



**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2025 (7 pages)**

### **ATTENDANCE**

Well done to those year groups in the **green!**

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE %</u>
RECEPTION	97%
YEAR 1	100%
YEAR 2	87%
YEAR 3	97%
YEAR 4	100%

### **AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

Well done to our Superstars Eliza and Hamish; our Handwriting Heroes Hugo H, Charlie H, Isla C and Maisie. Congratulations also to George for receiving the Kindness Award, Ella for the Helping Hand Award and both Billie and Jenny for receiving the Perseverance Award. Well done to our Maths Whizzes Layla and Andrej and our PE stars Florrie and Effie. 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 Spencer and Maddie this weekend.



Elvis had a super weekend reading with Harris.





### **MESSAGE FROM MISS OSBORNE**

The children in Class 3 are very excited about the prospect of making a giant Iron Man this term, to coincide with their writing based on the book by Ted Hughes.

To help with this, Miss Osborne has kindly requested that all children in Class 3 bring an egg box to school for this Friday.

In addition, we will also be collecting boxes, cardboard tubes, tin cans, scrap metal (without sharp edges) and junk modelling materials, both big and small. So, if you have recycling of any shape or size (within reason!!), please bring into school before Tuesday 20th January.

### **WRAP AROUND CARE**

Great news!

We have secured some funding from the government to subsidise our new Wraparound provision and would like to pass those savings on.

- 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.

## **STAY AND PLAY**

We had our first session on Wednesday and received really positive feedback about the library space and how pleasant an environment it is for meeting and having a chat and a coffee.

This session is open to all parents including those with children of school age who might just fancy a catch up with other parents at drop off. If you have friends who would like to join you from other areas then please tell them they are welcome.



## **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.

## **PE KITS**

Please ensure children have their PE kits in school on **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January.**

**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.



## What Parents &amp; Educators Need to Know about

## TIKTOK

13+

(Certain features are restricted to over-18s only)

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Adults tend to associate online videos with YouTube – but among teens, TikTok is king. The app provides a stream of short clips tailored to users' interests, based on what they've already watched. Around half of British children use TikTok, and while much of the content is benign, Ofcom considers it the app where youngsters "were most likely to encounter a potential harm".

## AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

While TikTok's following feed only displays videos from familiar creators, For You is a collection based on a user's previously watched clips. Most of these videos will probably be inoffensive, but the app could potentially show something unsuitable. If children then engage with this content, more like it will follow. TikTok's guidelines prohibit the sharing of illegal or inappropriate content, but the huge number of uploads means that a small amount inevitably slips through.

## BODY IMAGE AND DANGEROUS CHALLENGES

According to Ofcom, most online harms for teens are body image related for girls (promoting unhealthy eating, body shaming and so on) and dangerous stunts for boys. Both are prevalent on TikTok. One extreme example of the latter was the 'blackout' trend, which encouraged users to hold their breath until they passed out from a lack of oxygen. This led to two families filing lawsuits against TikTok over the tragic deaths of their children.

## IN-APP SPENDING

TikTok is free, but users have the option to buy TikTok coins, which can be used to purchase gifts for content creators. Coin bundles range from £5.99 to an eye-watering £99, while that may not sound appealing, the app still generated £7.9 billion in user spending in 2023. TikTok's policy is that under-18s can't make in-app purchases, but it's possible to bypass this with a fake birth date.

## CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

With more than 1.5 billion users globally, the potential for contact from strangers on TikTok is high – especially as accounts created by over-18s (or young people using a fake date of birth) are set to public by default. This means that not only is someone's profile visible to everyone else on the app, it also suggests their videos to others and enables anyone to download or comment on them.

## MISINFORMATION AND RADICALISATION

Although the short videos on TikTok tend to be more frivolous than the longer ones on YouTube, clips can still influence impressionable minds in a negative way. Not only is there plenty of dangerous misinformation on TikTok, but Ofcom reports that nearly a third of 12 to 18-year-olds use TikTok as a news source – so you should be wary of misogynistic, racist or conspiracy-themed material shaping how they see the world.

## ADDICTIVE DESIGN

With its constant stream of eye-catching videos, TikTok can be addictive to young brains. In 2024, UK children spent an average of 127 minutes per day on the app: that's twice as much as in 2020. Excessive use can interfere with young people's sleep patterns – often leading to irritability – and distract them from other, healthier activities. The instantly skippable nature of bite-size videos may also impact children's ability to maintain focus.

## Advice for Parents &amp; Educators

## ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account to their child's, and control settings remotely. Parents can then turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chances of a child seeing inappropriate content), set screen-time limits, make accounts private and manage whether their child can send messages – and if they can, to whom. Children can't alter these settings without parental approval.

## DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If a child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's good practice to discuss the potential risks. Ensure that they don't share any identifying personal information, and that they know to talk to a trusted adult if they're worried by interactions on the app. With more teens using TikTok for news, it's also worth talking about misinformation and propaganda, and how to identify it.

## BLOCK IN-APP SPENDING

If a child is using an iPhone or Android device to access TikTok, you can alter their settings to prevent them from making in-app purchases. We'd recommend enabling this feature, as it can be quite easy for a young person to spend a significant amount of real money buying TikTok coins to unlock more features of the app – sometimes without even realising.

## READ THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that a child is spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the signs. Increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as is failing to complete homework or skipping meals. Remember, the parental controls are there for a reason, and it's never too late to introduce limits.

## Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

## **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](mailto:melanie.wilkinson@humshaugh.northumberland.sch.uk)

### **Class 2 (Year 1 and 2)-Mrs Blythe**

email: [karen.blythe@humshaugh.northumberland.sch.uk](mailto:karen.blythe@humshaugh.northumberland.sch.uk)

### **Class 3 (Year 3 and 4)-Mrs Long**

email: [jude.long@humshaugh.northumberland.sch.uk](mailto: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](mailto:admin@humshaugh.northumberland.sch.uk)

## **DIARY DATES**

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



# HUMSHAUGH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

## REFERENDUM

THURSDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> JANUARY 2025 – 7am-10pm

ST PETER'S CHURCH



Specific policies in the draft Humshaugh Neighbourhood Plan relate to:

- **Affordable Housing for Local People** – To support development where there is clear evidence of local need, for example in “small scale rural exception sites” to provide affordable and appropriate housing for local young people, local families and our ageing population.
- **The Humshaugh Conservation Area and Local Distinctiveness** – To ensure that the historic character of our village is maintained for the benefit of future generations.
- **Building Design Codes** – To protect and enhance the rural and historic character of the Parish in any new development.
- **Local Green and Protected Open Spaces** – To protect the highly valued sites that are such a key part of the tranquil rural environment we all enjoy.
- **Communities Facilities** – To support our key institutions: Humshaugh CoE (Aided) First School, the Village Hall, the Surgery, St Peter's Church, The Crown Inn and the Village Shop.
- **Tourism and Transport** – To foster the local economy and maintain links to local and regional centres for all residents.

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**DON'T FORGET TO TAKE PHOTO ID**