



## Bring Out Your Brilliance

06 March 2020

Spring 2's school value will focus on being 'Fair and Equal'

Dear parents, carers and the extended community of Farne,

Over the past few days, you may have seen news reports, TV programmes or posts on social media concerning Coronavirus that may cause alarm or worry. I am writing to share **Public Health England** guidance related to what this means for your child(ren) at Farne. We are currently receiving daily updates from Public Health England and **their advice is that all children should continue attending school as normal.**

**What is Coronavirus?** Coronavirus presents with similar symptoms to flu. It has an incubation period lasting between two and fourteen days. Common signs and symptoms may include coughing, difficulty in breathing and fever.

**How serious is it?** **Coronavirus is not serious for most people, including children** (very few cases involve children globally). There is currently no vaccine for it however, most people will recover with rest, water and over-the-counter pain relief medication.

**How likely is my child to catch the virus?** Transmission can occur by being in close proximity to a person who has tested positive for the virus. The **chance of being in contact** with someone who has the virus is currently **very low**. If you have travelled abroad in the past 14 days, please consult the government **website** for further advice.

**What can I tell my child?** This is a good opportunity to reinforce good hygiene habits with your child and share the same messages as we are at Farne. **Children should be washing hands regularly** but definitely after visiting the toilet and before eating. Encourage children to not share anything that has come into contact with their mouth like cups or water bottles. Practise washing hands with hot water and soap for the recommend time of 20 seconds. Encourage your child to sneeze into a tissue and put it straight into the bin.

**What should I do if my child is unwell?** **You only need to be concerned about coronavirus if you have returned from a specified country or have had contact with someone who is a confirmed case.** In this case, call NHS 111 for further advice.

Mr. S Lonsdale  
Head of School

### Attendance Matters

**Our whole-school attendance target is currently 96%.**  
Our overall attendance to date for Spring Term 1 is **96.0%**



Reception	95.1
Year 1	97.8
Year 2	96.6
Year 3	96.8
Year 4	94.8
Year 5	94.8
Year 6	95.4

### Safeguarding Information

We have received a number of reports of adults **swearing** within school grounds and **smoking** within close proximity to the school gates. We kindly request that (the minority of people) refrain from doing this as we are a public building where the no smoking law applies and we also do not want children to hear unpleasant language when walking to and from school. Thank you.

## STEM Week (British Science Week 2020)

6-15 March  
British  
Science  
Week  
2020



STEM week has officially begun at Farne with a visit by representatives from **Newcastle University**. They delivered workshops for children in years 3, 4, 5 and 6 entitled 'Young Scientists' and 'Thinking Like a Scientist'.

Next week we have a visit from a marine biologist and parasite expert to talk about her job as a scientist and a visit from a parent to explain how technology is used in his job to keep people safe on the roads. There will also be a series of workshops delivered by staff from the **Centre for Life** for children throughout school. They will be teaching children about how animals are adapted to their habitats and how living things have evolved over millions of years, as well as making rockets with some of the children.

Children in year 4 are taking part in a six-week STEM challenge to learn about water with an organisation called **Success4All**. They started the challenge last week by making models to demonstrate the water cycle and by investigating water pressure.

Any entries for the science competition to make a model or draw an illustration of how science and technology is used in the world around us can be brought into school next week. The prizes are on display at the school entrance. Models and illustrations could be anything involving science and technology such as a rocket, aeroplane, wind turbine, computer, smart phone, car or an electrical device for example. **The winners will be decided on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March** and the best models or pictures will be entered into a national competition.

Our **science club** started last week with children carrying out experiments and making electrical circuits to power a motor and lights. The club proved so popular it is now **oversubscribed** so unfortunately we cannot accommodate any more pupils.

## Year 7 Secondary School Places

Families of children in Year 6 have found out their secondary places for Year 7 starting September 2020. We are pleased to say that 20/27 (74%) will be attending Kenton School whilst 22% are off to Studio West and 4% at Walbottle Campus. Please ensure that you have accepted your place as all schools are currently oversubscribed!

## World Book Day 2020



This year, **World Book Day** celebrations have stepped up a notch thanks to the huge emphasis on reading throughout school. We have seen a whole range of new characters around school today – many of whom represent strong messages through text such as **challenging stereotypes, race and gender**. Our whole-school project this year involves the book 'Look up' where a young girl urges her family and friends to stop using electronic devices, look up and witness a meteor shower. This text tackles many stereotypes: **women in science, race** and even highlights influential people involved in science.

## We are a Puffin School (and not just by name)



**World  
of stories**

We are proud to announce that we are a member of the **Puffin World of Stories** programme that supports schools to develop reading at school by providing books, materials and resources to champion reading for pleasure. We have just received over **300 quality books** to add to our stock! Thanks go to Mrs. Wallace who leads on this.

## Parent consultation evenings

Our Spring Term parent consultation evenings are just around the corner, due to take place on **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>** and **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2020**. This is an excellent opportunity to discuss with your child's class teacher about progress and attainment, behaviour and even look in some of their workbooks.

**Parents and carers are welcome to sign up for appointments from Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March from 15:15 in the school hall until Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March.**

## RSE policy consultation

On Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2020, we would like to invite parents and carers in for a consultation on the proposed RSE (Relationships curriculum) due to become statutory in September 2020. We will showcase the curriculum and welcome your comments and suggestions. Doors open at 09:00 until 11:00 for the consultation process where we will also offer a selection of tea, coffee and cakes,

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## Bring Out Your Brilliance

### Upcoming events and key dates (updated 06 March 2020)

Please note, new events are highlighted in **red**. Events are subject to change but will be communicated (in good time) as necessary.

Date	Event	Time
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> March 2020	World Book Day	NA
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> March 2020	STEM Week	All week
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> March 2020	Mother's Day Lunch 1	11:45 – 12:30
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March 2020	Mother's Day Lunch 2	11:45 – 12:30
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> March 2020	Parent Consultation Evening 1	15:30 – 17:30
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March 2020	Parent Consultation Evening 2	15:30 – 17:30
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2020	Easter Assembly	09:15 – 10:15
<b>Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020</b>	<b>Break up for Easter</b>	<b>15:10</b>
<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2020</b>	<b>Children return to school</b>	<b>NA</b>
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> May 2020	Bank Holiday. <b>School is closed.</b>	NA
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> May 2020	Year 2 and Year 6 SATs Week	All week
<b>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2020</b>	<b>Break up for half term</b>	<b>15:10</b>
<b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2020</b>	<b>Staff training. School is closed.</b>	<b>NA</b>
<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020</b>	<b>Children return to school.</b>	<b>NA</b>
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2020	Class Photographs	NA
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> June 2020	Year 1 Phonics Screening Test	All week
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> June 2020	Dine with Dad 1	11:45 – 12:30
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> June 2020	Dine with Dad 2	11:45 – 12:30
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> June 2020	Sports Day (weather permitting)	<b>EYFS/KS1 am, KS2 pm</b>
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> June 2020	Healthy Fun Day	All Day
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2020	Summer Fayre Farne's Festival of Fun	13:00 – 16:30
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July 2020	End of Year Reports	NA
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> July 2020	Meet the Teacher day	NA
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> July 2020	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly	09:15 – 10:45
<b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2020</b>	<b>End of School Year 2019/20</b>	<b>15:10</b>

