

Friday Flyer

Friday 3rd July 2026

Headteacher Update

Everyone has no doubt experienced the many roadworks we have around Ponteland at the moment! This week, Stevie, an engineer from Northern Gas, came into school to talk to KS2 about why the works are in place and how to stay safe around them. She explained that the metal pipes underground are being replaced with plastic pipes which should last 100 years - good news for us as it hopefully means we won't see our journeys to school disrupted on this scale again! She talked the children through the mnemonic SAFETY to help them understand how they can 'play safe and stay safe'.



During the assembly she asked the children where gas came from and we were all incredibly proud to hear that Toby in Y3 was the first child in ten years of Stevie delivering the assembly to get the question right with his answer of 'under the ground offshore'!

Thank you to all of the children who brightened my Wednesday evening when I read all of their entries into the joke competition. We have some very funny children! It was hard to choose a favourite but Woody's joke gave me a real laugh so he has been crowned the winner:

**What do you get when you cross an angry sheep and an angry cow...?
Two animals in a baaaaaaaaaad moooooooooooooood!**

When this lands in your inbox many of us will be at the Friends of Ponteland Primary School's Summer Fair which I know is going to be a huge success so I will thank you all in advance for your generosity in supporting the school and I'll report back next week on the fun that will no doubt be had.

Best wishes,
Claire Johnson

Safeguarding & wellbeing

Stevie from Northern Gas has invited the children to design a poster to promote safety around the gas works. Children can pick up an entry form from Miss Usher in the main entrance. All entries will win a prize and will also be featured around the roadworks so the children will be able to spot their own artwork when they're stuck in traffic - every cloud! Deadline for entries is Monday 13th July.





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)	94.7%	Year 3 (Pine)	98.0%
Reception (Chestnut)	90.0%	Year 4 (Alder)	88.1%
Reception (Pinecone)	95.3%	Year 4 (Yew)	91.0%
Year 1 (Holly)	87.7%	Year 5 (Oak)	90.3%
Year 1 (Ash)	98.0%	Year 5 (Beech)	96.9%
Year 2 (Sycamore)	91.0%	Year 6 (Elm)	98.7%
Year 2 (Willow)	97.4%	Year 6 (Birch)	91.7%
Year 3 (Maple)	91.7%	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

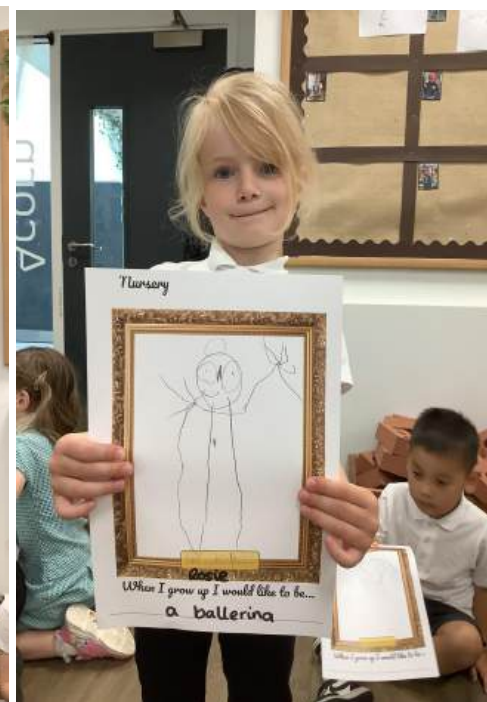
Absence Procedures

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 'When I grow up I'd like to be..' and decided on their future careers. We had some aspiring hairdressers, teachers, builders, footballers and dancers. The children used their nippy fingers to draw themselves in their future role, what a bunch of talented artists we have!



Mrs Wilds

This week in Reception

Football fever came to Reception this week as we learned all about The World Cup! We looked at the world map, talked about all the different countries and their flags and had lots of fun making our own flags and bunting. We also designed our own football shirts before using fabric pens to bring them to life! We were very relieved when England won on Wednesday!



Mrs Blyth and Mrs Adamson

This week in Year 1

We have had another wonderfully busy week in Year 1! In English, excitement is building as we prepare for our upcoming trip to Lilidorei; the children have loved learning all about the different magical clans that live there and have even put their imaginations to work designing their very own clan characters. In Maths, we have been mastering how to tell the time to o'clock and we will be moving on to explore half past next week. Our journey through history continues as we dive deeper into our Explorers topic, this week focusing on the famous voyages of Christopher Columbus. Finally, in Art, the children got wonderfully hands-on by creating some brilliant 3D sculptures of penguins!



Miss Storey, Mrs Kenyon and Mrs Tailford

This week in Year 2

This week, we finished our learning journey about World War Two by learning how it ended. We then poured all that we have learned into a double page spread - from how the war began, to the blitz, through rationing and life as an evacuee. It really has been interesting and has helped us understand more about our global curriculum themes of peace and conflict.



Mrs Nowosielska and Mr Massey

This week in Year 3

It has been such an exciting and productive week in Year 3!

In Maths, we have continued our deep dive into the concept of time. Although this is notoriously a very tricky unit to master, the children have shown immense resilience and dedication. They have been focusing on calculating the exact duration of events when given a specific start and end time, a challenging skill that they tackled with fantastic focus.

Over in Design and Technology, the classroom was a hub of determination as we began sewing our Egyptian neck collars. This intricate task required a great deal of patience, concentration, and the development of some brilliant fine motor skills. I am incredibly impressed by how beautifully their collars are turning out, I have no doubt that an ancient pharaoh would be proud to wear them!

Thank you for another wonderful week of hard work and creativity, Year 3!



Miss Mears and Mr Shaw

This week in Year 4

In preparation for making our own Greek salads in DT next week, the children have been developing their food preparation skills by practising the bridge and claw grip techniques. Our work experience student, Miss Mackey, gave an excellent demonstration, and the children did a fantastic job chopping cucumber and tomatoes with care and precision.



Mrs Bell and Miss Davis

This Week in Year 5

Nailed It!

This week, Year 5 has been in a reflective mood as we reminisced about our achievements and memories throughout the year. On Friday, the children took to the stage to perform their end-of-year assembly, taking a nostalgic (and often hilarious) look back at their journey through Year 5. The children confidently guided the audience through a whistle-stop tour of their favourite milestones - including Robinwood, historical deep-dives into the north east, and their fond memories of Wonder. It was fantastic to see every child step into the spotlight with confidence, whether they were delivering a solo line, on the big screen, or singing their hearts out to Big River by Jimmy Nail.

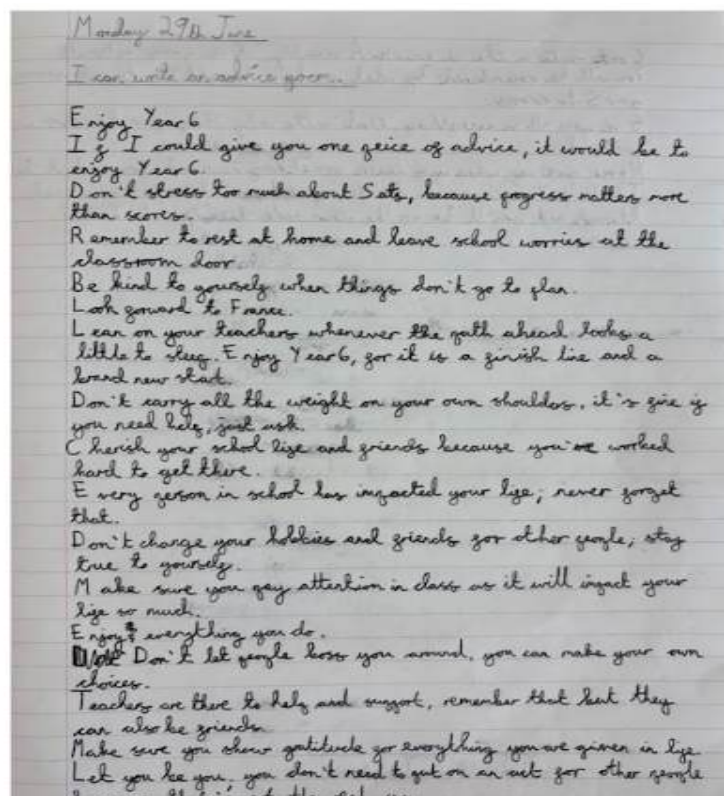
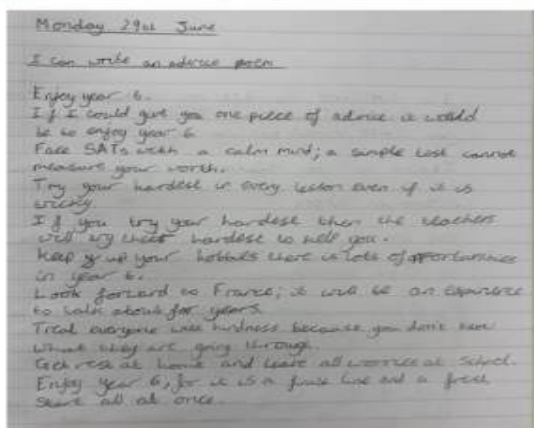
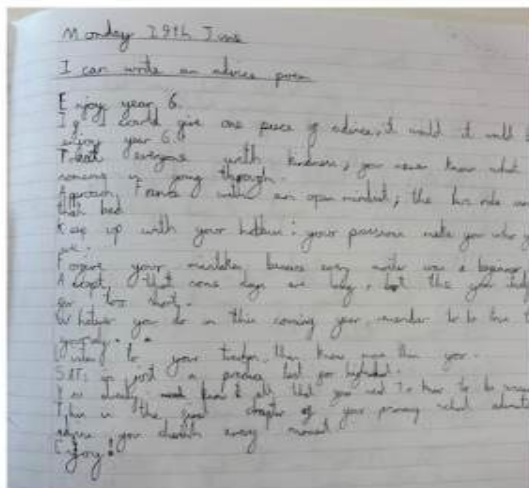
The excitement for next year is building. Not long to go. Year 6 - here we come!



Mr McCourt and Mr Tailford

This week in Year 6

It has been an incredibly exciting and reflective week in Year 6 as we begin to look back through our year together. With transition on our minds, the children channelled their wisdom into writing advice poems, packed with top tips on how to tackle Year 6 for the incoming classes. We also took some time to think about the adults in school who have made a significant impact on their primary journeys, and the children wrote beautiful letters of thanks. I know many of these were very emotionally received by teachers and staff across the school! Alongside these moments of reflection, there has been a buzz of excitement as all of our children have, at some point this week, enjoyed their transition days to their new secondary schools. It has been wonderful to see their confidence grow, and we are incredibly proud of how well they embraced this exciting next step.



PIC•COLLAGE

Dates for your diary in 2026



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)
Tue 3rd Nov	School Resumes
Fri 18th Dec 2026	Last day of school - 1.30pm finish
Mon 4th Jan 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 Christmas break:

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

After School Club Needs You!

We would love to take any of these off you:

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





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 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



Download on the
App Store



GET IT ON
Google Play

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



Ponteland Primary School
Excellence For All

