

Friday Flyer

Friday 26th June 2026

Headteacher Update

What a wonderful week we have had in school! There have been years where Sports Day had to be cancelled due to rain but this year we were blessed with glorious sunshine and, thankfully, a breeze just when it was needed most! The children stayed well hydrated and gave every event their all - I'm sure you feel as proud of them as I do and I hope you all enjoyed the day as much as we did. Mr Tailford and Mr Smith proved to be the dream team and had the day planned to perfection - huge thanks to them for all the effort that went into making the day a success. A few parents suggested that it might be nice to have some refreshments for the adults during Sports Day and this sounds like an excellent idea to me. In order to make this a possibility we would need some parent volunteers to support the Friends of Ponteland Primary School so please consider if you'd be willing to lend a hand this time next year.

It has been a thoroughly sporty week as we also had Dan Magness, football trickster extraordinaire, in school for the whole day yesterday. After showcasing his own impressive talents, he taught the children a few tricks which I'm sure they will use to impress you! Well done to our own Mr Pritchard for lending his own football skills to Dan's demonstrations. Thank you so much to the Friends of PPS for funding such an exciting event for the children.



Finally, I wanted to draw your attention to the Water Safety Code which the children have learned about in assemblies this week. As you will no doubt have heard on the news, there have been some tragic deaths recently where children have entered open bodies of water and got into difficulty. I've tasked the children with going home and teaching their families about the Water Safety Code so please do talk this through with them.

Best wishes, Claire Johnson

Safeguarding & wellbeing

Always follow the **WATER SAFETY CODE**



Whenever you are in, on and around water:

**STOP
AND THINK**

always swim
in a safe place



**STAY
TOGETHER**

keep children in
arm's reach



FLOAT



if you fall in, float,
breathe and relax

In an emergency
CALL 999





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)	94.4%	Year 3 (Pine)	90.0%
Reception (Chestnut)	93.3%	Year 4 (Alder)	88.7%
Reception (Pinecone)	85.0%	Year 4 (Yew)	90.0%
Year 1 (Holly)	87.7%	Year 5 (Oak)	88.1%
Year 1 (Ash)	99.0%	Year 5 (Beech)	99.7%
Year 2 (Sycamore)	96.7%	Year 6 (Elm)	94.5%
Year 2 (Willow)	93.5%	Year 6 (Birch)	89.7%
Year 3 (Maple)	97.3%	Whole school Cumulative from Sept	95.3%

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

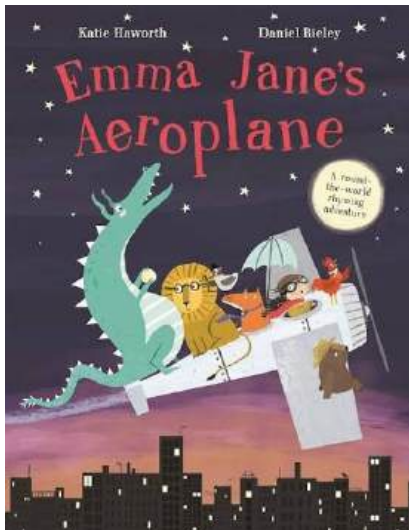
Absence Procedures

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

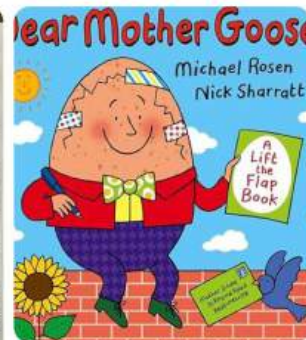
Nursery have listened to the story Emma Jane's Aeroplane, looking at landmarks near and far. In our group time we practised our name writing skills and cutting to make our own fan to help us cool down in the heat!



Mrs Wilds

This week in Reception

Over the last couple of weeks our focus has been on our core text, Dear Mother Goose. We have used this to think about solving problems. We have become agony aunts to both the nursery rhyme characters and even school staff and written some fabulous letters. We have also completed an eggcellent science experiment. We had to decide which materials were best to protect Humpty Dumpty from smashing when he was dropped from height. There were varied results but we all had fun!



This week in Year 1

What a jam-packed, high-energy week we have had in Year 1—honestly, we think the children (and the teachers!) will need a very long nap this weekend! We have had an incredible Sports Day, where everyone showed amazing teamwork and sportsmanship, followed by a visit from a freestyle footballer who blew us away with demonstrations and tricks that have the children convinced they are ready for the Premier League! In the classroom, our super writers mastered sequencing and spelling the days of the week, while our history lessons took flight as we learned all about the brave explorer Amy Johnson. We also dove into water safety this week during PSHE, and wrapped things up musically by stomping along to the deep double bass of the elephants in session four of *Carnival of the Animals*. Friday has been topped off by a cool ice-lolly refreshment at afternoon break time. Have a lovely warm weekend!



PIC•COLLAGE

Miss Storey, Mrs Kenyon and Mrs Tailford

This week in Year 2

Our recent school trip to Beamish Museum brought history to life as Year 2 stepped back into the World War II era to experience the reality of wartime evacuees. The children explored a pit village, toured an authentic 1940s home, and even visited a real Anderson shelter to understand how families stayed safe during air raids. Sadly, we couldn't go in because of a bird nesting in here! They also discovered how vital farms were to the war effort, learning how animals were used for essential food and clothing. It was an immersive, unforgettable day that really helped our learning about the war.



Mrs Nowosielska and Mr Massey

This week in Year 3

“I’m hot” has probably been the most heard phrase of the week... However, we have all been absolute troopers at continuing to give our best efforts and work hard through everything we have done in class this week.

The heat certainly didn’t stop us on Wednesday when we came together for Sports Day!! Slick with sunscreen and sweat the boys and girls in year 3 competed superbly across 6 activities including the egg and spoon, long jump, howler throw and sprint. It was fantastic to see them cheering each other along and showing excellent sportsmanship across this morning. Thank you to all of our families who came to support and cheer us on!

A huge thank you also goes out to our High School Sports Leaders who gave use clear demonstrations before our activity and Mr Tailford and Mr Smith for their organisation of the morning!

Miss Mears and Mr Shaw



This week in Year 4

What a week it has been! Despite the sweltering heat, Year 4 showed incredible resilience as they smashed their final assessments of the year, staying focused and positive through every single paper.

The heat didn't stop the fun, either. We had an absolute blast at Sports Day, cheering each other on with fantastic sportsmanship, and we were treated to an amazing football skills workshop with world-record freestyler Dan Magness! We are so incredibly proud of how hard the children worked and played this week, they have truly earned a relaxing weekend. Please remember to send them in with sun hats and refillable water bottles as the warm weather continues!




This Week in Year 5

Hot Shots!

What a busy, and very hot week it has been in Year 5! Despite the soaring temperatures, the children have coped brilliantly, making the most of extra opportunities to work and relax in the outdoor shade when needed.

One of the highlights of the week was Sports Day, where the children ran, jumped and threw their way through a range of events. There was plenty of determination, teamwork, and encouragement on display, and it was wonderful to see everyone giving their best. Well done to our podium winners. Another memorable moment came when Dan Magness visited us, introducing us to the exciting world of freestyle football. The children were amazed by his incredible skills and then had the chance to try some of their own. We flicked, kicked and tricked our way through the session, learning new techniques and discovering just how much practice and perseverance are needed to master them. A special thank you to the PTFA for supporting this.

As we head towards the end of term, Year 5 continue to impress us with their enthusiasm and resilience - even in the heat! 

Mr McCourt, Mr Tailford and Miss Bradley



This week in Year 6

Along with the rest of school, year 6 joined in the football freestyle workshop this week. The children were blown away by Dan's skills and couldn't believe how he managed to cast a spell over the ball. When it was time for us to try, they were resilient, encouraging and creative. We had to duck for cover once or twice but it was lovely to see the whole year group come together to have fun and show off the skills they already had along with the new tricks and flicks they learned. We have a few more exciting weeks left; the children have managed so well in the extreme heat this week. Here's hoping it cools (just a little bit) in time for next week!



Miss Allan and Mr Orme

Dates for your diary in 2026



Wed 1st July 2026	PTA Joke Competition. £1 entry. Write out your funniest joke and submit to win a prize!
Thur 2nd July 2026	Yr4 Assembly - Introduction to Yr5 9.10am
Fri 3rd July 2026	Yr5 Assembly - Introduction to Yr6 9.10am
Fri 3rd July 2026	PTA Summer Fair. Starts 3.10pm until 5pm.
Mon 6th July 2026	Yr1 Assembly - Introduction to Yr2 9.10am
Tue 7th July 2026	Yr3 Assembly - Introduction to Yr4 9.10am
Tue 7th July 2026	Yr1 Trip - Packed lunch needed
Weds 8th July 2026	Yr2 Assembly - Introduction to Yr3 9.10am
Fri 10th July 2026	Reception Assembly - Introduction to Yr1 9.10am
Weds 15th July 2026	Year 6 Leavers Assembly 2pm
Fri 17th July 2026	Last day of school - 1.30pm finish
Tue 1st Sept 2026	Teacher Training Day (school closed to pupils)
Wed 2nd Sept 2026	School Resumes
Fri 23rd October 2026	Teacher Training Day (school closed to pupils)
Wc 26th Oct 2026	Half Term
Mon 2nd Nov	Teacher Training Day (school closed to pupils)

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 Christmas 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:

- Loom Bands
 - Complete Jigsaws
 - Chess Sets
 - Dolls House Furniture
- Beads**
Lego & Duplo
Knex



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

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- 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

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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



