



Friday 31st January 2025 (5 pages)

ATTENDANCE

Well done every year group is in the **green!**

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

AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Well done to our Superstars Laurie and Isla W; our Handwriting Heroes Violet, Ella, Harry B and Maddie. Congratulations also to Billie for receiving the Kindness Award, Eliza for the Helping Hand Award and both Ada and Bertie for receiving the Perseverance Award. Well done to our Maths Whizzes Hugo A and Anna and our PE stars Layla and Esme. All children were given a special sticker and a duck to sit on their desk for the week.





ELVIS AND TUFFY THE READING BEARS

The reading bears are really looking forward to going home with Mollie and Harry this weekend.



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.

WRAP AROUND CARE

Just a reminder!

- Children staying until 4.30pm (at an after-school club or wraparound) **cost remains £2**
- Children staying anywhere between 4.30-6pm **cost reduced to £2 - making the cost for wraparound care from 3.15pm - 6pm a fantastic rate of £4**
- Children on free school meals - **no charge**

Wraparound club includes a snack such as cheese/ham wraps, crumpets, yogurt etc served after 4.30pm

The children who have attended so far are raving about the activities on offer and we would really love to have more children to join our super club.

Sessions can be attended on an ad hoc basis, we encourage parents to use the provision to suit any needs, even if this is last minute. Children can be collected anytime between 4.30pm and 6pm. **Subsidised prices will be reviewed at Easter.**

PE KITS

Please ensure children have their PE kits in school on **Monday 3rd February.**

The children in YEARS 1-4 are doing Gymnastics this term so will need an indoor PE kit e.g. t-shirt, leggings/shorts and trainers.



COMMUNICATION

If you need to speak to your child's class teacher, please either send them an email directly or ring the school office and they will aim to return your call as soon as possible.

Class 1 (Nursery/Reception) -Mrs Wilkinson

email: melanie.wilkinson@humshaugh.northumberland.sch.uk

Class 2 (Year 1 and 2)-Mrs Blythe

email: karen.blythe@humshaugh.northumberland.sch.uk

Class 3 (Year 3 and 4)-Mrs Long

email: jude.long@humshaugh.northumberland.sch.uk

For queries regarding Parent pay, Nursery funding or sessions, After School Clubs, Milk, Breakfast Club, Wrap Around Care and School Dinner, please email our Office Manager Mrs Clark.

email: admin@humshaugh.northumberland.sch.uk

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about IN-GAME CHAT

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Video games are continuing to grow in popularity – including, of course, among children and young people – and the emergence of gaming communities has been accelerated by the inclusion of chat functionality across many different titles. While in-game chat isn't inherently a bad thing, it can create some concerns about online safety and the people that children might be interacting with.

DIFFERENT TYPES OF CHAT

There are a number of ways that gamers commonly chat with one another online. As the name would suggest, in-game chat happens within the game itself. There's also party chat: a group voice conversation that console users can have with anyone on the same platform. This tends to be more commonly used by players who already know each other. Finally, many gamers – especially on PC – will chat via a third-party app such as Discord.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Whether it's text- or voice-based, in-game chat is frequently open to all players to use. Many games default to making it an opt-in function, but some don't: meaning a child could start seeing messages within the game from people they're playing with, regardless of whether they know those individuals or not. While most strangers won't necessarily have ill intent, there are some who may behave inappropriately when chatting to a child – intentionally or otherwise.

DANGER OF GROOMING

It's been reported that some young gamers have encountered older players online who pretend to be a lower age to manipulate children, sending gifts in exchange for chatting and sending photos. Just as on any messaging platform, it's good to advise young people to avoid speaking to strangers; emphasise that they shouldn't accept gifts from anyone online that they don't know.

BULLYING AND ABUSE

While some in-game chat can turn toxic because of how a match plays out, others turn that way because of people who engage in trolling – in essence, behaving in an offensive and abusive way simply to cause pain or get a rise out of whoever they're talking to. These 'trolls' often lean on racial slurs, anti-LGBT sentiment and other hateful rhetoric; they normally feel most confident preying on younger, more impressionable gamers.

POTENTIAL FOR PRIVATE CHAT

If a player would like a re-match with a stranger after meeting them in the game, they can send a friend request, or use the party chat together in the future. For the most part, this is harmless – but it might lead to messages being exchanged in private. This could then escalate to the sharing of private information, and potentially attempts to manipulate or scam younger players.

COMPETITIVE ATMOSPHERE

Certain games are very competitive, and players can sometimes get upset if they feel a teammate is underperforming, an opponent won unfairly, or they're just a bad loser. This can lead to unpleasant messages that stray away from playful 'trash talk' and wander into the territory of bullying. Some players have been known to get incredibly abusive in situations like this, and the impact of this on a young gamer's emotional wellbeing could be severe.

Advice for Parents & Educators

LOCK-DOWN IN-GAME CHAT

In-game chat can often be disabled in the game's settings. This allows children to play without risk of contact from strangers – but it will need to be done in each individual game. Text chat appears in the corner of the screen in many titles, so it's normally easy to take a quick glance and see what's being said. With voice chat, explain to children what behaviour is inappropriate, so they can spot the dangers themselves.

REPORT POTENTIAL OFFENDERS

Most games offer a robust means of reporting other players, so you can flag an account as potentially harmful. This normally leads to the account not being matched with yours in the future and, if that person's conduct breaks any of the game's rules, they may be banned from playing entirely. This is done within the game itself, so each title has a slightly different process, but these tend to be

CONSIDER OTHER CHAT OPTIONS

If a child wants to play with people they know, consider using party chat or a third-party service like Discord. This allows everyone involved to chat on a private server and even enjoy each other's company while playing different games. It's also far more secure, as anyone looking to join will need to request and be granted access – normally by whoever is hosting the chat.

COMMUNICATION IS KEY

Make sure children understand the differences between being competitive and being abusive. Talk about what constitutes unusual or inappropriate behaviour from strangers online. Be clear that if anything ever concerns or worries them, they should tell a trusted adult as soon as possible. Empower children to identify the risks of in-game chat for themselves and reassure them they won't get in trouble for

DIARY DATES

Tuesday 4 th February:	Y1-4 trip to a Hindu Temple and Centre for Life/Discovery Museum-google form sent out -packed lunch required
Tuesday 11 th February:	Be You-Mindfulness sessions
Thursday 20 th February:	Last day of Spring 1
Friday 21 st February:	Teacher Day
Monday 3 rd March:	Spring 2 starts
Thursday 6 th March:	World Book Day and Friends from the Village
Tuesday 18 th March:	Skipping Festival-Class 3-more info to follow
W/C 24 th March:	Parent Consultations-more info to follow
Tuesday 8 th April:	Be You-Friendship sessions
Thursday 10 th April:	Easter Service-St. Peter's Church-Whole school-everyone welcome
Friday 11 th April:	Last day of Spring 2-Break up for Easter
Monday 28 th April:	Summer 1 starts
Monday 5 th May:	Bank Holiday-School closed
Wed 14 th -Fri 16 th May:	Y4 Residential-Robinwood
Friday 23 rd May:	Last day of Summer 1
Monday 2 nd June:	Summer 2 starts
Tuesday 10 th June:	Be You-Resilience sessions
Friday 18 th July:	Last day of term-break up for Summer!