



December 2024

Newsletter 8 – 20.12.24

SECTION 1: ATTENDANCE

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 also had lower attendance.
- 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.

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.

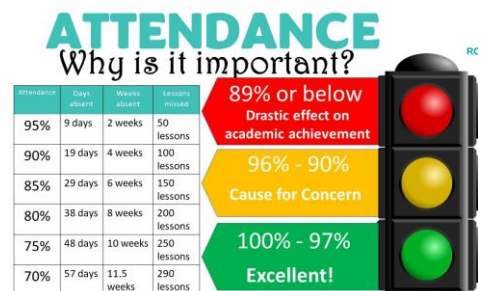
WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

	Whole School Attendance (excluding Nursery)	Highest class attendance!	Second place	Third place
Wb 9.12.24	94%	Nursery (100%)	Reception (99%)	Year 1 (94%)
Wb 16.12.24	95%	Reception (97%)	Year 3 (95%)	Year 4 (94%)

Did you know ...?

- 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 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.

If you would like to discuss this further, please get in touch (grant.short@clennelleducationsolutions.org).

MINUTES MISSED

During this fortnight, 2 hours 45 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. 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.

PUPIL ABSENCES

	Whole School absence <small>(excluding Nursery)</small>	Absence caused by holidays	Other absences
Wb 9.12.24	6%	1%	5%
Wb 16.12.24	5%	1.5%	3.5%

SECTION 2: 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	Staff
Demonstrating Love	Muhammad Jasleen	Molly Sanjhathi	Archie Marcel	Sacha Alistair	Sienna Rahaf	Georgie Harry	Miss Armstrong Mrs Armstrong
Demonstrating Determination	Amarleia Muhammad	Lola Josiah	Arthur Jacob	Maliha Benjamin	Harmony Phoebe	Thomas Albatool	Miss Cooper Mrs Lathan

TIMES TABLE 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.



The following children have engaged highly with TTRS in the past fortnight. Well done everyone!

	Children Need to Learn	Highest engagement this fortnight	Highest accuracy this fortnight
Year 2	x 2, x 5, x 10 (and corresponding division facts)	Musa Mika Lyla	Musa Mika Aadriti
Year 3	x 2, x 5, x 10, x 3, x 4, x 8 (and corresponding division facts)	Thanuja Max Co Max Cr	Thanuja Max Elvis
Year 4	All tables to 12 x 12 (and corresponding division facts)	Jerome Percy Daniel	Jerome Elias Percy

Current rank of ARFS among nearby schools	24	Mean studio speed (seconds per question)	4.4
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HANDWRITING HEROES

As a school, we continue to have a real drive 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:



Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Grace Aima	Ollie Zephy	Marwa Fatima	Hadin George F	Scarlett Jacob C

SECTION 3: SOCIAL ACTION



WORSHIP COUNCIL

Huge thanks to Mrs Palmer, Father Paul and our Worship Council for organising such a wonderful service to end the term. It is always a highlight of the school year and this year was no exception!

CHARITABLE GIVING

Thank you to all who took part in Christmas Jumper day and those who made a donation - we made £66 and had lots of very happy, festive children!



SECTION 4: SCHOOL NEWS!



OFSTED

As you know, we were inspected last week by Ofsted. Our staff and children worked really hard and shone! Thank you to everyone for the cards, prayers and messages of support – it is hugely appreciated! We will, of course, share the report with you as soon as we are able to.

E-SAFETY

GEM Education have published a really useful online safety video aimed at parents. It's only 5 minutes long and well worth a watch.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5hJeHQen6tM>



ADMISSIONS CONSULTATION

The Governing Body is consulting on changes to the admission arrangements for the academic year 2026/27. Governors have carefully considered the Admissions Policy to ensure it remains compliant with the Department for Education's School Admissions Code and is fair, clear

and objective in light of the changing context of the school. We would welcome feedback from all stakeholders. To respond to the consultation please email admin@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk, FAO Dr S Pickett (Chair of Governors). Thank you.

Further information can be found at https://archbishop-runcie.eschools.co.uk/web/admissions_consultation/702919

LUNCHTIME CLUBS

Next term, staff will be running lunchtime clubs for children in Reception – Year 4 every Monday, starting on Monday 13th January. Parents & carers will be able to sign up, via ParentMail, from Monday 6th January.



FOOTBALL

The missed football session with Lee Sterry will take place on 13th January and then a new course will restart on the 20th January for 5 weeks (Tuesday 21st Jan 2025 - Tuesday 18th Feb 2025, 3:30 - 4:30pm) for children in Years 3 & 4. Places can be booked at: <https://ls-sports-coaching.classforkids.io/term/173>

CHRISTMAS

Despite the power cut on Wednesday, Miss Cooper and her fabulous team served a fantastic Christmas Lunch yesterday. It was enjoyed by children, staff and governors. It is always a lovely event but felt especially special this year.



As you know, during our Family Day yesterday, children played in the “snow” in the courtyard. Sean Elliot (photographer) took pictures but, unfortunately, was not able to get the pictures printed for today, as planned. Pictures will, therefore, follow in the new year. Apologies for any disappointment caused.

This week has been a fabulous week at ARFS. We have enjoyed our much loved Carol Service this afternoon, children in Years 1 – 4 thoroughly enjoyed their visit to the panto and each class had a Christmas party to end the year with a bang. This time of year is a wonderful time to work in school and our children have been particularly gorgeous this week!

KINSHIP CARERS

Fawdon Community Centre are hosting a Kinship Carer Coffee morning to support those with caring responsibilities. Please see information below.

Kinship Carer Coffee Morning
Second Wednesday of the month
10am-11.30am
Fawdon Children's Centre, Cairns Way, Newcastle. NE3 2SN
Meet other Kinship Carers, develop support networks and make new friends
Plus support for Kinship Carers from Newcastle City Council's Family & Friends/SGO Team
Refreshments are provided free
fosteringcommunication@newcastle.gov.uk for more information
Newcastle City Council

Forthcoming Dates
Wednesday 8th January
Wednesday 12th February
Wednesday 12th March
Wednesday 9th April
Carers with pre-school children are welcome to bring them along. Toddler toys, sensory area and baby changing facilities available.
On street parking, level access building and disabled WC.
Fawdon Children's Centre is 10-15 minute walk from Fawdon Metro. Stagecoach No 7 & 30 buses (drop near Fawdon Metro). Stagecoach No 6 & 35 drop off Fawdon Lane, (5 minute walk).

CHURCH LINKS

Huge thanks to Father Paul for hosting our Carol Service this afternoon. The clergy from both churches continue to lead worship in school each week and we are hugely grateful for their support.





COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Worship over the last two weeks has centred around the season of Advent. We have reflected on how we can prepare for the festival of Christmas and children and staff have thought about giving gifts of peace, hope, joy and love.

CAKE SALE

Nursery & Reception will be hosting their class cake sale, after school, on Thursday 24th January. All donations must have ingredients clearly labelled, please. Please remember to bring cash when you collect children at 3:15pm if you wish to make a purchase. Thank you.



NURSERY – JANUARY INTAKE

A reminder for all parents/carers of children who have just turned 3 years old – we have a January and an April intake for Nursery children who have just turned 3.

This means they will benefit from a longer period of Nursery provision (the remainder of this school year and all of next school year) before moving to Reception. The educational and social benefits of this are huge and we have some real success stories in our school. If you have any questions or are interested in applying for a place, please contact Mrs Coates. Thank you!

SAFEGUARDING

Mrs Massey, Mrs Francis and Mrs Ellwood are our school's Designated Safeguarding Leaders (DSL). 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:

- 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

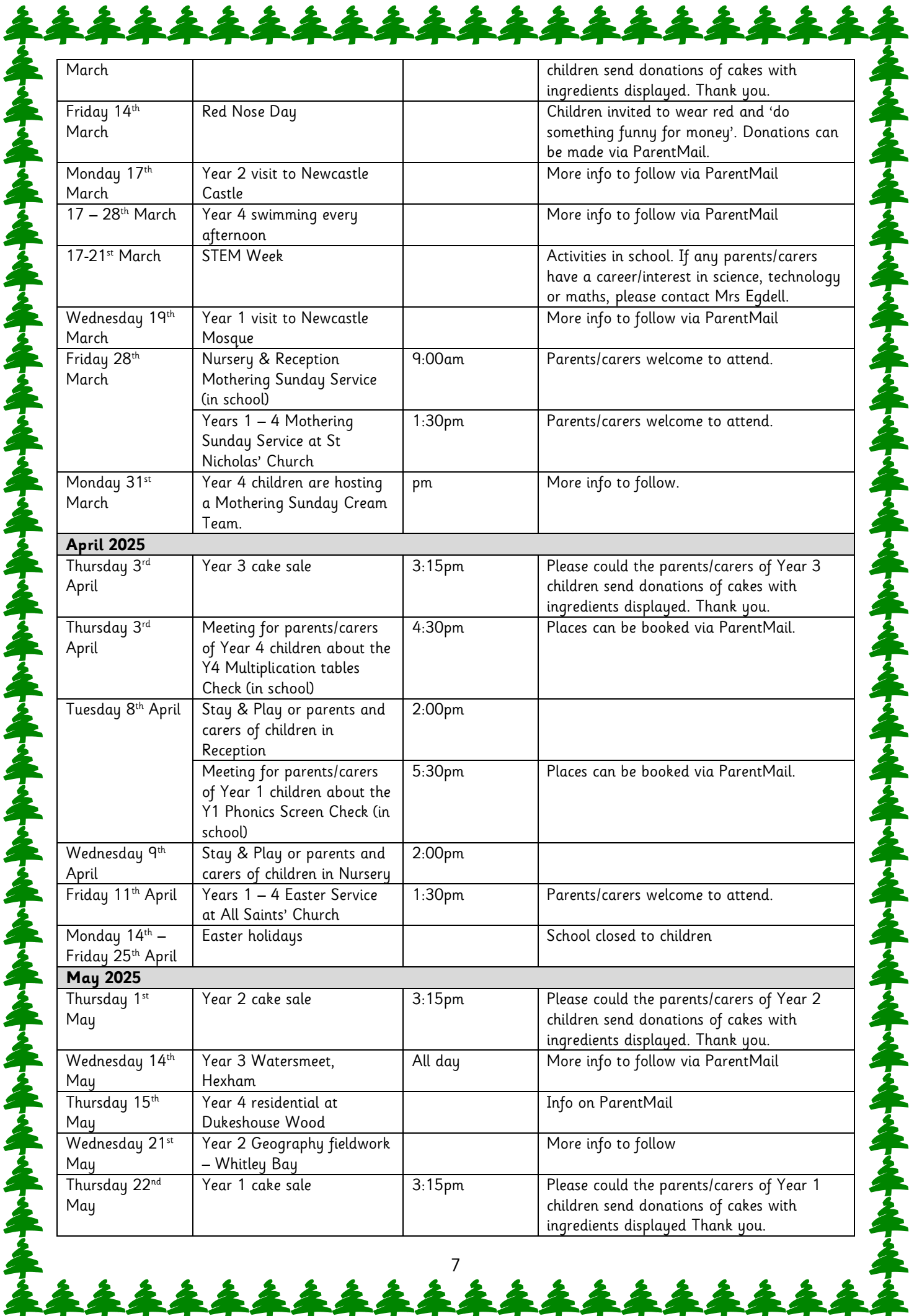




DIARY DATES

New dates are in red, for your information

January 2025			
Monday 6 th January	School reopens	8:35am	
Wednesday 8 th January	Phonics & early reading session for parents & carers of children in Reception	5:30pm	Please see ParentMail
Thursday 9 th January 2025	Prospective parents tour (for Nursery/Reception Sept 2025)	5:30pm	Please book a place at the school office
Wednesday 15 th January	Deadline for Reception applications to Newcastle City Council	Noon	
	Gosforth Voices	3:45pm-4:45pm	
Tuesday 21 st January	Year 4 visit to El Torero	Lunchtime	More info to follow via ParentMail
Tuesday 22 nd January	Gosforth Band	3:45pm-4:45pm	
Thursday 24 th January	Nursery & Reception cake sale	3:15pm	Please could the parents/carers of Year 4 children send donations of cakes with ingredients displayed. Thank you.
Monday 24 th February – Friday 28 th February	February half term holiday		School closed to children
February 2025			
Friday 7 th February	Family Bingo Night	7:00pm.	All welcome. More info to follow from the PTFA.
Friday 21 st February	Staff training day	All day	School closed to children
Tuesday 11 th February	Year 1 walking tour of Gosforth	pm	More info to follow via ParentMail
	Internet safety day		Activities in school
Thursday 13 th February	Film Night	3:15pm	More info will follow from the PTFA
Friday 14 th February	Love is... worship led by Year 1	9:00am	Parents/carers welcome to attend
Friday 28 th February	Deadline for Nursery applications for April intake		
March 2025			
Thursday 6 th March	Years 3 & 4 Magic Flute at The Theatre Royal		More info to follow via ParentMail
	World Book Day		Children invited to come to school dressed as a character from a book, if they wish.
Friday 7 th March	Year 4 Bikeability	am or pm session	More info to follow
Thursday 13 th	Year 4 cake sale	3:15pm	Please could the parents/carers of Year 4



March			children send donations of cakes with ingredients displayed. Thank you.
Friday 14 th March	Red Nose Day		Children invited to wear red and 'do something funny for money'. Donations can be made via ParentMail.
Monday 17 th March	Year 2 visit to Newcastle Castle		More info to follow via ParentMail
17 – 28 th March	Year 4 swimming every afternoon		More info to follow via ParentMail
17-21 st March	STEM Week		Activities in school. If any parents/carers have a career/interest in science, technology or maths, please contact Mrs Egdell.
Wednesday 19 th March	Year 1 visit to Newcastle Mosque		More info to follow via ParentMail
Friday 28 th March	Nursery & Reception Mothering Sunday Service (in school)	9:00am	Parents/carers welcome to attend.
	Years 1 – 4 Mothering Sunday Service at St Nicholas' Church	1:30pm	Parents/carers welcome to attend.
Monday 31 st March	Year 4 children are hosting a Mothering Sunday Cream Team.	pm	More info to follow.
April 2025			
Thursday 3 rd April	Year 3 cake sale	3:15pm	Please could the parents/carers of Year 3 children send donations of cakes with ingredients displayed. Thank you.
Thursday 3 rd April	Meeting for parents/carers of Year 4 children about the Y4 Multiplication tables Check (in school)	4:30pm	Places can be booked via ParentMail.
Tuesday 8 th April	Stay & Play or parents and carers of children in Reception	2:00pm	
	Meeting for parents/carers of Year 1 children about the Y1 Phonics Screen Check (in school)	5:30pm	Places can be booked via ParentMail.
Wednesday 9 th April	Stay & Play or parents and carers of children in Nursery	2:00pm	
Friday 11 th April	Years 1 – 4 Easter Service at All Saints' Church	1:30pm	Parents/carers welcome to attend.
Monday 14 th – Friday 25 th April	Easter holidays		School closed to children
May 2025			
Thursday 1 st May	Year 2 cake sale	3:15pm	Please could the parents/carers of Year 2 children send donations of cakes with ingredients displayed. Thank you.
Wednesday 14 th May	Year 3 Watersmeet, Hexham	All day	More info to follow via ParentMail
Thursday 15 th May	Year 4 residential at Dukeshouse Wood		Info on ParentMail
Wednesday 21 st May	Year 2 Geography fieldwork – Whitley Bay		More info to follow
Thursday 22 nd May	Year 1 cake sale	3:15pm	Please could the parents/carers of Year 1 children send donations of cakes with ingredients displayed Thank you.

Friday 23 rd May	GST Daft as a Brush Day		Children invited to wear something “daft” and make a donation via ParentMail.
Monday 26 th – Friday 30 th May	Half term holiday		School closed to children
June 2025			
Monday 2 nd June	Staff training day	All day	School closed to children
Friday 6 th June	Pentecost Service		Parents/carers welcome to attend.
Wb 9 th June	Year 1 Phonics Screen Check statutory assessment		Places can be booked via ParentMail
Wb 16 th June	School Sports Week		If any parents/carers have any connections to sports coaches/providers, please let Mrs Francis know.
Tuesday 17 th June	Year 4 Leavers Service at Newcastle Cathedral	am	More info to follow via ParentMail
Thursday 19 th June	Reception class cake sale	3:15pm	Please could the parents/carers of Reception children send donations of cakes with ingredients displayed? Thank you.
Friday 20 th June	Big Gig		More info to follow
Monday 23 rd June	Year 2 visit to Grace Darling Museum	All day	More info to follow
Thursday 26 th June	Year 3 sleepover at school	All day	More info to follow
30 th June – 11 th July	Year 3 swimming every afternoon		More info to follow
July 2024			
Tuesday 8 th July	Year 4 visit to Vindolanda & Roman Army Museum		More info to follow via ParentMail
Thursday 10 th July	Nursery class cake sale	3:15pm	Please could the parents/carers of Nursery children send donations of cakes with ingredients displayed Thank you.
Tuesday 15 th July	Whole school trip to Tynemouth	All day	More info to follow via ParentMail
Friday 18 th July	Year 4 Leavers' Service (at school)	9:15am	Please save the date
Monday 21 st July – Friday 29 th August	Summer holiday		School closed to children

Be courageous; be strong.

Do everything in love.

1 Corinthians 16:13-14

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

NURSERY 30 HOUR PLACES

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 – '50xxxxxxx'
- 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**

HEALTHIER TOGETHER

The Healthier Together website (<https://www.nenc-healthiertogether.nhs.uk>) provides accurate and trusted healthcare advice for parents/carers, young people and professionals in the North East and North Cumbria. You can find parental advice on illnesses, allergies, vaccines, child development as well as many other topics. You can also download the Healthier Together app.

The Healthier Together website also includes the Little Orange Book which provides advice for babies and children when they are poorly.



WRAPAROUND BOOKINGS

Bookings for Wraparound Care are managed by Child Care Bookings for Schools. This will make managing and making bookings far easier for parents and carers. You can still 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



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>



ARE YOU ELIGIBLE?

PUPIL PREMIUM FUNDING

The school is given £1480 Pupil Premium funding, per eligible child, in order to further strengthen our offer to families. We do this by ensuring these children get additional support in school and by funding events (such as educational visits and other activities) to ensure all children in school have access to equal opportunities.

We would encourage all families to check their eligibility for this funding

https://www.newcastlelea.org/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en

If you are unsure or need help, please see Ms Lowe.



UNIFORM LIBRARY & EXCHANGE

We have a pre-loved “Uniform Library” in the main entrance for anyone who needs to borrow, exchange or replace any uniform items. This is not only to help cut costs to families but also aims to have a positive environmental impact by reducing waste and pollution caused by textiles. Please come along and help yourselves. Cash donations can be made to the PTFA at the school office. Thank you.

Donations of outgrown uniform can also be made at the school office. Please ensure items are clean and name labels are removed. Thank you!



UNIFORM
RECYCLING

