



ARCHBISHOP RUNCIE
CHURCH OF ENGLAND (VA) FIRST SCHOOL



October 2018 - Newsletter 8

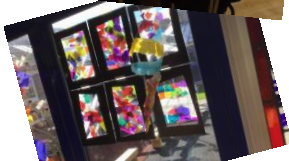
ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
88.2%	89.8%	91.4%	97.4%	93.8%	97.5%

Our school target for attendance is 96%.



I cannot believe that we are at the end of the first half term already! We have had a fantastic start to the year; welcoming new children and their families to our school as well as some new staff too. We are thrilled with how well everyone has settled in and the positive relationships that have already been established.



We have welcomed lots of visitors (Forest School, Art Workshops, Open The Book, Warburton's, ASDA staff, Bishop Colin and Zoe Parker-Smissen) to our school as well as going on lots of exciting visits (Gosforth walking tour, Beamish, Gibside) and holding events in school (Roald Dahl Day, World's Biggest Coffee Afternoon, Harvest Festivals, our 30th birthday exhibition and our school BBQ). Each class teacher has now added photos to the school website so



you can see what we have been up to.



Class welcome meetings, parent workshops on Maths and e-safety sessions have been well attended and feedback has been exceptionally positive. Thank you to our wonderful children and staff for making the beginning of the year such a positive one!



PTFA NEWS

Thank you to all those who were able to attend the PTFA AGM last Friday.

The PTFA are a group of willing volunteers who arrange social events for parents and children of the school. They also provide a vital source of funding to school. Last year they raised £7260.25 which school benefitted from through the purchasing of indoor and outdoor resources (for Early Years, KS1 & KS2) and regeneration of the internal courtyard into a sensory garden. The remaining funds will be spent on a wide range of curriculum support materials and software to aid teaching and learning throughout the school as well as contributions towards the refurbishments within school.

If you have any ideas of activities or events for next year, please see a committee member or your class rep.

Our new PTFA Committee Members are:

Chair- Bridget Higham (Sophie & Alice's Mum)

Treasurer - Caroline Peters (Toby's Mum)

Co-secretaries - Lizzie Brett (Thomas's Mum) and Camilla Stewart (Henry's Mum)

Nursery Class Rep- Emma Mahoney (Poppie & Monty's Mum)

Reception Class Rep - Christine Halfpenny (Emilia and Arabella's Mum)

Year 1 Class Rep - Nicola Hodgson (Thomas' Mum)

Year 2 Class Rep - Jana Dedek (Sophie's Mum)

**MAKE A
DIFFERENCE
AND
JOIN OUR
PTFA**

Year 3 Class Rep - Pippa Aitken (Oliver & Millie's Mum)

Year 4 Class Rep - Siobhan McConnell (Harriet's Mum)



Tickets are now available, from the PTFA, for the disco 5:00-6:30pm on Thursday 8th November at school.

CURRICULUM

Thank you to all the parents who attended our exhibition and for the positive feedback that you have given! It is very much appreciated. The children and staff in KS1 & 2 have really enjoyed our 30th birthday topic and it has given us an opportunity to celebrate some of the wonderful aspects of our school as well as learning about its interesting history.



Class Teachers will send their half termly class newsletters out after half term which will give specific class information and outline the curriculum for the coming half term.

NATIONAL DESIGN WEEK

Years 1-4 each designed and made school's birthday merchandise to sell this week. Each class was tasked with using a budget to "make their money grow" by creating a profit from their product sales. Well done to all classes involved!

If all products are sold, profits raised will be:

Year 1- £25.65 (38% profit margin)

Year 2- £22.00 (29% profit margin)

Year 3- £47.50 (29% profit margin)

Year 4- £75.89 (72% profit margin)

If you have not yet bought your child's product you may do so until Friday 9th November. Products can be purchased via ParentMail or a PayPoint barcode.

PE KITS



PE kits have now been sent home for washing. Please use the opportunity to check that all items (especially shoes) still fit well and all items are named clearly. Children in Years 1-4 need trainers for running outdoors. Please do not send children with lace up shoes if they cannot tie their own laces!

PARENTS EVENING

We have received lots of positive feedback about Parents Evenings this week too. We are delighted that you have enjoyed looking at your children's books so early in the year!

BREAKFAST CLUB

We are pleased to be offering our own Breakfast Club, starting after half term. This will be held from 8:00am in our school Hall. If you have any queries, please contact Mrs McCloud.



GST

We continue to work closely with the other Gosforth Schools; staff meet regularly for training, to share good practice and plan events.

We will be taking part in GST Poppy Week (wb 5th Nov) to commemorate the end of WWI. Children are invited to create a poppy over the half term holiday out of whatever material they would like (e.g. lego, fabric, collage etc) and bring it into school on Monday 5th November to display.

NURSERY- JANUARY INTAKE

After Christmas, we will be taking children into Nursery who have turned 3 this term. Therefore, if your child has turned 3 between September 2018 and December 2018 they will be eligible to start with us in January 2019. If you are interested in a Nursery place, or would like more information, please contact Mrs McCloud or Mrs Gregory.



Please remember parents will need to update details on the government website every 3 months to remain eligible for free Nursery 30 hour provision.

COLD WEATHER



As the weather changes we are asking the children to bring a warm coat, hat, gloves etc to school. It would be great if they had a small drawstring bag to leave these items in, on their peg. Please check each item is clearly named- as you can imagine there will be lots of items lying around!

EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS (Autumn 2)

	Before School	Lunchtime	After school
Monday	Breakfast Club 8:00-8:50am Places must have been booked and paid for online	French (Y1 & Y3)	Yoga (Y1-Y4) 3:15-4:15pm
Tuesday			Taekwondo (Y1-Y4) 3:15-4:15pm
Wednesday			Awards (Y4) 3:15-4:30pm
Thursday			Art (Y3&Y4) 3:15-4:15pm Dance (Y1-Y4) 3:15-4:15pm
Friday		French (Y2 & Y4)	Football (Y3 & Y4) 3:15-4:30pm

Art Club is a new club being offered by Zoe Parker-Smissen, an artist who has been working in school recently. The club will be open to a maximum of 12 children. Autumn 2 will be for KS2 children and KS1 will be in Spring Term 1.

Dance Club has now moved to after school on Thursday as the Hall will be required for our new Breakfast Club. Yoga is now open to children in Years 1-4.

Children attending after school clubs will be dismissed by club leaders at the main school office.

Booking information and further details are available on our school website.

CAFÉ BEAM

The former Fire Station, on Gosforth High Street, is to be transformed into a new cafe as part of an exciting move by children's charity Smile For Life. "Cafe Beam" will provide a fabulous environment for young people with disabilities and learning difficulties to gain hands on work experience, learn new skills and meet many members of the community. In addition, it will be a great place to take children (individuals or groups) with additional needs and will feature a spacious café area, Autism friendly and braille menus.



They also offer a room which can be used for private meetings, outside catering, parental support groups, access to equipment to enhance the lives of people with disabilities and a youth club for children aged 10+ each Tuesday evening 5:00pm-7:00pm.



Café Beam are looking for regular volunteers to support young people with learning difficulties as they complete their work experience placement. This role is extremely rewarding and varied and volunteers will acquire a real insight into the operational side of their organisation as well as gaining valuable experience in working with people with special educational needs.

The grand opening of Café Beam will be held on 10th November- please pop along and show your support if you are able to! GST hope to work closely with Café Beam in the coming months.

CASHLESS SYSTEM

Thank you for your support with our cashless system- it is greatly appreciated! Lots of parents and carers have commented on how much more efficient this system is and how they appreciate being able to pay/complete forms online which is fantastic! If you need any assistance using or downloading the ParentMail app, please pop in to see Mrs McCloud.



FEEDBACK

We are delighted to have received so much positive feedback in recent weeks- thank you! Over half term, we would be grateful if you could support us in moving our school forward by responding, via the ParentMail form, to the following questions;

- What has improved across the school?
- What is working well for your child?
- Any other thoughts or comments?

TRIM TRAIL

Unfortunately our playground Trim Trail is to be removed for Health & Safety reasons. It has been installed for over 12 years, so has served us well! We look forward to replacing it with new climbing equipment in due course. In the meantime, we ask that children do not use it. Thank you for your support in this matter.

REMINDERS

This term we have asked for several financial contributions towards visits and events in school. Please check your ParentMail account to view outstanding payments or request a barcode for PayPoint. Your donations are greatly appreciated and allow us to offer your children a stimulating curriculum in order to provide the very best education for children at Archbishop Runcie First School.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or queries.

Wishing you all a safe and restful half term holiday.

With my very best wishes,

Mrs KE Massey

Headteacher

“Love to learn, learn to love”

Dates for your Diary

Date	Event	Additional Notes
November 2018		
Monday 5 th Nov	School re-opens to children	
	Y2 "Polar Lands" Workshop (all day)	Y2 – Please pay online
	Please bring in any poppies made at home to display in school.	
5 th -9 th Nov	Gosforth Schools Trust Poppy Week	Poppies on sale in school (suggested donation of £1)
Wed 7 th November	Diwali	Activities for children during school
	DAAB Christmas Tree Light Switch-on 4:00pm for 4:30pm start (at DAAB House)	All welcome
Thursday 8 th Nov	PTFA Disco (5:00-6:30pm)	Tickets via PTFA
	Y3 WWI experience Return to school at approx. 3:30-3:45pm	Parent helpers needed please
Friday 9 th Nov	Y4 WWI experience Return to school at approx. 3:30-3:45pm	Y3 & 4 – Please complete payment & form online Please wear uniform and bring a packed lunch
Sat 10 th Nov	Café Beam opening	Please go along to show your support
12-16 th Nov	Antibullying Week	Activities for children during school
Thursday 15 th Nov	Prospective Reception Parents Open Evening 3:30pm	Please let your friends with young children know!
Friday 16 th Nov	Children in Need Day	Children can wear spotty clothing for a donation of £1
	School Council Meeting	
CHANGE OF DATE Monday 19 th Nov	Antibullying workshops for Years 1-4 £4.00 per child	Please pay online
Wed 21 st Nov	World "Hello" Day	Children will be encouraged to greet 10 new people
Wed 21 st & Thursday 22 nd Nov	10:00am - 4:00pm GST "Poppies and Poems" exhibition at Trinity Church, Gosforth High Street	Open to all
Wed 28 th Nov	N & Rec Julia Donaldson Day	N & Rec children invited to dress as a Julia Donaldson character
	Governing Body Meeting	
Thursday 29 th Nov	Year 1 visit to Discovery Museum	Please complete form and pay online. Children will need to wear uniform and bring a packed lunch. Parent helpers needed please!
Friday 30 th Nov	9:00 Advent Worship- led by Year 3 (in school)	Parents and carers welcome
December 2018		
Monday 3 rd Dec	Prospective Reception Parents Open Evening 3:30pm	Please let your friends with young children know!
Tuesday 4 th Dec	GST Council Meeting- GCMS	GST reps only
Wed 12 th Dec	9:15- Reception Christmas "Stay & Play" 2:15- Nursery Christmas "Stay & Play"	Parents invited
Friday 14 th Dec	Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day	Children and staff wear Christmas Jumpers for £1

		donation
	PTA Christmas Fair & Carol Singing (Years 1-4) 2:30pm-4:00pm	All welcome!
Monday 17 th Dec	Flu immunizations (pm) R-Y4	Forms now complete
	1:30pm KS2 Nativity (Y3 & Y4)	Ticket info to follow
	5:30pm KS1 Nativity (Y1 & Y2) 6:30pm KS2 Nativity (Y3 & Y4)	Children need to be back at school by 5:00pm please.
Tuesday 18 th Dec	Foundation Stage (N & Rec) Nativity 9:30am	Ticket info to follow
	Foundation Stage Party (N & Rec) pm	N & Rec children can bring party clothes. Please sign up to bring food.
	Key Stage One Nativity 2:00pm (Y1 & Y2)	Ticket info to follow
Wed 19 th Dec	KS2 Party (Y3 & Y4) pm	Y3 & 4 children can bring party clothes. Please sign up to bring food.
	2:00pm Foundation Stage Nativity (N & Rec)	Ticket info to follow
Thursday 20 th Dec	KS1 party (Y1 & Y2) pm	Y1 & Y2 children can bring party clothes. Please sign up to bring food.
	PTFA Film night 3:15pm	Tickets available via PTFA
Friday 21 st Dec	2:00pm Carol Service for children in Y1-Y4	All Saints' Church , West Avenue (off the High Street) Families welcome to join us
	School Closes for Christmas (2 weeks)	
January 2019		
Monday 7 th January	School re-opens to children	
Monday 14 th January	Prospective Nursery Parents Open Evening 3:30pm	Please let your friends with young children know!
Tuesday 15 th Jan	Deadline for Reception (Sept 2019) place applications	
Friday 18 th January	N & Rec – “Winnie the Pooh Day”	More info to follow
Tuesday 22 nd January	Years 3 & 4 start ukulele lessons in school	More info to follow
Thursday 24 th Jan	Compliment Day	
Friday 25 th Jan	N & Rec “Opposites Day”	
February 2019		
Tuesday 5 th Feb	Safer Internet Day	
Wednesday 6 th Feb	Reasoning Workshop for parents 5:00-6:00pm	Please save the date!
Friday 8 th Feb	Worship (lead by Year 2) 9:00am	Parents invited
Monday 11 th Feb	“Love is...” Day	
Tuesday 12 th Feb	N & Rec visit to Gibside	Parent helpers required please!
Friday 15 th Feb	Random Acts of Kindness Day	
	School closes for half term	
Monday 25 th Feb	School reopens to children	
Tuesday 26 th Feb & Wed 27 th Feb	Parents' Evening	
March 2019		
Mon 4 th March- Fri 8 th March	Book Week	Info to follow
	PTFA Sponsored Read TBC	Info to follow
Mon 4 th March	Y1 - 4 visit to Seven Stories	Parent helpers required please! Children to wear school uniform and bring packed lunches please
Wed 6 th March	Y4 Worship - Lent begins	Parents invited
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day	Children invited to dress as their favourite book character

Fri 15 th March	Red Nose Day for Comic Relief	Children invited to wear red for £1 donation
Thursday 21 st March	World Poetry Day	2:30pm Poetry Performance for parents of Y1-4 children
Fri 22 nd March	Deadline for Nursery applications	
Wednesday 27 th March	2:15pm Nursery Parents Stay & Play	Nursery parents invited
Thursday 28 th March	9:15 Reception Parents Stay & Play	Reception parents invited to all or part of session
Friday 29 th March	Y1-4 Mothers' Day Service 9:00am	Mum's invited!
	N & Rec Mothers' Day Service 2:30pm	Mum's invited!
	Nursery places offered	
April 2019		
Monday 1 st April	Forest School- N, Rec & Y1	Please wear outdoor clothes with long sleeves and bring wellies if wet/sunhat and suncream if warm
Tuesday 2 nd April	Forest School- Y2, Y3 & Y4	
Tuesday 2 nd April	Autism Awareness Day	Activities in school
Wed 3 rd April	9:00am Year 2 SATs Meeting for Parents	Y2 Parents- please come along!
Friday 5 th April	Easter Service at All Saints Church for children in Y1-Y4 2:00pm TBC	All Saints' Church , West Avenue (off the High Street) Families welcome
	School closes for Easter	
Tuesday 23 rd April	School re-opens to children	
Friday 26 th April	Deadline for acceptance of Nursery places	
May 2019		
May	Year 2 Statutory Assessments	Y2 children must be in school please
12-18 May	Christian Aid Week	More info to follow
Thursday 16 th May	Themed lunch	Details to follow
Friday 17 th May	Worship (lead by Year 1) 9:00am	Parents welcome
Friday 24 th May	GST Daft Day	Details to follow
	School closes for half term	
June 2019		
Monday 3 rd June	Staff Training Day- school closed to children	
Tuesday 4 th June	School reopens to children	
10-14 th June	Year 1 Phonics Screen	Y1 children must be in school please
Tuesday 11 th June	9:15 Reception Parents Stay & Play	Parents invited to all or part of session
Wed 12 th June	GST Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Fair - open to all parents of children on the SEND register	Held at GCMS
	2:15pm Nursery Parents Stay & Play	Parents Invited
Tuesday 18 th June	Big Gig (Gosforth Band & Gosforth Voices)	Northumbria Sports Central
Tuesday 25 th June	New Nursery Parents Meeting 5:00pm	
Thursday 27 th June	New Reception Parents Meeting 5:00pm	
July 2019		
Tuesday 2 nd July	Gosforth Pyramid Concert	For children in Gosforth voices & Gosforth Band
Thursday 4 th July	Governing Body Meeting	
	Y4 Parents Transition Evening at GCMS	Info to follow from GCMS
Friday 5 th July	End of year reports sent home	
Monday 8 th July	Drop in sessions to speak to teaching staff	No appointments required
Tuesday 9 th July		
Wed 10 th July	N & Rec Teddy Bears Picnic (am) children only	Please bring a teddy bear and a healthy snack to

		share with your friends
Wed 10 th July	N & Rec Sports day (1:30pm)	Parents invited
Fri 12 th July	Year 1-4 Sports Day (1:30pm)	Parents invited
	Year 4 Leavers' Disco after school	Details to follow
Monday 15 th July	Forest School- Y2, Y3 & Y4	Please wear outdoor clothes with long sleeves and bring wellies if wet/sunhat and suncream if warm
Tuesday 16 th July	Forest School- N, R & Y1	
	Y3 & Y4 instrumental concert TBC	Parents invited
Thursday 18 th July	Cakes in the Courtyard	All helpers and volunteers invited- please join us!
Friday 19 th July	9:15am Y4 Leavers' Service	Y4 Parents and carers invited
	N-Y4 Toy Day	Please do not bring anything expensive or with pieces that may get lost!
	3:15pm Picnic in the Playground	Everyone welcome!
	School closes for Summer	

“Love to learn, learn to love”