



Coxhoe Communicator

February 2020



Dear Parents/Carers...

What a fantastic start we have had to the school year. Although it's only February, the energy, enthusiasm and achievements from our children have already made this term one to remember.

One particular highlight has been Bikeability. Our visiting instructor was so impressed that he stopped staff several times just to tell us what a pleasure it had been to work with our pupils. He spoke about their positive behavior, resilient attitudes and lovely manners which are all qualities that make me incredibly proud as Head Teacher. Well done to every child who took part. Across school, there has been so much rich and exciting learning happening. Our class museums have been buzzing with visitors and children have enjoyed both welcoming guests into school and heading out on visits themselves. These experiences bring learning to life and provide the kind of curriculum enrichment that stays with children long after the lesson is over.

We continue to be committed to offering the very best personal development opportunities for our pupils. Whether they are building confidence, exploring new interests, or learning how to work with others, these experiences play a vital role in preparing them for future success in school and beyond.

As we approach the half-term break, I know the children, and the staff, are ready for a well-earned rest. Thank you, as always, for your continued support. It makes such a difference to everything we do.

Wishing you all a relaxing and enjoyable half term.

Mrs Bartle



After School and Lunchtime Clubs

Our Spring 1 after school clubs have now come to an end and it has been wonderful to see such enthusiasm and commitment from the children. From the creativity in Lego Club and Art Club, to the teamwork and skills developed in Tag Rugby and Multi-Skills, pupils have fully embraced the opportunities on offer. Our Heritage Heroes have also enjoyed learning more about the history of Coxhoe. Make sure to visit the after school club webpage to see some of the fun we've had! Spring 2 clubs are almost fully booked, we can't wait to see the delicious dishes created in Cooking Club and the magical creations in Wands and Wizards Club.

Children have also continued to enjoy lunchtime clubs, including the new Touch Typing Club for Key Stage 2 and Board Games Club for Key Stage 1. These will continue into Spring 2.

Bowburn Care Home Trip

Some of our Year 5 children enjoyed a truly heart warming visit to Bowburn Care Home, where they spent the afternoon creating Valentine's crafts and designing thoughtful cards. The children travelled on the service bus full of excitement and were welcomed with smiles from the residents when they arrived.

Y5/6 Auckland Project

Year 5 and 6 enjoyed a fascinating visit from the Auckland Project this term. They learnt all about religious diversity in our area and really enjoyed engaging with a number of different artefacts from the various different faiths. The visit worked well alongside our current RE unit and it brought our learning to life for the children, who were really interested throughout and asked some wonderful questions.



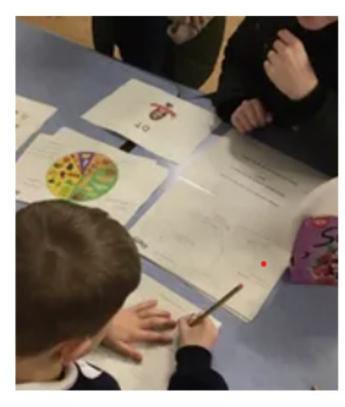
Handy Heroes

Our annual Handy Heroes day is coming up! Dads, Grandads and Uncles save the date:

Friday 22nd May

Milne Class Museum

Thank you to everyone who came to Milne's Class Museum. We hope you enjoyed seeing what we have been learning about so far in Year 2. The children were very excited to become mini teachers and share their learning with you, from practicing multiplication in maths to learning about Neil Armstrong in history. It was lovely to show you how we teach maths and English and to give you a small insight into what life is like in Year 2. The children were so proud to share their work and knowledge with you. We hope to see you again next year!



Young Carers

We are proud to share that our school has been accredited with the Young Carers Gold Award, recognising our commitment to identifying and supporting young carers within our community. If you believe your child may be a young carer, or if you know a child who might be taking on caring responsibilities at home, please come and talk to us. We're here to listen, to help, and to make sure every young carer receives the understanding and support they deserve.

Residential Visits

We look forward to another year full of exciting and enriching opportunities for our children both in the classroom and beyond. We hope you have looked at the information about educational visits and are able to help school provide these amazing opportunities for our children.

The visits for our children this year are:

Year 4: Beamish	Thursday 19th March – Friday 20th March The deadline has now passed for children to attend this trip, if you missed the residential parents meeting, please find the powerpoint on our website ! Reminder—The payment for this residential is due Monday 2nd March !
Year 6: London	Monday 22nd June – Wednesday 24th June The deadline has now passed for children to attend this trip
Year 3: Camping	Outdoors adventure - Monday 6th July – Tuesday 7th July
Year 2: Late night stay	Late night stay – Friday 10th July

Y3 Camping trip

Don't forget there is still time to sign your child up for an unforgettable outdoor adventure held on the school grounds. This residential will give your child the chance to explore nature, build confidence and enjoy quality time with their friends. Over the course of the residential, pupils will take part in team-building games, nature walks, campfire singing and practical outdoor skills. Call the office for further details.

The deadline to sign your child up for this trip is the 2nd March.

Y5 Bikeability

Children in Year 5 had a wonderful time learning essential skills on their bikes. Despite the weather, the children showed great resilience in the activities, listened well and really impressed their instructors. All of the children achieved their certificate and were wonderful representatives of our school.



Safer Internet Day

Last week we celebrated Safer Internet Day 2026 with a range of activities focused on staying safe online. Children used AI to create their own fantastic songs about online safety and shared thoughtful ideas throughout the day about protecting personal information, being kind online and speaking to a trusted adult if something feels wrong. We are so proud of how responsibly they approached the topic. A reminder to parents and carers: staying involved in your child's online life and having regular conversations about their digital activity is key to keeping them safe.

Y1 Locomotion Museum

Year 1 had a great time at the Locomotion Museum in Shildon. They learned more about the beginning of the North East Railway and Timothy Hackworth. They also enjoyed seeing the inside of a steam train!

Assembly Spotlight

In February we have explored current affairs inspired by Newsround in our class assemblies and learnt more about many different themes and topics in our wider school assemblies:

- Rosa Parks Day
- Children's Mental Health Week and Time to Talk Day
- Safer Internet Day
- Simple self-care techniques
- Random Acts of Kindness Day
- Chinese New Year: Year of the Horse

Find out more on our Assembly page on the school website: [Coxhoe Curriculum > Our Wider Coxhoe Curriculum > Assembly Resources](#)

Y2 Go Well

Some of our Year 2 children were selected to attend a Go Well festival held at Ferryhill School. The children took part in a range of exciting team games inspired by the Winter Olympics, including curling, snowboarding, skiing and ice skating, as well as bowling and football-based challenges. They showed fantastic teamwork, determination and sportsmanship throughout the event. Well done to all of the children who took part, you represented our school brilliantly!



Y6 Panto

Year 6 had a fantastic morning at Wellfield watching a wonderful performance of The Wizard of Oz. We were blown away that only 4 people could play a whole cast of characters as well as organising the sound and lights. After the performance, the crew took us behind the scenes, showing how they change the scenery, change costumes quickly and work the lights and sound.

Jewellery

Children are not permitted to wear earrings for school. This is due to Health and Safety guidelines and the active nature of school life for children. If your child has recently had their ears pierced, they may wear clear soft plastic piercing retainers. School has purchased some for emergency use only.

SEND and Inclusion

SEND Support Plan Reviews – Spring Term

After half term, we will begin our Spring Term SEND Support Plan review meetings. Parents and carers will receive an invitation via School Comms with further details about their scheduled appointment. These review meetings are a valuable opportunity to celebrate progress, discuss your child's development and work together to shape the next steps in their support plan. We look forward to meeting with you and continuing to work in partnership to support your child's success.

Question of the Month: "How can parents support learning at home for children with SEND?"

A great starting point is understanding your child's SEND Support Plan. Knowing their targets and the strategies that help them in school allows you to provide the same consistency at home. Regular communication with your child's class teacher is also important. Sharing successes or concerns helps us work together to keep support aligned.

Simple steps such as using routines, breaking tasks into small chunks, and celebrating progress can make a big difference. Working in partnership ensures the best outcomes for your child.

Free School Meals

If your child is not currently receiving free school meals and you receive any of the qualifying benefits, please contact the school office for an application form. We can process applications for Free School Meals at any time so if your circumstances change, or if you are unsure if you qualify, please complete an application and we can check your eligibility.

County Durham Family Hubs

Don't forget County Durham Family Hubs offer parenting advice, activities, health services and practical help for children and young people of all ages. Pop in, connect and discover what's on in your local hub. They have so much on over February half term! For further information visit www.durham.gov.uk/FamilyHubs

You can help by...

- ✓ Keeping your speed low, this will allow everyone else to see, think and act safely
- ✓ Always encourage your child to enter and exit your car on the pavement side
- ✓ Checking for pedestrians and cyclists before opening the car door
- ✓ Stopping for a school crossing patrol when asked
- ✓ Parking away from the school gates to reduce congestion
- ✓ Taking care when reversing

Please don't...

- ✗ Park on single or double yellow lines
- ✗ Double park
- ✗ Park across dropped kerbs
- ✗ Stop, drop or park on the school keep clear yellow zig zags
- ✗ Park on corners
- ✗ Park opposite or within 10 metres of a junction
- ✗ Park near the school entrance
- ✗ Block resident's driveways
- ✗ Idle your engine – this pollutes the air we breathe
- ✗ Stop in the middle of the road to drop your child off

By remembering these points not only will you improve the safety of the area around our school, but you will also avoid receiving a parking ticket.

Show us
you care
- park
elsewhere

Fewer cars at the school entrance will help make it safer for everyone.

What you could do instead...

- ✓ Park and Stride – consider walking part of the way to school by parking away from the school and walking the rest of the way.
- ✓ Try car sharing – consider sharing the school run. If you have to drive to school then get together with other families who need to travel by car and take it in turns to drive.
- ✓ Walking Bus – organise a small group of parents/carers to share the walk to school and take it in turns with other parents/carers to do the school run. You could even combine this idea with Park and Stride.
- ✓ Cycling – you may be surprised by how many quiet roads or back streets there are in the areas that lead to school.



www.durham.gov.uk/schoolparking



Durham
County Council

Y6 Ferryhill Taster

Year 6 really enjoyed their taster session with Ferryhill—learning all about sports at secondary school and what it means to be a leader in sport. We discussed the key skills within sports and why these were important, including how they link to other areas of school life. We then applied our knowledge of sports and skills to design some wonderful warmups and activities for a range of sports.

Pick Up List

If you inform a member of staff that someone who is not on the pick-up list will be collecting, this message will only be passed on for this day. If you would like to add someone to the pick-up list for your child, please contact the office. If an adult is on the pick-up list, you do not need to let us know each time they will be collecting. You can remove someone from the pick-up list at any time by notifying the office. Please note, if an adult has Parental Responsibility, we cannot remove this person from the system without supporting documentation.

Leave of absence forms

Leave of absence forms can be found on our school website for you to complete. They are also available from the school office. Please note if you wish to submit a leave of absence form, it must be completed 4 weeks before the said absence and both parents need to sign the form. If your child is attending an event we would kindly ask you provide evidence of this at the same time you submit the leave of absence form. Although parents may feel leave of absence forms may be declined you still complete one as it is a requirement from the local authority.

Y2 Church Visit

Year 2 really enjoyed their visit to St. Mary's Church in Coxhoe, linked to our RE topic on Christianity and the church. The children enjoyed using their senses to find out what they could see, smell, hear and touch in a church and loved exploring the different features that can be found inside a church! It was a fantastic opportunity to explore our local church in more detail, and the children came away with so much new knowledge that they continue to share in their RE lessons!

Careers Corner – Proud to be from the Northeast!

"Career-related learning in primary schools is not about setting pupils down a specific path but ensuring they understand that there are many options open to them... to learn about the world around them".

At Coxhoe Primary School, we are incredibly proud to be part of the Northeast of England, a region full of talent, innovation and opportunity. Our community has a rich history of hard work, creativity and determination, and we want our children to know that fantastic careers start right here.

From world-leading universities and cutting-edge science and technology, to engineering, healthcare, digital industries, the arts and more, the Northeast offers a huge variety of exciting pathways for our future learners. Many inspiring people working in these fields began their journey in schools just like ours.

If you would like to celebrate your success story with our children, helping our pupils imagine bright futures, we would love for you to come into school to talk about the fabulous work that you are doing. Please contact the school office or speak to Mrs. Caygill .

Visit the Careers Page on our website (Coxhoe Curriculum > Our Wider Coxhoe Curriculum > Careers) to see what visits, visitors, assemblies and curriculum experiences we have been involved in which promote a range of careers to our children.

Keeping Us Up to Date

If any medical information for a child, an address or telephone number for any contacts changes or there is a change in circumstances, please inform the school office as soon as possible. This can be in person, via phone or by emailing coxhoe@durhamlearning.net. It is vital we have up to date information at all times.

EYFS—Getting Ready for School

We are so excited to be welcoming our new starters this September! Starting school is a big milestone for children and families, and there are lots of simple, fun things you can do over the coming months to help your child feel confident and ready. We recently hosted our Getting Ready for School meeting to share helpful advice and practical suggestions to support families with this important transition. If you were unable to attend, don't worry, the presentation slides have now been uploaded to the EYFS Curriculum page on our website, so you can view them at your convenience. If you have any questions or concerns about your child starting school, please do get in touch, we are here to support you every step of the way and look forward to working together to ensure a happy and successful start in September.



SATs Support Workshop

A huge thank you to all the Year 6 parents and carers who attended our SATs Support Workshop delivered by Durham Learn earlier this month. We hope you found the session helpful in understanding how to support your child's wellbeing in the lead-up to SATs. Your engagement makes a real difference and we appreciate you taking the time to come along.

Sports Report

Children across the school have continued to make excellent progress in PE this half term. Please have a look at the PE webpage to see some of the learning and skills developed so far this year. Children in Year 2 and Year 4 have also enjoyed taking part in multi-skills festivals hosted by Go Well. They participated in a range of exciting activities, challenging themselves to improve their own scores and demonstrating excellent teamwork and determination throughout the events. We are very proud of the way they represented the school. Please continue to check the calendar and look out for messages about upcoming Go Well festivals for other year groups.

School App Payments

You are able to check payments you have made via the school app by going into the payment section and clicking 'payment history' at the bottom. You can change the date range if you need to search further back and can click on each payment to see more details about the transaction.

Y2 Auckland Castle Visit 2026 Due: 10 March 2026	£16.00 (1/1)
2025-2026 Enrichment Contribution Due: 31 July 2026	£10.00 (1/1)
Shooting Stars- Morning Session Due: 31 December 2026	£5.50 (1/1)
PAYMENT HISTORY	

Payment History		
Date	School Member(s)	Amount
18/02/26		£40.00
02/02/26		£55.00
02/02/26		£11.00
05/01/26		£88.00
03/12/25		£66.00

Transaction Details	
Date:	03 December 2025
Time:	07:21:56
Amount:	£66.00
Item:	Shooting Stars- Morning Session
For:	Coxhoe Primary School
Instalment:	(1/1)
Amount	£33.00
Type:	Online transaction
Consent:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Comment:	
Item:	Shooting Stars- Morning Session
For:	Coxhoe Primary School
Instalment:	(1/1)
Amount	£33.00
Type:	Online transaction