

I can't believe how quickly the year seems to be flying past. When we come back after the half-term holidays, there will be just 7 weeks left before we say goodbye to our fantastic Year 6 children and get ready to welcome in some new children to Nursery. Year 6 have worked incredibly hard on their SATs and will now be looking forward to transition events at their new schools and a residential visit to Ford Castle. Year 4 and 5 will be embarking on their own residential to Wastwater in the first week back. We look forward to see pictures and hearing all about it. We wish you all a lovely (sunny!) holiday week and look forward to seeing after the break. *Mr Vincent.*

## Attendance

Good attendance is really important for ensuring that pupils meet their full potential. This is why we aim for 96% attendance or higher over the year.

Year	Attendance
Reception	94.1%
Year 1	96.5%
Year 2	97.1%
Year 3	95.4%
Year 4	95.7%
Year 5	92.8%
Year 6	97.5%

At this time of year, we know that families are thinking about holidays and understand the savings that can be made by taking them during term time. Please be reminded that term-time holidays cannot be authorised and that holidays of 5 days or more will lead to a penalty notice.

This is a government directive. The money from any fines issued does not come to the school.

Whole school attendance is currently **95.1%**

## Heritage Heroes Project

This year, the Year 4 and 5 pupils have been participating in the Heritage Heroes programme run by the team at North Pennines National Landscape. The programme has been designed to teach children who live in the North Pennines about their local area, in particular the physical and cultural legacy of the lead mining industry.

The North Pennines staff have delivered a number of workshops for the pupils at school, in which they have built a model pit village, made felt gorges and created their own proggy mat. This half-term, the pupils have been on two visits to see some of the landscape for themselves: the first to Slit Woods to find metal-loving wild-flowers; the second to Nenthead to go underground in a once-working lead mine.



In the last half-term of the school year, the pupils will be working hard to pull together everything they have made and learned to present to the programme judges in July.

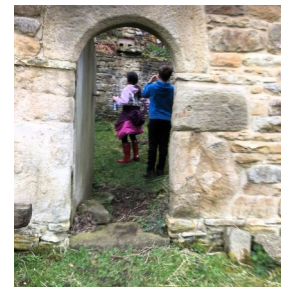


## Local History Club

In connection with an ongoing topic about the Bastle Houses that exist in the Allen Dales, members of the Local History Club visited the ruined remains of Rowantree Stobb at Sinderhope.

The building dates from the late 1500s to early 1600s and was last lived in in the 1880s by Hannah Carr and her 4 children. The ruins contain many features of Bastle Houses, including accommodation for animals on the ground floor accessed through an arched doorway. For security reasons (the danger coming from the Border Reivers), the family lived on the first floor.

Access to the living quarters was by an external staircase. On this floor there are also the remains of a fireplace, chimney stack and bread oven. The windows were few and very small. Those members who joined the walk were fortunate to be invited to visit the nearby Black Bank Mill. They were shown the water wheel pit and followed the course of the "leat" which fed the water from the river to drive the wheel.



## Football @ Haltwhistle Primary

A team of Year 5 and 6 children travelled to Haltwhistle Primary School this week to take part in a friendly football match after school. It was a tough match but enjoyable to get the opportunity to represent the school. Next month, Haltwhistle will visit us for a re-match.



## Coffee and Chat

Coffee & Chat will continue after the holidays every 2 weeks starting on Monday 1st June. All are welcome to come and meet informally with Mr Vincent and Mrs Cleet. Come along to ask questions you have about life at school or to make suggestions



## Homework Club

Homework Club continues next half term.

Mr Vincent will be running the Homework Club on **Wednesday mornings from 8:30am in the ICT room** at school. Adult help will be on hand to support children with their homework tasks and the computers will be available for those who need to complete tasks online.

Children may also come along to practise their spellings on Spelling Shed, times tables or to practise their touch typing on Typing Club. There's no need to book, just come to the usual playground entrance and ring the bell. Children at Allstars can complete homework with adult support just as they always have.

## Nursery Places

Our nursery class (Wrens) has spaces available for children over the age of 2 who are ready to start in September. Please contact the office for more details.

We are pleased to say that thanks to a generous donation from the **Helen Allison Trust**, we have been able to add a new floor covering and convert two cupboards into breakout spaces in our Early Years building. Do pop in to take a look.



## Northumberland Archives—Woodhorn

The Northumberland Archives project that Year 4 and 5 have been undertaking came to a close with a fascinating visit to Woodhorn Museum where the children took a tour of the Northumberland Archives. It was really interesting to access their vaults and glimpse all of the treasures stored there.

The children also had the chance to sew some celebration bunting, bake some wild garlic scones and have a Victory Day picnic in the grounds. It was a lovely way to round off this very interesting project.



## National Numeracy Day

Our celebration of all things maths meant a day of exploring capacity, money, shapes and time as well as fitting in some outdoor learning with orienteering too. Maths definitely is fun when you do it like this!



## Online Safety

Is Your Child P.R.E.P.A.R.E.D. For Their First Cellphone.

It's a question that so many parents struggle with, balancing the positives, the negatives, the need, cost and so much more. The problem with such a question is that there is no one-size-fits-all answer.

Darren Laur has written a really useful article linked here for parents which uses the acronym [PREPARED](#).

## Parent Survey Feedback

Thank you again to everybody who completed our parent survey. We really value your comments. Here is a brief summary of some of the things you said and actions that we taken or are going to take.

You Said	We Did
You'd like more information about the curriculum your children are following.	We now email out our curriculum information and knowledge organisers as well as putting it on the website.
Parents of children with SEND would appreciate improved communication about the support their child receives.	We will make sure that support plans are emailed out to parents 3 times per year and will make it clear that appointments can be booked with teachers anytime to discuss these.
You'd like more clubs, especially for younger children.	We strive to provide as many clubs as we can. Most of these happen at lunchtime and all of them rely on staff giving up their free time to run them. We welcome parent volunteers and governors to support or run clubs.
The survey needs a 'not applicable' for some questions.	We will add this in next time.

Thank also for all of your positive comments, which we really appreciate.

97.6% of people said their children are happy at this school.

'School looks after its pupils well. It cares deeply about them and their well-being and has good strategies in place to support. Both my boys are proud to be at Allendale and love to come each day.'

'My child is very happy here and I couldn't wish for a better school for her, we feel very lucky as parents. Both of her teachers and TA's are brilliant and she is thriving- thank you!'

'We love the outside space and the opportunity throughout the day to play and learn outside. I love the kids can ride bikes and scooters in break times, I don't know of any other schools that allow this.'

'Lovely school, so lucky to have it here in our village.'

## Open Afternoon—10th July

On Friday 10th July we are opening the school for everybody to see our amazing spaces and get a flavour of the fantastic opportunities available here at Allendale Primary School.

Save the date and come along to find out more about your community school. All are very welcome. More information soon.



## Carved Tree Project

Our recent cake sale helped raise some more funds towards our tree carving project. However, we have some unexpected news about our tree—it is bursting back into life!

As a result, we are going to back to our chainsaw carving expert, and ask for some suggestions about alternative projects to showcase the children's ideas. We are hoping that our tree will once again provide a beautiful canopy over the stage.



## Dates For Your Diary

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mon 1st June</b></li> <li>• Mon 1st June</li> <li>• Mon 1st June</li> <li>• Mon 1st June</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Term Starts</b></li> <li>• Y4 Times Tables Check</li> <li>• School swimming</li> <li>• Tennis Coaching starts (Lapwing / Kestrel)</li> <li>• Tues 2nd June</li> <li>• 3rd—5th June</li> <li>• Mon 8th June</li> <li>• 8th—12th June</li> <li>• Fri 12th June</li> <li>• 15th—17th June</li> <li>• 22nd June</li> <li>• Thur 25th June</li> <li>• Fri 26th June</li> <li>• Tues 30th June</li> <li>• 6th-16th July</li> <li>• <b>Fri 10th July</b></li> <li>• Wed 15th July</li> <li>• Thurs 16th July</li> <li>• Friday 17th July</li> <li>• Friday 17th July</li> <li>• Tues 1st Sept</li> <li>• <b>Wed 2nd Sept</b></li> </ul> |
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