



Ellingham CE Primary School **Friday Flyer**

15.05.26

Executive Head Teacher Update

Well done to our fabulous Year 6 pupils for coping admirably with their Sats tests. I am proud of them all for trying their very best. Thank you to the staff team for all you have done for them.

Other assessments are still taking place, such as Year 1 phonics, so please keep supporting with good attendance.

We will be sharing your child's/children's attendance data more frequently, so will be giving pupils certificates before the half-term break.

I can't believe there is only one week until half-term and it certainly is an action-packed week with the joint KS2 Mosque and Newcastle visit, KS1 and EYFS lantern making workshop, Year 5 and 6 Life Centre virtual lesson and our new Executive Headteacher, Mr Craig Shaw visiting on Monday afternoon.

Please be reassured that we do not have any asbestos contaminated sand products in school.

Best wishes,

Diane Lakey



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At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about IMAGE-ALTERING FILTERS

From playful puppy ears on Snapchat to 'beauty mode' on TikTok, image-altering filters are now a routine part of how young people communicate online. While many are harmless, others subtly reshape people's faces and bodies. This can blur the line between reality and edited content, potentially influencing how children and young people see themselves and others.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ALTERED BEAUTY STANDARDS

Many 'beauty' filters smooth skin, reshape facial features, or adjust body proportions. Over time, repeated exposure to these filters can shift a child's idea of what is 'normal' or attractive, creating unrealistic expectations about their own and others' appearances.

PRESSURE TO LOOK PERFECT

Filtered images can often attract more 'likes' and positive comments. This can encourage children and young people to rely on editing tools to gain others' approval, rather than feeling confident in their natural appearance.

LOW SELF-ESTEEM

Regularly viewing heavily filtered content can lead to comparisons with unrealistic images. This is linked to body dissatisfaction and reduced self-esteem, particularly among children and teenagers.

HIDDEN ADVERTISING

Some filters are linked to beauty products or trends, subtly promoting third-party brands. Children and young people may not recognise this as advertising, while also sharing personal data – such as facial images and usage habits – with apps and third parties.

BLURRED REALITY

As filters become more advanced and natural-looking, it can be difficult for children and young people to distinguish edited content from real life, especially when filters are used in everyday photos and videos.

SEXUALISED EDITS

Certain tools can make users appear older or more sexualised. This may attract unwanted attention, increase the risk of images being shared without consent, and expose young people to unsafe interactions.

Advice for Parents & Educators

START OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Talk regularly about filters, such as how they work and why people use them. Ask the children and young people in your care how filtered images make them feel and encourage honest discussion without judgement.

CHALLENGE 'PERFECT' POSTS

When viewing content together, gently point out the signs of editing, filters, or posing techniques. This builds critical thinking and helps children and young people question unrealistic images.

REINFORCE WHAT'S REAL

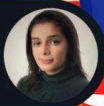
Help children and young people understand that filtered images are digitally altered and are not an accurate reflection of real life. Emphasise that they don't need to meet these artificial standards.

PROMOTE OFFLINE CONFIDENCE

Encourage activities that build self-worth beyond appearance, such as sports, hobbies, friendships, and creative interests, so that confidence isn't tied solely to online validation.

Meet Our Expert

Parveen Kaur is a digital parenting expert and founder of Kids N Clicks, a platform dedicated to helping parents navigate the online world alongside their children. She is an expert contributor for Internet Matters, offering practical guidance on emerging online safety issues. Her insights have been featured by the BBC, The Telegraph, Talk TV, and other major media outlets, supporting families across the UK.



The National College

See full reference list on our website

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Attendance

Class	Weekly attendance	Annual attendance
Splash	100	95
Space Base	100	95
Earth Works	100	89.7
Time Zone	100	92.6

Did you know? Each pupil has 175 non-school days a year to spend however they like. The table below shows the significant impact of absence over time.

Days of school add up to lost learning						
Days in school	190	186	180	175	171	170
Percentage attendance	100%	98%	95%	92%	90%	<90%
	Excellent	Excellent	Good	Caution	Cause for concern	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.

What are the risks of missing a day of school?

'Being in school is important to your child's achievement, wellbeing and wider development. Pupils with the highest attendance throughout their time in school gain the best GCSE results. The higher a pupil's attendance, the more they are likely to learn, and the better they are likely to perform in exams and formal assessments.' The Education Hub - Department for Education

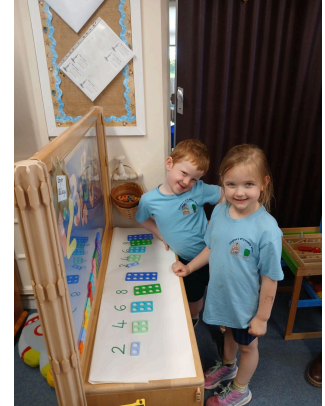


Splash Class

This week has been super busy. We have worked hard in our raised beds, weeding, digging and planting wildflowers for the bees and the butterflies. Our fruit trees have amazing blossom on them and we look forward to a bumper crop.

In maths we have been working on number recognition and reception have learned their numbers to 20.

Our writing this week, was all about our garden and what will grow in there. We also have tadpoles with little back legs now, which is very exciting!





Space Base Class

This week has been a very busy one for Space Base. Over the next two weeks, Year 2 will be taking their optional SATs. They are working incredibly hard, and this is showing in their excellent results so far.

Year 1 have been focusing on their phonics and have been working hard in preparation for their phonics assessment next half term.

In Art, the children have been exploring how colour can affect a picture and have been using different shades to create emotion in their work.

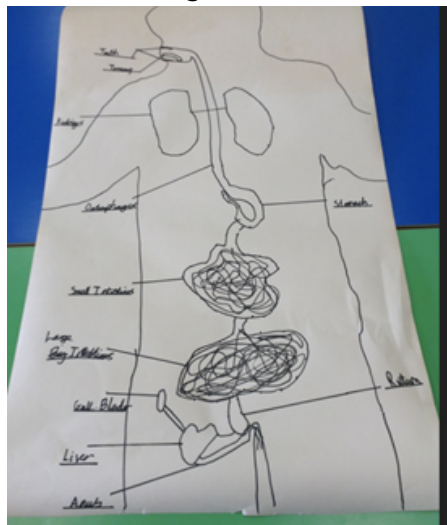




Key Stage Two: Time Zone and Earth Works

Year 6 have had a very busy week - working super hard on their SATs tests. They're all very glad they're over and done with. Well done for all the effort Year 6!

In Earth Works' Science, to record our initial understanding of the digestive system, we drew a life-sized diagram of the organs in the system. We then explained what we thought happened to food as it passes through the digestive system and discussed any misconceptions in our understanding.



In Art, we created and decorated clay pinch pots, inspired by Neolithic Impressed and Grooved Ware.



In geography, Earth Works investigated the effect of melting ice caps using stones to represent the Earth. We were surprised to find out that when sea ice melts, it doesn't increase sea levels.



In maths, Time Zone learned about nets by folding them into 3D shapes.



In Music, we have been recording and electronically manipulating sounds to create futuristic compositions.





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Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 20th May	KS2 visit to Newcastle City Mosque with Embleton
Thursday 4th June	KS2 Countryside Day
Wednesday 10th June	Time Zone visit to Life Science Centre Newcastle with Embleton
Friday 12th June	Earth Works to Edinburgh with Embleton
Thursday 25th June	Nursery & Reception to Embleton Beach School
Wednesday 1st July	Y6 DCHS transition day
Friday 5th July	Y5 Camping
Tuesday 7th July	Sports Day 1.00pm

Please remember, Breakfast club is available from 8.15am if anyone needs to drop off a child earlier. Please book in advance if possible. £2.50 includes cereal or toast.

Teacher Training days 2026-27:

Tuesday 1 September 2026
Friday 23 October 2026
Monday 2 November 2026
Monday 22 February 2027
Monday 28 June 2027

After School Clubs

Karate continues on a Monday **(This club will now continue until the summer holidays)**
Multi Sports with Callum on a Tuesday.
Art club continues on a Wednesday
Forest School continues on a Thursday
Fun Club on a Friday (if required - currently no takers)



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Stars of the week

Names:

Splash: Angus- for great listening and following instructions straight away.

Space Base: Etta- for having a great attitude in every lesson.

Earth Works: Rose- for consistently completing work to a high standard in English.

Time Zone: Harley, Thomas, Ralph and Bryson- for working very hard on their SATs tests all this week.

This is a link to the sand products that are causing concern, should you wish to check out anything you have at home.

https://www.gov.uk/product-safety-alerts-reports-recalls?keywords=asbestos&product_alert_type%5B%5D=product-recall&product_recall_alert_date%5Bfrom%5D=01/01/2026