as opposed to a shorter, busier one. Look out for the National Cycle Network, canal towpaths and even parks that you can cut through.

### 7 STAY ALERT AND IN SAFE FORMATIONS

For maximum protection and visibility, ride in a line with children in the middle and adults at either end. If you're the only adult present, take up a position at the rear to ensure all children remain in your sight. Don't be tempted to hug the kerb if cycling on the road – riding approximately a metre out will make you more noticeable to other road users, and you'll also stay clear of any debris in the gutter.

### 8 AVOID PARKED CARS

When riding past parked cars, try to stay at least a metre away, just in case anyone inside opens a door unexpectedly or the vehicle itself starts to move. This precaution will also deter anyone driving behind from trying to squeeze past you when there isn't enough space, so don't be afraid to ride in a prominent position.

### 9 START A 'BIKE BUS'

Cycling to school with other families is a potentially fun experience – one which comes with the added benefit of safety in numbers, in case anything goes wrong along the way. Team up with other parents, carers and educators and pick a day to cycle to school together. Who knows – maybe, in time, you'll have other folks asking to join you?

### 10 HAVE FUN!

Keep in mind that cycling should be fun! A good bike ride can be really enjoyable for adults and children alike, while also being a superb form of exercise. Ease children into the hobby by starting them off with shorter journeys – such as a trip to the park – and build them up to longer, more complicated outings. Some children may get bored on a longer ride, so try to keep a conversation going with them.

## Meet Our Expert

Sophie Gordon is the campaigns manager at Cycling UK, a charity which inspires and enables people to start cycling. She has spent six years campaigning for safer roads and more protected cycle paths, while supporting communities to call for better cycling conditions where they live.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/teaching-cycle-safety>

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## Dates for your Diary - Autumn Term



Monday 18th November 2024	Year 3 Forest School Day
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'.
<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>
Monday 6th January 2025	<b>SCHOOL REOPENS</b>