



STARS OF THE WEEK

Eliza McNicoll
Lincoln Stanford
Oliver Stewart
Reuben Ridley
Freya Hopper
Delilah Dryden
Jack Dawson
Lacey Hunter
Henry Stone

ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

OVERALL LAST WEEK (R-Y6): **97.1%**
This year: Target: 95.8% Actual: **95.6%**

	Last Week	This Year	Lates this week
YR (Lobsters)	98.6%	96.2%	1
Y1 (Jellyfish)	97.8%	95.7%	0
Y2 (Puffins)	96.3%	96.0%	2
Y3 (Seals)	97.4%	95.0%	4
Y4 (Terns)	91.7%	95.3%	0
Y5 (Heron)	100.0%	95.1%	1
Y6 (Curlews)	96.9%	95.9%	1

PUNCTUALITY CHALLENGE

After the high numbers of latenesses in school last week, Mr Heeley set our Year 3 Seals (the class with by far the highest number of late marks) a punctuality challenge. As well as receiving their daily Dojo point for being on time, all children in the class who got to school on time EVERY DAY this week have received 3 bonus Dojo points to add to their total that can be exchanged for a range of rewards including the 'Dippy Box', non-uniform days or ice cream treats. Total late marks have dropped from 22 last week to just 9 this week!

NAMING CLOTHES

With over 200 children in school, each with at least 2 jumpers, it is vital that parents write names or initials in these. Nearly every week, staff are being asked to search for missing jumpers which takes time away from working with children. We encourage the children to be responsible for what they bring to school but this is not made easy for them if we struggle to pair identical items of clothing with their owners. Permanent marker or biro on clothing labels are the simplest way to do this but name stickers can also be used—an example can be found [HERE](#).

YEAR 5 VISIT TO THE HANCOCK MUSEUM

Next week our Year 5 Herons are due to visit the Hancock Museum in Newcastle. As part of their learning. Parents are asked that contributions are made through the trips section of the Arbor app as soon as possible to ensure the trip is viable.

YEAR 4 SKIPPING FESTIVAL

This week, our Y4 Terns have taken part in a Skipping Festival with Skip4Fit, developing their balance, coordination and agility. They began by improving their individual skipping skills before attempting various challenges including skipping with a partner. They ended the afternoon working with the long rope and learning how to run and jump in. The children worked extremely hard, showing great resilience and determination.



FREE BREAKFAST CLUB START TIME

Our free Breakfast Club starts at **8am** and doors remain open until 8.20am. Parents are asked to ensure that children do not arrive before this time. We are finding that an increasing number of children are arriving many minutes too early and are unsupervised. Unfortunately we do not have the capacity to supervise them outside the main door before 8am.

2026 SCHOOL DIARY

Wednesday 21st January	Year 5 visit to Hancock Museum
Monday 2nd February	5pm Y6 London Trip Meeting for Parents
Friday 6th February	EY & KS1 Parents to classrooms after assembly
Friday 13th February	KS2 Parents to classrooms after assembly
Friday 13th February	3.15pm School closes for spring half term break
Monday 23rd February	School reopens for Spring Half Term 2

ALL HOLIDAY DATES FOR 2025-26 and 2026-27 CAN BE FOUND ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE [HERE](#).

SCHOOL MEALS UPDATE

As promised, we have been working on beginning to provide a slightly wider menu for the children's school dinners while we remain very short staffed. On Thursday, we sent out another email to parents explaining which options we will be able to provide from Tuesday 20th January. It is important that parents read the email carefully and complete the online order form to ensure that children receive a meal of their choice rather than the default option which will be given if orders are not placed. It is very helpful if ALL parents complete the form so we also know which children are bringing packed lunches from home. We still have a number of parents each week who are not submitting a form which adds to the challenges that we are already facing. Meal orders can now be placed for all children regardless of whether they are entitled to free school meals or not. Thank you for your support with this situation.

ATTENDANCE UPDATE

Last week we held our 3 weekly review of attendance with the Local Authority's Education Welfare Officer (EWO). This process involves looking at attendance figures and patterns as well as considering if there have been improvements or declines, especially if letters have already been received for low levels of attendance following our previous review. Pleasingly, there has been an improvement in the attendance of the majority of the children whose parents have already received letters and we have only needed to escalate to a further letter meaning that further absences will not be authorised or EWO referral in a few cases.

We see a huge difference in how children do at school when they are here on a regular basis.. Advice on whether a child is well enough to come to school can be found [HERE](#).