



Newsletter 12

6th March 2026

Headteacher Message



Welcome back!

We hope you enjoyed a restful and restorative half-term break with your families. As we return to school, we also enter the season of Lent, which began on Ash Wednesday. This 40-day journey is a special time for our school community to slow down and reflect. Together, we will focus on the three pillars of prayer, fasting and almsgiving, looking for ways to grow in kindness and support those in need.

It has been wonderful to finally see some sunshine over the last couple of weeks and the children have enjoyed being able to play on the school field again. We look forward to the continued improvement of weather in the coming weeks.

Playgroup is going from strength to strength - thank you to everyone who has helped spread the word or come along to support us - it is hugely appreciated! Huge thanks also to all parents and carers (past and present) who continue to promote and recommend our school to family and friends.

This week has been a very busy one with all sorts of extra things happening in school; World Book Day yesterday was a huge success - many thanks to Mrs Crozier for her planning and to all the staff for their enthusiasm and energy in making the day (and night) so wonderful for our children. Everyone spoke very positively of the activities undertaken and the staff were all very complimentary about the childrens' engagement throughout the day. Careers Week has been fantastic and children are buzzing about being farmers, in the army, vets and much more!

Next week also promises to be another fabulous week at ARFS with all classes celebrating British Science Weeks in various forms. Please see diary dates attached for upcoming visits and events.

With my very best wishes,

Kate Massey

Attendance



Did you know ...?

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 attendance have higher rates of attainment.
 - National data shows us that children not meeting the expected standard in reading, writing and maths.
 - For the most vulnerable pupils, regular attendance is also an important protective factor and the best opportunity for children's needs to be identified and support provided. Research has shown there are clear links between regular absence from school and harm to children.
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- 95% attendance = two weeks absence
 - 90% attendance = 4 weeks absence
 - 85% attendance = 6 weeks absence

- 80% attendance = more than half a term of absence
- 75% attendance = more than 9 weeks of absence

Please remember that I am unable to authorise absences during term time for family holidays. We would be grateful if parents/carers could also inform grandparents, family and friends, who may be looking to book birthday or Christmas trips away, that these do not fall under exceptional circumstances and will not be authorised.

If you need any support regarding attendance, please do not hesitate to come and speak to us as we can help you access support from the school nurse, attendance officer or other appropriate services.

We recognise that children may sometimes have a legitimate reason to be absent from school, and we are also aware that some families face difficulties which may impact on their child's education, therefore, the traffic light system has been put in place to support families by highlighting concerns at an early stage.

We hope that you will continue to support our school by promoting school attendance and by informing us if you feel there are any issues that are preventing your child from attending school regularly.

Our full school Attendance Policy can be found on our website.

Promoting good attendance

As part of weekly celebration worship:

- The benefits of good school attendance are shared
- The attendance of each class is monitored each week and the class with the highest attendance earns an extra playtime. This is recorded in the main school hall.
- One child from each class with 100% attendance is selected each week to visit the Dojo Shop in school.

Half termly:

- The overall attendance of each class is monitored each half term and the class with the highest attendance earns reward.

Termly:

- Attendance data is shared with parents and carers via parent-teacher consultations (autumn & spring) and end of year reports (summer).

"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.



1 - Mrs Jan Gurkin

If you would like to discuss this further, please get in touch with our attendance officer Jan Gurkin (jan.gurkin@clennelleducationsolutions.org).

Attendance Headlines

Whole school attendance:

- w/c 23/02/2026 - 96%
- w/c 02/03/2026 - 96%

Highest class attendance:

- w/c 23/02/2026 - Year 4 99%
- w/c 02/03/2026 - Year 2 99%

Absence Headlines

During this fortnight, 260 mins 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. Our first lesson of the day is reading so children arriving late miss vital learning.

For children who arrive late, more than once in a week, we run a Friday lunchtime catch-up session with class teachers.

Whole school absence:

- w/c 23/02/2026 - 4%
- w/c 02/03/2026 - 4%

Absence caused by holidays:

- w/c 23/02/2026 - 1.5%
- w/c 02/03/2026 - 1 %

Other absences:

- w/c 23/02/2026 - 2.5%
- w/c 02/03/2026 - 3%



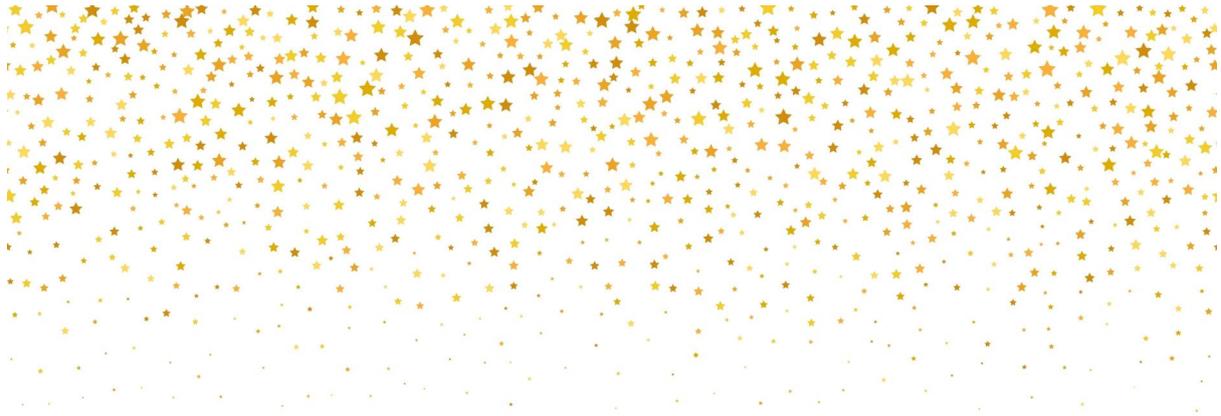
2 - <https://www.newcastle.gov.uk/services/schools-learning-and-childcare/parent-information/school-attendance-and-absence>

Leave of Absence requests can be made to the head teacher *in advance* by the parent/carer the child normally lives with if you want to take your child out of school during term time, however, it is only able to be authorised if there are exceptional circumstances. You can be fined for taking your child out of school without the school's permission.

Please note, as per DfE guidance, we routinely refer families who have taken holidays during term time to the LA for fixed-penalty notices:

- For first offences within a three-year rolling period, each parent/carer could be fined £160 to be paid within 28 days, which can be reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days.
- For second offences within a three-year rolling period, each parent/carer could be fined £160 to be paid within 28 days, with no option to pay a reduced amount.
- For your third offence within a three-year rolling period, parents/carers will not be issued with a fine and will be referred straight to court. This could be a fine of up to £2,500, a community order or a jail sentence up to 3 months. The court also gives Parenting Orders.

School Celebrations!



Demonstrating Love

Nursery

- Elyana
- Meila

Reception

- Umar
- Muhammad

Year 1

- Aima
- Naeto

Year 2

- Hooriya
- Oliver B

Year 3

- Fatima
- Isla
- Logan

Year 4

- Nuh
- Sienna



Demonstrating Determination

Nursery

- Lori
- Ivy

Reception

- Aga
- Ilhan

Year 1

- Charlie
- Lola

Year 2

- Nyah
- Jacob

Year 3

- Amaya
- Musa

Year 4

- Phoebe
- Ranveer



TIMES TABLES ROCKSTARS

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

TTRS - Highest engagement

Year 2- Yashika

Year 3 - Lyla

Year 4 - Ranveer

TTRS - Highest accuracy

Year 2- Carter

Year 3 - Felix

Year 4 - Three way tie - Esim, Thanuja and Rahaf!

Current Rank amongst nearby schools: 48th (out of 101 schools)

Mean studio speed (seconds per question): 3:31



HANDWRITING HEROES

As a school, we continue to have a real drive to improve handwriting, letter formation and presentation of work. 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:

Year 1

- Heidi
- Aima

Year 2

- Ani
- James

Year 3

- Ahmed
- Ruby

Year 4

- Sienna
- Rory

Social Action Groups



At ARFS, our social action groups serve as a practical outworking of the school's theologically rooted Christian vision, empowering our children to become "courageous advocates" for change. These groups encourage children to live out our school values of love and determination by identifying and responding to needs within their local and global communities.

By participating in these social action groups, our children develop early leadership skills and a lifelong commitment to social responsibility, recognising that their voices and actions can truly improve the lives of others.



3 - Green Team



4 - Energy Champions



5 - Play Leaders



6 - Library Champions



7 - Worship Council



8 - School Council



9 - Hall monitors



School Council will be implementing their new PE challenges in their pursuit to keep everyone feeling fit and healthy! Watch out for your class councillors and have a go at his half term's challenge!



PLAY LEADERS

Our Play Leaders have worked hard this past fortnight despite the changeable March weather. As a group, we have discussed the Buddy Bench in detail; considering why children may feel the need to use it and strategies to support those who do find it necessary. We are looking forward to some more consistent sunshine and have been planning whole school games that we can introduce.



GREEN TEAM

Green Team have been very busy picking litter in and around school after the council have trimmed hedges and revealed lots of hidden litter! We even found a boomerang in the long grass which we washed and played with!

We are delighted that our application to the North East Community Forest was successful and tree planting will take place on Monday 16th March.



WORSHIP COUNCIL

Worship Council have been very busy planning our Mothering Sunday worship at All Saints' next week. We have agreed which readings, hymns and prayers will be used as well as deciding who is saying what and practising our lines. We are looking forward to seeing lots of you there next Friday.



YOUNG LEADERS

Young Leaders have been working hard this week and thinking carefully about ways in which we, as a school, can support the local community. We've discussed our Green Team and their weekly litter picks, our food bank collections and the services we attend in our linked churches.



LIBRARY CHAMPIONS

Our amazing Library Champions led part of our Collective Worship on Friday 27th February to inform the rest of the classes about plans for World Book Day. We have also had a delivery of some brand new books, purchased using the money raised from previous Book Fair events, that the Library Champions will label and add to our school library.

Clubs for Spring Term 2 (March)



We are delighted to be able to offer a range of extra-curricular activities for our children.

- **Lacrosse** with Kath from Whitley Bay Lacrosse Club (Years 2, 3 &4) - Monday - 3.15-4.15pm - £4.00 per session - contact Kath on 07592 760881 to book.
- **Choir** with Charlotte from Music Partnership North - Monday 12:30pm (Years 1 - 4) email: admin@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk
- **All Stars** Bible Club (run by a group of parents and church volunteers) - Tuesdays (fortnightly) 12:30pm (Reception - Year 4) email: beckymcbride90@gmail.com
- **Violin** - Monday after school with Charlotte from Music Partnership North (Years 3 & 4)
<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=wLSfsgQNn0q0YsEpSx4bR6HhZ8onp51DiB-iHdtAkHdUNzg1S08yUTdTR0hGRzJSMkQySU5PVUJFVi4u&route=shorturl>
- **Guitar** with Jack from Music Partnership North (Years 2, 3 & 4) - Tuesdays after school
<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=wLSfsgQNn0q0YsEpSx4bR6HhZ8onp51DiB-iHdtAkHdUNzg1S08yUTdTR0hGRzJSMkQySU5PVUJFVi4u&route=shorturl>
- **Gosforth Voices** (Years 2, 3 & 4) run by Music Partnership North on behalf of Gosforth Schools Trust <https://www.newcastlemusicservice.co.uk/ensembles>
- **Gosforth Band** run by Music Partnership North on behalf of Gosforth Schools Trust (Years 3 & 4) <https://www.newcastlemusicservice.co.uk/ensembles>
- **After School Football** with Lee Sterry (Years 3 & 4) Tuesday 3:30-4:30pm
 - <https://www.ls-sc.co.uk/>

- **Lunchtime football** with Mr Hunter/ Lee Sterry. No need to book and no charge - just bring a change of shoes and come along! (Year 3 & 4 12:00 - 12:20pm, Years 1 & 2 12:20-12:40pm)
- **Dance Festival Rehearsals** - Years 3 & 4 with Miss Armstrong - Wednesday 3:15-4:00pm (see ParentMail)
- **Cookery Club** - selected children in Year 3 & 4 with Mrs Rusby - Wednesday 3.15 - 4.15 pm. Please speak to Mrs Rusby if you are interested.

Please note that any issues relating to clubs organised by external providers should be made directly to them, not to school, please.



10 - fsm

Breakfast Club runs daily, 7:45am - 8:45am

BREAKFAST CLUB

We are pleased to offer our own Breakfast Club (7.45am - 8.45am) and After School Club (3.15pm - 5.30pm) in our school hall. If you have any queries regarding menus or activities, please email wraparound@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk

Breakfast Club sessions cost £6.00 to include breakfast of cereal/toast and milk/orange juice. Children must arrive before 8.15am if they require breakfast.

The URL to access the booking system is <https://archbishop-runcie.cbfs.uk/>

Contact email address: archbishopruncie@childcarebookingsforschools.co.uk

Contact phone number: 01444 523335

REDUCED PRICES & SUBSIDISED COSTS: If you are entitled to Tax Free Childcare, then in effect this will reduce the cost of childcare by 20% (equivalent to £4.80 a day). See :

[https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare.](https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare)

If you receive Universal Credit, you may be able to claim back up to 85% of the cost of childcare. This means Breakfast Club would only cost 90p a day! Check here:

<https://www.gov.uk/help-with-childcare-costs/universal-credit>

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Our After School Club runs 3:15-5:30pm, Monday - Friday.

Afterschool Club:

- 3.15- 4:15pm is £6.00
- 3.15-5.30pm is £12.50 and includes a snack and drink.

This week, we have been gathering suggestions from our children (at ASC) and parents/carers (via the display board in the main entrance). We are delighted to announce that the children have voted to have a Film Night to watch 'How to train your dragon' on Thursday 5th February. This is open to all but spaces must be booked as normal via Childcare Bookings for Schools.

Bookings for Wraparound Care are managed by Childcare Bookings for Schools. You can pay using either a debit/credit card or using childcare vouchers.

The URL to access the booking system is <https://archbishop-runcie.cbfs.uk/>

Contact email address: archbishopruncie@childcarebookingsforschools.co.uk

Contact phone number: 01444 523335

REDUCED PRICES & SUBSIDISED COSTS: If you are entitled to Tax Free Childcare, then in effect this will reduce the cost of childcare by 20% (equivalent to £4.80/£10 a day). See : <https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>.

If you receive Universal Credit, you may be able to claim back up to 85% of the cost of childcare. This means After School Club would cost from 90p per day! Check here:

<https://www.gov.uk/help-with-childcare-costs/universal-credit>



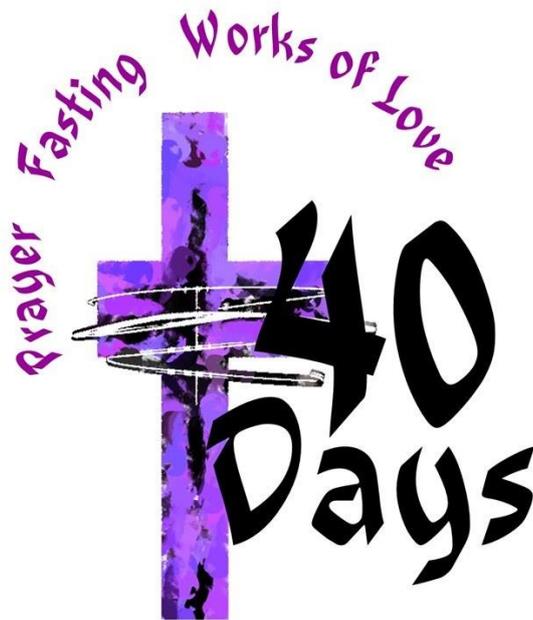
Wraparound have a mobile phone that parents/carers can use outside of school office opening times. This number should be used before 8am or after 3:30pm if you need to contact the wraparound team.

They can be contacted by calling 07340117366. This phone is not active during the school day and should not be used to make or cancel bookings.

Collective Worship

This term, we are reflecting on the importance of Lent as a time of prayer, charity and fasting for Christians around the world. We have discussed the importance of Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday and some of the traditions associated with these special days. Father Paul has spoken to us about some Anglican traditions of Lent and Canon Shipton has helped us understand how Lent is observed, in differing ways, around the world.

We are using this season to try and understand the words and meaning of the Lord's Prayer so we have begun unpicking some of the language and phrases that are included in the prayer that Jesus taught us.

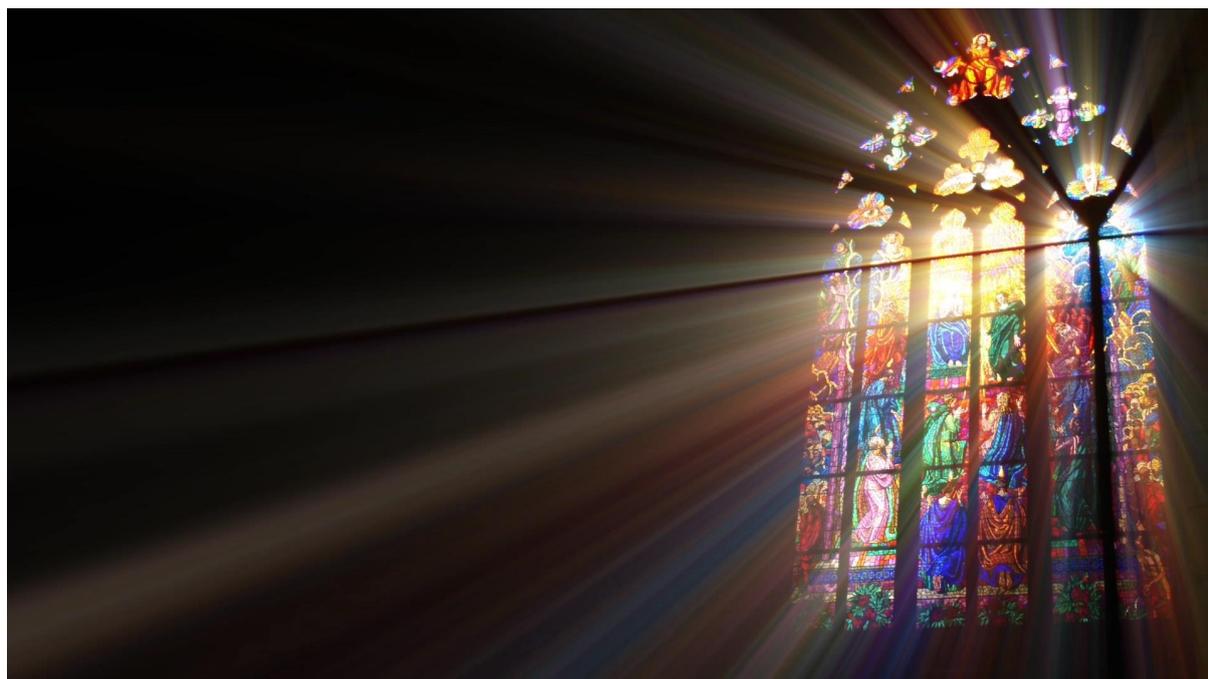




EYFS MOTHERING SUNDAY WORSHIP

As Early Years children do not routinely attend church services, Nursery and Reception children and staff would like to invite 'Mother figures' (mums, grandmothers or other carers) to our Mothering Sunday worship, in school, at 9.00am on Friday 13th March. Please can we kindly ask only one parent / carer per child attends, due to space. Thank you. We look forward to seeing you all!

Church Links



MOTHERING SUNDAY CREAM TEA

There will be a Mothering Sunday Service, led by Worship Council, at All Saints' Church at 1:45pm on Friday 13th March for children in Year 1 - 4 (and any other children, if they are accompanied by a parent/carer). Children in Years 1 - 4 can either be collected from church at 2:15pm or will return to school for usual collection arrangements with staff.

The service will be followed by cream teas in the church hall, from 2:15-3:15pm, for children and their family members organised by the PTFA. **Tickets can be purchased from the school office until Tuesday 10th March. Due to capacity of the church hall, no additional entry will be allowed on the day. Thank you for your understanding.**

PTFA update



Following an EGM held on **Monday 2nd March**, the PTFA is busy planning a fantastic line-up of events, including the upcoming school disco, our Mothering Sunday cream tea and the

Mothering Sunday pop-up shop. They also provided hot chocolate after our Bedtime Stories event last night.

The PTFA is always looking for volunteers, and there are plenty of 'parent-sized' jobs that can fit around busy family life. If you'd like to get involved or would like more information, please contact archbishopruncieptfa@gmail.com.



The PTFA is delighted to announce that the school disco has been rescheduled for Thursday 12th March, 3:15pm – 5:00pm, for Years 1–4. Don't forget to bring £1 cash for the tuck shop!



BEDTIME STORIES

A huge thank you to the PTFA for treating our children to hot chocolate and biscuits during our Bedtime Stories event. The children loved snuggling up to hear the teachers share their favourite storybooks — and the teachers enjoyed the magic of reading them just as much!



POP UP SHOP

Back by popular demand! On Thursday 12th March, children are invited to bring £2.50 cash to school in a small, named envelope to buy a Mothering Sunday gift from the PTFA pop-up shop, if they wish. This will be wrapped and a label attached for the child to write before it is brought home.

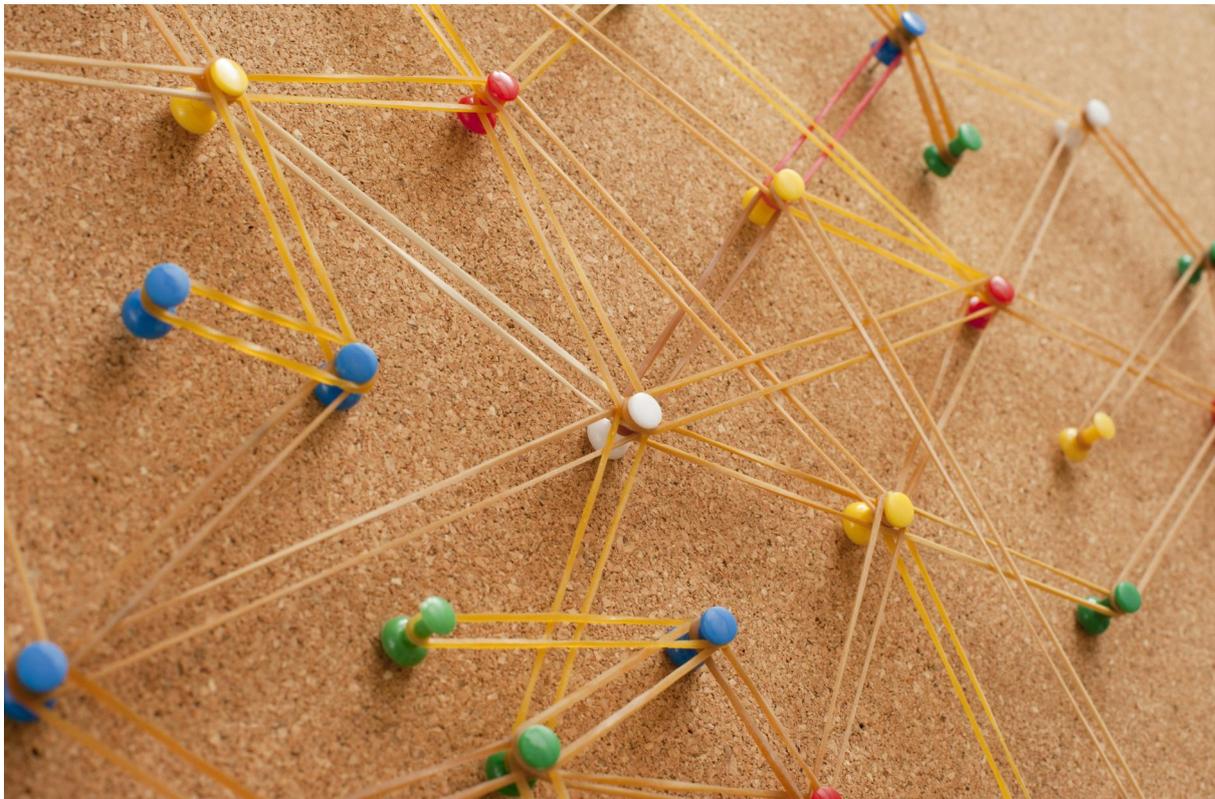


CREAM TEAS

The Mothering Sunday Service on Friday 13th March will be followed by cream teas (provided by the PTFA) in the church hall, from 2:15-3:15pm, for children and their family members.

Physical tickets will be issued and, due to capacity of the hall, no additional entry will be allowed on the day. Thank you for your understanding.

School News





UNIFORM REMINDER

At this mid-point of the academic year, it's a great time to ensure our children continue to represent our school with pride. To help keep everyone on track for the remainder of the year, please note the following core requirements of our uniform policy.

- **Uniform:** Yellow polo shirt, royal blue sweatshirt or cardigan, plain grey trousers/skirt/dress/shorts. During the Summer Term, blue or yellow gingham dresses may be worn. We encourage children to be independent and it is important that they are able to remove their own clothes when they need the toilet.
- **Footwear:** Plain black, shoes or trainers without logos. As the weather improves, children will be increasing their activity levels during the daily mile so all footwear need to be suitable for running. Shoes must not have open toes, please. If children wear lace up shoes, they must be able to tie their own laces.
- **Outerwear:** Please ensure your child has a named, waterproof jacket in school as well as a pair of well fitting, named wellies for day to day use. These can be left in school, if you wish.
- **Jewellery:** A reminder that only small wrist watches may be worn (smart watches that record sound or images are not allowed); however these must be removed for PE. No other jewellery may be worn for school, including stud earrings.

- **Bags:** Royal blue books bags are recommended (plain or with the school logo). We do not have space in school to store any bags larger than this. **Please do not send rucksacks to school.**

Thank you!

RAMADAN & EID

We would be grateful if parents and carers of children who are fasting for Ramadan could let class teachers know, please. If there are any children who will not be in school during Eid, parents and carers will need to complete a leave of absence request, in advance, and return it to school as soon as possible, please.

You can collect an absence form from the school office or find one on our school website.

[Archbishop Runcie C of E First School - Term Dates](#)



alamy

Image ID: 24897TM
www.alamy.com

LATE COLLECTION

Parents and carers are expected to be on the yard, ready to collect their child(ren), at the end of the school day. Teaching time finishes at 3:15pm.

If, for whatever reason, parents/carers are going to be late they should contact the school office to advise staff who will in turn inform the child, as appropriate. If children are not collected by 3:20pm, children will be taken to After School Club and charges will be applied (**£6.00** per session up to 4:15pm and **£12.50** per session up to 5:30pm). As per the policy, further late collection fees apply for collection of pupils after the close of after school club: up to 15 minutes late - £25, 15-30 minutes late - £50, over 30 minutes late - £100.

Staff are not required to be on site after the end of their directed time, therefore, there may not be appropriate supervision for uncollected pupils after this time. In this case, staff will contact Children's Social Care.



SCHOOL NURSE

A reminder that we have a school nurse, Lauren Boll, who visits our school each month and can offer appointments to parents and carers. Lauren will be in school on Friday 20th March 12:30 - 15:30. If you would like to arrange to meet with her, you can contact her directly via email: myschoolhealthlauren@gmail.com or Mrs Coates can book you an appointment.

Support can include:

- Behaviour
- Parenting Strategies
- Sleep
- Diet and Healthy Living
- Managing Additional Needs
- ASD
- Continence and Toilet Training
- Accessing referrals
- Financial support

Lauren will also be running a session for parents and carers on Monday 30th March at 6:00pm. This session will be based on supporting children to process their emotions, develop mutual understanding and manage their behaviour. Please sign up via ParentMail.



DRUMMING

Drumming for Years 3 & 4 has now finished for this school year. Year 3 finished their drumming lessons by delivering a performance to Year 1 - they were so impressed with the skills they had learned. Children in Years 1 & 2 will now have weekly drumming sessions for the remainder of the year. Years 1 & 2 have started their lessons and are doing so well! We can't wait to see the progress they make!

amazon
wishlist

AMAZON WISHLIST

Whilst there is absolutely no pressure to do so, several parents have suggested we set up an Amazon Wishlist to enable friends of our school to make a donation. You can find a list of items we are wishing for here: <https://amzn.eu/1E02d6C>

Our wish list includes:

- craft materials
- forest school resources and consumables
- reading books for classroom libraries
- first aid resources
- playground equipment

If you have a suggestion of something that we might benefit from, we'd love to hear from you! **Please make sure you get items delivered directly to school!** Thank you



UPCOMING PARENT WORKSHOP

On Thursday 27th March at 2pm, the Social, Emotional and Mental Health team from Newcastle City Council will be running a parent workshop on de-escalation and regulation.

We understand how difficult it can be to manage meltdowns at home and have invited the team in to share strategies on how best to support our families, offer advice to manage regulation and listen to any concerns that you may have.

This workshop is open to all families within our school community and will hopefully continue to strengthen the relationships between home and school. You can sign up via ParentMail.

Please email Mrs Ellwood if you require any further information - margery.ellwood@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk



CAKE SALE

The next cake sale will be run by Year 1 on Thursday 26th March - all donations will be gratefully received. Please remember to list ingredients of any home made goodies! Thank you.

Please note that our cake sales are now cashless. Contactless payments can be made with a debit card or phone via our school SumUp machine.

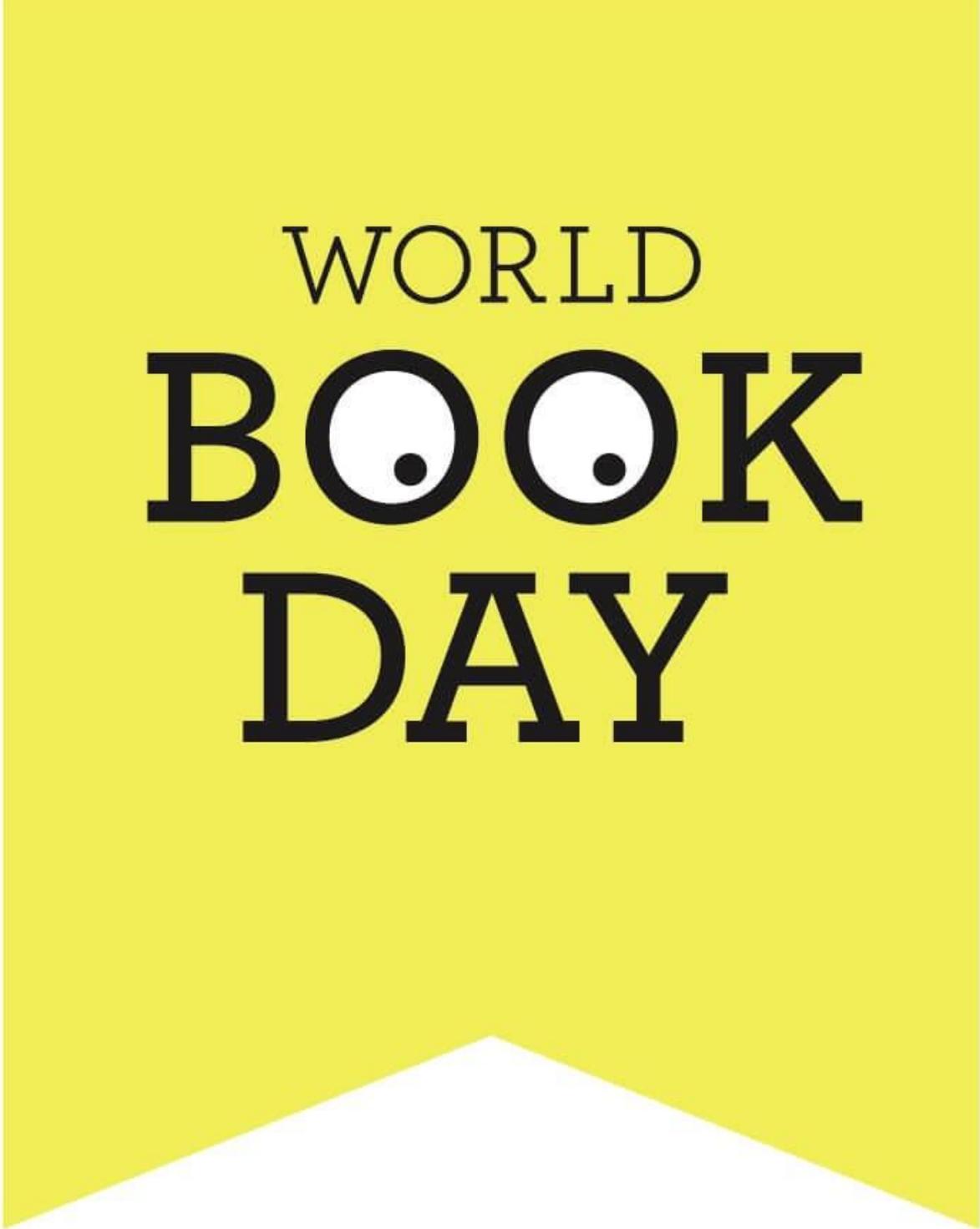


CAREERS WEEK

This week, our children have been lucky enough to have had various talks and workshops from volunteers from a number of different sectors of the world of work!

We started the week with visitors from Bellway Homes completing a workshop in Years 3 & 4 and we have also had visits from Major Armstrong, Anne Hall (Shipping), Dr Perkins (GP), Becky Key (vet) and Ted Thomas (Environment Agency). We have discussed career pathways, characteristics needed for each career and future aspirations (and next steps) for all of our children.

A huge thank you to all of the volunteers for making this week such a success! Please check out Facebook and/or Instagram to see all that we've been up to.



WORLD
BOOK
DAY

WORLD BOOK DAY

As decided by the Library Champions themselves, the teachers throughout school rotated yesterday to read an exciting picture book of their choice, followed by an activity. The children enjoyed drama, artwork, bookmark creating and designing front covers of their own books.

We welcomed Frances Harrison from Newcastle Libraries in to deliver an exciting assembly yesterday and she told the children about all of the things that both Gosforth Library and other local libraries have to offer! Look out for the newsletter coming your way. Please check out Facebook and/or Instagram to see all that we've been up to!

Sporting News



MULTISKILLS FESTIVAL

A small number of children in Years 3 & 4 took part in a multi-skills festival at Northumbria University. They had a lovely time and showed lots of determination to learn new skills and different types of sports. Everyone had to use a variety of thinking to ensure their reaction, balance, coordination and timing was suitable for that event.



DANCE FESTIVAL

Children from Years 3 & 4 have been given the opportunity to take part in a Dance Festival at Whitley Bay Playhouse on Wednesday 1st April 2026. Weekly dance rehearsals have now begun each Wednesday with Miss Armstrong. For those children who have signed up, it is really important that they attend all rehearsal sessions. Thank you.





Y4 CEILIDH

10 of our Year 4 children were invited to attend the GST ceilidh at GEMS before half term. The hall was filled with music, laughter and lots of energetic dancing as everyone joined in on the fun.

Throughout the session, the children learned a variety of traditional Scottish ceilidh dances. They listened carefully to instructions, worked brilliantly with their partners and showed great teamwork and encouragement towards one another. It was lovely to see their confidence grow as they mastered the steps and began to dance more independently.



GIRLS' RUGBY

After working so hard on the skill, determination and tactics of tag rugby in Autumn term, on the 10th March, a team of Year 3 and 4 girls have been invited to take part in a tag rugby tournament at McCracken Park against other Gosforth Schools. We will update you in our next newsletter.



Children's Cancer Run, Sunday 17th May 2026

We would love you and your family to join our school team at this year's Children's Cancer Run at Newcastle Racecourse, Gosforth Park.

The Childrens' Cancer Run is a cross-country family fun run with a mini (1km), three-mile and five-mile route to choose from. The charity event is organised by Children's Cancer North and is once again being supported by Greggs. We are very excited to be participating in this event and would like to invite you to join us for what promises to be a fun filled family day out. All participants who pay for an entry to the run will receive a finisher medal and Greggs snack pack on the day and all children receive a Children's Cancer Run t-shirt. The fun continues in the Event Village too, with fairground rides, face painting, live music and entertainment, a Young Scientist Zone, food vendors and more!

Please complete an online entry form to join our school team:

1. Go to <https://childrenscancernorth.org.uk/event/childrens-cancer-run-2026/>
2. Click 'Sign up today!'
3. Select your registration preference (as an Adult, Child, or Family ticket type)
4. Under 'Create or Join a team' select 'Find' and type in our school name [INSERT NAME OF SCHOOL TEAM IF APPLICABLE]. Click 'Join' next to the school name.
5. Complete the remainder of the registration form and click 'proceed to payment' to complete the registration for you and/or your family.

If you do not wish to take part but wish to donate to our schools fundraising page you can do so by following the link below.

<https://childrenscancernorth.enthuse.com/pf/kate-massey-c3ef0>

If the school receives Pupil Premium funding for your child, the school can use the funding received to pay for their entry. Please contact the school office.

Miss Armstrong will be running some after school training sessions straight after the Easter holidays on a Wednesday evening. Further details will be sent out nearer the time.



TAEKWONDO

Before half term, 6 of our Year 4 children were invited to attend the GST taekwondo session at SGFS. There was a fantastic atmosphere full of energy and enthusiasm as everyone eagerly took part.

During the session, children were introduced to basic taekwondo techniques and began to display these skills when working with their partners to complete the movements. Taekwondo isn't just about physical strength, it is also about respect, perseverance and self-control. All of these children demonstrated all of these qualities brilliantly and showed great determination when practicing new movements.



SWIMMING LESSONS

Children in Year 4 will have a two week block of daily swimming lessons between Monday 20th April and Friday 1st May. Mrs Coates will be sending out a ParentMail to ask about your child's current swimming ability.

The Year 4 children will be required to bring their swimming costume (one-piece or trunks/shorts) and towel into school daily. Children with long hair will need to ensure that their hair is tied up and swim hats are preferred but not mandatory. Goggles are optional but shampoo, conditioner, mirrors etc will not be required!!

Please note - Year 4's Forest School session will be rearranged to the morning of Friday 24th of April.

Volunteer with us!



We are always looking for people to come and help in school! If you are interested in helping in school, please contact Mrs Lowe in the school office (admin@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk). All volunteers will require DBS clearance, and will need to provide references in line with our commitment to Safer Recruitment.

Please note that volunteers must not use their mobile phones during school visits and they must maintain confidentiality at all times. All volunteers will need enhanced DBS checks for this role.



12 - Could you or a grandparent spare 20 - 30 minutes once or twice a week to help children with reading?

READING BUDDIES

We operate a successful reading buddy scheme with parents, grandparents and friends of the school, sharing books with children in Key Stage One and Key Stage Two. If you could spare an hour or two a week (ideally in the afternoons!), please contact the school office. You will require enhanced DBS checks through the school - please contact Mrs Coates.

Please note that volunteers must not use their mobile phones during school visits and they must maintain confidentiality at all times.

Dates for your diaries



Please see diary dates attached - this term is a busy one so please check you have added everything to your calendar! Dates can also be viewed on the school calendar at <https://archbishop-runcie.eschools.co.uk/web/calendar>

There are LOTS of events coming up in school over the next few weeks. Mrs Coates regularly puts reminders of events on Facebook and Instagram to prompt parents too - please follow us to keep up with what's happening in school!

Safeguarding





WORRIED ABOUT A CHILD?

Mrs Massey, Mrs Francis, Mrs Crozier and Mrs Ellwood are our school's Designated Safeguarding Leaders (DSLs). Mr Brown is DSL for Wraparound care. Children are regularly reminded who they can talk to if they are worried about something in school.

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:

If you have a non-emergency concern about a child contact:

- Initial Response Service – 0191 277 2500
- Emergency Duty Team – 0191 278 7878 (out of hours)
- 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>

All concerns that a child or young person is suffering or is at risk of suffering significant harm must be referred directly to the Initial Response Service of Children's Social Care in accordance with the Newcastle Safeguarding Children Board Procedures. Please refer to the Newcastle Safeguarding Children Partnership website for safeguarding policies and procedures. For more information, you can read our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy on our school website.



E-SAFETY UPDATE FROM ALAN MACKENZIE (ONLINE SAFETY SPECIALIST)

Did You Know - TikTok tracks you even if you don't use the app?

I remember listening to The Scott Mills radio show years ago where he described that an adult friend of his signed up for a Facebook account late into his 20's. As soon as he did, he was dumbfounded how Facebook was able to make recommendations about his friends/family and show advertising directly related to his previous web browsing. He had never used Facebook before.

Welcome to tracking pixels used for data harvesting. These have been around for years, installed on hundreds of millions of websites to track users and collect/store or sell that information. This is digital footprint 101, it's commonplace, without pixel tracking Google probably wouldn't exist.

So it shouldn't be any surprise that TikTok also has tracking pixels all across the web. These pixels are often described as innocuous but I disagree. Imagine a young person who is searching and browsing topics that are very sensitive, e.g. pregnancy, mental ill health etc., ads related to these subjects are going to start showing up on almost every ad-enabled site or app and this can become problematic.

There are various things you can do, such as using a different browser (e.g. DuckDuckGo). Some ad-blockers will also block data harvesting.

To read a more detailed article see the link below.

Link: [TikTok is tracking you, even if you don't use the app.](#)

For Parents - App Controls to Support Children

Jenny is a mother with two teenage girls who feels the pressure of keeping up to date with online safety, new app settings and more the same as other parents. In this article and YouTube video Jenny shares how she uses app-level parental controls to manage social media use across her daughters' phones and tablets.

Link: [Using App Controls to Support Children.](#)



Community Notices





SEND PARENTS & CARERS SUPPORT GROUP

Does your child have a special educational need or disability? Would you like to talk to other parents/carers or get advice from professionals? Whether your child has a formal diagnosis or not, you are invited to drop in to the SEND Support Group for an informal place to chat and get advice.

These sessions run every Friday 10:00am-11:30am and Tuesdays 4:00-5:30pm at Gosforth Civic Theatre. No need to book - just turn up!

COMMUNITY HUB NORTH

Children & Families Newcastle is part of a community network providing activities and services across four localities in the city for babies, children, young people and families. We are part of the North Community Hub. Community hubs link to other buildings in the locality to create a network of venues that offer activities and services.

The community hubs also offer a range of services including – health visiting, family support, community midwifery, mental health support, children’s therapies, youth provision, training opportunities, childcare and employability services. To find out what is available near you, telephone your local Community Hub at Fawdon Children’s Centre, Cairns Way, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE3 2SN. Telephone 0191 2115773 Monday to Friday 8.30am to 4.30pm.

<https://www.newcastlesupportdirectory.org.uk/north>



13 - For family support, please scan.



14 - To see what is happening in the city, please scan.

SEND LOCAL OFFER

The Local Offer tells you what support is available in Newcastle. You can find out about schools, health services, and activities. It also helps families get the right help and support.

<https://childrenandfamiliesnewcastle.org.uk/send-local-offer>



Contact Us



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Gosforth

Newcastle upon Tyne

NE31US

Visit us on the web at <https://archbishop-runcie.eschools.co.uk/web>

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