



June 2023

Newsletter 17 – 9.6.23



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). 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	James Amarachi	Anneloise Mika	Rory Ebuka	Daniel Evelyn	Abdul Yaz	Joshua Dexter
Demonstrating Determination	Nyah Oliver	Benji Marwa	Rebecca Ivy	Georgie Nialah Joshua	Bobby Karlo	Thaddeus Charlotte Miss Nattress

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:



a b c d e f g
h i j k l m n
o p q r s t u
v w x y z

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Rohan	Max Cr	Razan	Nolan	Wasan
Henry	Hannah	Harry	Emma	Mustafa

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.



The following children have either earned a new TTRS title or engaged highly with TTRS over the last fortnight. Well done everyone!

	Children Need to Learn	New Rock Stars, Heroes and Legends in this class	Highest engagement this fortnight
Year 1	x 2, x 10	Esim	Esim, Thanuja, Mabel
Year 2	x 2, x 5, x 10 (and corresponding division facts)	Lydia	Rehan, Theo, Percy
Year 3	x 2, x 5, x 10, x 3, x 4, x 8	Nolan, Aziza, Huwariya	

	(and corresponding division facts)		
Year 4	All tables to 12 x 12 (and corresponding division facts)	Thaddeus, Phoebe, Nancy, Avie	Zoe, Nancy, Charlotte

Current rank of ARFS among nearby schools	19	Mean studio speed (seconds per question)	4.04
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WORKING TOGETHER TO IMPROVE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

- Good attendance at school is essential for children to get the most out of their school experience, including their attainment, wellbeing and wider life chances.
- Nurseries and First Schools play a vital role in embedding good attendance habits.
- Even at First School, children with the highest attainment have higher rates of attendance compared to those with the lowest attainment.
- National data shows us that children not meeting the expected standard in reading, writing and maths had an overall absence rate of 4.7% (so overall attendance was 95.3%).
- The overall absence rate of children not meeting the expected standard was higher than among those meeting the higher standard (4.7% compared to 2.7%).
- For the most vulnerable pupils, regular attendance is also an important protective factor and the best opportunity for needs to be identified and support provided.
- Research has shown there are clear links between regular absence from school and harm for children (90% of young offenders have been persistently absent as young children) and serious violence (83% of knife possession offenders had been persistently absent for at least one year).

Improving school attendance is everyone's business. Please support us in promoting the benefits of good attendance with your child, not only for their education, but also to support their wellbeing and future life chances. Thank you.

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

	Whole School Attendance (excluding Nursery)	Highest class attendance!	Second place	Third place
Wb 22.5.23	95%	Year 3 (95.5%)	Year 2 (95%)	Year 1 (95%)
Wb 5.6.23	97%	Year 1 (100%) ★	Year 2 (98%)	Reception (97%)

Our school target for attendance is 97%. **Well done to Reception, Year 1 and Year 2!! ☺**



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.





ATTENDANCE REWARDS

A reminder that, each week, the class with the highest attendance earns an extra playtime and individuals with 100% attendance will have their names added to a weekly hot chocolate draw.



MINUTES MISSED

During the last fortnight, 250 (4 hours 10 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 22.5.23	5%	2%	3%
Wb 5.6.23	3%	1%	2%

SECTION 2: SOCIAL ACTION



SCHOOL COUNCIL

School Council have asked each class to write letters to various staff members asking for upgrades to our playground. Watch this space!



WASTE WARRIORS

This term, ARFS are taking part in a Bind project to become Waste Warriors! Bind visited us on Monday to launch the project with an assembly about Food Waste and the upcoming project. Each day next week, our Waste Warriors will weigh the food waste as part of an audit. We are looking forward to working together to reduce our waste. For more information, please see: <https://www.projectbind.com/>



GREEN TEAM

Green Team continue to meet every Monday. They have collected lots of litter from the park adjacent to school and the surrounding footpaths as well as planting some wildflower seeds, sent to school as part of the coronation celebrations.

LIBRARY CHAMPIONS

The library champions have worked hard to keep our library looking beautiful and organised. Thank you! The children have enjoyed reading lots of books and making recommendations to Mrs Crozier about what would books would make our library even better! Our next meeting will be to design a new display for our school library.



CHARITABLE GIVING

DAFT DAY

Today was Daft Day at ARFS. Children were invited to "Do something DAFT to make someone BEAM!" in order to raise money for Daft as a Brush and Smile for Life's Café Beam along with other



GST schools. Children wore 'daft' clothes, had 'daft' hair and told 'daft' jokes

Thank you to everyone who joined us in raising funds for these two local charities that give so much to the Gosforth community. We have raised £61 so far – well done everyone!

SECTION 3: SCHOOL NEWS!

STAFFING UPDATE

I am excited to announce that we have appointed Mrs Vicky Ravel as our new Deputy Headteacher and SENCo from September 2023. Mrs Ravel is currently Assistant Headteacher and SENCo at Kenton Bar Primary School. She will be popping into school this half term to get to know our children, staff and parents. She's really excited to be joining the ARFS family.



Additionally, Mrs Ravel is holding a coffee morning for parents of children with additional needs on Friday 7th July at 9:00am for those of you who would like to meet her before she takes up her post in September. There is no need to book, just come along!

Mrs Watkins has now joined us and is supporting Mrs Francis in Nursery.

SUNSHINE!



Now that the weather is (hopefully!) improving, children may like to bring a clearly named sunhat to leave in school. Please apply long lasting (once a day) sun cream, before your child arrives at school (rather than sending sun cream in to school). All children should also bring a clearly named water bottle (containing only water) to school each day please. Thank you!

Please could we ask that children do not wear open toed sandals for school. Many thanks.

CHURCH LINKS

All Saints' continue to offer an 'After School Drop-in' every Tuesday 3:30-5:00pm led by Jaddai (Youth Worker). Please do go along!



Additionally, All Saints' are planning a leavers event for Year 4 children across Gosforth on Tuesday 11th July (3:30pm-5:00pm). They will be sending more information in due course but please save the date!



Friday 14th & Saturday 15th July are the annual Beer Festival at St Nicholas' Church. Please see flyer below for more info. It's sure to be great event so please do go along if you are able to!



NURSERY & RECEPTION PLACES

We have a small number of Nursery & Reception places remaining for September 2023. We offer both 15 and 30-hour places in Nursery. If you know anyone with a Nursery or Reception age child, please let them know!



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Year 3 led Collective Worship to help us celebrate Pentecost before half term. They did a wonderful job of explaining how Pentecost was like a birthday party for the church and retold the story of the disciples being filled with the Holy Spirit.



Worship Council, ably supported by some Year 3 and Year 4 friends, led our Pentecost Service at St Nicholas' Church. This was a wonderful event and a joyful way to end a busy half term. Huge thanks to Mrs Crozier and Father Paul for organising the service and to all the parents, carers and friends of our school who joined us.

On Tuesday this week, Year 4 led Collective Worship to mark Trinity Sunday. They explained to us how Christians believe that God is the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit –



a tricky concept explained beautifully! Year 4 spoke about what the Trinity means to some Christians and how the Holy Spirit can be seen as a guide in our lives.



BIKEABILITY

On Friday 7th July, children in Year 4 will be taking part in Bikeability Level 1 training. Half of the class will be taken outside in the morning and the other half in the afternoon. The children must be able to ride a bike

without stabilisers i.e. start/stop and ride for a minute or more to take part.

Further information and a consent form will be shared with Year 4 families next week via ParentMail.

CLASS VISITS & VISITORS

This week, Chris Fowler (Professor of Archaeology) from Newcastle University visited Years 3 & 4 to talk about career opportunities in archaeology. He was really inspiring and many of the children now want to turn their hand to archaeology!!



PE

A reminder that Nursery and Reception children should have a named PE kit in school (on their peg) at all times, please. This is because part of our learning in Early Years is to dress and undress independently. Children in Nursery and Reception should not, therefore, arrive at school wearing PE clothing. Thank you.

LUNCHTIME CLUBS – SUMMER 2

Club	Day <small>(may change due to staff commitments)</small>	For children in	Run by
Choir	Wednesday	Y1 – Y4	Miss Bowers
Library Champions	Thursday	Y3 & Y4	Mrs Crozier
Football Club*	Thursday	Y3 & Y4	Lee Sterry
Green Team	Monday	Selected children Year 1 – Year 4	Mr Hunter



*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.



AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

We have arranged for Full of Beans to lead After School Multiskills Clubs this half term, starting next week. Monday sessions will be for Reception & Year 1 and Wednesday sessions will be for children in Years 2, 3 & 4. If places are not filled with these classes, bookings will be opened up to all classes for both

sessions. Please see the flyer sent earlier this week for further information. All bookings, payments and communication around this club should be made directly to Full of Beans please.

WRAPAROUND BOOKINGS

In response to parental feedback, from September 2023 we will be outsourcing the booking, payment & administration of our breakfast & after school club to Childcare Bookings for Schools.



Childcare Bookings support schools running their own wraparound childcare by dealing with all bookings and the associated administration. They are experts in this field, with over 15 years' experience in the management of childcare.

All aspects of booking, payment & administration can be made, including:

- 24/7 access to a bespoke online booking system, tailored to our school, which provides;

- Independent access for parents to make bookings, update details, or download financial statements, with;
- Further phone or email support available from 9am – 5pm, Monday to Friday, all year round.

For any queries related to the on-site running of the club itself (e.g. food, activities, welfare, or lost property) your point of contact will remain wraparound@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk.

We will be in contact again later in the term to provide full information on how and when you will be able to start booking online.

NEMCo MUSIC TUITION

NEMCo have now confirmed that they can offer guitar lessons to children in Year 3 & 4 from September. There will be 10 sessions per term, at a rate of £5.75 per session, per child, and lessons will run after school (3:15 - 4:15pm or 4:15 - 5:15pm). Children will need to have their own guitars to be able to participate. NEMCo have a small supply of guitars that could be hired for an extra charge of £13.00 per term. Places will be offered on a "first come first served" basis.



Please contact NEMCo directly, by email, in the first instance at info@nemco.org.uk. NEMCo will then send a link to register for the sessions together with details of the terms and conditions of how the sessions will run.

MUSIC CONCERT

Miss Bowers has arranged a Musical Concert at All Saints' Church on Tuesday 11th July (1:30pm). This will include performances from our school choir, Year 2 and Year 3 singing, Year 1 and Year 4 drumming. Please save the date!



We are hopeful that by holding the concert in the church, rather than at school, we will not have to limit audience numbers. It will be a great opportunity to see and hear some of the music that children have learned this year as well as a wonderful opportunity to perform to a real audience after much practise in school.

We decided, several years ago, that we wanted to arrange a musical event in memory of a former parent who sadly died. She was passionate about her children's musical education and providing opportunities for them to develop their musical skills. I'm delighted that Miss Bowers is, kindly, now making this happen.



FOREST SCHOOL

At Forest School, each child planted a sunflower, which they brought home to grow. We would love to see pictures and updates, on Twitter, of how your sunflower is growing. Mrs Francis is keen to see who can grow the tallest sunflower. Good luck!

POKEMON CARDS

A polite request that children do not bring Pokemon cards into school please. Thank you for your support in this matter!

DONATIONS

As you know, we are currently enhancing our playground provision for children at playtimes and lunchtimes. If anyone has any children's magazines or activity books we'd be really pleased to receive them! Mrs Crozier is currently creating a Reading Shed as a quiet space that children can access during playtimes.

PTFA



The PTFA is really looking forward to a fun-filled summer with some lovely activities planned for the rest of the term. Here is a quick round up and some dates for your diaries. If you have any questions, ideas or would like to get

involved with the PTFA please speak to your class rep.



Break a Rule Day - On Friday 16th June, children are invited to come to school and break one (or more) of the rules below, in exchange for a colour themed hamper donation. Yes, the colour themed hampers are back!

Nursery	Pink
Reception	Orange
Year 1	Yellow
Year 2	Green
Year 3	Blue
Year 4	Purple



We will combine the colour themed donations to create summer hampers. Please bring in a small items, such as chocolates, toiletries or other summer themed treats matching your child's year group colour. You can send donations of bottles, candles, smellies, snacks or other items to help the lucky winners have a wonderful summer.

Raffle tickets will be available to buy later in June for the end of term raffle prize draw (more info below).

RULES:

- Water only in your bottle
- No painted finger nails
- Smart hair only
- Grey tights or socks
- Black school shoes only
- No jewellery or tattoos
- Fruit and veg snacks only



Class cake sales – There will also be class cake sales after school on the dates below. On their selected date, we would be grateful if children in each class could bring a clearly labelled donation of cakes to sell (please provide a full list of ingredients). These will be available for parents/carers to buy after school (with cash!) on the day. Children will not be buying them during the day so children should not bring money to school.

Cake Sales	
Nursery	9.6.23
Reception	16.6.23
Year 1	23.6.23
Year 2	30.6.23
Year 3	7.7.23
Year 4	7.7.23

Due to food allergies in school, all cakes will need to have ingredient and allergen information provided on the label please. Please do not use ingredients that include nuts. Parents/Carers buying cakes after school will be responsible for checking ingredients are suitable for their child. Thank you for your understanding.



14th July Summer Social, after school - Please save the date and look out for more details coming soon about what we have lined up.

End of term raffle – We have had some lovely gifts donated by local businesses for an end of term raffle which we will draw at the same time as the colour themed hampers. Raffle tickets will be on sale later this month. We'll be drawing the winners during the last week of term.

SAFEGUARDING

Mrs Massey and Mrs Francis are our school's Designated Safeguarding Leaders (DSL). 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 – 0808 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 – '50xxxxxxxx'
- 

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

Wb Monday 12 th June	Year 1 Phonics Screen	am	
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	Invitations have been sent via e-mail
	Big Gig Rehearsal for relevant choir members	3:15-4:15pm	CANCELLED
Thursday 15 th June	Welcome Meeting for parents and carers of children starting Reception in September 2023	5:30pm	Invitations have been sent via e-mail
Friday 16 th June	Reception visit to Gosforth Library	pm	Half of class only (no permission required)
	Break the Rules Day		Children invited to break selected school rules in exchange for a hamper donation
	Stephanie Holton visiting Year 4 (Romans)	pm	
	Reception Class Cake Sale	3:15pm	We would be grateful if Reception children could bring labelled donations of cakes to school on this date. Thank you. ***These foods will need to have ingredient and allergen information provided on the label please***
19 th - 23 rd June	School Sports Week	All 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	All day	Vertu Motors Arena
	Year 2 Sports Day	2:00pm	Year 2 children to wear school PE kits please
	Food waste workshops – all classes	Throughout the day	
	Welcome meeting for new Year 2 (current Year 1) parents & carers	5:30pm	Please book places via ParentMail
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
	Year 1 visit to Gosforth Library	pm	Parent helpers needed please! Please contact Miss Bowers
	Year 1 Cake Sale	3:15pm	We would be grateful if Year 1 children could bring labelled donations of cakes to school on this date. Thank you. ***These foods will need to have ingredient and allergen information provided on the label please***

Monday 26 th June	Y4 working with GEM Education		Please wear full school uniform (not hoodies)
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
	Year 4 visit to Vindolanda & Roman Army Museum	All day	Please see ParentMail
	Welcome meeting for new Year 3 (current Year 2) parents & carers	5:30pm	Please book places via ParentMail
Friday 30 th June	Reception visit to Gosforth Library	pm	Half of class only (no permission required)
	School Council Meeting	2:45pm	
	Year 2 Cake Sale	3:15pm	We would be grateful if Year 2 children could bring labelled donations of cakes to school on this date. Thank you. ***These foods will need to have ingredient and allergen information provided on the label please***
July 2023			
Week beginning 3.7.23	SEND Reviews	3:30-5:30pm	Please book via ParentMail
Monday 3 rd July	Reception Stay & Play	2:00pm	
Tuesday 4 th July	Nursery Stay & Play	2:00pm	
	Welcome meeting for new Year 4 (current Year 3) parents & carers	5:30pm	Please book places via ParentMail
Wed 5 th & Thurs 6 th July	Transition Days for GST schools	All day	No PE kits on these days
Wednesday 5 th July	Welcome meeting for new Year 1 (current Reception) parents & carers	5:30pm	Please book places via ParentMail
Thursday 6 th July	Laura Tisdall visiting Years 3 & 4 (Local Historian)	pm	
Friday 7 th July	Year 4 Bikeability	Morning or afternoon session	All children taking part will need a well-fitting helmet and their own bike in good working order.
	Year 2 visit to Grace Darling Museum (Bamburgh)	All day	ParentMail to follow
	Coffee Morning in school for parents/carers of children with SEND	9:00am	This will be an opportunity to meet fellow parents/carers as well as the new SENCo
	Nursery visit to Gosforth Library	pm	Half of class only (no permission required)
	Year 3 & Year 4 Cake Sales	3:15pm	We would be grateful if Year 3 & Year 4 children could bring labelled donations of cakes to school on this date. Thank you. ***These foods will need to have ingredient and allergen information provided on the label please***
Tuesday 11 th July	Eat Smart project conclusion	9:00am	Parents and carers welcome to attend
	Years 1 – 4 ARFS Summer Music Concert at All Saints'	1:30pm	More info to follow
	All Saints' Leavers event	3:30pm	More info to follow from All Saints'
Tuesday 11 th & Wednesday 12 th July	Drop-in parents evening (in case parents have questions about their child's report).	3:30-5:00pm	No appointment needed

Friday 14 th July	Deadline for wraparound bookings for Autumn 1		Please book via ParentMail
	Reception visit to Discovery Museum		ParentMail to follow
	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	
	Year 4 Cake Sale	3:15pm	
	PTFA Summer Fair	After School	Info to follow
Friday 14 th July & Saturday 15 th July	St Nicholas' Beer Festival	11:00am-11:00pm	For more info please contact 07788202252
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			
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

**CHILDREN AND
FAMILIES
NEWCASTLE INVITE
YOU TO ATTEND
YOUR NEW LOCAL
HUB DROP IN**



**FOR FAMILIES, PARENTS
AND CARERS**



Come along to one of our
drop in sessions and tell
us what you would like to
see in your new local
family hub!

Refreshments and
activities provided on the
day

**THURSDAY 8TH JUNE
@ 3.30PM - 5PM**

**FRIDAY 9TH JUNE @
1PM - 2.30PM**

**Children and Families Newcastle
Charlton Street, NE15 8RN**

**For More Information
Scan the QR code to
find us on Facebook...**



Food available
from



**GOSFORTH
PARISH
CHURCH
OF ST NICHOLAS**

BEER FESTIVAL 2023

Friday 14th July 11am-11pm
Saturday 15th July 11am-11pm

**OVER 30 BEERS, CIDER,
GIN BAR, FREE SOFT
DRINKS & BAR SNACKS**

Gosforth Parish Church Hall
(opposite South Gosforth Metro Station)



for more info
contact
07788202252



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