




November 2019 – Newsletter 9

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Whole School (excluding Nursery)
80.22%	86.54%	91.81%	100% 	97.92%	95.16%	93.49%

Our school target for attendance is 97%.

UPDATE FROM OUR PTFA

Thank you very much to the parents who attended the PTFA AGM. However, in order to fulfil the charity criteria of an AGM we require a minimum of eight attendees – unfortunately this was not met. Without meeting this criteria, this charity would need to fold which is why there will be a further AGM on **Friday 29th of November** at School straight after drop off. Please come along if you are able to.



We need to remind you that, without this charity vital funds for the School would not be raised (around £8000 in the last calendar year).

We are holding a disco for the children on Thursday 21st November, from 5:00 - 6.30pm in the school hall. Drinks, treats and face painting will be included in the price as well as lots of dancing and games on the night! Letter and booking form will be sent out soon so keep an eye on those book bags!

SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media is used to celebrate the accomplishments of our children and school, for example posting the children's successes, experiences and achievements. It is also a really handy way to communicate/remind parents about things that are happening or for staff to let you know if there are last minute changes to routines. We also retweet things that, we feel, are relevant to our community such as events in Gosforth, SEND information, sports activities etc.



However, it has unfortunately come to my attention that school has been criticised on social media by some parents. I am saddened that it is necessary to ask parents and carers not to share such posts on social media. I would much prefer a meeting to discuss any concerns in person, following the appropriate procedures. I am on the gate/door each morning and staff are very approachable therefore, it would be much more beneficial to all parties that we discuss any concerns in private rather than share our negative thoughts in public before they have been fully investigated.

The Chair of Governors and I wish it to be known that all necessary action will be taken to deal with any material posted on such sites that is, in our opinion, distressing, alarming or harassing or in any way breaches the rights of the members of our school community or damages the reputation of our school.

We are sorry that it has been necessary to write this in the newsletter. We understand that the overwhelming majority of parents have only the best interests of the school at heart and would not become involved in such activity, however, unfortunately the actions of a few have necessitated it. I would like to remind parents that often a personal conversation can help alleviate concerns or anxieties and address the reasons for school processes therefore I would encourage parents to speak with me directly, if this is the case. Thank you.

If you see anything on social media which you feel should be brought to the schools attention you can email me, speak to me directly or leave a note not me at the main office. Thank you for your ongoing support.

STAFFING

This week, we have entered into a contract with Clennell Education Solutions for a part time Attendance Officer, Daniel Tolan, to work with families, in our school, who fall below the 92% attendance threshold. He is coming to school on Monday to meet the children and staff.

This week, we have appointed Mrs Angela Armstrong as a member of the EYFS staff team. She is delighted to join us.

Miss Willett started with us on Monday. She is supporting across the school and covering staff planning time. She is really enjoying getting to know everyone!

CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS

On Monday, Years 3 and 4 had a fantastic visit to Beamish to launch their "childhood" chronological study. The children loved being taught in an authentic Victorian classroom including a lesson from a strict school master. Years 1-4 have all been visited by GEM education this week, working on our newly purchased iPads (we now have a set of 30 for each Key Stage) to create e-books linked to their topics. Years 1-4 have also had a gymnastics lesson from a visiting PE teacher this week and will have four more over the coming weeks. Year 1 are currently visiting the Discovery Museum to learn about toys from the past- we look forward to hearing all about it. In Year 2, the children have learned about different groups of animals related to their topic of Polar Regions. In Nursery, children have explored light and dark and used torches in the dark den. In Reception, the light theme has continued with learning about Diwali (the festival of light) and Bonfire Night.



WORSHIP

This week, we have revisited the idea of having a "Growth Mindset" rather than a "Fixed mindset", looking at people in the Bible to had to keep on trying and changing the words we say when work is tricky and the attitude we have towards challenge. Please ask your children about what this means!



FUNDAMENTAL BRITISH VALUES

We have thought about the consequences of our positive and negative actions and recognised that we are all special in different ways.



DROP OFF ARRANGEMENTS



A reminder that children can now be dropped off at the **EYFS or KS1 cloakroom** door (not classroom doors) between **8:40am and 8:50am** as a staggered drop off arrangement. We have already had many positive comments about this arrangement. Thank you.

The yard gate will now be closed at 8:55am and the gate by the main office will

be closed at 9:05am so that classroom staff can start supporting children in classrooms promptly. Thank you in advance for your prompt arrival at school.

TRAFFIC

In order to keep our children safe, please park and drive considerately around school. We understand that parking close to school can be very challenging but ASDA remain happy for our families to use their carpark and walk to school from there.

The doors from the yard are opened at 8:40am and are closed at 8:50am, when teaching begins. Children who arrive after this time will need to enter school through the main office and complete a late arrival form. Children, who arrive late, miss key teaching and learning so please make every effort to arrive promptly. Thank you in advance for your support with this matter.

We frequently request surveillance and support in enforcing parking restrictions. If you would like to log your concerns directly, 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.

COLD WEATHER



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

CHARITABLE GIVING

Year 4 children have, this week, been selling poppy appeal merchandise, each morning. Suggested donations are as follows:

- Traditional poppy (adhesive) 50p
- ~~Slap bands £1.00~~ **SOLD OUT**
- Reflective poppies £1.00
- ~~Rubber bracelets £1.00~~ **SOLD OUT**
- Pencils 50p
- Crayons 50p
- Tattoos 50p
- Pin badges (adults only) £2.00



Please can all children write their names on items as you can imagine how difficult it is to identify a lost poppy in a pile of many!

We received a certificate, this week, from the Children's Cancer run organisers to say we raised £1545, which is amazing. Well done to everyone who took part!

The Reading Agency and Libraries Present



SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

Yesterday, 12 of our children were presented with their Summer Reading Challenge certificates. We are very proud- well done to all who took part.

RESOURCE REQUESTS

We have lots of requests this week please!

- Nursery and Reception are in need of nativity costumes if any parents have costumes that their children have outgrown or any parents would be able to make some simple tunics please?
- Reception are still looking for birthday cards or other cards too please.
- They would also like waterproof clothing please!
- As we approach Christmas, we are always looking for donations of Christmas trees and other festive decorations and would be really grateful for any parents who can come in to help decorate the school on Friday 29th November please.
- Mrs Francis, our Forest School teacher, would like donations of tree stumps as stools for the children in the wooded area.
- Year 2 are seeking non-fiction texts relating to Polar Regions please (remember to put your name inside if you would like it to be returned!).
- Year 3 would like donations of appropriate newspaper reports please!

Thank you!



SEND CONSULTATION

I have been asked to share, on behalf of Mark Patton Assistant Director of Education and Skills at Newcastle Council, the consultation details below. Newcastle City Council (NCC) want to hear what you have to say about their proposals for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities provision in Newcastle for the next three years. There is a short video clip of Mark introducing the consultation:

<https://youtu.be/l4g2xhIPo28>



NCC want to ensure that they:

- can meet the demand for appropriate (secondary) places, including consideration of capital investment where appropriate
- develop effective channels to deliver early intervention with specialist support, as part of the city's agreed graduated response to support children and young people with special educational needs
- develop expertise in schools, settings and support services which will enable all settings to meet the needs of children and young people with ASD (autistic spectrum disorder) and SEMH (social, emotional and mental health) needs, including consideration of capital investment where appropriate
- address the gap in mental health support for young people aged 16+.



NCC are proposing that priorities for the next three years will be as follows:

- in 2019/20, the focus will be on the primary need of **ASD**
- in 2020/21, the focus will be on the **primary need of SEMH**
- in 2020/21 the focus will be on the **primary needs of** sensory and physical, communication and interaction (other than ASD), cognition and learning.

Full proposals are attached, and you can have your say:

- Let's talk <https://www.letstalknewcastle.co.uk/consultations/info/315>
- by completing a short survey at the following link:
https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=wLSfsgQNN0q0YsEpSx4bR28U2e9WePVIr_zZ7a6rrKBUNlpHMEg1UUVBSU5FME1TUjA1VVBCRjJJUi4u
- or you can scan the QR code above, if you would like to use your mobile phone
- or you can email sendconsultations@newcastle.gov.uk with any comments that you may have.

Please note this consultation will end on Friday 28th November. Thank you for taking the time to respond.

CHURCH NEWS

We are looking forward to welcoming Revd Jane Nattrass to St Nicholas' Church on 5th December.

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
November 2019		
Monday 11 th November	9:00am Remembrance Worship, led by Year 4	All Welcome!
	Operation Christmas Child boxes to be dropped off at collection points	Mrs Pygall has a list of collection points but Trinity Church is our nearest point.
	4:00pm arrival – DAAB Christmas Lights Switch on at 4:30pm	All Welcome!
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
Thursday 14th November	National Roast Dinner Day!	Mrs Battista will be cooking a roast dinner for school lunch (as she does every Thursday). If your child usually has a packed lunch but they would like to have a school dinner, please book one via ParentMail.
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
Wednesday 20 th	Gosforth Band	3:45-4:45pm at Archibald First School

November		
Thursday 21 st November	PTFA Disco 5:00-6:30pm	
Friday 22 nd November	9:00am Parent Workshop for all Reading Buddies/ parents & carers to support reading at home	All welcome- this would be especially useful for parents of Reception children
Tuesday 26 th November	Full Governing Body Meeting	
Wednesday 27 th November	Gosforth Voices	3:45-4:45pm at Grange First School
	GST Anti-bullying IT Project at Dinnington	Selected children only
	No Outsiders PSHE sessions and staff training	
Thursday 28 th 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	
	3:15pm PTFA AGM	Please come along
December 2019		
Monday 2 nd December	Prospective Reception Parent visits 4:00pm	Please book a place via the school office
Wednesday 4 th December	Gosforth Band	3:45-4:45pm at Archibald First School
Thursday 5 th December	Operation Encompass Year 4 PSHE session and drop in session 3:00-4:00pm for parents, carers and community members	
	New vicar appointed at St Nicholas' Church	
Friday 6 th December	Parent Council Meeting 9:00am	
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)	Children only- please sign up to bring food
	2:00pm KS1 Nativity (2)	
	EYFS Party	
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 The Exchange	£8 per child (including bus). Children will 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.
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
	KS2 Micro Bit lessons in school	
	Midday deadline for Reception class applications for September 2020	www.newcastle.gov.uk/schooladmissions
Thursday 16 th January	Children's Choice Lunch	We are hoping for 100% school lunch uptake!
	Year 2 Newcastle Castle Visit	
	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
Tuesday 4 th March	NEW DATE Y3 & Y4 visit to Durham	More info to follow
Wednesday 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
Friday 6th March	Class visits to Gosforth Library	
9-13 March	British Science Week	We would welcome any parents/visitors to school linked to Science please.
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 1:30pm All Saints' Church	
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
	Dinnington First School official opening	
Friday 8 th May	Bank Holiday	
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
	NEW DATE Phonics Screen Workshop for Year 1 Parents 9:00am	
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
	Children's choice lunch	
Friday 22 nd May	GST Daft Day	Children invited to wear something "daft". Suggested donation £1.
	9:00 Y4 Times Table test Parent Workshop	
	Eid activities in school.	
Monday 2 th 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
	All Saints' Schools Week	
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 8 th 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
	Y4 statutory Times Tables test	
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 4 th July	PTFA Summer Fair	
Monday 6 th July	KS1/2 Sports Day	Parents Invited
	PE Week (Mon- Fri)	
	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 May	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	
September 2020		
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

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