



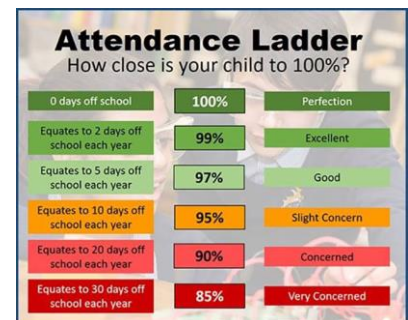
July 2024

Newsletter 19 – 5.7.24

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.
- National data shows us that children not meeting the expected standard in reading, writing and maths had an overall absence rate of 4.7% (so their overall attendance was 95.3%).
- The overall absence rate of children not meeting the expected standard was higher than among those meeting the higher standard (4.7% compared to 2.7%).
- For the most vulnerable pupils, regular attendance is also an important protective factor and the best opportunity for needs to be identified and support provided.
- Research has shown there are clear links between regular absence from school and harm for children (90% of young offenders have been persistently absent as young children) and serious violence (83% of knife possession offenders had been persistently absent for at least one year).



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

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

| | Whole School Attendance <small>(excluding Nursery)</small> | Highest class attendance! | Second place | Third place |
|-------------------|---|---------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Wb 24.6.24 | 97% | Reception (98%) | Year 2 (97.5%) | Year 3 (97%) |
| Wb 1.7.24 | 96% | Reception (98%) | Year 2 (97%) | Year 1 (96%) |

Our school target for attendance is 97%.



Please let Mrs Coates know, via ParentMail, if your child will be absent by 9:00am at the latest. Thank you.

If your child is not in school when the register closes at 9.15am (even if this is for a medical or dental appointment), they are marked as absent for the whole morning

session. Therefore, we would encourage parents to make medical appointments outside school time, wherever possible please. Thank you.

If you are experiencing any difficulties and need support with your child's attendance, please contact school as soon as possible. Mrs Gurkin can visit you at home or meet you in school to offer support and advice.

We will now be taking appropriate legal action for children who are deemed persistent absentees (under 90% attendance). Please see the attendance policy on our school website for further information.



MINUTES MISSED

During this fortnight, 270 (4 hours and 30 minutes) minutes of learning time have been missed in school due to lateness. Please try to arrive on time at school, between 8:35am – 8:45am. Thank you.

PUPIL ABSENCES

| | Whole School absence <small>(excluding Nursery)</small> | Absence caused by holidays | Other absences |
|------------|--|----------------------------|----------------|
| Wb 24.6.24 | 3% | 0.5% | 2.5% |
| Wb 1.7.24 | 4% | 1% | 3% |

As you know, there is no entitlement in law to time off in term time. Children who are absent from school fall behind in their learning, they miss school events and many find it difficult to catch up. In addition, school staff have to divert their attention away from other children in order to support those that have fallen behind due to a holiday related absence.

As you may already be aware, there is a new Attendance Policy due to come into effect in September. We will, of course, share this with you in due course but, in summary:

- Parent Contracts will be replaced with Attendance Contracts
- Monitoring letters will be replaced with Notice to Improve letters
- There will be new register codes (all holidays will be unauthorised)
- There will be a stepped approach to Fixed Penalty Notices (1st offence - £160, reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days, 2nd offence - with no reduction for early repayment, 3rd offence – referral to court) over a 3 year period.

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 member(s) |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Demonstrating Love | Marnie Amyah | Haniya Ani | Fatima Aadriti | Isaac Elli | Thomas Esme | Lauren Alfie | Mr Hamlen Mrs Ellwood |
| Demonstrating Determination | Christopher Lola | Mehr Yashika | Benji Musa | Max Cr Rio | Leo Theo | Zain Mabel | Mrs Conner Mrs Nelms |

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 |
|-----------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Jacob Arthur | Cai Benji | Indi Eva | Theo Razan | Nolan Darcey |

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 either earned a new TTRS title or engaged highly with TTRS during the last fortnight. Well done everyone!

| | Children Need to Learn | Highest accuracy this fortnight | Highest engagement this fortnight | Average Daily Minutes this fortnight |
|---|---|---------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Year 1 | x 2, x 5, x 10 (and corresponding division facts) | Benjamin D Mika Ryan | Ryan Franco Alistair | 7 |
| Year 2 | x 2, x 5, x 10, x 3, x 4 (and corresponding division facts) | Thanuja Elvis Mabel | Thanuja Max Elvis | 3 |
| Year 3 | x 2, x 5, x 10, x 3, x 4, x 6, x 8 (and corresponding division facts) | Evelyn Jacob Theo | Evelyn Rosa Aialah | 1 |
| Year 4 | All tables to 12 x 12 (and corresponding division facts) | Zidan Alfie Cheuk Yin | Zidan Evie Lauren | 1 |
| Current rank of ARFS among nearby schools | | 12 | Mean studio speed (seconds per question) | 3.8 |

SECTION 3: AGENTS OF CHANGE



SCHOOL COUNCIL

Current School Council representatives held a meeting to discuss the highlights of their year so far. They then fed this back to their classes in readiness for the upcoming election (which took place on Thursday). Each class took to the polls to elect their new School Council members for 2024 - 25.

SECTION 4: SCHOOL NEWS!

PTFA

The summer fair was, unfortunately, rained off for a second time. The PTFA did, however, manage to run the tombola which raised an amazing £151. Huge thanks for all the kind donations!



The PTFA have kindly made a donation towards the cost of the coaches for the whole school beach trip, reducing the cost to parents. We are so grateful!

CHURCH LINKS

Year 4 parents and carers will already be aware that, on Thursday 11th July, Year 4 children from several schools are invited to attend a Leavers Party at All Saints'. For those who have permission, we will leave children at church straight after the music concert. They will not return to school.



Please could all parents and carers of children in Years 1 – 4 complete the ParentMail form to let us know if you intend to collect from church or if you would like your child to return to school for usual collection arrangements. Thank you.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Last week, we reflected on protected characteristics as well as staying physically and mentally healthy. It was interesting to think about the overlap between the two.



We have also thought about transition and how to cope with changes; asking God for courage when we need it. Children have responded really thoughtfully and have spoken about their mixed feelings about moving schools or classes and other changes in their lives. Of course, we could not have missed the opportunity to discuss the election and democracy!

NON-UNIFORM EVENTS

Over the course of the last few weeks, children have worn their home clothes to school for various events. Could I politely request that clothing worn for school is modest and age appropriate (e.g. shorts and skirts are an appropriate length, shoes are flat with a closed toe and are appropriate for outdoor play/PE and clothing covers children's tummies). A sensible rule to go by is that we should not be able to see up it, down it or through it, please! Although we talk to children about why we are wearing non-uniform on these themed days, the majority of the school day is usual timetabled activities and therefore children need to be dressed appropriately. Thank you for your understanding and support in this matter.



YEAR 3 SLEEPOVER

The Year 3 children had a wonderful two-day event in school, last week. I'm sure you spotted the huge inflatable obstacle course, archery targets and water fight (amongst other things!) that were set up on the school field! Huge thanks to the staff who stayed late, arrived early or slept over in order to make this possible for our children. The Year 3 children were amazing and showed determination in the face of new challenges whilst having lots of fun! It really was a fabulous event.

TRANSITION

Hopefully your child has come home excited about their visit to their new class (or school) this week. Children have spent 2 days with their new teacher, in their new classroom and trying out their new routines. They all rose spectacularly to the challenge!



Meet the teachers meetings are happening, after school, for parents of children who are currently in Reception – Year 3 over the last couple of weeks. This will be an opportunity for you to meet your child's new teacher, see the classroom and hear a little bit about what will be happening next year. If you have not already signed up, please do so via ParentMail. Thank you.

WHOLE SCHOOL BEACH DAY

As part of our end of year celebrations, on Tuesday 16th July, all children in school are going to Tynemouth Beach. We will travel on coaches and, once at the beach, spend the day playing and paddling! Please keep your fingers crossed for sunshine!

Children are invited to come to school in swimwear (so that they do not need to change on the beach) covered with a hoodie and shorts. They should each bring a small backpack containing:

- a named towel
- a named change of clothes
- a named packed lunch - we can provide these for children who usually have a school lunch (please indicate this on ParentMail).
- a named bucket and spade



If children have dry robes these would also be ideal!

Children must all have long lasting sun cream applied before arriving at school and appropriate (named!) clothing for the weather e.g. coats if cold, sunhat if warm.

All staff will be going to the beach too (along with some regular helpers in school) so children will be well supervised. We will have a designated area in which to play on the sand and, if they wish, children will be able to paddle (to ankle depth) in small groups. We have asked children to arrive already in swimwear (under their clothes) so that they only need to get fully changed at the end of the day. Swimwear dries quicker than clothing so, if children get wet, they will not be uncomfortable.

We are really excited to be able to offer your children this opportunity and hope it will be day to remember (it may even become an annual event!).

UNIFORM UPDATE

From September, only children in Years 2, 3 and 4 will wear the navy PE uniform. Children in Year 1 will still come to school in PE kit, but this will consist of the usual yellow polo shirt and blue school jumper rather than the navy hoodie along with navy joggers or royal blue shorts. Eventually, the aim is to phase out the navy PE kit in order to reduce costs to parents by only requiring one uniform for the full week.

Additionally, a reminder that children should wear **black school shoes** or trainers. Please do not send children in multi-coloured footwear or sandals/flip-flops. Thank you.

Similarly, for forest school, children will continue to wear yellow polo shirt and blue school jumper rather than the navy hoodie along with navy joggers and bring named wellies in a bag (not to wear all day).



Please remember that we have a pre-loved uniform library in the main entrance for anyone who would like to buy/swap/borrow items.



INCOME BASED FREE SCHOOL MEALS

We can confirm that the LA can fund vouchers this coming summer holiday at £15 per week for eligible pupils. This includes those who are leaving our school and it includes those that may be attending the Holiday Activity Fund programme. This does not include pupils who are due to start our school in September. Mrs Lowe will issue theses in due course.



MUSIC DEVELOPMENT

We are delighted that so many children in Years 3 & 4, in September 2024, would like to take up guitar and violin lessons. This information has been passed on to the Music Service who will arrange lessons. For further information, please see the email sent last week. Thank you.



DIARY DATES

New dates are in red, for your information

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|---------------|--|
| Monday 8 th July | Forest School for Nursery & Reception | pm | Children need to wear usual uniform top with joggers and bring named wellies to change into please. Please dress for the weather (waterproofs or suncream and sunhats!). Children must wear long sleeved/legged clothing please. |
| | <i>Year 4 must come to school in normal uniform please (not leavers hoodies, no joggers or trainers)</i> | | |
| | Year 3 visit to Waters Meet (Hexham, Northumberland) | All day | Please complete the form on ParentMail. |
| | Drop in opportunity for parents/carers to discuss any queries about end of year reports with class teachers (current Nursery – Year 2) | 3:30-5:00pm | No appointments – just turn up if you would like to discuss anything in the report |
| Tuesday 9 th July | Gosforth Library visiting to launch the summer reading challenge | am | |
| | Current Year 2 (Year 3 in September) Meet the teacher meeting with Mr Hamlen | 5:00pm | Please sign up to come along or join remotely via ParentMail |
| <i>Wednesday 10th July</i> | <i>Current Year 3 (Year 4 in September) meet the teacher meeting with Mrs Ellwood</i> | <i>5:00pm</i> | <i>Please sign up to come along or join remotely via ParentMail</i> |
| Thursday 11 th July | Music Concert at All Saints' Church (Years 1 – 4) | 1:45pm | More info to follow. <i>Please complete the collection form on ParentMail.</i> |
| | Year 4 Leavers' Party at All Saints' | 3:30pm | Invitation and consent form to follow from All Saints' |
| Monday 15 th July | EBSNA parent workshop | 2:45-3:15pm | Please book via ParentMail |
| | Current Year 1 (Year 2 in September) meet the teacher meeting with Miss Richardson | 5:00pm | Please sign up to come along or join remotely via ParentMail |
| | Current Reception (Year 1 in September) meet the teacher meeting with Miss Bowers | 5:00pm | Please sign up to come along or join remotely via ParentMail |
| | Drop in opportunity for parents/carers to discuss any queries about end of year reports with class | 3:30-5:00pm | No appointments – just turn up if you would like to discuss anything in the report |

| | | | |
|---|--|---------|--|
| | teachers (current Years 3 & 4) | | |
| Tuesday 16 th July | Whole school visit to Tynemouth beach | All day | Please complete ParentMail form |
| Thursday 18 th July | ARFS has talent celebration | am | If your child has won a badge, award or trophy in one of their out of school activities since Easter, they can bring it into school so we can celebrate their achievements. We would love anyone who plays an instrument to perform! |
| Friday 19 th July | Year 4 Leavers Service | 9:15am | Parent and carers invited to attend |
| 22.7.24 – 30.8.24 | Summer Holidays | | School closed to children |
| September 2024 | | | |
| Monday 2 nd September | Staff training day | | School closed to children |
| Tuesday 3 rd September 2024 | School re-opens to children | | |
| Wednesday 4 th September | RWI meeting for parents and carers of Reception children | 5:30pm | Please book places via ParentMail |
| Thursday 5 th September | RWI meeting for parents and carers of Year 1 children | 5:30pm | Please book places via ParentMail |
| Friday 6 th September | Parents/carers of Reception children invited for lunch | 12:30pm | Please book via ParentMail |
| Thursday 26 th September | Archery competition at Dinnington First School (selected children only) | | More info to follow |
| October 2024 | | | |
| Friday 25 th October | Staff training day | | School closed to children |
| Monday 28 th October – Friday 1 st November | October half term | | School closed to children |
| November 2024 | | | |
| Friday 15 th November | Adults only quiz night TBC | | More info to follow |
| December 2024 | | | |
| Wednesday 11 th December | Nursery & Rec Nativity (am) Years 3 & Year 4 Nativity (pm) Years 1 & Year 2 Nativity (evening) | TBC | |
| Thursday 12 th December | Years 1 & Year 2 Nativity (am) Nursery & Rec Nativity (pm) Years 3 & Year 4 Nativity (evening) | TBC | |
| Friday 13 th December | Years 3 & Year 4 Nativity (am) Years 1 & Year 2 Nativity (pm) | TBC | |
| Monday 16 th December | Years 3 & 4 Christmas party | pm | |
| Tuesday 17 th December | Years 3 & 4 Panto | am | |
| | Years 1 & 2 Christmas | pm | |

| | | | |
|--|--|----------|--|
| | party | | |
| Wednesday 18 th December | Years 1 & 2 Panto Nursery & Reception party | am pm | |
| Thursday 19 th December | Family Day (including Christmas lunch) | All day | |
| Friday 20 th December | Carol Service at St Nicholas' Church | pm | |

Be courageous; be strong.






Do everything in love.

1 Corinthians 16:13-14

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

NURSERY 30 HOUR PLACES

Childcare Choices Applying for 30 hours free childcare through the childcare service

-  Apply through the childcare service: <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/> You will need to confirm your identity.
-  If successful you will receive an eligibility code – '50xxxxxxxx'
-  Take this code to your childcare provider with your NI number, child's date of birth and complete a Parent Declaration form.
-  Your childcare provider checks the code is valid – and if valid - confirms when you can start and reminds you to **reconfirm – every 3 months**
-  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>



SEND PARENT 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.



PUPIL PREMIUM FUNDING

The school is given £1480 per 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 Mrs Lowe.



UNIFORM LIBRARY & EXCHANGE

We now 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 for families but we are also aiming 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!

