



KEEPING IN TOUCH

Message from Mr M

Join Us For STEM Week

Next week sees the school timetable filled with activities linked to Science, Technology, Maths and Engineering across all age ranges. Every year group has arranged a session for parents to join with their children in the learning taking place. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in school for these sessions and direct you to Seesaw to see the date and time for your child.



Launching Junior Duke



We are really excited to welcome Junior Duke to Le Cateau and plan to start this programme after the Easter holiday. Mrs Hellens will be launching this in an assembly on Friday and further details will be shared with you regarding this. An overview of what it is can be found in today's KIT.

Parent Consultation Questionnaire



We have collated the information from the Parent Questionnaires that were completed at the Consultation Meetings recently and will be responding to your requests. We had 78 responses with the vast majority talking about how well you feel supported to help your child with their learning. Different areas for support have come up especially with; managing screen time at home, supporting your child in maths, how to support with 'melt downs' at home and assisting with homework. Short video guides appear to be the preferred options for those who responded and this will be our focus over the coming weeks. A big thank you to those who shared their views - it is much appreciated!

Staffing News...

We are delighted to have Mrs Whitby (SEND/CO) starting her phased return back to work following her major surgery last year. This will continue over the next couple of months as she builds up her strength.

Mrs Clarke who works in The Nest is undergoing surgery so will be absent for several weeks. We are pleased to welcome Miss Earnshaw as cover for her during this time.

Miss Church starts her return from maternity leave over the next few weeks and will be working in FSI before returning to her post full time later in the year.

Mrs Ramsbottom is now on official maternity leave following the early birth of her son. We are keeping in touch with her and are pleased that her and baby are doing well.

You will also find an advert later in today's KIT for an Early Years Advanced Teaching Assistant. This is a new post that will support our FSI team as pupil numbers continue to increase.

Finally, we are always on the look out for new Midday Supervisors to join the team. If interested, please contact the school office.

Join us for a cup of tea at the *Uniform Hub* every Friday morning.





Safeguarding

Weekly Message from Mrs Cafferty



Talking to Children about Difficult Topics

We all want children to grow up in a safe, loving environment, so they can be happy, confident adults.

It's important that every child has someone they trust that they can ask for help.

Sometimes you may need to start a difficult conversation because you have to:

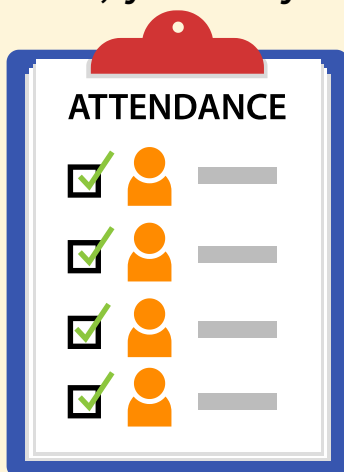
- break some bad news
- ask about something you're worried about or about topics you find uncomfortable - like sex or drugs
- ask your child if they're worried or scared by something
- ask your child about a new behaviour.

It can sometimes feel a bit daunting as you broach children about difficult topics. But whatever the subject, and however old the child you're talking to, there is support available. Please ask a member of staff in school and they may be able to advise you or sign post to further help.

The NSPCC website also contains lots of advice to help you decide how to talk to your child in an age-appropriate and supportive way:

https://www.nspcc.org.uk/advice-for-families/talking-about-difficult-topics/?utm_old=difficulttopic

However, you know your child best, so trust your judgement about what will work for them.



Attendance Matters

This weeks attendance winners are

5 Hummingbirds
with an amazing
98.81%



Lateness

Please do ensure that your child is at school on time as there are valuable learning opportunities set for before and during register time

This week we have had **350 minutes** of lost learning due to lateness. We have had **30 pupils** arriving late this week!

World Book Day







Our World Book Day Winners

The lovely catering ladies, Mrs Christian, Miss Brady & Miss Ketley, have picked 2 children who amazed them with their costumes and were lucky enough to win a book day token.





Y6 CAKE Stall



CAKES AND YUMMY THINGS ON
SALE

50P A CAKE OR 3 FOR £1

TUESDAY 10TH MARCH
AFTER SCHOOL AT THE HUB

ALL MONEY RAISED WILL GO TO



CANCER
RESEARCH
UK



Having issues getting your child to read?

Want your little one to develop their language and communication skills, so they make better progress?

Then this is the club you need!

Read with Me!



We are offering a chance for your child to stay after school and read with an adult and/or another child, to develop their love of books! Parents and carers who wish to join us are most welcome.

When? Thursdays from 3:20pm until 4:00pm (First session starts 20th March 2026)

Where? Meet through the double doors just past the office reception desk; next to 5S classroom

Who? Spaces are available for up to 16 pupils in Years 3 and 4.

First come-first served! You will receive an invitation/permission slip in the upcoming week. Just complete and return it to your child's/children's teacher to reserve a place.

Looking forward to reading soon!!



WE ARE RECRUITING...

**AN ADVANCED TEACHING
ASSISTANT FOR OUR
FOUNDATION STAGE 1
(NURSERY)**

33.75 HOURS PER WEEK

MONDAY TO FRIDAY 8.30AM - 4.00PM

(INITIALLY FIXED TERM UNTIL JULY 2026)

START DATE: AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

PAYPOINT: GRADE E / SCALE POINT 6 - 9

(£25,989 - £27,254 FULL TIME EQUIVALENT)

CLOSING DATE: SUNDAY 15TH MARCH 2026

INTERVIEW DATE: WEDNESDAY 18TH MARCH 2026



Considering applying? For further information, please contact Mrs Galloway regarding the role. For an application pack, please email: admin@le-cateau.n-yorks.sch.uk All applications should be accompanied by a letter of application.



CARING FOR
THE
ENVIRONMENT

COOKING

HOUSEHOLD
CHORES

JUNIOR DUKE AWARD

WORLD-LEADING CHILDREN'S LIFE SKILLS
AWARD

DEVELOP CONFIDENCE, INDEPENDENCE, RESILIENCE AND WELL-BEING

At our school, we are offering the well-established Junior Duke Award to our pupils. It is a life skills Award for children aged around 3 to 13. It helps children to learn to look after themselves and raises awareness of cultures, traditions and how to appreciate and protect our world.

For each of the primary-school year groups, there is an age-appropriate workbook which has clearly explained challenges. Thereafter, there is a portal for the two Senior Duke levels. There is one level per year.

Although some of the skills may be touched on in school, it is hoped that children will spend time completing the challenges with parents, friends and grand parents.

On completion, the school will award the children with their well-earned certificates and badges.

The ten different levels:

- Nano Duke Micro Duke
- Silver Mini Duke Gold
- Mini Duke Bronze
- Junior Duke Silver
- Junior Duke Gold
- Junior Duke Platinum
- Junior Duke Silver
- Senior Duke Gold
- Senior Duke
-

WHY CHOOSE TO TAKE THE JUNIOR DUKE CHALLENGE?



In our fast-paced world, as adults, many of us find that it's simplest and quickest to do things for our children rather than giving them the time to learn, try, fail, make a mess then, finally, master the skills. We must embrace the madness and the mess because children aren't little for long! It's also tempting to help children as soon as they look as though they are about to fail because we want them to feel success rather than the frustration of not managing a skill...yet. That is why we are choosing to offer the Junior Duke Award to our pupils this year. We would really like your help, time and guidance with it to allow children to get out of their comfort zones to learn to grasp skills like washing their sheets, cooking dinner, doing the shopping and building fires. We know that sometimes it's hard to stand back and allow them to make mistakes (especially if they may be in danger!) and to give them the responsibility to do certain things independently, perhaps failing a few times on the way to success. However, we also know how empowered children feel once they learn new skills and, as we know, future employers look to employ well-rounded people with hard skills as well as the soft skills required for many tasks in the Junior Duke! Once a child has learned a skill such as how to make a cup of tea, it's something they should do regularly forever more. Therefore, we hope you will help by gently pushing your child to learn new tasks and to keep working to improve on them. Who knows, they will hopefully discover they have new passions and talents!





March 2026 Timetable

All sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long

£24 each or FREE with School Membership

Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk

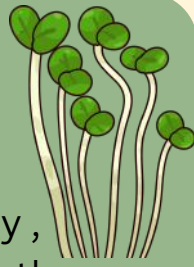
Recordings available for 48 hours (excluding Free Talk)

Improving Family Communication	2 Mar 10am
Autism - Improving Communication	2 Mar 7pm
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	3 Mar 10am
Supporting a Child with ADHD	3 Mar 7pm
Anxiety Based School Avoidance	9 Mar 10am
Understanding Anger	9 Mar 7pm
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	10 Mar 10am
Facing Defiance	10 Mar 7pm
Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness	16 Mar 10am
Anxiety Explained	16 Mar 7pm
Introduction to OCD	17 Mar 10am
What is ACT	17 Mar 7pm
Raising Self-Esteem	23 Mar 10am
Decreasing Depression	23 Mar 7pm
Supporting Healthy Sleep	24 Mar 10am
Understanding the Teenage Brain	24 Mar 7pm
FREE Anxiety Based School Avoidance	26 Mar 7-8pm



FS1 Bears

Next week is STEM week; this stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. The children will be taking part in lots of practical activities. We will be planting seeds to get our garden started and making cornflour slime. You are invited to join us on Tuesday 10th March at 10.45am or 2.30pm to make a toilet roll cress head.



Just a reminder that forest school will now take place on



Monday- Am
Friday- Pm



Caterpillar Room

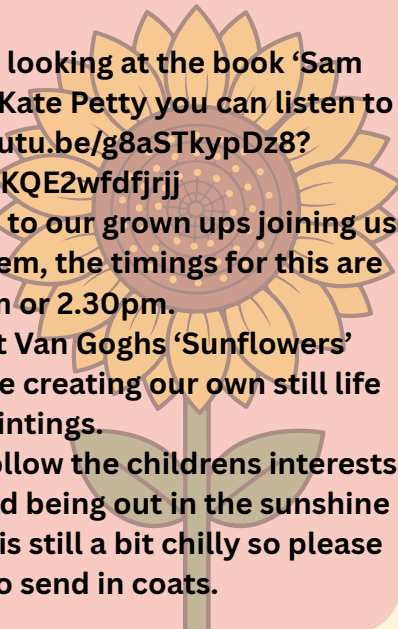
We have had a wonderful week this week and have enjoyed lots of our favourite stories together with such a fun day had on Thursday for World book day, the children all looked fantastic, well done on such a great effort.

Next week we will be looking at the book 'Sam plants a sunflower' by Kate Petty you can listen to it here <https://youtu.be/g8aSTkypDz8?si=M115KQE2wfdfrjj>

We are looking forward to our grown ups joining us on Tuesday 10th for Stem, the timings for this are 10.45am or 2.30pm.

We will be looking at Van Gogh's 'Sunflowers' during EPIC and will be creating our own still life paintings.

We are continuing to follow the children's interests and have really enjoyed being out in the sunshine this week, although it is still a bit chilly so please continue to send in coats.



FS2 Mice & Hippos



This term our theme is Marvellous Mini beasts'. This week the children have been reading the book Superworm by Julia Donaldson. We have created sentences in literacy, using Fred fingers to help us spell. In Maths we have been learning number bonds to 10 and also the children were amazing at doubling.

We had a fashion show for World Book Day, where the children showed off their costumes on the catwalk. A fabulous effort made by all. We were very lucky to have year 4 children come and read books to the children and also created a puppet show. What fun!



Remember:

Forest school Monday - wellies and waterproofs please.

Wednesday - parents are invited into school at 2pm for our STEM challenge. Please send in toilet rolls.

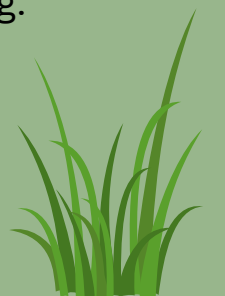


News from the Nest

This week we are looking at the mini beasts bug hunting at forest school, looking at bugs with wings - sorting them into areas.

In maths we are looking at shapes. PE we are focusing on balance.

Wednesday we are inviting parents in from 2pm - 3pm to make bug hotels, please come along.





This week in Year 2

What a busy and exciting week it has been in Year 2!

In Maths, we have been practising our money skills by adding up prices and working out how much change we would receive in real-life shopping situations. The children really enjoyed the hands-on activities and showed fantastic problem-solving skills.

In English, we have started exploring the different ways speech can be shown in writing. The children have begun to recognise inverted commas, speech bubbles, and other forms of dialogue, and they've had great fun experimenting with these in their own work. In History, the children learned that the fire began in a baker's shop on Pudding Lane, sparking lots of discussion and interest in how the fire spread and what happened next

Shout out this week goes to:

Shout Outs of the Week

- **2R:** A huge well done to Oliver and Sadie or a fantastic week and showing brilliant effort in all areas.
- **2W:** Big shout outs to Rusi and Liv for their wonderful hard work and positive attitude throughout the week. Well done, everyone—we are very proud of you!

Upcoming Events:

Looking Ahead: STEM Week!

- Next week is STEM Week, and we will be taking part in all things Science and Maths, including exciting experiments and investigations
- **Monday:** Children will need to bring outdoor shoes as we will be heading into the woods to collect natural materials for our Bug Hotels.
 - **Tuesday:** Parents are warmly invited to join us at 10:30am to help their child with the building of their Bug Hotel.
 - **Feel free to bring in any extra materials you think might be useful.**
 - **Before Tuesday:** Please send in any cereal boxes or shoe boxes you have at home—they will be put to very good use! Thank you so much for your support.

The week in Year 1

This week we have been concentrating our English lessons on a wide range of books. We began the week creating and solving fun riddles. We then looked at fiction and non-fiction books, identifying features and sorting books by their characteristics. In maths we have continued to explore addition and subtraction word problems. The children have had fun solving a range of problems. They will finish the topic off by creating their own imaginative problems for their friends to solve.

In Science we are continuing to identify animals by their different features.

In History we have been learning about the explorer Ibn Battuta and his amazing achievements.

In Art the children have been learning about Beatrix Potter and why she is famous.



Don't forget

PE: Monday - Outdoor - Health and well-being
 Tuesday - Indoor - Ball skills (Hands)
 Next week is stem week. Our parent and child afternoon is on **Tuesday 10th March 1:45pm - 2:45pm.**

Our Year 1 production is:

**Tuesday 24th March 9:15am and
 Thursday 26th March 2:15pm**

Special shout outs for Year 1:

IE - Mabel for fantastic reading

IC - Elsie for wonderful handwriting

1H - Rory and Rhys for fantastic effort in reading.



Year 3 Heart & Aces & Incredible Llamas



Dear year 3

This week, for world book day, we have dressed up as characters, completed world book day quizzes and designed our own book covers. What a treat it has been, we particularly enjoyed reading our favourite stories to the year 1 children.

Within maths we are learning to divide two digit numbers, using long division. This is proving quite tricky so we are having lots of practice. Outdoor PE this term involves learning some golf skills: aiming, rolling and striking. Indoor PE is focussing on dance based around a 'witches and wizards' theme.

Next week is STEM week, watch out for all of the interesting challenges that we will be completing.

What a fun term we are having.

We are very excited to announce that Year 3 will be swimming during the summer term. If there is anything that we need to know about your child in preparation for this, please get in touch. More information from the office will follow.

Shout outs!

3IL - Isabella and Khyren for woking hard on their writing

3HA - Emily for her beautiful Bible design and Lainey for her contributions to class discussion

Dates for your Diary:

Friday 13th March - Come and join us for our egg drop challenge. **See our Seesaw message for more details.**

Egyptian Exhibition - Tuesday 17th March
Discovery museum trip - Thursday 19th March in the afternoon (more details to follow)

Please see the email from the office regarding payment.



Year 4 Butterflies & Tigers



This week in Year 4, the children have been gathering ideas and information ready to write a setting description about Pompeii. They have been learning about what the city was like and collecting vocabulary that will help them describe the setting in detail. In maths, we have been finishing our multiplication and division unit, practising different methods to solve problems. In science, we have started our new topic on Animals and Their Habitats, where the children will be learning about different environments and the living things that survive in them. Next week in Year 4 we will be taking part in STEM Week, where the children will be exploring lots of exciting activities linked to Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. The class will take part in a fun science and maths investigation using Smarties, where they will ask questions, make predictions and record their findings. We will also be completing a computing activity, allowing the children to develop their problem-solving and digital skills. It should be a very engaging week full of hands-on learning and teamwork.



Well done!



Congratulations...

Tiger of the Week: Riley G for working super hard in all of his lesson this week.

Butterfly of the Week: Teddy for excellent sentences in English.

Don't Forget:

STEM week parent challenge:
Wednesday 11th March

Year 5 Hummingbirds

After finally finishing fractions, we have now moved on to decimals and percentages in our maths work and are looking at word problems relating to the topic.

Year 5 really want to watch the movie adaptation of Kensuke's Kingdom so we are writing persuasive letters to Mr. Mottram to allow this before Easter half term!

We have continued our work in science on life cycles and comparing life cycles of different animal groups. In history, we have delved further into the history of transport and the railway rockstar of George Stephenson.

& Stars

Upcoming Events:

STEM week next week

Parent and child workshop – **Monday 9th March 2PM** – you are invited into school to help your child create a stuffed toy of their design!

Tuesday 10th March – Wensleydale school all day for murder mystery – please provide a packed lunch or ask the school office.

Parent and child workshop – Thursday 12th **March 10AM** – you are invited into school to create a paper plane to take part in our STEM competition!

Cinema visit Wednesday 25th March.

Easter service in Church – timings TBC – Friday 27th March

Any money to be paid for can be paid via the school office or Arbor.

Shout out: ————— ✦

5S – **Jacob B and Dougie** for fantastic replicas of artist's work. **Izzy** for her hard work and resilience in our fraction's topic!

5H – **Mitchell, Lincyn** and **Jackson** for their fantastic attitude to learning and contributions to class discussions.

Year 6 Hawks & Heroes

12th March – 1:20pm – 3pm STEM Week

Titanic shoe box activity with parents – See Seesaw for more details (in the hall – enter via the breakfast club door)

16th April – Afternoon Tea on board the Titanic.

Please come dressed up to enjoy an afternoon on board the Titanic of eating and dancing. You could be the Captain, First class, third class or even from the boiler room! More information to follow shortly. Dress to impress!

Please can we ask for a £3.00 donation per child, to allow the children to make their own sandwiches and cakes for the afternoon tea.

Please give to your class teacher.



Shout outs:

6RH

Molly for excelling in finding percentages.

Frank's groups in supporting their peers in maths.

6JH

To all the Heroes for their brilliant costumes!

Reminder for parents:

Outdoor PE – Thursday

Indoor PE – Friday