



ARCHBISHOP RUNCIE  
CHURCH OF ENGLAND (VA) FIRST SCHOOL



# November 2018 - Newsletter 10

## ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Whole School
92.3%	97%	94.5%	97.9%	96.1%	99.3%	96.6%

**National attendance is 96%. We are being ambitious and increasing our school target for attendance to 97%. Thank you in advance for your support with our drive for continued improvement.**

## CHARITABLE GIVING

Thank you to everyone who has donated towards Children In Need today- we raised £133.70. We have had lots of fun and Pudsey Bear even popped in for a visit this afternoon... Thank you to ASDA for arranging this!



## WORSHIP

This week GCMS have visited to lead Worship on Remembrance for Years 3 & 4. It was a fabulous link to our topic and great to welcome back some former pupils!

## PUPIL ABSENCES

Please report pupil absences (including the reason/ precise illness) either via email to Mrs McCloud on [admin@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk](mailto:admin@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk) or via ParentMail before 8:50am, when Registers are taken. The main school office is extremely busy in the mornings and this is a much more efficient means of communication.

Please remember the Little Orange Book is on our website to support parents make informed decisions about keeping children off school if they are unwell.



## TRAFFIC

It has been reported that, this week, there have **been two near misses involving children and traffic** next to school. In order to keep our children safe, please park and drive considerately around school. We have, once again, informed the Local Authority to request their surveillance and support in enforcing parking restrictions. If you would like to log your concerns directly with them, please contact Parking Services on 0191 261 4503. If a vehicle is causing an immediate obstruction to pedestrians, or other road users or driving dangerously, please call Northumbria Police on 101.

Our priority is the safety and wellbeing of our pupils and we would very much appreciate your continued support with this, particularly as the nights draw in and roads become busier in winter weather.

## AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Art Club is now being opened up for Year 2 children to attend, if they would like, this term. Please contact Zoe Parker-Smissen directly if you would like to take up a place (contact details are on website).

Dance Club has been cancelled due to lack of uptake. We are currently sourcing alternative providers.

## CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

If anyone has any unwanted Christmas decorations, lights or artificial trees we would gratefully receive these in school. If anyone knows where we could get two large real trees (donated) for the Hall and courtyard, this would be amazing! We are hoping to decorate the school on Friday 30th November, if anyone would be willing to give up an hour to help? Please let your child's



Class Teacher know.



### OH NO, IT'S A GRUFFALO!

Nursery and Reception children are currently learning about Julia Donaldson Stories and Reception's role play area is a Gruffalo cave! If anyone has any Gruffalo themed soft toys, puppets, costumes etc we would be really grateful if we could borrow them. Miss Leigh is also seeking tree stumps for the deep, dark wood!

### TIMES TABLE ROCKSTARS CHALLENGE

We are currently in second place on the Times Tables Rockstars Stats Dashboard for local schools, with a mean speed of 4.65 seconds per question. Well done everyone! I wonder if we can improve our speed and get to first place before Christmas...?



### FEEDBACK

Thank you for the feedback that so many of you have given. It has been great to have such open communication this term- thank you to those people who have made suggestions of how we can continue to improve- all feedback is gratefully received and acted upon, wherever possible.

Common positive themes	Impact/response
Reward systems	Children are keen to please and motivated to set a good example to others.
Tapestry (online Early Years Learning Journal)	Parents are informed about activities, progress and next steps and can add contributions from home.
New resources (incl reading books, Ten Town, Homework Books etc)	Children motivated by resources and high quality resources support learning and progress.
Exhibition	Children produced work for a specific purpose and an emphasis was placed on presentation and quality of work to display. Parents/visitors able to see progression across the school.
Extra-curricular activities	Children given opportunities to try new activities, develop skills and interests outside school with specialist providers.
Improved organisation	Staff and parents have dates in advance so they can plan ahead accordingly.
“New look” environment (classrooms, furniture, hall, courtyard, lockers)	Parents report that this has developed a sense of pride, is more inviting and appears well organised. Staff report classrooms are calmer, more organised and children have a sense of ownership.
Staff <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Morale</li> <li>• staff are full of energy which is passed on to children</li> <li>• positive vibe in school</li> <li>• Pastoral care</li> <li>• Continuity of staffing</li> <li>• New staff who are warm and energetic and have fresh ideas</li> <li>• Approachable staff who smile and welcome new families/support families/help settle children/good bond</li> </ul>	Staff are delighted that parents can see the positive impact on their children! Thank you for such positive comments!

visible between staff and children	
School visits and visitors to school (incl Forest School)	Children are engaged in their learning and motivated by visits, visitors and other events.
Reading frequency in school	Staff have a clear picture of each child's reading ability and parents know next steps/how to support.
Communication and transparency (newsletters, external noticeboards, dates in advance, twitter, direct staff emails)	Parents feel informed and able to contact staff with any queries that arise.
Electronic payments	More efficient methods of payment mean staff can utilise their time better and parents have commented on how much more convenient this is.
Homework books, spellings, Times Table Rockstars etc to reinforce teaching in school	Parents feel able to support pupils learning and have an "insight" into what is happening in lessons.
Emphasis on Growth Mind-set	Children developing resilience and "can do" attitude.
Teaching	Parents have reported that children feel more challenged and stretched.
Worship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good range of leaders</li> <li>• Strengthened links with All Saints'</li> <li>• Reception included in Whole School Worship</li> <li>• Classes leading Worship</li> </ul>	Children are getting a broad "diet" of Worship and a variety of styles. Children look forward to Worship time and feel involved in the delivery of Worship during the school year.
Security of school site/staff presence on yard	Parents feel assured that pupils are safe and can talk to staff directly, if needed.
Parents Evening (early in year, more organised, books to show parents & handout)	Parents and Teachers have an open dialogue to support individuals.
Workshops to help parents help their children	These have generally been well attended and feedback has been excellent.
Curriculum- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 30<sup>th</sup> birthday topic for Y1-4 was relevant and engaging</li> <li>• Make £5 grow project</li> </ul>	Children, staff and parents develop a sense of pride and belonging to our school. Children engaged in the topic and developed knowledge and skills in a real life, relevant context.
Children enjoying school more and are thriving	When pupils enjoy their learning they are more motivated to develop skills, knowledge and attributes which support progress. Increased attendance.
30hr Nursery provision	Children benefit from increased provision and progress is accelerated.
Increased structure in Reception	Children make rapid progress in Reception and are ready for transition to Year 1.
Everything!	☺

There were **no common themes** in the "other comments or suggestions", but there were some individual, helpful suggestions which we intend to act upon (see below).

Comments/suggestions	Action	Impact
Increased formality/structure in Reception to support Transition to Year 1	Staff had identified this as an area for development and, this year, Reception has more structure.	Children will be better prepared for transition to Year 1.

Staffing in Year 1	Miss Wilkinson has been appointed to cover Year 1.	Continuity for children.
Peer Reading Buddies (across Key Stages) where older children listen to younger children and vice versa.	Staff have discussed this suggestion and we intend to implement this system later this term.	Children read aloud to a peer reading "buddy" which helps younger children aspire to read well and enables all children to develop their reading abilities and will foster a sense of community.
Costs of activities	We are aware that we have asked for more contributions than usual, however, we believe the impact of the visits and visitors has been significant, enabling children to make an excellent start to the year. We will to continue to consider costs when planning activities in future.	Visits and visitors have supported an energetic start to the year where children have been engaged in their learning. We will consider frequency of these events in future.
More team sports as after school clubs/after school clubs for Reception	We will consider this when planning extra-curricular activities in future.	Engagement of a wider group of pupils.
Current level of Homework	Whilst homework came out of feedback as a <i>common strength</i> , two parents this as being unwelcome. Please remember that although homework is strongly encouraged it is not statutory.	The impact of homework is that parents are aware of what is being taught in school and feel able to support learning at home. The tasks we set are not onerous or overly time consuming. Homework was also mentioned many times as an improvement since September.
Events spread across all days of the week and to take into account sibling commitments.	We will endeavor to spread these across the week/term so more parents can attend.	Staff will consider days when planning events in future.

### LOST KEY

A single key has been handed in at the school office. It has an Endsleigh Insurance key ring attached. Please let Mrs McCloud know if it belongs to you.

### SCHOOL DINNER PAYMENTS

Nursery only (£1.90 per day)	Amount Due
If your child is full time	£66.50
If you child stays for lunch for 2 days per week	£26.60

Please calculate the amount owing if your child has a different attendance pattern.

Year 3 and 4 lunch register accounts are now up to date, as of today, with meals taken and amounts owing. For Year 4, this also takes into account any credits/debits from last year.

Years 3 & 4 only (£2.00 per day)	Amount Due
If your account is balanced (at £0), as at today and you are paying until Christmas	£50
If you are paying for this half term in full (5.11.18-Christmas, taking into account the Discovery Museum visit)	£68

If you have a debt/credit on your account, you can calculate payment accordingly. If you have not paid for your child's dinner last term (by cash or cheque), this debt will be shown on your current ParentMail balance so you can make payment via ParentMail.

All Lunch Registers will be updated daily going forward so you can keep track of your child's balance. It is preferred that payment is made for the remainder of the term in full but you may make payments weekly on Monday for the week ahead. Any credits on accounts (for absence or overpayment) will be refunded at the end of the school year (unless requested earlier).

### **PARENTMAIL PAYMENTS**

If you are unable to make payment online, there are in fact two ways of making payment at a PayPoint retailer with cash.

- PayCash is the preferred option. This allows parents to generate a barcode for any or all of the payment items they would like to purchase on ParentMail. This is selected by you when checking out and generates a barcode which you can either print, or show on your mobile phone, and pay for at a PayPoint retailer with cash.
- PayPoint is for parents who do not have easy access to a computer or the internet and therefore need to have a method of making payments offline. School has to generate a barcode for each single item, which can be sent to you by email or can be printed and put in your child book bags. You can then take this barcode to a PayPoint retailer to make the payment with cash. There are minimum payments for PayCash (£2.50) and PayPoint (£5). Please advise Mrs McCloud if she needs to do this for you.

The closest PayPoint retailers to school are:

- Nisa (St James Street)
- Asda
- South Gosforth Wine Store (Station Road)
- Spar/Post Office (Salters Road)
- McColls (High Street)

If you have any queries, please contact Mrs McCloud.

### **REMINDERS**

Payment reminders have been sent to parents who have not paid for previous events or trips. In future, we will have to cancel events or trips if sufficient contributions are not made. If you are unable to contribute and your child qualifies for Pupil Premium funding we can make the payment on your behalf.

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

With my very best wishes,

*Mrs KE Massey*

Headteacher

**“Love to learn, learn to love”**

## Dates for your Diary

New dates are in red, for your information.

Date	Event	Additional Notes
<b>November 2018</b>		
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Antibullying workshops for Years 1-4 £4.00 per child	Please pay online
Wed 21 <sup>st</sup> Nov	World "Hello" Day	Children will be encouraged to greet 10 new people
Wed 21 <sup>st</sup> & Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	10:00am - 4:00pm GST "Poppies and Poems" exhibition at Trinity Church, Gosforth High Street	Open to all
Wed 28 <sup>th</sup> Nov	N & Rec Julia Donaldson Day	N & Rec children invited to dress as a Julia Donaldson character
	Governing Body Meeting	
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> Nov	9:00 Advent Worship- led by Year 3 (in school)	Parents and carers welcome
<b>December 2018</b>		
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Dec	Prospective Reception Parents Open Evening 3:30pm	Please let your friends with young children know!
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> Dec	GST Council Meeting- GCMS	GST reps only
<b>REVISED DATE</b> <b>Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	<b>Nursery &amp; Reception Story Party (in school) with Seven Stories</b>	<b>Please pay online</b>
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	Deadline for shoebox donations	
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup> Dec	9:15- Reception Christmas "Stay & Play" 2:15- Nursery Christmas "Stay & Play"	Parents invited
	<b>Year 2 visit to Shipley Art Gallery to see The Snow Bear with Chris Bostock (1:00pm)</b>	<b>Children will have a packed lunch. Children can wear festive PJs or a Christmas jumper and can bring a teddy. ParentMail form to follow. Parent helpers needed please!</b>
<b>Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	<b>Y3 &amp; Y4 Multiskills festival at Walker Dome 1:00-2:45pm (we may be slightly late back to school)</b>	<b>Please send trainers and jogging bottoms. Parent helpers needed please.</b>
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day	Children and staff wear Christmas Jumpers for £1 donation
	School Christmas Lunch for staff and pupils	Please book online if your child usually has a packed lunch
	PTA Christmas Fair & Carol Singing (Years 1-4) 2:30pm-4:00pm	All welcome!
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> 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)	Children need to be back at school by 5:00pm please.
	6:30pm KS2 Nativity (Y3 & Y4)	
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> Dec	"Appely Ever After" Years 1-2 Theatre visit- £5.00 per child 11:30am-3:30pm	Please pay online Please note we are likely to be late back to school
	2:00pm Foundation Stage Nativity (N & Rec)	Ticket info to follow
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	CHANGE OF DATE TO ACCOMDATE THEATRE VISIT- KS2 Party (Y3 & Y4) am	Y3 & 4 children can bring party clothes. Please sign up to bring food.
	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 <sup>st</sup> Dec	2:00pm Carol Service for children in Y1-Y4	<b>All Saints' Church</b> , West Avenue (off the High Street) Families welcome to join us
	School Closes for Christmas (2 weeks)	
<b>January 2019</b>		
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> January	School re-opens to children	
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> January	Y1 visit to Hancock Planetarium	Details to follow
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> January	Y4 visit from Mrs Durr- South Africa learning hook	In school, no cost.
	Prospective Nursery Parents Open Evening 3:30pm	Please let your friends with young children know!
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Deadline for Reception (Sept 2019) applications	See below
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> January	N & Rec – "Winnie the Pooh Day"	More info to follow
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January	Years 3 & 4 start ukulele lessons in school	More info to follow
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Compliment Day	
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> Jan	N & Rec "Opposites Day"	
<b>February 2019</b>		
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Safer Internet Day	
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Reasoning Workshop for parents 5:00-6:00pm	Please save the date!
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Worship (led by Year 2) 9:00am	Parents invited
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> Feb	"Love is..." Day	
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> Feb	N & Rec visit to Gibside	Parent helpers required please!
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Random Acts of Kindness Day	
	School closes for half term	
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> Feb	School reopens to children	
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb & Wed 27 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Parents' Evening	
<b>March 2019</b>		
Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> March- Fri 8 <sup>th</sup> March	Book Week	Info to follow
	PTFA Sponsored Read TBC	Info to follow
Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Y1 - 4 visit to Seven Stories	Parent helpers required please! Children to wear school uniform and bring packed lunches please
Wed 6 <sup>th</sup> March	Y4 Worship - Lent begins	Parents invited
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day	Children invited to dress as their favourite book character
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Red Nose Day for Comic Relief	Children invited to wear red for £1 donation
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	World Poetry Day	2:30pm Poetry Performance for parents of Y1-4 children
Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Deadline for Nursery applications	
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	2:15pm Nursery Parents Stay & Play	Nursery parents invited

Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	9:15 Reception Parents Stay & Play	Reception parents invited to all or part of session
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	Y1-4 Mothers' Day Service 9:00am	Mum's invited!
	N & Rec Mothers' Day Service 2:30pm	Mum's invited!
	Nursery places offered	
<b>April 2019</b>		
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> 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 <sup>nd</sup> April	Forest School- Y2, Y3 & Y4	
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Autism Awareness Day	Activities in school
Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	9:00am Year 2 SATs Meeting for Parents	Y2 Parents- please come along!
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Service at All Saints Church for children in Y1-Y4 2:00pm TBC	<b>All Saints' Church</b> , West Avenue (off the High Street) Families welcome
	School closes for Easter	
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	School re-opens to children	
Wed 24 <sup>th</sup> April	Y4 Bikeability	
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	Deadline for acceptance of Nursery places	
<b>May 2019</b>		
May	Year 2 Statutory Assessments	Y2 children must be in school please
12-18 May	Christian Aid Week	More info to follow
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	Themed lunch	Details to follow
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	Worship (lead by Year 1) 9:00am	Parents welcome
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Greggs Children's Cancer Run- Newcastle Racecourse	Details to follow
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	Happy Shoes Day	Walk to school and wear your own shoes- donation of £1 please.
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	GST Daft Day	Details to follow
	School closes for half term	
<b>June 2019</b>		
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Staff Training Day- school closed to children	
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	School reopens to children	
10-14 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 1 Phonics Screen	Y1 children must be in school please
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	9:15 Reception Parents Stay & Play	Parents invited to all or part of session
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup> 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
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	PJ Day for Ronald McDonald House Charities	Children invited to wear PJs for school for a £1 donation
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	Big Gig (Gosforth Band & Gosforth Voices)	Northumbria Sports Central
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	New Nursery Parents Meeting 5:00pm	
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	New Reception Parents Meeting 5:00pm	
<b>July 2019</b>		
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Gosforth Pyramid Concert	For children in Gosforth voices & Gosforth Band
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	Governing Body Meeting	
	Y4 Parents Transition Evening at GCMS	Info to follow from GCMS
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	End of year reports sent home	
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	Drop in sessions to speak to teaching staff	No appointments required

Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July		
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> July	N & Rec Sports day (1:30pm)	Parents invited
Fri 12 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 1-4 Sports Day (1:30pm)	Parents invited
	Year 4 Leavers' Disco after school	Details to follow
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> July	Forest School- N, R & Y1	
	Y3 & Y4 instrumental concert TBC	Parents invited
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Cakes in the Courtyard	All helpers and volunteers invited- please join us!
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> 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”

**15 January 2019 (midday): Deadline to apply for reception class places for September 2019**



[www.newcastle.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.newcastle.gov.uk/admissions) 

 **Captain Ted's**  
Children's Entertainment Centre

**Christmas Party**

Come along to Captain Ted's Christmas Party, Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December, 3.30-5.30!!!

Activities galore, suitable for children of all ages and only £10.95 per child!

Each ticket includes...

- A meeting with Santa
- A present
- Hot or cold food
- Disco and games
- Fun filled activities

 

a jolly good place to play

 **Captain Ted's**  
Children's Entertainment Centre

**CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY CLUB!!!**

2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of January

Only £25 all day 8.30-5.30, including snacks, lunch and tea.

8.30am-1pm £17.50 including snack and lunch

1pm-5.30pm, £17.50 including snack and tea

Activities galore- Craft, Movies, games, cooking, fun and games!

Speak to a member of staff now to book your place!

Childcare vouchers accepted

a jolly good place to play