



May 2023

Newsletter 16 – 19.5.23



SECTION 1: 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
Demonstrating Love	Grace Ziyad	Musa Jonah	Samuel Millie	Nialah Danny Lydia	Emma Max	Edward Maddison
Demonstrating Determination	Ollie Nyah	Rohan Benji	Mabel Rebecca	Thomas Georgie	Esther Bobby	Kiran Thaddeus

HANDWRITER OF THE WEEK

We are having a real drive in school 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:



a b c d e f g
h i j k l m n
o p q r s t u
v w x y z

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Jonah	Isaac	Thomas	Karlo	Layla
Rohan	Maxwell	Razan	Nolan	Wasan

TIMES TABLE ROCKSTARS

As you know, by the end of Year 4 children are expected to know all their multiplication tables up to 12 x 12 and Year 4 children will 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 over the last fortnight. Well done everyone!

	Children Need to Learn	New Rock Stars, Heroes and Legends in this class	Highest engagement this fortnight
Year 2	x 2, x 5, x 10	Lydia, Daniel	Theo, Harry, Joshua,
Year 3	x 2, x 5, x 10, x 3, x 4, x 8	Amelia, Bobby, Charlie	Alfie, Finley, Evie
Year 4	All tables to 12 x 12	Rose, Mustafa, Thomas, Maddison	Edward, Charlotte, Nancy

Current rank of ARFS among nearby schools	18th	Mean studio speed (seconds per question)	4.08
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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 had an overall absence rate of 4.7% (so 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, associations 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 (excluding Nursery)	Highest class attendance!	Second place	Third place
Wb 8.5.23	97%	Year 1 (99%)	Year 2 (97.1%)	Year 3 (97%)
Wb 15.5.23	95%	Year 3 (98.2%)	Year 2 (98%)	Nursery (97%)

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. Mr Tolan 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.



ATTENDANCE REWARDS

A reminder that, each week, the class with the highest attendance earns an extra playtime and individuals with 100% attendance will have their names added to a weekly hot chocolate draw.



MINUTES MISSED

During the last fortnight, 180 (3 hours) 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 (excluding Nurses)	Absence caused by holidays	Other absences
Wb 8.5.23	3%	2%	1%
Wb 15.5.23	5%	3%	2%

SECTION 2: SOCIAL ACTION

SCHOOL COUNCIL

The School Council have been working with Miss Nattress and Miss Witherspoon to improve our playground. We have moved the stage and created a performance area, Mrs Crozier is busy setting up a reading shed and Mr Hunter is busy building a mud kitchen for children to use at playtimes. If anyone has any old tyres (without snag hazards), old costumes for performing, outdoor/garden games or metal construction vehicles (dumpers/diggers etc) that they are able to donate, the School Council would be so grateful to receive them. Thank you.



Because the shelter is now being developed as a reading shed, it will be closed before and after school.

GREEN TEAM

We have a newly established "Green Team" in school who will be helping Mr Hunter and me improve our school environment and the local area by undertaking a range of duties, this will include litter picking, planting and encouraging their peers to reduce single use plastic in school.



LIBRARY CHAMPIONS

Thank you to the Library Champions for helping keep on top of book boxes and helping make our library look fantastic. They have helped Mrs Crozier with displays, ordering of new books and further development of classroom library areas.

CHARITABLE GIVING DAFT DAY



Each year, we host a "Daft Day" for our GST charities, Daft as a Brush and Café Beam. This year, we will hold Daft Day on Friday 9th June. Children are invited to wear something "daft" for a donation towards these two amazing charities. This might be a daft hairstyle or daft clothes. Donations can be made via ParentMail.



SECTION 3: SCHOOL NEWS!

TRANSITION PLANS

Each class will spend Wednesday 5th and Thursday 6th July in their new classroom with their new teacher. Dates will also be set, for June/July, for parents and carers to meet new class teachers before the end of the academic year. Please save the date!

Nursery	5:30pm Wednesday 14 th June
Reception	5:30pm Thursday 15 th June
Year 1	5:30pm Wed 5 th July
Year 2	5:30pm Wed 21 st June
Year 3	5:30pm Thursday 29 th June
Year 4	5:30pm Tuesday 4 th July

CHURCH LINKS

All Saints' held an "All Saints has talent" day as part of their coronation celebrations. The choir sang, the Taekwondo fought and many others showed their skills!

All Saints' continue to offer an After School Drop in every Tuesday 3:30-5:00pm led by Jaddai (Youth Worker). Please do go along!

St Nicholas' Church are holding a Lunch Club at Gosforth Palace (the Chinese Restaurant on Salters Road) at 12.30 on Sunday 21st May 2023. Lunch club is open to all, including anyone who is unable to attend church regularly. The menu is £10 (2 courses) or £12 (3 courses) or £8 for children. Please indicate your choice by completing the form attached and return *as soon as possible* either by email to gill1mitchell@hotmail.com or give to a churchwarden (or Gill) on Sunday.

If you are not able to print the form, please just email your choices and Gill will complete an order form for you. Gill has requested that one form is completed by each person attending please. Thank you.



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

In Collective Worship, we have been thinking about taking care of our neighbours, linked to Christian Aid Week. Year 1 spoke to us, on Monday, about parables Jesus told to help us understand how to care for others as well as modern day examples of how we can do this too.

Year 4 led Ascension Day Worship on Thursday. They likened Jesus' instructions to his disciples to a football coach, always sitting on the sidelines.

We will be holding a Pentecost Service at St Nicholas' on Thursday 25th May. If you have not done so already, please complete the ParentMail form to indicate whether you will be collecting your Reception – Year 4 child from St Nicholas' Church at 2:15pm on Thursday 25th May. Nursery children are welcome to attend if they are collected by a parent/carer from school at 1:00pm and accompanied to church.

PTFA



The PTFA Summer Social will take place, after school, on Friday 14th July 2023. Please save the date!

The following Class Reps would be interested to hear from you if you have any suggestions of activities for our children or families.

Class Reps	
Nursery	VACANCY
Reception	Lizzie
Year 1	Sally & Sarah
Year 2	Angela & Sarah
Year 3	Helen
Year 4	Lizzie

There will also be class cake sale after school on the dates below. On their selected date, we would be grateful if children in the class could bring a clearly labelled donation of cakes to sell (please provide a full list of ingredients). These will be available for parents/carers to buy after school (with cash!) on the day. Children will not be buying them during the day so there is no need for children to bring money to school.

Cake Sales	
Nursery	9.6.23
Reception	16.6.23
Year 1	23.6.23
Year 2	30.6.23
Year 3	7.7.23
Year 4	14.7.23

Due to food allergies in school, all cakes will need to have ingredient and allergen information provided on the label please. Please do not use ingredients that include nuts. Parents/Carers buying cakes after school will be responsible for checking ingredients are suitable for their child. Thank you for your understanding.



CLASS VISITS & VISITORS



Educational Visits

Reception had a fabulous visitor from Newcastle Mosque. They learned about some important Muslim traditions and about the Mosque as a place of worship.

Year 3 took part in a "Big Ideas" webinar with Chemistry4Change. They listened to some really inspiring speakers and asked lots of questions. Please see Twitter for pictures!

Year 4 had a fantastic time at Dukeshouse Woods, near Hexham, on their residential. Miss Nattress, Miss Halliday, Mrs Norman and I were so impressed by their resilience and determination. I'm also really proud that we received such positive feedback about our children from the Dukeshouse Wood staff who complimented our children on their behaviour, attitudes and manners!

Year 3 Tyne Waters' Meet visit was, sadly, cancelled due to insufficient contributions towards the costs. I have been asked by parents, going forward, to have the option of contributing a more flexible amount (so either a partial donation towards the cost or an overpayment to help support another family). Mrs Coates will action this on all future visit/visitor contributions. We are really grateful for the generosity and care of others in our school community that parents and carers have shown. Thank you.

LUNCHTIME CLUBS – SUMMER 2

Club	Day <small>(may change due to staff commitments)</small>	For children in	Run by
Choir	Wednesday	Y1 – Y4	Miss Bowers
Library Champions	Thursday	Y3 & Y4	Mrs Crozier
Football Club*	Thursday	Y3 & Y4	Lee Sterry
Green Team	Monday	Selected children Year 1 – Year 4	Mr Hunter
School Council	Meet once a month	Selected children Year 1 – Year 4	Miss Nattress
Worship Council	Meet once a month	Selected children Year 1 – Year 4	Mrs Massey

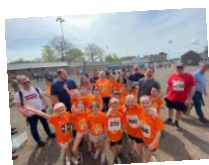


*Football Club is open to all children in Years 3 and 4 to train together, however, Lee Sterry will select specific children to take part in competitions as they occur. Children should wear uniform for school and bring football kit to change into at lunchtime please. Children selected to take part in competitions will need shin pads and football boots.



CHILDREN'S CANCER RUN

We had a fabulous turn out on Sunday with 80 children, family members and staff registered to run as part of our school. It was a wonderful sunny morning and a really lovely occasion. Thank you to all those who were able to come along to take part or support!



Nursery	Monday
Reception	Monday
Year 1	Friday
Year 2	Friday
Year 3	Tuesday
Year 4	Thursday

PE DAYS- SUMMER TERM 2

Please remember that children should only wear their school PE kits on the days they have PE. This comprises navy hoodie/jumper and tracksuit bottoms and/or royal blue shorts with a yellow t-shirt and running shoes that children can fasten themselves. Please do not wear own clothes for PE. Thank you.

NEMCo MUSIC TUITION

Thank you to the parents and carers of children in Years 2 & 3 who completed the questionnaire about after school music tuition. There was not enough interest in violin lessons but guitar was a popular option. We are now awaiting prices and booking instructions from NEMCo and will let you know the next step.



FOREST SCHOOL

At Forest School, each child will be planting a sunflower, which they will bring home to grow. We would love to see pictures and updates, on Twitter, of how your sunflower is growing. Mrs Francis is keen to see who can grow the tallest sunflower. Good luck!

PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE

Mrs Coates will be sending out a short parent questionnaire about why our families chose our school and what, so far, you have found to be our strengths and areas to further develop as a school. Please take 5 minutes to complete this before the deadline of Friday 9th June. Thank you!



FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Supermarket vouchers, for those in receipt of free school meals, are scheduled to be sent via email on 26th May 2023. If you think you should be receiving these vouchers, please contact the school office.

SAFEGUARDING

Mrs Massey and Mrs Francis are our school's Designated Safeguarding Leaders (DSL). 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 – 0800 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





MAY HALF TERM
TUE 30TH MAY 2023 - FRI
2ND JUNE 2023

Gosforth Academy
 Football & Multi-sports
 Tuesday-Friday
 10:00am - 3:00pm £55

Gosforth Academy
 Wrap Around football & Multi sports
 Tuesday-Friday
 8:30am - 4:30pm £90

Full days, half days and early drop offs available



#LEESTERRYSPORTS



#LEESTERRYSPORTS

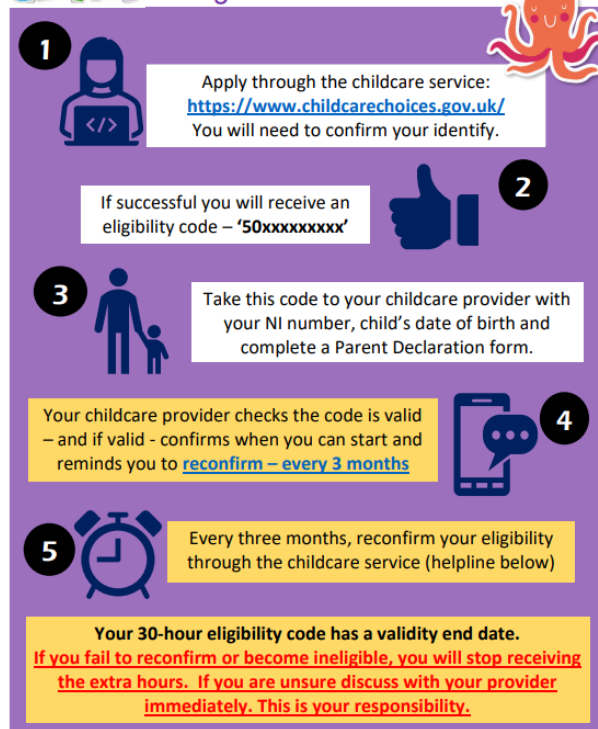


#LEESTERRYSPORTS

For more information
 Phone 07729058119
 Email: coaching@ls-sc.co.uk
 Website www.ls-sc.co.uk



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**



Be courageous; be strong.
Do everything in love.
1 Corinthians 16:13-14

DIARY DATES

New dates are in red, for your information

Tuesday 23 rd May	Year 1 Mosque visit	am	Please see ParentMail
	Year 4 Forest School	pm	Children must wear long sleeved tops and trousers. We will be outdoors regardless of the weather so please send clearly named wellies, waterproofs, hats and gloves (and possibly a named change of clothes!) £1 donations can be made via ParentMail
	Year 2 Forest School	am	
Wednesday 24 th May	Nursery & Reception Forest School	am	
	Year 3 Forest School	pm	
	Big Gig Rehearsal for relevant choir members	3:15-4:15pm	Please see ParentMail
Thursday 25 th May	Year 3 leading Pentecost Worship	9:00am	Parents and carers of Year 3 welcome to attend.
	No lunchtime football club today	-	
	Pentecost Service at St Nicholas' Church for children in Reception – Year 4	1:30pm	Children will be dismissed from church after service (please complete ParentMail form) No Book bags or PE kits today please Parents and carers invited to attend.
Friday 26 th May	Staff Training Day	All day	School closed to children
26.5.23-2.6.23	Half Term		
June 2023			
Monday 5 th June	School reopens to children	8:35am	

	Eat Smart project begins in school	am	
	Dr Chris Fowler to visit Years 3 & 4 (Archaeology)	TBC	
Tuesday 6 th June	Year 4 leading Trinity Worship	9:00am	Parents and carers of Year 4 welcome to attend.
Wednesday 7 th June	Big Gig Rehearsal for relevant choir members	3:15-4:15pm	Please see ParentMail
Thursday 8 th June	Year 4 attending Newcastle Cathedral Leavers' Service	1-3pm	Please see ParentMail
Friday 9 th June	Year 1 visit to Gosforth Library	pm	
	Daft Day	All day	Donations can be made via ParentMail. Children are invited to wear something "daft" for school. Year 2 children need to wear clothing suitable to do PE in please.
	Nursery Cake Sale	3:15pm	We would be grateful if Nursery children could bring labelled donations of cakes to school on this date. Thank you. ***These foods will need to have ingredient and allergen information provided on the label please***
Wb Monday 12 th June	Year 1 Phonics Screen	am	
Tuesday 13 th June	Nursery & Reception games (in school)	am	Children will wear PE kits in school
Wednesday 14 th June	Welcome Meeting for parents and carers of children starting Nursery in September 2023	5:30pm	
	Big Gig Rehearsal for relevant choir members	3:15-4:15pm	Please see ParentMail
Thursday 15 th June	Welcome Meeting for parents and carers of children starting Reception in September 2023	5:30pm	
Friday 16 th June	Year 1 visit to Gosforth Library	pm	
	Stephanie Holton visiting Year 4 (Romans)	pm	
	Reception Class Cake Sale	3:15pm	We would be grateful if Reception children could bring labelled donations of cakes to school on this date. Thank you. ***These foods will need to have ingredient and allergen information provided on the label please***
19 th - 23 rd June	School Sports Week	All Week	Children to wear sports clothing all week (School PE kit on their Sports Day) please
Monday 19 th June	Reception Sports Day	2:00pm	Reception children to wear school PE kits please
Tuesday 20 th June	Year 1 Sports Day	2:00pm	Year 1 children to wear school PE kits please
Wednesday 21 st June	Nursery Sports Day	9:30am	Nursery children to wear school PE kits please
	Big Gig 2023	All day	Vertu Motors Arena
	Year 2 Sports Day	2:00pm	Year 2 children to wear school PE kits please
	Welcome meeting for new Year 2 (current Year 1) parents & carers	5:30pm	
Thursday 22 nd June	Year 4 Sports Day	2:00pm	Year 4 children to wear school PE kits please

Friday 23 rd June	Year 3 Sports Day	2:00pm	Year 3 children to wear school PE kits
	Reception visit to Gosforth Library	pm	Half of class only (no permission required)
	Year 1 Cake Sale	3:15pm	We would be grateful if Year 1 children could bring labelled donations of cakes to school on this date. Thank you. ***These foods will need to have ingredient and allergen information provided on the label please***
Tuesday 27 th June	Visit from Newcastle Library Service to launch Summer Reading Challenge	am	
Thursday 29 th June	Year 3 activities and sleepover at school with Mr H Outdoor Experiences	All day & night	More info to follow
	Year 4 visit to Vindolanda & Roman Army Museum	All day	Please see ParentMail
	Welcome meeting for new Year 3 (current Year 2) parents & carers	5:30pm	
Friday 30 th June	Reception visit to Gosforth Library	pm	Half of class only (no permission required)
	School Council Meeting	2:45pm	
	Year 2 Cake Sale	3:15pm	We would be grateful if Year 2 children could bring labelled donations of cakes to school on this date. Thank you. ***These foods will need to have ingredient and allergen information provided on the label please***
July 2023			
TBC	Year 2 visit to Grace Darling Museum (Bamburgh)	All day	More info to follow
Monday 3 rd July	Reception Stay & Play	2:00pm	
Tuesday 4 th July	Nursery Stay & Play	2:00pm	
	Welcome meeting for new Year 4 (current Year 3) parents & carers	5:30pm	
Wed 5 th & Thurs 6 th July	Transition Days for GST	All day	
Wednesday 5 th July	Welcome meeting for new Year 1 (current Year Reception) parents & carers	5:30pm	
Thursday 6 th July	Laura Tisdall visiting Years 3 & 4 (Local Historian)	pm	
Friday 7 th July	Year 4 Bikeability	Morning or afternoon session	All children taking part will need a well-fitting helmet and their own bike in good working order.
	Coffee Morning in school for parents/carers of children with SEND	9:00am	This will be an opportunity to meet fellow parents/carers as well as the new SENCo
	Nursery visit to Gosforth Library	pm	Half of class only (no permission required)
	Year 3 Cake Sale	3:15pm	We would be grateful if Year 3 children could bring labelled donations of cakes to school on this date. Thank you. ***These foods will need to have ingredient and allergen information provided on the label please***
Tuesday 11 th July	Eat Smart project conclusion	9:00am	Parents and carers welcome to attend
	Years 1 – 4 ARFS Summer Music Concert at All Saints'	1:30pm	More info to follow
Friday 14 th July	Deadline for wraparound		Please book via ParentMail

	bookings for Autumn 1		
	Reception visit to Discovery Museum		ParentMail to follow
	Year 3 visit to Great North (Hancock) Museum		More info to follow
	Nursery visit to Gosforth Library	pm	Half of class only (no permission required)
	School Council Meeting	2:45pm	
	Year 4 Cake Sale	3:15pm	We would be grateful if Year 4 children could bring labelled donations of cakes to school on this date. Thank you. ***These foods will need to have ingredient and allergen information provided on the label please***
	PTFA Summer Fair	After School	Info to follow
17-21 st July	Year 3 swimming lessons each day this week		More info to follow
Friday 21 st July	Year 4 Leavers Service	9:00am	Parents and carers of Year 4 welcome to attend.
	School closes for summer	3:15pm	
September 2023			
Monday 4 th Sept 2023	Staff training day		
October 2023			
Friday 27 th October 2023	Staff training day		
30.10.23 - 3.11.23	October half term		
December 2023			
22.12.23 – 5.1.24	Christmas Holiday		
February 2024			
19.2.24 – 23.2.24	February Half Term		
March 2024			
29.3.24 – 12.4.24	Easter Holiday		
May 2024			
27.5.24 – 31.5.24	May Half Term		
June 2024			
Monday 3 rd June 2024	Staff training day		
July 2024			
22.7.24 – 30.8.24	Summer Holidays		
Tuesday 3 rd September 2024	School re-opens to children		

Be courageous; be strong.

Do everything in love.

1 Corinthians 16:13-14