



NCEA Warkworth Primary School

Summer 1 Newsletter

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you and your family had a lovely Easter holiday. The sun is out and, once the grass has been cut and the soil is nice and dry (!), the children will be back on the field, meaning that summer really is coming.

I must begin with some sad news which is our incredible assistant cook, Mrs Joanne Lee, will be retiring in the next week so she can spend all important time as a full-time grandma. (Although it must be noted that we are not sure how relaxing a retirement this will be!) Mrs Lee has been far more than Mrs Dixon's assistant however - from running the kitchen in Mrs Dixon's absence to cleaning the school with no notice, she has been an essential cog in our Warkworth wheel.

More importantly than her cooking, her lovely presence amongst the staff and children will be deeply missed. We sincerely wish her all the very best. These are big boots to fill!



It was lovely to end last term looking forward to the hope of Easter at St Lawrence's. The children's singing of 'The Servant King' was a particular highlight for me. Although we may still be regretting how many chocolate eggs we've gobbled a few weeks ago, it is still Eastertide - we are going to be continuing to discuss the hope of new life, new beginnings and building a better world through Worship and daily conversations.

As part of this, we are going to be continuing our work looking at how we can be the best we can be, ensuring our behaviour and attitudes are at the very highest levels, continuing our focus on increased resilience and pupil ownership of themselves as well as broader change across school, and our fantastic work improving writing.

Lastly, I realised this last Wednesday that I had officially been in post 365 days. That time has simultaneously flown by whilst I also feel that I have been here forever. Thank you again to everyone, from staff, families, and most importantly, children, for making me feel so welcome. I cannot wait to do even more with our team to further improve the school.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Jonathan Booth
Headteacher



T: 01665 711369



Part of Northumberland Church of England Academy Trust

Strive together as one. *Philippians 1:27*
Acts of love and good works. *Hebrews 10:24*

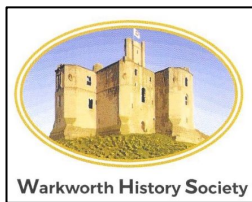


Year 3 trip to Housesteads

This week, Year 3 had a fantastic day at Housesteads as part of their Romans unit. They examined the old fort, finding out about the archaeological digs and what it was like as a Roman soldier. There were no complaints about the significant amount of walking they had to do - parents take note the next time they think a walk is too long!

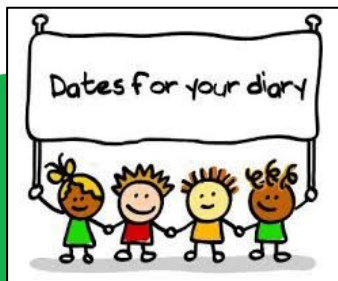
The weather was great (unlike seemingly every other day this week!) and the children were absolutely wonderful, acting as great ambassadors to the school. As a History graduate myself, I hope it can inspire a future love of the subject!

We as a school must express our gratitude to the Warkworth History Society who subsidised the trip substantially. Thank you especially to Jill Wharton from the society.



Dates Ahead!

Since taking over this newsletter, I have endeavoured to give families as much notice as possible for events. As such, despite how strange it was to sit with staff this week and discuss Christmas events (!!), we have attempted to go all the way until the end of the calendar year, even setting dates for Nativities and the Fair! However, we must request flexibility going so far in advance but we will do our utmost to stick to them to help families with organising busy lives!



Flowering the cross

This Monday, we started the week and term off with the school's annual tradition of decorating the cross with flowers. Thank you to the families who managed to send children with flowers in, no matter how big or small. I hope your garden (or that of any neighbours!!) recovers from such efforts.

In this Worship, we thought about the promise of new life. Basking in the sunshine, we considered the words of St Paul, the author of our school mottoes (at the bottom of this page):

Show mercy to others; be kind, humble, gentle, and patient. Do not be angry with each other, but forgive each other. If someone does wrong to you, then forgive him. Forgive each other. Do all these things; but most important, love each other.
Colossians 3:12-14





Author visit for Key Stage 2!

Each year, schools across the trust (seven of them!) compete in a competition to see who can read the most in a four-week period. Accelerated Reader allows an 'engaged time per day' score to be made based on children's reading speed and capabilities, meaning that it rewards all children who read above and beyond their norm, not just those who always read big books fast!

This year was the first time that we won! Over 700 books were read and, best of all, the school won thanks to the efforts of children who are not always the most passionate about books pushing themselves extra hard! Congratulations to them!

For our winning prize, we got an author visit from Jenny Pearson, an award-winning writer from the North East who wowed children with how she got into writing and her inspirations. The children asked fantastic questions!

Congratulations to Years 3 to 6!



Message from the PTFA!

This week, I was delighted to meet with Anna, mum of Isaac and Amber, and Claire, mum of Bobbi and Evelyn, who have lovingly volunteered to help set up our Parent, Teachers and Friends Association!

The school used to have a PTA - now, it will be re-formed with the 'F' for 'Friends' meaning the whole community, be that wider family members, our locality including the village, Amble and other areas, and anyone who wants to help out the school.

The purpose of a PTFA is not just fundraising for the children. The PTFA also decides how the money is spent - we as a school have to formally request access to any funds raised (!), with members agreeing where best to use such hard-earned money.

The PTFA will run events and also act as a support network for families to get to know one another which is even more important now that we are larger, meaning we can hold onto our small, village school feel even as we get quite a bit bigger!

Anna and Claire are looking for any willing volunteers to help out with the first act which will be a small showing at our Summer Fair in July. If you are interested, please feel to email either one or catch them on the yard!



T: 01665 711369



Part of Northumberland Church of England Academy Trust

Strive together as one. *Philippians 1:27*
Acts of love and good works. *Hebrews 10:24*



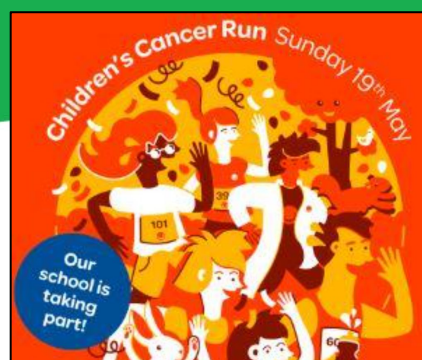
Clubs

Clubs are currently taking a break for a few weeks before commencing again, continuing until July. After conducting some pupil voice, the only big club ask was some sporty things outside! With better weather comes more opportunity to do so which is very exciting!

Further details about days, year groups and how to sign up will be sent out directly to parents in the coming weeks.

Thanks must be expressed to the staff for giving up their lunchtimes to make this a reality.

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Miss Milne | Badminton |
| Mrs Stuart | Lego |
| Mrs Morris | Rounders |
| Mr Booth | Debating and Philosophy |
| Staff + Church Volunteers | Choir |
| Mrs Coils | Mindful Colouring (with peer mentors) |
| Miss Fife | Disney |
| Mr Teasdale | Chess |



Children's Cancer Run

Mrs Frater has announced via Class Dojo that the school is taking part in the annual run to raise money for Children's Cancer North. This is something the school used to do in years past so I am delighted that we will return to do so, not just for a good cause but also for good exercise!

The event will be held at **Gosforth Park Racecourse on Sunday 19th May**, with full details including how to sign up available on the Class Dojo post. There is the choice of 1km, three mile, or five mile runs to choose between as well as medals and the all-important Gregg's Snack Pack!

I also wish to express a public apology to Mrs Frater here (!) - when agreeing that I would attend, I may have briefly forgotten that the date is my daughter's second birthday... with a planned party... Whilst I sadly will not be able to attend (!!), other staff from school will be coming along, some as bag-watchers and cheerers, and some as actual runners!

A big shout out to those who have already signed up - one child has raised over £200 already!

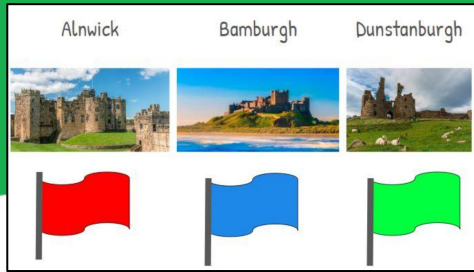


T: 01665 711369



Part of Northumberland Church of England Academy Trust

Strive together as one. *Philippians 1:27*
Acts of love and good works. *Hebrews 10:24*



Houses News!

Spelling Bee Competition

Our next major house competition will be a spelling bee! After an artistic competition (see right!), and of course Sports Day in the summer for our more athletically-minded, children across Years 1 to 5 will be invited to test their spelling mettle.

All will be revealed in full this coming Monday but after all children will be invited to participate, winners from each class will then go through to an oral test in front of the whole school! Words will be appropriate to each age group so that our older children do not have an unfair advantage!

To any Year 6 children reading this (and I have a few who tell me they actually do read the newsletter!), we felt the upcoming SATS spelling test was enough spelling for you this half-term... but there's nothing stopping you helping your fellow house-members in Year 5 to victory...



Easter Egg Competition

Congratulations to everyone who took part in the Easter Egg Competition - there were some incredible entries from each and every class! We had multiple visitors in on the entry day who were genuinely wowed by the entries. Whilst not a winner, my personal favourite was the one that showed Mrs Gibson sat at her desk!

It was our inaugural house competition, with house points going towards the end of year house point total. The winners this time were Alnwick! Congratulations to them!

| | | |
|--|-----|---|
|  Alnwick | 178 |  |
| Bamburgh | 106 | |
| Dunstanburgh | 127 | |



T: 01665 711369



Behaviour Expectations





We at school have the very highest of behaviour standards and are proud of the conduct of our children. They are fantastic ambassadors for our school and I am so deeply proud to be your children's headteacher! Of course, all schools must have robust and fair behaviour policies for all scenarios, from the everyday simple mistakes to more significant events. Our [Behaviour Policy](#) outlines this in full, arranged in a sequential system.

Most fundamental to our behaviour practice is our [school vision and values](#), and, at its simplest, it is our **core value of unconditional love**. Our three school rules are simple to understand at first glance but deep in terms of what they mean for everyday life (for the adults too!). We want everyone within our school community to live these out, not just whilst they are at Warkworth, but for the rest of their lives.

To further hone the practice, staff in school have done some work going into more detail about our rules with the children, thinking about how we 'live them out' day-to-day. Whilst our children are a very polite bunch (!), it has been lovely to see even more door holding, general politeness, table manners and, best of all, forgiveness of others, over the past few months.

Also, we have done some further work going into more detail about each behaviour step and potential behaviours. This is simply an expanded version of the 'Behaviour Steps' that are in the policy. Whilst some more child-friendly versions have been shown in Worship, on the next page I have put a more detailed version for your information.

If you have any queries about any of this, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>Love yourself</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strive to reach your potential Be resilient Be kind to yourself Learn from your mistakes Try hard in ALL lessons Be well-presented in agreed uniform Show table manners when eating Be open minded to new things Look after our bodies |
| <p>Love each other</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Treat someone how you want to be treated Forgive others Show manners to all Respect all children and adults Remind your friends about the rules Help people make good choices Help younger children and be a good role model Follow instructions given by an adult Be kind and caring Have kind hands and feet Build each other's confidence |
| <p>Love the world</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take ownership over where we are Keep our environment tidy Walk around school sensibly and quietly Pick up rubbish Respect the playground equipment Respect other people's belongings Respect other people's stationery  |

| | |
|--|---|
|  |  <p>COURAGE</p> |
|  <p>PEACE</p> |  <p>LOVE</p> |



T: 01665 711369

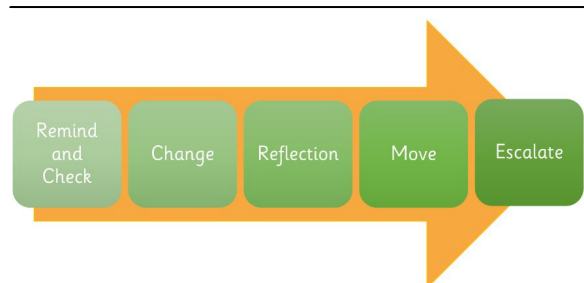


Part of Northumberland Church of England Academy Trust

Strive together as one. *Philippians 1:27*
Acts of love and good works. *Hebrews 10:24*



As detailed on the previous page, this is an expanded version of the school's sequential behaviour steps ([page 8 of the policy](#)). I am keen to point out that serious incidents are beyond very rare (!) but I thought I would share the work we have been doing in school with all families. As always, steps and consequences may be adapted according to the age and stage of each child.



| Behaviour Step | Example behaviours | Example consequence |
|---|--|--|
| 1. Remind and Check <i>Parents unlikely to be informed</i> | Shouting out Not taking turns Non-malicious rough play Minor classroom infractions Squabbling Talking out of turn | Verbal reminder from adult Explanation of next steps Adult to consider whether check in is appropriate at this stage |
| 2. Change <i>Parents may be informed</i> | <i>Second time of above incidents</i> | Within class, move seats Outside of class, told to play elsewhere and/or with other children |
| 3. Reflection <i>Parents always informed if repeated over short space of time</i> | <i>Repeated above incidents</i> Disrespect to adults Refusal Deliberate rough play Unkind words | Missed break and or lunch time If outside, given time to reflect on playground wall separate to peers |
| 4. Move <i>Parents always informed</i> | <i>Repeated above incidents</i> Abusive language to peer Swearing Fighting Biting Bullying Cyberbullying Spitting | Removed from classroom Removed from yard |
| 5. Escalate <i>Parents always informed</i> | <i>Repeated above incidents</i> Verbal abuse or violence to staff Extreme language Damage to property Absconding Bringing the school into disrepute | Longer time away from classroom/yard Senior Leaders involved Consider report, seclusion, exclusion |



T: 01665 711369



Part of Northumberland Church of England Academy Trust

Strive together as one. *Philippians 1:27*
 Acts of love and good works. *Hebrews 10:24*



Safeguarding

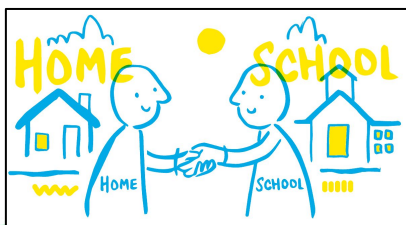
Mr Booth is our school's Designated Safeguarding Leader, with Mrs Gibson, Miss Milne and Miss Fife our Deputy Leaders. If you have concerns about a child, you may contact any one of us. If it is an emergency and a child is in immediate danger, please call the police.

Members of the public can also report concerns to Children's Social Care directly. If you have a concern about a child, please contact one of the following:

- OneCall - 01670 536400
- Northumbria Police - 101 (in an emergency always dial 999)
- NSPCC Helpline - 0808 800 5000

There is also a secure online referral form available for you to explain your concern, if you are a member of the public.

**Keeping
Children
Safe** 



Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility



You can find copies of all school policies [on our website](#) as well as trust-wide policies on the [NCEA website](#).

For ease of reference, I will provide hyperlinks to the following policies if you wish to consult them:

- Attendance Policy [here](#)
- Behaviour Policy [here](#)
- Anti-Bullying Policy [here](#)
- Online Safety Policy [here](#)
- Safeguarding Policy specific to Warkworth [here](#) and the trust-wide Child Protection Policy [here](#)
- Trust complaints policy [here](#)

With my very best wishes,

Jonathan Booth

jonathan.booth@warkworth.ncea.org.uk



T: 01665 711369



Part of Northumberland Church
of England Academy Trust

Strive together as one. *Philippians 1:27*
Acts of love and good works. *Hebrews 10:24*



Strive together as one. *Philippians 1:27*
 Acts of love and good works. *Hebrews 10:24*

| April 2024 | | | |
|------------|------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| Monday | 15 th April | Return to school for Summer 1. | |
| Weds-Fri | 17th-19th | Year 4 Ford Castle Residential | Information sent to families. |
| Mon-Tues | 29-30 | Years 3, 4 and 5 canoeing and paddleboarding | Details to follow on Class Dojo |
| Tuesday | 30th | Year 2 trip to Amble for Geography unit | TBC |

| May 2024 | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| Monday | 6 th May | Bank Holiday. | School closed to all pupils |
| Tues-Weds | 7th-8th | Years 3, 4 and 5 canoeing and paddleboarding | |
| Week commencing 13th May | | Year 6 SATS | Details to follow |
| Sunday | 19th May | Children's Cancer Research Run | See this newsletter and Class Dojo |
| Friday | 24 th May | Final day before May half-term. | |



Strive together as one. *Philippians 1:27*
 Acts of love and good works. *Hebrews 10:24*

| June 2024 | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|---------------------------------|
| Monday | 3 rd June | Return to school for Summer 2. | |
| Monday and Tuesday | 3 rd and 4 th June | Year 5&6 STEM Days at Duke's Secondary School | |
| Thursday | 6 th June | Countryside Day for Years 3 and 4 | Details to follow |
| Mon-Tues | 10 th and 11 th | Y3-6 Kayaking and paddleboarding | |
| During the month | | Year 4 Multiplication Times Table Check | Details to follow |
| Week commencing 10 th June | | Year 1 Phonics Screen | Details to follow |
| | | *Date change* Year 2 SATS Week | Details to follow from teachers |
| Week commencing 24 th June | | End of year reports published. | |
| Tuesday | 18 th June | Year 6 Leavers Service at Newcastle Cathedral | Details to follow |
| Thursday | 27 th June | Year 4 Lifepath Event | Details to follow |
| Friday | 28 th June | Teacher Training Day | School closed to all pupils |
| July 2024 | | | |
| Monday | 1 st July | Year 6 coasteering at Howick | Details to follow |
| | | Years 4 and 5 trip to Newcastle University | TBC |
| Wednesday | 3 rd July | Sports Day and Summer Fair | |
| Thurs-Fri | 4 th -5 th | Year 6 onsite camp out. | Details to follow. |
| Friday | 19 th July | Colour run and final day. | |



Strive together as one. *Philippians 1:27*
 Acts of love and good works. *Hebrews 10:24*

| September 2024 | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| Monday | 2nd September | Staff training day | School closed for all pupils. |
| Tuesday | 3rd September | School reopens for all pupils | |
| October 2024 | | | |
| Tuesday and Wednesday | 15th-16th October | Individual photographs of children. | |
| Friday | 25th October | Final day before October half-term | |
| November 2024 | | | |
| Monday | 4th November | Return to school for Autumn 2 term. | |
| December 2024 | | | |
| Tuesday | 3rd December | Christmas Fair | Details to follow next academic year. |
| Wednesday | 4th December | Christmas Dinner Day | |
| Monday | 9th December | Years 5 and 6 Nativity Performances | 9:20am & 3:20pm |
| Tuesday | 10th December | Years 3 and 4 Nativity Performances | 9:20am & 3:20pm |
| Wednesday | 11th December | Christmas Pantomime for Years 1-6 | Morning |
| | | Early Years Nativity Performances | 9:20am & 2:00pm |
| Thursday | 12th December | Years 1 and 2 Nativity Performance | 9:20am |
| Monday | 16th December | Years 1 and 2 Nativity Performance | 3:20pm |
| Friday | 20th December | Final day of school before Christmas holiday. | |