



April 2023

Newsletter 14 – 21.4.23

SECTION 1: SCHOOL CELEBRATIONS!



SCHOOL VALUES

As you know, our school values are love and determination, based on the Bible passage: Be courageous; be strong. Do everything in love (1 Corinthians 16:13-14).

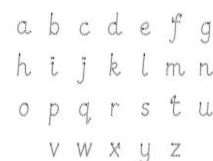


In school, we have been looking to see children demonstrating these core values. The following children have been nominated by staff and/or peers for showing these values in school. Well done everyone!

| | Nursery | Reception | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 |
|------------------------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Demonstrating Love | Maleeka Anton | Henry Ethan | George F Hannah | Nialah Joshua | Nolan Huwariya | Phoebe Dexter |
| Demonstrating Determination | Oliver Masa | Amaya Musa | Isaac Max | Omar Esme | Bobby Alfie | Zoe Oliver |

HANDWRITER OF THE WEEK

We are having a real drive in school to improve handwriting, presentation of work and spelling. Each week, class teachers will choose someone who has worked hard to improve their presentation or who consistently demonstrates exemplary standards of presentation. Well done and thank you to the following children:



| Reception | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 |
|-----------|---------|---------|--------|--------|
| Rohan | Thanuja | Rosa | Mabel | Phoebe |
| Cai | Hadin | Abigail | Emilia | Rose |

TIMES TABLE ROCKSTARS

As you know, by the end of Year 4 children are expected to know all their multiplication tables up to 12 x 12 and Year 4 children will undertake their statutory Multiplication Tables Check in the summer term.



| | Children Need to Learn | New Rock Stars, Heroes and Legends in this class | Highest engagement this fortnight |
|---|-------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| Year 2 | x 2, x 5, x 10 | Daniel S | Evelyn, Theo, Ava, Rehan |
| Year 3 | x 2, x 5, x 10, x 3, x 4, x 8 | Charlie, Zidan, Amelia, Monty, Abdul, Sammy, Alfie | Alfie, Finley, Bobby, Evie, Lauren |
| Year 4 | All tables to 12 x 12 | Maddison, Emmie, Mustafa, Edward, Thaddeus | Taishaun, Nancy, Hugo, Avie |
| Current rank of ARFS among nearby schools | | | 19th |

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

Year 1 won the overall attendance award for Spring 2 with an amazing 97%. **Well done**

Year 1! They earned themselves a film afternoon during the final week!



| | Whole School Attendance (excluding Nursery) | Highest class attendance! | Second place | Third place |
|------------|--|---------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Wb 27.3.23 | 95% | Year 2 (96%) | Year 1 (95%) | Year 4 (94%) |
| Wb 17.4.23 | 95% | Year 1 (99%) | Nursery (98%) | Year 3 (96%) |

Our school target for attendance is 97%.



Please let Mrs Coates know, via ParentMail, if your child will be absent by 9:00am at the latest. Thank you.

If your child is not in school when the register closes at 9.15am (even if this is for a medical or dental appointment), they are marked as absent for the whole morning session. Therefore, we would encourage parents to make medical appointments outside school time, wherever possible please. Thank you.

If you are experiencing any difficulties and need support with your child's attendance, please contact school as soon as possible. Mr Tolan can visit you at home or meet you in school to offer support and advice.

We will now be taking appropriate legal action for children who are deemed persistent absentees (under 90% attendance). Please see the attendance policy on our school website for further information.

MINUTES MISSED

During the last fortnight, 217 (3 hours and 37 mins) minutes of learning time have been missed in school due to lateness. Please try to arrive on time at school, between 8:35am – 8:45am. Thank you.



PUPIL ABSENCES

| | Whole School absence (excluding Nursery) | Absence caused by holidays | Other absences |
|------------|---|----------------------------|----------------|
| Wb 27.3.23 | 5% | 1% | 4% |
| Wb 17.4.23 | 5% | 3% | 2% |



SECTION 2: SCHOOL NEWS!

Transition to

Year 1

RECEPTION TRANSITION TO YEAR 1

From Monday 24th April, in readiness for moving to Year 1, children in Reception will enter school via the main cloakroom from the yard (where Years 1 and 2 enter) instead of through their classroom door. Reception children should initially enter at 8:30am please (and will be greeted by Mrs Armstrong) and **Years 1 and 2 can enter after Reception at 8:35am**. Please could we ask children in Years 1 and 2 to stand back to allow Reception to enter first whilst they are getting used to their new routine. After the first few days, when Reception children are comfortable in their new routine, we can resume the usual 10 minute window for all children. Thank you in advance for your understanding.

NATIONAL OFFER DAY Primary school places



NATIONAL OFFER DAY

Monday 17th April was National Offer Day where families are informed of their Reception place for September. Please remember to respond to your offer by 1st May 2023. For further information and advice you can contact School Admissions directly via email admissions.information@newcastle.gov.uk

KING CHARLES III CORONATION

On Friday 5th May we will be having a Coronation themed day in school. Children are invited to wear red, white and blue clothing rather than their usual school uniform. Each class will be undertaking a range of activities in school as well as having a whole school “street party” lunch (hopefully outdoors!).



Please indicate, via ParentMail, if you would like your child to take part in the street party lunch provided by school. Donations can also be made via ParentMail to cover the cost of crafts and activities. Thank you in advance.

In addition to this, we are hosting a family crown making competition! We would like families to work together, at home, to create their very own “Coronation Crown” and bring these to school on Friday 5th May. These will be displayed on the day for everyone to admire. A winning crown will be selected from each class. You can use anything you have at home to create your family crown; old packaging, recycled items, natural materials, fabric or anything else that you already have at home. We look forward to seeing your creations!

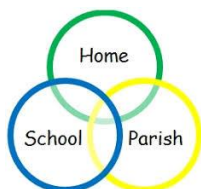


STAY & PLAY

Thank you to all the parents who attended our Easter themed Stay & Play sessions at the end of last term. The children loved demonstrating how they learn through play.

READING BUDDIES

We are looking to recruit reading buddies to help in all classes. If you (or a friend or family member) could spare an hour a week, please email class teachers who will be delighted to hear from you! You will require DBS clearance through our school – please speak to Mrs Coates or Mrs Lowe who will arrange this. Thank you in advance!



CHURCH LINKS

It has been great to hear some of our children talking about visiting both St Nicholas' and All Saints' churches over Easter and taking part in local church events.

This week, we have been joined by Rev'd Jones from All Saints' twice! She told us all about the letters from St Paul and where we can find these in the Bible.

On Monday, governors met at All Saints' Church to reflect on the original mission of the school and consider how this can be applied today. It was a great opportunity to discuss our context and align our thinking, as well as visit All Saints'.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP



In the lead up to the Easter holiday, we listened to the story and events of Holy Week in collective worship. Year 2 led Palm Sunday worship for their friends, parents and carers. The Easter Service at All Saints' was a great opportunity to come together and reflect on the Easter story in church as well as say our goodbyes to Mr Booth. The

Easter Service was planned and led by the Worship Council and some Year 4 children so huge thanks to them for their planning and preparation in advance of the service.

This week, we have been thinking about the letters that St Paul wrote; why he wrote them and the impact they had (and continue to have) on the readers.

CHARITABLE GIVING

Children across the school designed their own Shaun the Sheep. These designs have been considered and a selection are currently being "authorised" for production. Watch this space!



Educational Visits



CLASS VISITS

Year 3 have visited Cragside house and grounds as part of their local history learning about local pioneer William Armstrong. Thank you to the parent helpers who helped make this visit possible.

Year 1 had a fantastic visit to St Mary's lighthouse to complete their learning about the changes to Whitley Bay over time. They started the day with a lesson about seaside holidays in the past and present then they explored the lighthouse and watched the tide covering the causeway. The sun shone and everyone had a wonderful day. Thank you for your patience with our unexpectedly late return to school.

On Tuesday next week, Year 2 will visit Alnwick Castle as part of their history topic 'Castles'. We will explore the grounds and the features of the castle in the past compared to now.



PE WEEK

School Sports Week will be held in school 19 - 23 June. We will be having a week of sports related activities and are looking for providers to support us making this a really exciting opportunity

for our children to try new sports, be active and have fun. If you run a business or have contacts with someone who could help, please contact Miss Witherspoon

(Alana.Witherspoon@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk).

LIBRARY VISITS

Mrs Crozier has arranged for each class to visit Gosforth Library on the following dates:

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Nursery | Friday 7 th July & Friday 14 th July |
| Reception | Friday 23 rd June & Friday 30 th June |
| Year 1 | Friday 9 th June & Friday 16 th June |
| Year 2 | Friday 19 th May & Tuesday 23 rd May |
| Year 3 | Tuesday 2 nd May & Friday 12 th May |
| Year 4 | Friday 21 st April & Friday 28 th April |



As this is a visit to our local area, we do not need parents/carers to complete permission slips. Staff from the library will also be visiting school on 27th June to launch their summer reading challenge.

LUNCHTIME CLUBS

If your child has been allocated a place on a club you will have received a ParentMail at the end of last term.



The timetable will be as follows:

| Club | Day <small>(may change due to staff commitments)</small> | For children in | Run by |
|----------------------|--|-----------------|------------------|
| Nursery Play Buddies | Friday | Years 1 & 2 | Mrs Francis |
| Film Club | Tuesday | Y3 & Y4 | Miss Willett |
| Choir | Wednesday | Rec – Y4 | Miss Bowers |
| Art Club | Tuesday | Rec – Year 2 | Miss Witherspoon |
| Library Club | Thursday | Y3 & Y4 | Mrs Crozier |
| Maths Club | Tuesday | Y3 & Y4 | Miss Nattress |
| Football Club* | Thursday | Y3 & Y4 | Lee Sterry |

*Football Club is open to all children in Years 3 and 4 to train together, however, Lee Sterry will select specific children to take part in competitions as they occur. Children should wear uniform for school and bring football kit to change into at lunchtime please. Children selected to take part in competitions will need shin pads and football boots.

CHILDREN'S CANCER RUN

If you have not yet signed up for the Children's Cancer Run on Sunday 14th May, it's not too late! You can help to raise money to support children diagnosed with cancer in our region, making life a little better for them and their families. It will take place on 14th May at Newcastle Racecourse.



It is quick and easy to register to take part.

- Families register to run directly through the event website, choosing our school from the drop-down menu.
- Runner packs for our school team, including the children's t-shirts, will be sent to our school in early May, along with a list of our runners.
- Our runners will have their own online fundraising page and we can track our school total so you can see how much we raise.
- Our school will be allocated a start time so that we can all run together, meeting at our school meeting point.

Miss King is running three practise sessions for staff and children in Years 1 - 4, 3:15 - 4:00pm, on:

- Thursday 27th April
- Tuesday 2nd May
- Tuesday 9th May

If your child would like to stay for any of these sessions, please complete the ParentMail form. Children should be collected from the field gate (next to the kitchen/staff carpark). Please note that these sessions will be cancelled in the event of rain. Children will need to bring appropriate footwear to change into please.

PE DAYS- SUMMER TERM



| | |
|-----------|----------|
| Nursery | Monday |
| Reception | Monday |
| Year 1 | Friday |
| Year 2 | Friday |
| Year 3 | Tuesday |
| Year 4 | Thursday |

Please remember that children should only wear their school PE kits on the days they have PE (see above). This comprises navy hoodie/jumper and tracksuit bottoms and/or royal blue shorts with a yellow t-shirt and running shoes that children can fasten themselves. Please do not wear own clothes for PE. Thank you.

TEACHER STRIKE DAYS

As you may be aware, teaching unions have planned further strike action on Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May. Our school will be open as usual to all children except those in Year 2. If the situation changes, I will of course let you know as soon as possible.



DONATIONS

We are in need of spare pants, socks and tights of all sizes/styles in school please. If your child has any outgrown items, we'd be really grateful to receive them. Thank you! Donations can be handed to class teachers or the school office.

As we continue to increase our extra-curricular opportunities in school, we are aware that we are asking for a number of financial contributions to cover the costs of school visits and activities. We are also aware that some families may be struggling with the current cost of living and do not wish to add further burden. However, we are unfortunately not able to cover the costs of the planned activities in full from the school budget and rely on parental contributions to make these events happen. Please be aware that if insufficient donations are made, we may have to cancel activities. If you are unable to make a donation, or wish to make a partial donation, please let Mrs Coates know. Thank you.



BIG GIG

This summer, the Big Gig is back! An event that brings lots of schools from all over Newcastle together to sing and make music. This year, the theme is 'Back to the 80s' with a selection of 10 popular 80s songs to learn. The event takes place on the 21st June 2023 (the same day as Y2 sports day).



In order to continue with choir rehearsals as normal, Miss Bowers is planning on having Big Gig rehearsals after school 3:15pm – 4:15pm on Wednesdays every other week (26th April, 10th May, 24th May, 7th June and a final rehearsal on 14th June) to learn the new 80s repertoire.

There are 35 spaces available to children who are already in our school choir. If your child is in Choir and would like to take part in the Big Gig, they can attend the after-school rehearsals. Please sign up via ParentMail.

NATIONAL SCHOOLS SINGING PROGRAMME

Children in Years 2 and 3 are taking part in the National Schools Singing Programme with Newcastle Cathedral. This will take place in school each Thursday afternoon - they had their first session yesterday, which the children thoroughly enjoyed. They learned a song about tempo and pitch and started to learn about the dynamics in music.



MUSIC TUITION



We are looking to re-introduce peripatetic music teachers to provide guitar and violin lessons to children in Years 3 and 4, from September 2023. We need to gauge interest so we can inform NEMCo of which sessions we would need. We

nemco
north east music

would be grateful if the current Year 2 and Year 3 families could indicate, via ParentMail, if their child would be interested in learning to play the guitar or violin (or either), after school, in a small group lesson. These would be booked and paid for by parents/carers directly with NEMCo (not school). Thank you.



UNIFORM LIBRARY & EXCHANGE

Mrs Coates has set up a pre-loved "Uniform Library" in the main entrance foyer for anyone who needs to borrow, exchange or replace any items. This is not only to help cut costs for families but we are also aiming to have a positive environmental impact by reducing waste and pollution caused by textiles. Please come along and help yourselves. Cash donations can

be made to the PTFA at the school office. Thank you.



Donations of outgrown uniform can also be made at the school office. Please ensure items are clean and name labels are removed. Thank you!

SAFEGUARDING

Mrs Massey and Mrs Francis are our school's Designated Safeguarding Leaders (DSL). Miss Clay is the DSL for wraparound clubs. If you have concerns about a child, please contact one of us. If it is an emergency and a child is in immediate danger, please call the police.



Members of the public can also report concerns to Children's Social Care directly. If you have a concern about a child please contact one of the following:

- Initial Response Service – 0191 277 2500
- Northumbria Police – 101 (in an emergency always dial 999)
- NSPCC Helpline – 0800 800 5000

There is also a secure online referral form available for you to explain your concern, if you are a member of the public. <https://nccportal.newcastle.gov.uk/forms/referral/public>

For more information, you can read our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy on our school website.

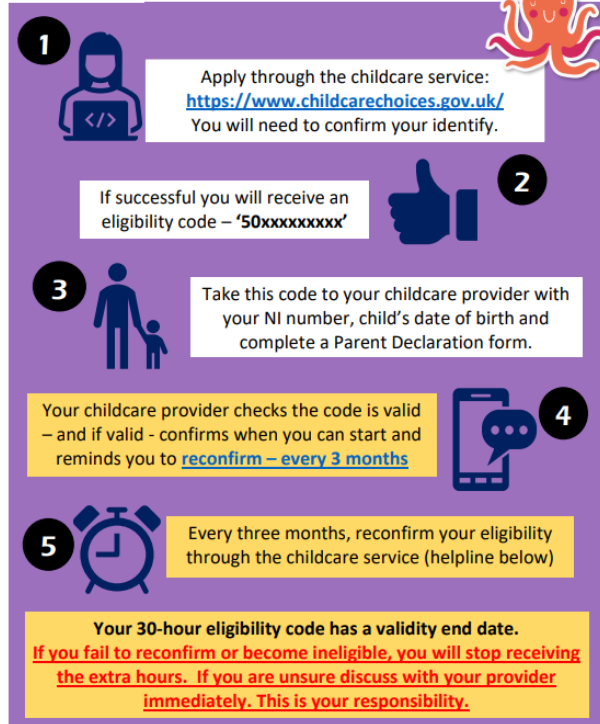
With my very best wishes,


Kate Massey


Headteacher





Childcare **Applying for 30 hours free childcare**
Choices through the childcare service




1  Apply through the childcare service:
<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>
You will need to confirm your identity.

2  If successful you will receive an eligibility code – '50xxxxxxx'

3  Take this code to your childcare provider with your NI number, child's date of birth and complete a Parent Declaration form.

4  Your childcare provider checks the code is valid – and if valid - confirms when you can start and reminds you to [reconfirm – every 3 months](#)

5  Every three months, reconfirm your eligibility through the childcare service (helpline below)

Your 30-hour eligibility code has a validity end date.
If you fail to reconfirm or become ineligible, you will stop receiving the extra hours. If you are unsure discuss with your provider immediately. This is your responsibility.

For support call Customer Interaction
Centre on **0300 123 4097**

Newcastle
City Council 

Be courageous; be strong.

Do everything in love.

1 Corinthians 16:13-14

DIARY DATES

New dates are in red, for your information

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Monday 24 th April | Reception children enter via KS1 cloakroom door | 8:30am for the first couple of days then 8:35am | |
| Tuesday 25 th April | Year 2 visit to Alnwick Castle | All day | Please see ParentMail |
| Wednesday 26 th April | Class Photographs | All day | All children to wear royal blue jumpers please |
| | Big Gig Rehearsal for relevant choir members | 3:15-4:15pm | Please see ParentMail |
| Thursday 27 th April | Teacher strike day | | Year 2 closed |
| | Cancer Run Practise (Years 1 – 4) | 3:15-4:00pm | Please see ParentMail |
| Friday 28 th April | School Council Meeting | 2:45pm | |
| | Year 4 visit to Gosforth Library | pm | |
| May 2023 | | | |
| Monday 1 st May 2023 | Bank holiday | | School closed to children |
| Tuesday 2 nd May | Year 3 visit to Gosforth Library | pm | |
| | Teacher strike day | | Year 2 closed |
| | Cancer Run Practise (Years 1 – 4) | 3:15-4:00pm | Please see ParentMail |
| Wednesday 3 rd May | Year 4 visit to The Sill | All day | Information will be sent via ParentMail |
| Friday 5 th May | Coronation themed day in school | All day | Children invited to wear red, white and blue clothing. Donations for activities can be made via ParentMail. Families are invited to create a "Coronation Crown" and bring into school on 5.5.23 |
| Monday 8 th May | Additional Bank Holiday for His Majesty's coronation. | | School closed to children |
| Tuesday 9 th May | Cancer Run Practise (Years 1 – 4) | 3:15-4:00pm | Please book places via ParentMail |
| Wednesday 10 th May | Big Gig Rehearsal for relevant choir members | 3:15-4:15pm | Please book places via ParentMail |
| 11-12 May 2023 | Year 4 Residential at Dukeshouse Wood | pm | Details to follow |
| 12 th May 2023 | Year 3 visit to Gosforth Library | pm | |
| Sunday 14 th May | Children's Cancer Run | TBC | Please register at https://childrenscancernorth.org.uk/event/childrens-cancer-run-2023 |
| Monday 15 th May | Year 1 leading Christian Aid Worship | 9:00am | Parents and carers of Year 1 welcome to attend. |
| Tuesday 16 th May | Year 3 visit to Waters Meet | All day | Information will be sent via ParentMail |
| Thursday 18 th May | Year 4 leading Ascension Worship | 9:00am | Parents and carers of Year 4 welcome to attend. |
| Friday 19 th May | Deadline for booking Summer 2 wraparound | 5:00pm | Please book via ParentMail |
| | Year 2 visit to Gosforth Library | pm | |
| | Year 1 Forest School | pm | |

| | | | |
|--|---|-------------|--|
| | School Council Meeting | 2:45pm | |
| Tuesday 23 rd May | Year 1 Mosque visit | am | Information will be sent via ParentMail |
| | Year 4 Forest School | am | Children must wear long sleeved tops and trousers. We will be outdoors regardless of the weather so please send clearly named wellies, waterproofs, hats and gloves (and possibly a named change of clothes!) £1 donations can be made via ParentMail |
| | Year 2 Forest School | pm | |
| Wednesday 24 th May | Nursery & Reception Forest School | am | |
| | Year 3 Forest School | pm | Please see ParentMail |
| | Big Gig Rehearsal for relevant choir members | 3:15-4:15pm | |
| Thursday 25 th May | Year 3 leading Pentecost Worship | 9:00am | Parents and carers of Year 3 welcome to attend. |
| | Pentecost Service at St Nicholas' Church for children in Reception – Year 4 | 1:30pm | Parents and carers invited |
| Friday 26 th May | Staff Training Day | | School closed to children |
| 26.5.23-2.6.23 | Half Term | | |
| June 2023 | | | |
| Monday 5 th June | School reopens to children | | |
| | Eat Smart project begins in school | | |
| Tuesday 6 th June | Year 4 leading Trinity Worship | 9:00am | Parents and carers of Year 4 welcome to attend. |
| Wednesday 7 th June | Big Gig Rehearsal for relevant choir members | 3:15-4:15pm | Please see ParentMail |
| Thursday 8 th June | Year 4 attending Newcastle Cathedral Leavers' Service | 1-3pm | Information will be sent via ParentMail |
| Friday 9 th June | Year 1 visit to Gosforth Library | pm | |
| Wb Monday 12 th June | Year 1 Phonics Screen | | |
| Tuesday 13 th June | Nursery & Reception games (in school) | am | Children will wear PE kits in school |
| Wednesday 14 th June | Welcome Meeting for parents and carers of children starting Nursery in September 2023 | 5:30pm | |
| | Big Gig Rehearsal for relevant choir members | 3:15-4:15pm | Please see ParentMail |
| Thursday 15 th June | Welcome Meeting for parents and carers of children starting Reception in September 2023 | 5:30pm | |
| Friday 16 th June | Year 1 visit to Gosforth Library | pm | |
| 19 th - 23 rd June | School Sports Week | | Children to wear sports clothing all week (School PE kit on their Sports Day) please |
| Monday 19 th June | Reception Sports Day | 2:00pm | Reception children to wear school PE kits please |
| Tuesday 20 th June | Year 1 Sports Day | 2:00pm | Year 1 children to wear school PE kits please |
| Wednesday 21 st June | Nursery Sports Day | 9:30am | Nursery children to wear school PE kits please |
| | Big Gig 2023 | pm | See info in Newsletter 14 |
| | Year 2 Sports Day | 2:00pm | Year 2 children to wear school PE kits please |
| Thursday 22 nd June | Year 4 Sports Day | 2:00pm | Year 4 children to wear school PE kits please |

| | | | |
|--|---|-----------------|--|
| Friday 23 rd June | Year 3 Sports Day | 2:00pm | Year 3 children to wear school PE kits |
| | Reception visit to Gosforth Library | pm | Half of class only (no permission required) |
| Tuesday 27 th June | Visit from Newcastle Library Service to launch Summer Reading Challenge | am | |
| Thursday 29 th June | Year 3 activities and sleepover at school with Mr H Outdoor Experiences | All day & night | More info to follow |
| Friday 30 th June | Reception visit to Gosforth Library | pm | Half of class only (no permission required) |
| | School Council Meeting | 2:45pm | |
| July 2023 | | | |
| Monday 3 rd July | Reception Stay & Play | 2:00pm | |
| Tuesday 4 th July | Nursery Stay & Play | 2:00pm | |
| Wed 5 th & Thurs 6 th July | Transition Days for GST | | |
| Friday 7 th July | Year 4 Bikeability | | All children taking part will need a well-fitting helmet and their own bike in good working order. |
| | Nursery visit to Gosforth Library | pm | Half of class only (no permission required) |
| Friday 14 th July | Deadline for wraparound bookings for Autumn 1 | | Please book via ParentMail |
| | Year 3 visit to Great North (Hancock) Museum | | More info to follow |
| | Nursery visit to Gosforth Library | pm | Half of class only (no permission required) |
| | School Council Meeting | 2:45pm | |
| 17-21 st July | Year 3 swimming lessons each day this week | | More info to follow |
| Friday 21 st July | Year 4 Leavers Service | 9:00am | Parents and carers of Year 4 welcome to attend. |
| | School closes for summer | 3:15pm | |
| September 2023 | | | |
| Monday 4 th Sept 2023 | Staff training day | | |
| October 2023 | | | |
| Friday 27 th October 2023 | Staff training day | | |
| 30.10.23 - 3.11.23 | October half term | | |
| December 2023 | | | |
| 22.12.23 – 5.1.24 | Christmas Holiday | | |
| February 2024 | | | |
| 19.2.24 – 23.2.24 | February Half Term | | |
| March 2024 | | | |
| 29.3.24 – 12.4.24 | Easter Holiday | | |
| May 2024 | | | |
| 27.5.24 – 31.5.24 | May Half Term | | |
| June 2024 | | | |

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|--|-----------------------------|--|--|
| Monday 3 rd June 2024 | Staff training day | | |
| July 2024 | | | |
| 22.7.24 – 30.8.24 | Summer Holidays | | |
| Tuesday 3 rd September 2024 | School re-opens to children | | |

Be courageous; be strong.
Do everything in love.
 1 Corinthians 16:13-14