

Friday Flyer

Friday 22nd May 2026

Headteacher Update

I am absolutely delighted to share that our very talented Y5/6 girls' football team travelled to Wolverhampton on Wednesday to play at the Molineux Stadium in the final of the Premier League Primary Stars tournament. We are incredibly proud that they took second place in the league and even more proud that they won the 'Fair Play' award which is perfect proof that they embody our school values. Impressively, this is the fourth time in five years that we have reached the final - twice with the boys' team and twice with the girls' team! We are very fortunate to have such committed and talented coaches in Mr Tailford, Mr Drane and Mr Orme. The girls received an enormous and well deserved round of applause in our celebration assembly this morning as they raised their trophy and I know that they have inspired many of the younger girls (and boys). Well done girls, we are so proud of you.



This morning in assembly we wished our wonderful Mrs Hazelton a fond farewell. After a successful career as a teacher and then teaching assistant, Mrs Hazelton is taking up an administrative role in a secondary school where I am sure she will do just as brilliant a job as she has with us.

Today you have received an important letter from the Pele Trust primary schools regarding smartphones and inviting you to share your views with us. Please take time to digest the letter and complete the short survey.

Finally, Children's Commissioner, Dame Rachel de Souza, has asked schools to share [this survey](#). The views gathered from children will be shared with the government. Please support your child to complete it.

Best wishes, Claire Johnson

Safeguarding & wellbeing

PRODUCT RECALL

URGENT CHILD PROTECTION MEASURE



PRODUCT NAME: Snapchat

REASON FOR RECALL:

- ▶ Known risk of grooming & sextortion
- ▶ Fear of exclusion & social rejection
- ▶ Exposure of live location
- ▶ Pressure to stay constantly online

U16 RISK LEVEL:
Extremely severe

The UK government is advised not to reintroduce this product to children until clear child safety standards are met. To ensure action, sign the petition to raise the age of social media to 16.

 **SMARTPHONE FREE CHILDHOOD**

SMARTPHONEFREECHILDHOOD.ORG/PETITION





At primary school, children who attend nearly every day in Year 6 (95–100% attendance) have 30% higher odds of reaching the expected standard in reading, writing and maths compared to similar pupils who attend 90–95% of the time. Please work with us to help your child's attendance stay above 95% throughout their time in primary school.

Attendance for this week is summarised below

Nursery (Acorn)	86.9%	Year 3 (Pine)	93.7%
Reception (Chestnut)	99.0%	Year 4 (Alder)	88.7%
Reception (Pinecone)	95.0%	Year 4 (Yew)	96.0%
Year 1 (Holly)	88.3%	Year 5 (Oak)	88.4%
Year 1 (Ash)	92.7%	Year 5 (Beech)	96.6%
Year 2 (Sycamore)	93.3%	Year 6 (Elm)	91.9%
Year 2 (Willow)	95.2%	Year 6 (Birch)	86.2%
Year 3 (Maple)	92.0%	Whole school Cumulative from Sept	95.6%

98% - 100%	Excellent Attendance
95% - 97.9%	Good Attendance
92% - 94.9	Caution (below national)
90% - 91.9%	Cause for concern
Below 89.9%	Persistent Absence - Serious Concern

Absence Procedures

If your child is ill, please keep them at home until they are well enough to return to school. **Please notify us by phone call or email before 9.15am** if your child is to be absent, and continue to inform us on a daily basis if they continue to be ill.

We have a continual focus on attendance and punctuality and this is of the utmost importance in your child's education. Please remember that our school gate closes at 8.55am as this is when our lessons begin. Anyone arriving after this time is classed as late and will miss valuable learning opportunities which take place immediately after registration, such as phonics.

This week in Nursery

This week we have been exploring different insects after listening to the story 'Mad About Minibeasts'. In PE we explored how minibeasts moved by warming up by singing our Creepy Crawly song. We then moved fast like a centipede, fluttered like butterflies and stood still like a stick insect. We then learnt how to play the game 'Stuck in the mud', wiggling like worms under our friends legs when they became stuck.



This week in Reception

Our final story from our core text Yummy was the Three Little Pigs. This week the children have built fabulous houses using sticks, straw and bricks to test if the Big Bad Hairdryer would blow them down! The children loved experimenting to see which material was the strongest. The children also built houses using mini bricks, innovated the story using their own characters including the Three Little Bunnies and the Big Bad Dragon! The children also enjoyed retelling the story in the role play area.



This week in Year 1

What a busy and exciting week we have had in Year 1. We have enjoyed lots of phonics practice, building our confidence with reading and recognising sounds. In Literacy, we have been becoming SPaG superstars by exploring the suffixes -est, -ed, -er and -ing and learning how adding these to words can change their meaning. We have also been learning when to use *a* or *an* in sentences and discovering how vowels and consonants help us decide which one is correct. In Geography, we became little explorers as we learned about aerial photographs, discussing how they are taken from above and how they help us see places in a different way. We then created our own Lego constructions and took aerial photographs to see what our models looked like from a bird's-eye view. In Maths, we have been developing our understanding of positional language and direction by using words such as left, right, above and below to describe where objects are and give instructions. We also had great fun in the woods on a minibeast hunt, carefully searching under logs and leaves as we learned about different habitats and where tiny creatures like to live.



This week in Year 2

In Year 2 this week, we have practiced collecting data by completing tally charts to monitor what type of vehicles passed us on the road. After that, we recorded what we found by using the computers to create pictograms. We then started to represent answers to our own questions with pictograms. We found that Willow Class think that England will win the World Cup!



Mrs Nowosielska and Mr Massey

This week in Year 3

Mummification Mania! We rounded off our learning about the Ancient Egyptians with a lesson on Mummification. Don't worry, all children remained intact and we carried out the mummification process on an orange. First we started by learning about why Ancient Egyptians actually mummified people and then learned about the steps that were taken, including putting organs into canopic jars and drying out the body using natron.

For us it was a little different, we followed the steps and used items that replicated the process of mummification. We sprinkled some spices inside for a nice smell before wrapping them in bandages and naming them! A big shout out to Green table with Orange Carter, named after Howard Carter who discovered Tutankhamun.



This week in Year 4

In history this week, the children explored the fascinating question: Was the Trojan War real? They worked collaboratively in groups to research evidence and take part in a debate, using our oracy skills to build on each other's ideas, challenge viewpoints respectfully and clarify our thinking. The children showed great confidence in presenting their arguments and listening carefully to others, demonstrating excellent teamwork and communication skills.

We would like to wish everyone a wonderful half term break! We hope you enjoy a well-earned rest, spend time with family and friends and make the most of the sunshine. ☀️



This Week in Year 5

Goal-den Opportunities!

This week, Year 5 were invited to Ponteland High School to take part in a range of exciting sports activities led by the school's Sixth Form Sports Studies students.

The children were split into mini teams and took part in organised games of cricket and football, competing against each other as well as teams from Darras Hall Primary School. It was fantastic to see everyone getting involved, showing teamwork, determination, and great sportsmanship throughout the day.

As well as enjoying the games, the event gave the children a brilliant opportunity to mix with pupils from other schools and meet new people. There was lots of encouragement, cheering, and smiling all around as the teams worked together and supported one another.

The children represented the school brilliantly and came back buzzing after a fun-filled afternoon of sport and teamwork!



PIC•COLLAGE

This week in Year 6

Year 6 has enjoyed a brilliant final week to end this half term. To support our learning about the human body, we took part in a fascinating workshop delivered by Hands on Science, focused entirely on the heart. As well as recapping our previous learning about the anatomy of the heart, we explored how to recognise a healthy heart and the different factors that can influence heart health.

As always, the heart dissection brought a mixture of reactions, but it was clear that everyone appreciated what has now become a true Year 6 summer-term rite of passage.

We were also incredibly fortunate to welcome Mr Adamson (husband of Reception's Mrs Adamson), who visited to talk to us about his work as a Cardiac Physiologist. He helped us understand how he and his team support their patients and the vital role they play in monitoring and protecting heart health.



Dates for your diary in 2026



Wc 25th May 2026	May Half Term - School Closed
Mon 1st June 2026	School Resumes
Tue 2nd June 2026	Year 6 Trip - Packed lunches needed.
Weds 3rd June 2026	Sehgal's Uniform Pop Up at Ponteland High School (3.30-6pm)
Fri 5th June 2026	PTA Quiz Night. £10 per ticket, includes food and quiz entry. Games, raffle and drinks are also on sale!
Weds 10th June 2026	Class Photo Day
Thur 11th June 2026	Reception Trip (AM only)
Mon 22nd June 2026	Year 2 Trip - Packed lunch needed
Wed 1st July 2026	PTA Joke Competition. £1 entry. Write out your funniest joke and submit to win a prize!
Fri 3rd July 2026	PTA Summer Fair. Starts 3.10pm until 5pm.
Fri 17th July 2026	Last day of school - 1.30pm finish
Tue 1st Sept 2026	Teacher Training Day
Wed 2nd Sept 2026	School Resumes
Fri 23rd October 2026	Teacher Training Day
Wc 26th October 26	Half Term
Mon 2nd Nov 2026	Teacher Training Day
Tuesday 3rd Nov 2026	School Resumes

Opal Needs You!

The children thoroughly enjoy exploring the different zones of OPAL and it has really enhanced our playtime experience. If you are having a clear out, we would love to take some of your old equipment off your hands. If you have any of the following items, please bring them to the school office after the half term break:

- Wellies
 - Waterproofs
 - Barbies/dolls
 - Toy trucks/cars
- Shop items: till, fruit and veg baskets etc**
Metal pots and pans Children's Gardening Tools
Dressing up items

After School Club Needs You!

We would love to take any of these off you:

- Stickers
- Unused hair/make up brushes and combs
- Hair accessories
- Costume jewellery
- Scooters



Can you help the Friends of Ponteland Primary School?

PONTELAND PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA



Ways you can help...

EMPLOYER

Are you employed by one of the biggest employers in the North East who offer Grant Match Fundraising? Could they help you help your School? Or will they allow you paid time away from work to help with fundraising events? Chat to your HR department today to see if there's a way to help!



ACCENTURE
PROCTOR & GAMBLE
NISSAN
SAGE
GREGGS
BARBOUR
DELOITTE
VIRGIN MONEY
BELLWAY
NORTHERN POWERGRID
VERTU
...AND MANY MORE



TIME

Do you have time available to help plan, organise, set up, clean up and be a volunteer at our many fundraising events throughout the year? We appreciate any available time, even if just for one event. Please contact us on pontelandpta@gmail.com

MONEY

We understand that time is not something everyone has to offer and we are often asked about the ability to make regular or one off cash donations to the PTA as an alternative. Should you wish to do so please reference 'Donation' along with your name to the Ponteland Primary PTA account:
Acc no: 20669059
S.C: 20-59-61



SKILLS

Do you have a skillset that could help the School PTA? Marketing, PR, Graphic design, finance, events planning, social media and so many more skills are valuable to us. This may be offered as your time or as feedback to what you see and experience from the PTA.

"WHEN PARENTS ARE ENGAGED AND TAKE PART IN SCHOOL AFFAIRS, IT CREATES A POSITIVE AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR STUDENTS"

Pontelandpta@gmail.com



Ponteland Primary School is committed to keeping all children safe. Our staff regularly participate in safeguarding training and are fully aware of how to keep our pupils safe and what signs to look out for. Our pupils know they can share any concerns and we have robust policies and procedures in place which underpin safeguarding. It is our paramount priority to keep all children healthy and safe.

Our Designated Safeguarding Leads are:



Mrs Johnson (Head Teacher)
Lead DSL



Mrs Wright (Family & Behaviour
Support Adviser) Deputy DSL



Miss Dinning (Deputy Head Teacher)
Deputy DSL

Turn your daily shopping into everyday magic for us with easyfundraising

You shop, brands donate to us. It won't cost you any extra!



 easyfundraising

Help us make a difference when you shop.
Visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk



- 1 Visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk
- 2 Sign up and search for Ponteland Primary School PTA
- 3 Your favourite brands donate between 0.5-15% to us whenever you shop with them, with no charge to you

Shop with 7,500+ brands including:

Booking.com

ebay

M&S

GROUPON



TUI

JOHN
LEWIS



Viking

ASOS



Uber Eats



PRE-LOVED SCHOOL UNIFORM



Do you have school uniform in good condition that your child no longer wears but could be worn by someone else in the school community?

Please donate your pre-loved, wearable uniform via the donation basket in reception.

Looking for uniform?

All items washed and ready to wear. Please contact pontprimaryuniform@gmail.com to let us know what you're looking for, including sizes!

Voluntary contributions to the PTA welcomed.

Money box at reception or bank transfer:

Ponteland Primary School Parent Teacher Association

20-59-61

20669059



