



**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024 (6 pages)**

## **ATTENDANCE**

Well done to everyone who is in the **green!**

<b><u>YEAR</u></b>	<b><u>ATTENDANCE</u></b>
	<b><u>%</u></b>
<b><u>RECEPTION</u></b>	<b>100%</b>
<b><u>YEAR 1</u></b>	<b>97%</b>
<b><u>YEAR 2</u></b>	<b>94%</b>
<b><u>YEAR 3</u></b>	<b>95%</b>
<b><u>YEAR 4</u></b>	<b>98%</b>

## **HALF TERMLY ROUND UP**

Due to the Easter Service, we haven't had our Star of the week Collective Worship today. The children were impeccably behaved and enthusiastically sang in church waving their palm leaves. Although this has been an incredibly short half term, we have certainly packed in lots of learning, fun activities, visits and trips. The children as always never cease to amaze us with their enthusiasm, motivation, kindness and resilience. We are very proud of all of their achievements this half term. Well done to all our Easter Service readers and thank you to Revd. Sarah, Chris Harding and staff for all their help at the church. It was really lovely to see so many parents and carers.



## **COMIC RELIEF**

Thank you to everyone who donated via Parent Pay-we raised an amazing **£89.50** for Comic Relief.

## **EYFS VISIT - 'PEOPLE WHO HELP US' - FIRE SERVICE**

As part of their topic this term, the children in Nursery and Reception had a visit from the Hexham Fire Service on Wednesday afternoon. The Fire Officers were brilliant and the children were allowed to get in the fire engine and even use the hose! We are still in the process of planning a visit from a Community Police Office and the Ambulance Service. There are more photographs on our website.



## **FISHING FOR RAINBOWS**

The children in Years 2 to 4 enjoyed an enthralling storytelling session at Hexham Library on Wednesday. Author and storyteller Oliver Sykes performed his story 'Fishing for Rainbows' which was thought provoking and highly entertaining with lots of opportunity for the children to share ideas and contribute sounds to the plot. Oliver was really engaging and inspirational and was happy to answer the children's questions about how to finish a story and his planning process when writing stories.



## **VIRTUAL POET-ROWAN MCCABE**

To celebrate World Poetry Day, the children in Class 3 took part in a virtual author session on Thursday with North East poet Rowan McCabe. They had great fun writing poems about where they live. **Here is Annabelle's poem...**



### My Amazing Humshaugh

Hello and welcome to Humshaugh,  
Where my friend's dogs gan akka in the stream,  
Where black rabbits make homes under the shed,  
Where foxes hide in the shadows of the glowing forest.

It's haunted with pirate ghosts that fill castles.  
Where my friends old house belongs to a pirate,  
Where pictures stare ominously,  
Where a warm fire glows bright.

The Ancient ruins,  
Where Hadrian's Wall stands strong and tall,  
Where eagles used to send messages to attack,  
Where old Roman battles were fought.

The streams that run wild,  
Where I go kayaking with my friends,  
Where we swim in refreshing cold water,  
Where salmon we raised jump over waterfalls.  
Where daffodils wave their leaves in time with the wind,  
Where magnificent oak trees stand tall and proud,  
Where willow branches hang low and sheltering.



## **SUMMER TERM-FOREST SCHOOL PLAN**

We are always trying to improve our Forest School provision, therefore for the summer term we are going to split Class 1 and 2 so that one class stays at school and the other goes to Forest School. Please see below for the plan (weather permitting!)

Please ensure that children come to school on Fridays dressed for Forest School (practical clothes with red jumper/cardigan and coat).

### **Summer 1**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Class 2</b>	<b>Class 3</b>
19 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Forest School	Performing Arts-school
26 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Forest School	Performing Arts-school
3 <sup>rd</sup> May	Forest School	Performing Arts-school
10 <sup>th</sup> May	Art/STEM-school	Forest School
17 <sup>th</sup> May	Art/STEM-school	Forest School
24 <sup>th</sup> May	Y1-4 ART -school	

### **PE KITS**

Please ensure children in Class 2 and 3 have their outdoor PE kits in school on **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March.**



### **CELEBRATING EXTRA CURRICULAR PUPIL ACHIEVEMENTS**

Please let Mrs Long know if your child/ren take part in extra-curricular clubs and activities and achieve awards or prizes. We would love to celebrate and share their efforts and successes.



### **THE FRIENDS-SPRING READING CHALLENGE**

The Friends are organising a Spring Reading Challenge for the Easter holidays. All entries will win a prize and 3 lucky winners a book of their choice. The entry forms with further information will be sent home with your child next week.



## PARENTZONE-ONLINE SAFETY

Every week, we will share information or an article about online safety. These guides can be found on our website and also on the National College website.

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about YOUTUBE

YouTube is a video-sharing social media platform that allows billions of people around the world to watch, share and upload their own videos with a vast range of content – including sport, entertainment, education and lots more. It's a superb space for people to consume content that they're interested in. As a result, this astronomically popular platform has had a huge social impact: influencing online culture on a global scale and creating new celebrities.

## INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed via numerous devices, even without creating a YouTube account. Some content is flagged as 'age-restricted' (requiring the user to be logged into an account with a verified age of 18), but children can still view some mildly inappropriate material. This can include profanity and violence, which some young users may find upsetting.

## HIGH VISIBILITY

Content creators can also be put at risk – especially young ones who try to make their online presence as visible as possible. Creating and uploading content exposes children to potential harassment and toxicity from the comments section, along with the possibility of direct messaging from strangers. Videos posted publicly can be watched by anyone in the world.

## CONNECT WITH STRANGERS

YouTube is a social media platform which allows people to interact with other (usually unknown) users. Account holders can leave comments on any video they have access to, as well as messaging other users directly. Connecting with strangers online, of course, can potentially lead to children being exposed to adult language, to cyberbullying and even to encountering online predators.

## TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

YouTube is teeming with trends, challenges and memes that are fun to watch and join in with. Children often find these immensely entertaining and might want to try them out. Most challenges tend to be safe, but many others may harm children through either watching or copying. The painful 'salt and ice challenge', which can cause injuries very quickly, is just one of many such examples.

## SUGGESTED CONTENT

YouTube recommends videos related to what the user has previously watched on their account, aiming to provide content that will interest them. This is intended to be helpful but can also lead to binge-watching and the risk of screen addiction, especially if 'auto-play' is activated. Users without an account are shown popular videos from the last 24 hours, which might not always be suitable for children.

## SNEAKY SCAMMERS

Popular YouTube channels regularly have scammers posing as a well-known influencer in the comments section, attempting to lure users into clicking on their phishing links. Scammers impersonate YouTubers by adopting their names and profile images, and sometimes offer cash gifts or 'get rich quick' schemes. Children may not realise that these users are not who they claim to be.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from showing inappropriate content (such as drug and alcohol abuse, graphic violence and sexual situations) to underage viewers. To prevent your child from chancing across age-inappropriate content on the platform, we would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on each device that your child uses to access YouTube.

### TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Creating a Google Family account allows you to monitor what your child is watching, uploading and sharing with other users. It will also display their recently watched videos, searches and recommended videos. In general, a Google Family account gives you an oversight of how your child is using sites like YouTube and helps you ensure they are only accessing appropriate content.

### CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos as 'private' or 'unlisted' – so they could be shared exclusively with family and friends, for example. Comments on videos can also be disabled and channels that your child is subscribed to can be hidden. If your child is only uploading videos that are protected as 'private', they are far less likely to receive direct messages from strangers.

### CHECK OTHER PLATFORMS

Influential content creators usually have other social media accounts which they encourage their fans to follow. Having an open discussion about this with your child makes it easier to find out how else they might be following a particular creator online. It also opens up avenues for you to check out that creator's other channels to see what type of content your child is being exposed to.

### MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

YouTube is the online viewing platform of choice for billions of people, many of them children. Younger children will watch different content to older ones, of course, and react to content differently. You may want to keep an eye on how your child interacts with content on YouTube – and, if applicable, with content creators – to understand the types of videos they are interested in.

### LIMIT SPENDING

Although YouTube is free, it does offer some in-app purchases: users can rent and buy TV shows and movies to watch, for example. If you're not comfortable with your child purchasing content online, limit their access to your bank cards and online payment methods. Many parents have discovered to their cost that a child happily devouring a paid-for series quickly leads to an unexpected bill!

## Meet Our Expert

Claire Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.

**NOS** National Online Safety®  
#WakeUpWednesday



## **DIARY DATES**

Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March:	<b>Break up for Easter</b> (Good Friday is on Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> March)
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April:	Summer 1 starts (All clubs and swimming resume) Reception Parent Consultations (appointment times sent 15.3.24)
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April:	Reception, Class 2 and 3 Parent Consultations (appointment times sent 15.3.24)
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April:	Y3/4 Roman Army/Vindolanda trip-look out for a google form
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> April:	Class 2 and 3 Parent Consultations (appointment times sent 15.3.24)
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> April:	Class 2 and 3 Parent Consultations (appointment times sent 15.3.24)
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May:	Friends from the Village-Class 2
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May:	<b>Bank Holiday-School closed</b>
Wed 15 <sup>th</sup> -Fri 17 <sup>th</sup> May:	Y4 Residential-Robinwood
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May:	Last day of Summer 1
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June:	Summer 2 starts
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> June:	Y1/2 visit to Beamish (more info to follow)
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> June:	EYFS visit to White House Farm (more info to follow)
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> June:	Year 3 visit to HMS (more info to follow)
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> June:	Year 4 Leaver Service – Newcastle Cathedral
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> June:	Fragile Earth-visit to Simonburn (more info to follow)
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> June:	French performance in school (Y3/4)
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> June:	Shutterbugz class photos
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> June:	Y3/4 visit to Kirkley Hall Zoo (more info to follow)
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July:	Transfer Day (Year 4s at Middle Schools for the whole day)
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> July:	Year 4 water fight and Fun Day
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July:	Year 4 Leaver Service-in school

