

Leadgate Primary School – Friday Newsletter

Caring, Sharing, Learning Together

Friday 2nd December 2022

On this day in history:

1804 General Napoleon Bonaparte is crowned Emperor of the French at the Notre Dame de Paris in a ceremony officiated by Pope Pius VII

1982 William C. DeVries implanted the first permanent artificial heart in Barney Clark; the aluminum and plastic device was called the Jarvik-7.



Whole School Attendance Weekly Attendance figures

Reception = 81 %
★ Year 1 = 92 % ★
Year 2 = 89.3 %
Year 3 = 91.1 %
Year 4 = 90.8 %
★ Year 5 = 99.4 % ★
Year 6 = 88.1 %



Congratulations

Well Done Year 1 for the best attendance in Keystage 1 and Year 5 for the best attendance in Upper School across the whole week.

Christmas nativity story

St Ives Church

Join us on Monday 12th of December, at 10am

Leadgate Primary School
Key Stage 1 & Key Stage 2

All parents/grandparents welcome.
Come and join the celebrations!



We are delighted to invite you to join us for a festive parent and child craft workshop in school. Sessions will last around 1 hour where you can enjoy a coffee and help your child create their next spectacular Christmas creation! Make room on those trees!

Year 2 Friday 9th December
Year 1 Tuesday 13th December

We look forward to seeing you there!

9am - 10am

School Dates



School Holiday Dates



The next school Holiday is Christmas and the School closes for Christmas on Friday 16th December and reopens on Wednesday January 4th.

School dates confirmed so far :

- 5th Dec – Durham Light Infantry workshops with Year 6
- 6th Dec – Pantomime on site for Upper School
- 6th Dec – Reception Class visit to Seven Stories
- 8th Dec – SAVE THE CHILDREN Christmas Jumper Day
- 9th December - Kylie Dixon Author and illustrator Visit KS2
- 9th Dec – Year 2 Christmas Coffee Cake and Craft
- 7th Dec- Panto at Empire Theatre for Year 1 and 2
- 12th Dec – Christmas Performance Years 1 to 6 to be held at Church next to Brooms School
- 13th Dec – Year 1 Christmas Coffee, Cake and Craft
- 13th Dec – Christmas Dinner day on both sites
- 13th Dec – Early Years Christmas Performance 2.15pm
- 14th Dec – EYFS Christmas Party a.m.
- 14th Dec – Durham Music Service Vocal Concert
- 14th Dec – Keystage 1 Christmas Party
- 15th Dec – Keystage 2 Christmas Party
- 16th Dec – School Closes for Christmas Holiday



Thank you to all the parents who shared in the menu taster session afterschool on Thursday at Upper School. The upper school children also enjoyed a fantastic day with Chef Tony and his helpers creating healthy Rainbow Wraps



CONSETT CHRISTMAS ELF TRAIL

3 - 17 DECEMBER

FOLLOW THE CHRISTMAS ELF TRAIL AROUND CONSETT TOWN CENTRE

Local children have been busy making Christmas elves. The elves have been up to their usual mischief and hidden themselves inside shops on Middle Street, Consett.

Can you find the elves and solve the Christmas puzzle?

Look out for the shops displaying this poster in the window and pick up a trail form in-store to find out more and get started.

Completed entries which are handed in to Empire Consett by 5.00pm on 17 December will be eligible for our Christmas prize draw!

PARENT REMINDER

All School Photograph orders need to be returned to school by Tuesday 6th December to ensure they are processed and delivered.

REMINDER:

Year 1 & 2 go to Consett Empire Theatre to enjoy the pantomime Aladdin. Oh yes we are!
This is a morning trip on Wednesday 7th December. The bus will leave school at 9.10am prompt. The bus will return at approximately 12.45pm so we will be having a slightly later than usual lunch. Please ensure all children arrive to school on time, we would not want anybody missing the bus!
Keystage 2, Years 3 to 6, will have their Pantomime in school on Tuesday 6th in the Afternoon.

E-Safety Update / Information

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SOCIAL MEDIA & MENTAL HEALTH

An estimated one-third of children have a social media account, so it's important that trusted adults know what content young people are consuming, what they're posting and the interactions they're having. On social media, it can be easy to go down 'rabbit holes' that aren't beneficial to our wellbeing. As platforms grapple with managing such 'legal but harmful' content, lives are being impacted – sometimes to tragic effect. We might be daunted by the scale of the tech giants and their content which so enraptures young people, but we can still help children to be aware of their mental wellness: recognising when something isn't OK... and knowing what to do about content that upsets them.

1. UNDERSTAND THE ALGORITHM

Algorithms rank content by user interest: someone who regularly interacts with sports news, say, will see the latest results at the top of their feed. Likewise, if a user browses content that can cause harm, that's what will be recommended to them in future. Someone who's had a bad day and looks for posts which reflect their mood will find similar content being suggested to them more and more.

2. AVOID THE MAIN FEEDS

Avoiding the default feeds on social media platforms limits the amount of recommended content that's shown. Users can opt to only scroll through the accounts they follow, use restricted modes, or highlight posts that they don't want to see more of. Explore the platform safety settings to see how you can take control of what your child's phone shows them when they open the app.

3. DISCUSS WHAT THEY'VE SEEN

Chatting about what your child's seen online keeps you aware of the content they're interacting with. Don't assume that platforms are screening out inappropriate material, or even that your child would recognise content as being harmful. Discuss who they follow, what posts they like and what comes up in their feeds: if alarm bells ring, it could be time for a more in-depth talk or to seek support.

4. LEARN HOW TO HIDE CONTENT

If your child stumbles across unsuitable content on social media, there's the option to hide that post as well as indicating you'd prefer any similar material not to be suggested in future. On some platforms, you might also be able to block posts that contain specific words, which is an excellent way to start taking control of what your child sees online.

5. SET DAILY LIMITS

Phones and most apps can tell you how much they're being used. Spending too long online can mean a child misses out on other activities that are important to all-round wellbeing. You could set some family rules – for everyone to follow – around device use, such as screen time limits and tech-free spaces: involving your child in creating this agreement makes them more likely to stick to it.

6. MONITOR THEIR ACTIVITY

Keeping a discreet eye on how your child is using social media can help ensure they're not entering potentially dangerous situations. As they grow up, of course, children need space to exercise their independence – but you can still occasionally ask to see what they're looking at. Be transparent about your own social media use and try not to sound judgemental about your child's.

7. TURN OFF PUSH NOTIFICATIONS

Even for adults, it's tempting to check an email or message as soon as the alert sound pings. Push notifications encourage people to open their apps and spend time on their device, so turning them off will help your child to practise mindful use of tech. Most of us have other things that we need to focus on as a priority – and those notifications will still be there later, when we have more time.

8. USE DEVICES TOGETHER

Giving children internet-enabled devices and complete freedom to explore platforms on their own can result in exposure to hugely damaging content. You could consider making a particular area at home a designated space to use phones, tablets and so on – making it much easier to monitor what content your child is viewing and (if necessary) steer them away from any potentially harmful paths.

9. ENCOURAGE OTHER ACTIVITIES

Mental health professionals often highlight the importance of exercise, quality time with loved ones, a balanced diet and restful sleep for our mental wellbeing. Spending hours on social media can cause us to sacrifice other activities that our brains need to feel well – so encouraging your child to put down their phone and enjoy something that doesn't involve a screen can be immensely beneficial.

10. TALK ABOUT PEER PRESSURE

Most platforms default children's accounts to private, so only people they've accepted as friends can see their posts. This reduces the risk of bullying or unkind comments, but – just like offline life – the digital world can still make children feel as if they need to act or look a certain way to fit in. Talk to your child about peer pressure, and listen to any concerns so you can provide the support they need.

Meet Our Expert

Shazia Sarwar-Azim is executive headteacher at a specialist primary school and, as an emotional therapy coach, works with school leaders to focus on the SEND, mental health and wellbeing agenda. A passionate advocate for vulnerable learners, Shazia is a Fellow of the Chartered College of Teaching and the author of *The Rainbow Within*, a book which supports children with SEMH needs.



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#WakeUpWednesday