



September 2019 – Newsletter 4

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Whole School (excluding Nursery)
98%	100%	98%	100%	99%	98%	99%

Our school target for attendance is 97%.

PTFA

This year, the PTFA AGM will be held during the evening of Wednesday 23rd October in order to allow more parents to attend.

The current PTFA members are all willing to continue in their current roles but they would very much like to see some new faces or anyone with new ideas or suggestions. More information to follow next week. Please do come along!



The PTFA have added some dates of future events (see below) which some of the committee can attend but in order for these events to go ahead **they do need parents or grandparents as additional volunteers please**. They would be grateful if anyone who can help with any of these events could get in touch via email archbishopruncieptfa@gmail.com so dates can be confirmed. Thank you.

The PTFA will be sending home information, before half term, about designing your own Christmas cards and gifts at home, which can be ordered online, so you might like to give this some thought over the next couple of weeks!

CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS

This week has been another busy week; Nursery and Reception have enjoyed playing outdoors, particularly in their mud kitchen. Please could all Nursery children have well fitting wellies that can stay in school please?



Year 1 have been busy retelling stories, using actions, and orally rehearsing and improving their sentences. Year 2 have visited Newcastle and Gateshead Quayside and learned all about the Great fire of Newcastle. Year 3 have had a squash lesson with Richard Vitty and Year 4 thoroughly enjoyed their residential visit to Dukes House Wood. We hope you enjoyed looking at the photographs on Twitter!

YEAR 2 VISIT

Year 2 are visiting Bessie Surtees House on Monday to investigate materials of buildings in the past. On this occasion, we are asking all children to bring their own packed lunch please. If this is problematic for anyone please email Miss Orr, by Sunday, who will order your child a prepared packed lunch from the kitchen. Thank you!



VISITORS TO SCHOOL

This week Paul Riecard, Director of Education for Newcastle & Durham Diocese, visited our school. He asked the children what made Archbishop Runcie First School such a special place. There were several excellent answers from the children! Some of my favourites were:

- Everyone is kind and welcoming
- We are an inclusive school
- We do lots of fun activities
- The staff love us and work hard



Zara, in Year 4, told him “Everyone in our school is unique and special” which he said was amongst the top three answers that he *ever had* in over 100 schools that he’s asked the question! Well done Zara!

In addition, this week we welcomed an EYFS Advisor from the Local Authority who praised the “significant improvements made to the learning environment” and commented on how “engaged, focussed and challenged” our children were. The LA have asked if they can use our EYFS as a venue for meetings in order to show staff from other schools our fabulous classrooms and learning environment. Well done to all the EYFS staff and children!



SAFEGUARDING

A reminder that on Monday, at 9:00am and 5:00pm, we will be holding a Safeguarding Meeting for all helpers in school. Whether you are a reading buddy, trip helper, book changer or you help in another way, please do come along to one of the sessions. Thank you.

EYFS RESOURCES

Early Years would be really grateful of donations of;

- Toy tools for the outdoor construction area
- Remote control toy cars/vehicles
- Camping equipment for the den building area, eg enamel cups/plates, small camping chairs etc.
- Any tarpaulin material for the den building area
- Balance bikes, trikes and scooters that older children have outgrown.



Thank you!



EYFS ARRIVAL TIMES

A reminder that Reception should line up outside the EYFS door at **8:45am** to enter the cloakroom please. Thank you in advance for your **prompt arrival!** Nursery can then enter the cloakroom after this time.

DROP OFF ARRANGEMENTS FOR AUTUMN 2

Following a request from the Parent Council, the staff have agreed to trial a staggered drop off in Autumn Term 2 (from after October half term until Christmas). We hope that this will help with traffic flow, help children settle quickly and avoid waiting around on the yard in poor weather. Instead of standing on the gate, I will stand on the cloakroom door to greet children. Parents and carers will be able to bring children in Years 1-4 to the KS1 door from 8:40-8:50am and teachers will wait in classrooms and supervise children from 8:40am. We will be asking for your opinions of whether this arrangement is working well nearer Christmas.



WORSHIP

Next Friday, Year 3 will lead our Harvest Worship at 9:00am. All parents and carers are invited to come along.

FUNDRAISING

On Friday 4th October, children in all classes will take part in the “Sportivater” event in school. Thank you for everyone that has sponsored their child to take part. We are really looking forward to using money raised to enrich our playground games equipment.



WORLDS BIGGEST COFFEE AFTERNOON

Year 4 are, at the time of writing, hosting their Coffee Afternoon- the cakes look amazing! Thank you everyone who sent in donations or came along! Huge thanks go to Mrs Armstrong for organising the event and to Year 4 for being fabulous hosts!



CHILDRENS CHOICE LUNCH



Next Thursday (3rd October), Mrs Battista is cooking a children's choice lunch of Pizza with chips for staff and children. It would be fantastic if as many children as possible had a school lunch on this day. If your child usually has a packed lunch, you can book a school meal via ParentMail.

PARENTS EVENING

Parents Evening bookings can now be made via ParentMail. Each child is allocated a 10 minute appointment. If you envisage you will need a longer appointment, please arrange to see the Class Teacher at a different time. Thank you.

YEAR 1 READING BOOKS

We are looking for two volunteers to help change Year 1 Reading Books each week please. Please let Miss Young know if you may be able to help. Thank you!



COVER STAFF

When Class Teachers are on courses or having planning time, which is a legal entitlement, other staff will cover their teaching duties. If you have concerns or queries please could we ask that you **speak directly to Class Teachers** as other staff may not have the relevant information. Many thanks.

GOLDEN TIME

As you know, our Behaviour Policy encourages children to work towards a reward of Golden Time each Friday afternoon. We are looking for donations of games and activities that would help to make this time even more special. If you have any unwanted board games, stickers or colouring sheets etc that are in good condition, please send them into school. Thank you!



PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCY

As you may be aware, we have a vacancy for a Parent Governor. Further information and the application forms will be available on the school website next week. There will be an open evening on Monday 7th October from 6:00-7:00pm for anyone who is interested and would like more information.

CHURCH NEWS

A reminder that St Nicholas' Church is holding their Beer Festival this weekend. Please do go along if you are able to!



As always, if you have anything that you would like to discuss further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With my very best wishes,

Mrs KE Massey

Headteacher



“Love to learn, learn to love”

1 Corinthians 16:13

Dates for your Diary

New dates are in red, for your information.

Date	Event	Additional Notes
September 2019		
Monday 30 th September	Safeguarding Training for all parent helpers/volunteers in school/Reading Buddies	9:00am and 5:00pm
Tuesday 1st October	Fair Trade visitor to talk to Year 3	
October 2019		
2 nd October	Gosforth Band	3:45-4:45pm at Archibald First School
Thursday 3 rd October	Children choice school lunch- all children encouraged to have a school dinner today	Please pay on ParentMail
Friday 4 th October	9:00am Harvest Worship, led by Year 3	All welcome!
	Sportivater event	
Monday 7 th October	Parents Evening Rec- Year 4	Book appointments via ParentMail from September
	6:00-7:00pm Open evening for prospective parent governors	Please come along if you are interested
Tuesday 8 th October	Parents Evening Rec- Year 4	Book appointments via ParentMail from September
Wednesday 9 th October	GST Teach Meet	
	GST Directors' Meeting	
Thursday 10 th October	Gosforth Voices	3:45-4:45pm at Grange First School
	Nursery Parents Evening- NEW DATE	
Monday 14 th October	6:00pm-8:00pm GCMS Open Evening	Invitations from GCMS to follow
	Photographer in school	Forms were sent home via bookbags
Tuesday 15 th October	Reception children National Measurements Programme	
16 th October	Gosforth Band	3:45-4:45pm at Archibald First School
	9:30 Reception eye tests in school	
Thursday 17 th October	Y1 Multiskills festival at Walker Dome 1:00-2:45pm	Children may be slightly late returning to school
	PTFA Film Night	
Monday 21 st October	9:00am Parent Workshop for all Reading Buddies/ to support reading at home	
Tuesday 22 nd October	Nursery & Reception Story Party in school	Please pay via ParentMail
Wednesday 23 rd October	Governors Ethos Cttee	
	Y4 Go Green Performance 2:30pm	
	Gosforth Voices	3:45-4:45pm at Grange First School
Thursday 24 th October	PTFA AGM Meeting 7:30pm	Venue TBC
	Operation Encompass Sessions for Years 3 & 4 children 1-3pm and drop in session for parents and other community members,	Parent drop in 3:00-4:00pm – No appointments required

	after school.	
Friday 25 th October	Staff & Governor Training Day	School closed to children
Sunday 27 th October	Diwali	
31 st October	Midday deadline for Middle School applications for September 2020	www.newcastle.gov.uk/schooladmissions
Monday 28 th October- Friday 1 st November	Half Term holiday	
November 2019		
Monday 4th November	Year 3 visit to Beamish	More info to follow
Tuesday 5 th November & Wednesday 6 th November	GEM Education delivering Computing sessions in school to Y1-4	
Tuesday 5 th November	Gosforth Band	3:45-4:45pm at Archibald First School
Friday 8 th November	9:00am Number Workshop for Reception parents	
Monday 11 th November	9:00am Remembrance Worship, led by Year 4	
	Operation Christmas Child boxes to be dropped off at collection points	
Tuesday 12 th November	Flu Sniffs	Info has now been sent to parents and carers.
Wednesday 13 th November	Gosforth Voices	3:45-4:45pm at Grange First School
Friday 15 th November	Children in Need	Children invited to wear something spotty for a suggested donation of £1
	Arctic Explorer to visit Year 2	
Tuesday 19 th November	Prospective Reception Parent visits 4:00pm	Please book a place via the school office
20 th November	Gosforth Band	3:45-4:45pm at Archibald First School
Friday 22 nd November	9:00am Parent Workshop for all Reading Buddies/ parents & carers to support reading at home	Please come along
Tuesday 26 th November	Full Governing Body Meeting	
Wednesday 27 th November	Gosforth Voices	3:45-4:45pm at Grange First School
Thursday 28th November	7:30pm PTFA Christmas Fair Planning Meeting	Venue TBC
Friday 29 th November	Advent Worship led by Year 2	All welcome!
	Christmas decorations up in school	We would love some help from parents please!
	Nativity costume requests sent home	
December 2019		
Monday 2 nd December	Prospective Reception Parent visits 4:00pm	Please book a place via the school office
4 th December	Gosforth Band	3:45-4:45pm at Archibald First School
Tuesday 10 th December	5:00pm New Nursery Parents Meeting for January intake	
	Chris Bostock (storyteller) for Nursery and Reception children	Please pay via ParentMail
Wednesday 11 th December	Please bring nativity costumes to school	
Thursday 12 th December	Y4 Multiskills festival at Walker Dome 1:00-2:45pm	Children may be slightly late returning to school
Friday 13 th December	Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day	Suggested donation of £1
	PTFA Christmas Fair at School 3:15pm-	
Monday 16 th December	1:30pm KS2 Nativity (1)	2 tickets per family will be able to be booked via ParentMail from November.
Tuesday 17 th December	2:00pm EYFS Nativity (1)	
	5:30pm KS1 Nativity (1)	

	6:30pm KS2 Nativity (2)	
Wednesday 18 th December	9:30am EYFS Nativity (2)	
	2:00pm KS1 Nativity (2)	
Tuesday 17 th December	No Taekwondo	
Thursday 19 th December	KS1 & KS2 Christmas Party	Children only- please sign up to bring food
Friday 20 th December	10:00-12:00 Pantomime for Nursery- Year 4 at	Children we return to school for lunch before the Carol Service
	Carol Service at St Nicholas' Church	Years 1-4 attending. Children will be dismissed from Church after the service if parents are in attendance.
	EYFS Party	Children only- please sign up to bring food
January 2020		
Monday 6 th January	Staff Training Day	School closed to children
Wednesday 8 th January	Prospective Reception Parent visits 4:00pm	Please book a place via the school office
15 th January	Y3/4 Computing with GEM Education	
	Gosforth Voices	3:45-4:45pm at Grange First School
	Midday deadline for Reception class applications for September 2020	www.newcastle.gov.uk/schooladmissions
Thursday 16 th January	Children's Choice Lunch	
	PTFA Film Night	
Thursday 23 rd January	Road Safety sessions for Nursery, Reception and Year 1	
	EYFS Opposites Day	
Friday 24 th January	Chinese New Year celebrations in school	
Wednesday 29 th January	Gosforth Voices	3:45-4:45pm at Grange First School
22 nd January	Gosforth Band	3:45-4:45pm at Archibald First School
Thursday 30 th January	5:00pm Managing children's behaviour workshop for parents	
Friday 31 st January	9:00am Managing children's behaviour workshop for parents	
February 2020		
Wednesday 5 th February	2:00pm Reception "Stay & Play"	Reception parents invited
5 th February	Gosforth Band	3:45-4:45pm at Archibald First School
Thursday 6 th February	Reception visit to Walker Dome 1:00-2:45pm	Children may be slightly late returning to school
Monday 10 th February	Parents Evening	
Tuesday 11 th February	Safer Internet Day	Activities in school
	Parents Evening	
12 th February	Gosforth Voices	3:45-4:45pm at Grange First School
Friday 14 th February	Love is... Worship, led by Year 1	
Monday 24 th February	International World Thinking Day	Cubs, Beavers, Brownies, Rainbows invited to wear uniforms.
Tuesday 25 th February	Lent Worship, led by Year 4	
	Prospective Nursery Parent visits 4:00pm	Please book a place via the school office
26 th February	Gosforth Band	3:45-4:45pm at Archibald First School
March 2020		
2-6 th March	Book Week in school	
4 th March	Gosforth Voices	3:45-4:45pm at Grange First School
Thursday 5 th March	World Book Day	Children invited to dress as a book character
9-13 March	British Science Week	
Monday 9 th March	Purim	Activities in school
	Prospective Nursery Parent visits 4:00pm	Please book a place via the school office

11 th March	Gosforth Band	3:45-4:45pm at Archibald First School
18 th March	Gosforth Voices	3:45-4:45pm at Grange First School
Friday 20 th March	Persian New Year	Activities in school
	9:00am Year 1-4 Mothers' Day Service	One member of each family invited to attend
	2:30pm EYFS Mothers' Day Service	One member of each family invited to attend
	Closing date for Nursery applications for Sept 2020	
	Gosforth Voices Tour	Performance in all GST school
Monday 23 rd March	World Water Day	
	Y3 & Y4 visit to Durham	More info to follow
Wednesday 25 th March	Full Governing Body Meeting	
	Gosforth Band	3:45-4:45pm at Archibald First School
Thursday 26 th March	Nursery visit to Walker Dome 1:00-2:45pm	Children may be slightly late returning to school
Friday 27 th March	9:00 SATs Meeting for Year 2 Parents	
Tuesday 31 st March	5:00pm New Nursery Parents Meeting, for children starting after Easter	
April 2020		
Wednesday 1 st April	2:00pm Nursery Stay & Play	Nursery Parents invited
Thursday 2 nd April	Autism Awareness Day	Activities in school
Friday 3 rd April	Easter Service	
Monday 6 th April- Friday 17 th April	Easter Holidays	
Thursday 23 rd April	Shakespeare Day	Activities in school
Friday 24 th April	Deadline to accept Nursery places in school	
May 2020		
May 2020	SATs for Year 2 children	Year 2 children must be in school please
Thursday 7 th May	Wesak (Buddhist)	Activities in school
Friday 8 th May	Phonics Screen Workshop for Year 1 Parents	
Monday 11 th May	Christian Aid Worship, led by Year 2	All welcome!
Thursday 14 th May	Y3 Team Games festival at Walker Dome 1:00-2:45pm	Children may be slightly late returning to school
Friday 15 th May	2:00pm Reception Stay & Play	Reception Parents invited
Tuesday 19 th May	GST Teach Meet	Staff only
Thursday 21 st May	Ascension Day Worship, led by Year 3	All welcome!
	World Day for Cultural Diversity	Activities in school
Friday 22 nd May	GST Daft Day	Children invited to wear something "daft". Suggested donation £1.
	Eid activities in school.	
Monday 2 nd May- Friday 29 th May	Half Term	
June 2020		
Monday 1 st June	GST Staff Training Day	School closed to children
Tuesday 2 nd June	2:30pm Pentecost Worship, led by Year 4	
	Year 1 Phonics Screen assessment	Year 1 children must be in school please
Wednesday 3 rd June	Gosforth Voices	3:45-4:45pm at Grange First School
Thursday 4 th June	Roy Lawson visiting Years 3 & 4	More info to follow
Monday 8th June	Year 2 visit to St Mary's Lighthouse	
Tuesday 9 th June	New Nursery Parents Meeting for children starting Nursery in September 2020	
Wednesday 10 th June	New Reception Parents Meeting for children starting Reception class in September 2020	
Wednesday 10 th June	Gosforth Band	3:45-4:45pm at Archibald First School
Tuesday 16 th June	Big Gig all day (Gosforth Voices & Gosforth Band) Best of British theme	Northumbria Sports Central

Wednesday 17 th June	Gosforth Voices	3:45-4:45pm at Grange First School
Friday 26 th June	Y4 visit to Vindolanda	More info to follow
30 th June	Pyramid Concert (Gosforth Voices & Gosforth Band)	4:00pm Rehearsal 6:15pm at Trinity Church
July 2020		
Wednesday 1 st July	2:00pm Nursery Stay & Play	Nursery parents invited
Thursday 2 nd July	Y4 Bikeability all day	
Friday 3 rd July	Reports out	
Saturday 4th July	PTFA Summer Fair	
Monday 6 th July	KS1/2 Sports Day	Parents Invited
	Drop in for parents	No need to book an appointment
Tuesday 7 th July	Drop in for parents	No need to book an appointment
Wednesday 8 th July	Pm EYFS Sports Day	Parents invited
	Full Governing Body Meeting	
Thursday 9 th July	Y2 Team Games festival at Walker Dome 1:00-2:45pm	Children may be slightly late returning to school
Friday 10 th July	Cakes in the Courtyard	All helpers and volunteers invited!
Friday 17 th July	9:00 Year 4 Leavers' Service	
	End of term picnic lunch for staff and children	Please pay via ParentMail
	Picnic in the Playground	3:15-4:15pm
	School closes for Summer	
Monday 7 th September 2020	Staff Training Day	
Tuesday 8 th September 2020	School reopens to pupils.	

“Love to learn, learn to love”

Colossians 3:23-24

31 October 2019 (midday)
Deadline to apply for middle, secondary or high school places for September 2020

15 January 2020 (midday)
Deadline to apply for reception class places for September 2020

www.newcastle.gov.uk/schooladmissions



- Measles is in the news again. There have been serious outbreaks in Wales and England and the number of children catching measles is rising.
- Measles can be a very serious disease, leading to ear and chest infections, fits, diarrhoea, and damage to the brain. Measles can kill.
- Your child is at risk of measles if he or she hasn't had the MMR vaccination.
- Two doses of MMR vaccine are needed to get the best protection.
- If your child is due to have had two doses of MMR but has not yet received them, no matter what age they are, you should contact your GP to get them vaccinated as soon as possible.*
- If you can't remember if your child has had any, one or two doses of MMR vaccine, check his or her personal child health record (the Red Book). If this doesn't help, speak to your GP.
- If you don't know how many doses your child has had, it's better to have two doses of MMR vaccine now rather than risk leaving them unprotected.

*In response to a local outbreak then the two doses can be given one month apart from the age of 18 months.

immunisation
the safest way to protect your child

Some common questions about measles and the MMR vaccine are listed on the back of this leaflet

Answers to some common questions about measles and the MMR vaccine

Why are we seeing these outbreaks of measles?

Measles is a highly infectious disease, spreading quickly from person to person, especially in schools. A child with measles will infect almost all unprotected children they have contact with. Since the end of 2017 there has been an increase in measles globally which has affected the UK. This has resulted in some spread into wider communities, in particular in undervaccinated groups.

When are the MMR vaccinations usually given?

The best times are between 12 and 13 months of age and again at three years and four months, with one dose on each occasion. But, if your child wasn't vaccinated then, they can be vaccinated at any age with two doses one month apart.

Will there be any side effects to the vaccination?

Your child may get the symptoms of measles, mumps and rubella for up to six weeks after the vaccination but in a very much milder form. This proves that the vaccine is working and your child is building up resistance to future contact with the viruses that cause the three diseases. Not all children show these symptoms but that doesn't mean the vaccine isn't working.

Should parents in outbreak areas get vaccinated against measles?

As with many diseases, once you have had measles, you don't catch it again because you have built up a natural resistance to it. So, if you've had measles two doses of MMR vaccine you do not need to get vaccinated now.

For more information about measles and MMR go to www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles/

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Mr Mason and All Saints' Church
would like to invite your Child/ren to:



EVOLUTION KIDS' GROUP

This group is for children of school years 3 to 6. It only costs £1 a week and includes lots of fun activities, such as: crafts, games, songs and stories. This is a great opportunity for your child/ren to make new friends, develop new skills and learn about the Christian faith.

Tuesdays 6pm to 7pm at All Saints' Centre,
Linden Road, Gosforth, NE3 4ES
For more information email andrew.mason@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk