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## 8th September 2023

Welcome back everyone! It has been a very positive start to our new term and our new year. We are delighted to see you all again and find out about what the children have been up to over the past few weeks as well as seeing how they have grown!

The children have enjoyed a fun session with Mrs Cochrane for music, spending time reaffirming our school values and care for each other as well as getting going with English, maths and science lessons. We are delighted to have Pippa back this half term to continue our forest school art / design technology sessions on Friday afternoons.



The children have also been creating entries for the Lowick Leek Show in time for this Sunday.

From next week we will be swimming and having PE on Wednesday afternoons so children will need to wear active clothing that's easy to change in and out of as well as bring their swimming kits.

## Reading records – a message from Mrs Stiansen and Mrs Strangeways

Welcome back! We will be sending books home that your child chooses from a selection that matches your child's reading ability. We'd love you to tell us how they get on when they read it with you at home. Just a short note like these below is fine.



*We enjoyed the story. Read fluently. Answered questions. ——— was a tricky word.*

The children can also bring a library book home to share with you. Most library books will have 'trickier' words than your child may be used to so these might be books you would like to read to your child.

## Job Vacancy

**We are now advertising for a lunchtime supervisor / general supervisor to help support swimming on Wednesday afternoons** as Rachel is sadly leaving us to move on to a new job. If you are interested or know of someone who might be please share our job advert and help us find the right person!  
[https://www.northeastjobs.org.uk/job/Lunchtime\\_Supervisory\\_and\\_General\\_Assistant/247488](https://www.northeastjobs.org.uk/job/Lunchtime_Supervisory_and_General_Assistant/247488)

### Staffing update

As you may remember, Rebecca will be helping out at Ford first school during the Autumn term whilst they recruit a new headteacher. This means that on Wednesdays she will be based there as well as spending two half days a week at Ford. She will still be available for staff at Lowick and Holy Island every day and will pop between sites. To help make this possible, we have recruited Chris Richardson to teach some days at Lowick in the first autumn half term to share class 2 with Mrs Stiansen (around the tides) and to make sure we have continuity of teaching and pastoral care.

Joanne Marshall has started an apprenticeship in the nursery. She will be working Tuesday - Fridays and training for a level 3 Early Years Educator qualification.

### Learning themes

Our learning theme this term is London (including the plague and the Great Fire of London). In RE we are learning about Hinduism this half term and Incarnation (Christmas) next half term.

In the spring term our theme is Ice Explorers and in the summer term we will be learning about the beginning of the Kingdom of England (Alfred the Great and King Athelstan).



### Holy Island vehicle update

We are still awaiting our leased people carrier but have had some encouraging news that it may be ready soon. In the meantime, Mrs Stiansen is driving the Lowick minibus to bring everyone over.

### Clubs

After school clubs start next week. They run from 3pm to 4pm and are free of charge.

Monday: art club

Tuesday: film club

Wednesday: sports club (gymnastics this half term)

Thursday: Commando Joe's

Friday: eco-schools club



### RAAC statement from Northumberland County Council

"Northumberland County Council would like to reassure families that our investigations have found no evidence of the presence of RAAC in our maintained schools in Northumberland. Academies are liaising directly with the Department for Education, but we have not been made aware of any instances of RAAC being present in their buildings at this time. All schools are therefore expected to be open as normal at the start of the autumn term."

### Dates for your diary

Friday 22nd September - main school visit to Pippa's garden for forest school to find out more about uses of plants.

Pencil in - tbc: Thursday 12th October - Berwick Literary festival performance for KS1 (years 1 & 2) children in the morning.

Monday 23rd October - Kirtida from the Hindu Centre in Newcastle will be visiting us to share Hindu stories, music and culture with the children.

Half term - one week holiday week beginning Monday 30th October.

Thursday 9th November - main school trip to the Discovery Museum in Newcastle for workshops on the Great Fire of London and the Great Fire of Newcastle and Gateshead.

Friday 10th November - Remembrance worship - we usually do this at the war memorial in the village. More information will be available nearer the time.