



Newsletter 4

17th October 2025

Headteacher Message



As we reach the end of a busy and productive first half term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support. The start of the academic year is always an important time in school and it has been wonderful to see everyone starting the year with such positivity.

The past seven weeks have been filled with lots of activities and themed days - it has been a pleasure to see our children's love and determination in action, as they have embraced new learning and risen to new challenges.

Next Thursday, we break up for half term (school is closed to the children on Friday 24th October). If I do not see you before then, I hope you all have a safe and restful break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back, refreshed and ready for the next half of the autumn term, on Monday 3rd November.

Best wishes,

Kate Massey

Attendance



Did you know ...?

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 attendance have higher rates of attainment.
- National data shows us that children not meeting the expected standard in reading, writing and maths.
- For the most vulnerable pupils, regular attendance is also an important protective factor and the best opportunity for children's needs to be identified and support provided.

Research has shown there are clear links between regular absence from school and harm to children.

- 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 sometimes 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.

Our full school Attendance Policy can be found on our website.

"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.



1 - Mrs Jan Gurkin

If you would like to discuss this further, please get in touch with our attendance officer Jan Gurkin (jan.gurkin@clennelleducationsolutions.org).

Attendance Headlines

Whole school attendance:

- w/c 6/10/2025 - 99%
- w/c 13/10/2025 - 97%

Highest class attendance:

- w/c 6/10/2025 - Year 1 99.7%
- w/c 13/10/2025 - Year 1 **100% Well done!**

Absence Headlines

During this fortnight, 145 mins 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.

Whole school absence:

- w/c 6/10/2025 - 1%
- w/c 13/10/2025 - 3%

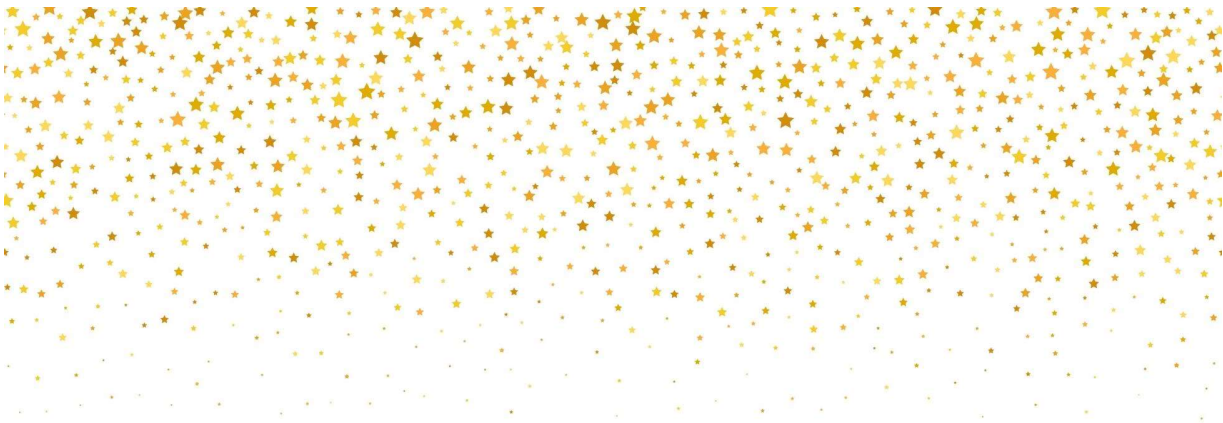
Absence caused by holidays:

- w/c 6/10/2025 -0%
- w/c 13/10/2025 - 0.5%

Other absences:

- w/c 6/10/2025 - 1%
- w/c 13/10/2025 -2.5%

[School Celebrations!](#)



Demonstrating Love

Nursery

- Emmett
- Joshua

Reception

- Lucas
- Annabelle

Year 1

- Ziyad
- Oliver

Year 2

- Billie
- Mehr

Year 3

- Sacha
- Amaya

Year 4

- Ranveer
- Mia

Staff

- Mrs Nelms
- Mrs Coates



Demonstrating Determination

Nursery

- Haadi
- Cruz

Reception

- Oliver H
- Harry

Year 1

- Oliver G
- Torin

Year 2

- Arthur
- Ani

Year 3

- Ava
- Fatima

Year 4

- Rory
- Eva

Staff

- Mrs Norman
- Mrs Gyle



TIMESTABLE 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.

TTRS - Highest engagement

Year 2- Yashika

Year 3 - Lyla

Year 4 - Harmony

TTRS - Highest accuracy

Year 2- Yashika

Year 3 - Mika

Year 4 - Henry

Current Rank amongst nearby schools: 14

Mean studio speed (seconds per question): 3.26

HANDWRITING HEROES



As a school, we continue to have a real drive to improve handwriting, letter formation and presentation of work. 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:

Year 1

- Gabby
- Margot

Year 2

- Nyah
- Maryam

Year 3

- Ethan
- Harry

Year 4

- Maxwell
- Thanuja

Social Action Groups



2 - Green Team



3 - Play Leaders



4 - Library Champions



5 - Worship Council



6 - School Council



SCHOOL COUNCIL

We met this week to discuss a re-launch of the buddy bench in the playground. We discussed why it was important and what we could do to ensure everyone felt they could reach out to someone if they needed someone to play with. Our representatives were keen to capture the voices of their classmates about their thoughts and ideas about the buddy bench too. Our chair and vice chair are planning to present our ideas to rest of the school.



PLAY LEADERS

Our Play Leaders have been utilising our trim trail this week and have been leading 'Lava monster' games with our younger pupils in Year 1. They have been ensuring that children have been having fun but also using our equipment safely. They have also been using their imagination and playing role model games and pass the parcel in our forest school area. Well done girls!



GREEN TEAM

Green Team have done a sterling job of keeping our local area tidy over the last couple of weeks! They are always really keen to get out and about and we have found some really unusual items lurking in the vegetation around school (including an actual hedge trimmer!). A real highlight was, last week, when we found so many amazing items growing in and around the school grounds. Our lucky Green Team members each took an apple or pear home to enjoy from our school fruit trees at the front of school!

This week, we have had a couple of changes to Green Team membership - more information to follow.



YOUNG LEADERS

This week in Young Leaders, we have spoken about influential leaders (both past and present) around the world and what characteristics and values that they held. We then discussed the changes that have been implemented because of these leaders and whether they were positive or negative changes.



LIBRARY CHAMPIONS

The Library Champions have been working hard behind the scenes to ensure the library is tidy, organised and ready for children to select their reading books. We have also had a very kind donation of books from one of our Year 4 children which have been organised and delivered to Years 1, 2, 3 and 4 to be added to classroom libraries. Thank you!



MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS

A big thank you to everyone who took part in *Wear Green Day* last week to support Mental Health Awareness. Your generosity and enthusiasm helped us raise a fantastic £101 for this important cause. Every donation makes a difference, and we're proud to see our school community come together to show support and raise awareness.



SHOW RACISM THE RED CARD

We are grateful to all who took part in today's *Wear Red Day* in support of Show Racism the Red Card. Thanks to your generosity, we've raised £66 so far to help challenge racism and promote respect and equality. It's inspiring to see our community united for such an important cause!

Donations can still be made via ParentMail this weekend, if you wish. Please do not send cash to school. Thank you.

Parents and carers can also:

- TEXT 'RED' TO 70470 TO GIVE £1
- TEXT 'RED5' TO 70470 TO GIVE £5
- TEXT 'RED10' TO 70470 TO GIVE £15
- TEXT 'RED20' TO 70470 TO GIVE £20

Clubs for Autumn Term 2 (November & December)



We are delighted to be able to offer a range of extra-curricular activities for our children.

- Choir with Charlotte from Music Partnership North - Monday 12:30pm email: admin@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk
- All Stars Bible Club (run by a group of parents and church volunteers) - Tuesdays (fortnightly) 12:30pm email: beckymcbride90@gmail.com
- Years 3 & 4 Football with Lee Sterry - Tuesdays 3:15pm <https://www.ls-sc.co.uk/schools/>
- Rec, Year 1 and Year 2 Multiskills with Andrew Cartwright - Monday 3:15pm <https://goteamup.com/p/7576178-andrew-cartwright-football/courses/118755/>
- Years 3 & 4 Football with Andrew Cartwright - Monday 3:15pm <https://goteamup.com/p/7576178-andrew-cartwright-football/courses/118756/>
- Violin - Monday after school with Charlotte from Music Partnership North <https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=wLSfsgQNn0q0YsEpSx4bR6HhZ8onp51DiB-iHdtAkHdUNzg1S08yUTdTR0hGRzJSMkQySU5PVUJFVi4u&route=shorturl>
- Guitar with Jack from Music Partnership North - Tuesdays after school <https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=wLSfsgQNn0q0YsEpSx4bR6HhZ8onp51DiB-iHdtAkHdUNzg1S08yUTdTR0hGRzJSMkQySU5PVUJFVi4u&route=shorturl>
- Rugby Minis - Thursdays 3:15pm <https://www.rugbyminis.co.uk/archbishoppruncie>
- Gosforth Voices (Years 3 & 4) run by Music Partnership North on behalf of Gosforth Schools Trust <https://www.newcastlemusicservice.co.uk/ensembles>

- Gosforth Band run by Music Partnership North on behalf of Gosforth Schools Trust (Years 3 & 4) <https://www.newcastlemusicservice.co.uk/ensembles>



7 - Breakfast Club runs daily, 7:45am - 8:45am

We are pleased to offer our own Breakfast Club (7.45am - 8.45am) and After School Club (3.15pm - 5.30pm) in our school hall. If you have any queries regarding menus or activities, please email wraparound@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk

Breakfast Club sessions cost £6.00 and include a breakfast of cereal/toast and milk/orange juice. Children must arrive before 8.15am if they require breakfast. Afterschool Club, until 4:15pm is £6.00 and, until 5:30pm, is £12.50 per session and includes a snack and drink.

Bookings for Wraparound Care are managed by Childcare Bookings for Schools. You can 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

Collective Worship

Over the last fortnight, we have continued to reflect upon the importance of key skills to succeed. We have focused, in particular, on creativity, problem solving and teamwork. We have learned about some significant people who have demonstrated these skills as well as reflecting on the lives of some Biblical figures that we can learn from too.

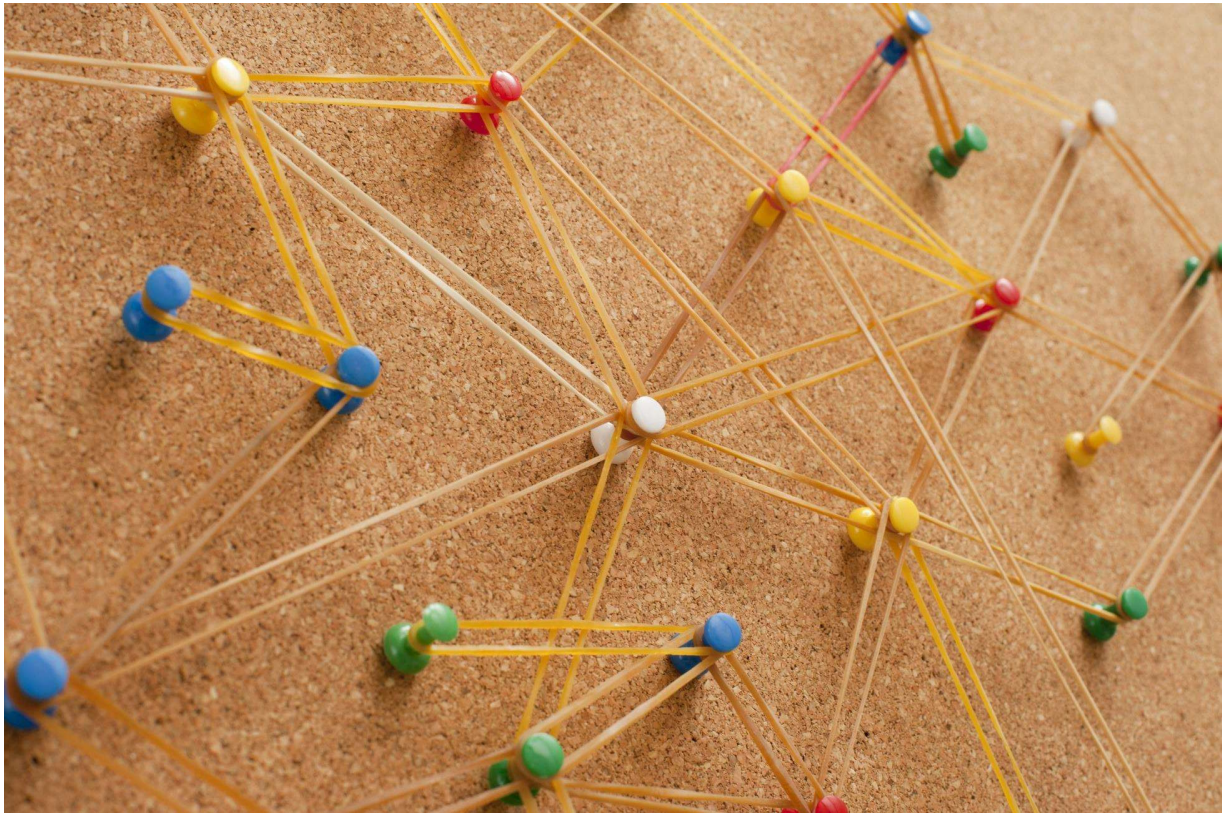


Church Links



Last Wednesday we said farewell to Ruth Stradling (curate at St Nicholas'), as she moves to take up post in Wideopen. Penny presented her with a bouquet of flowers and all our children wished her every happiness for her next steps.

School News



Supermarket Vouchers for October half term are scheduled to be sent on Monday 27th October 2025. These are sent to all families who have children who are entitled to Pupil Premium funding.

If you think you are entitled to these vouchers and are not receiving them, please contact the school office.

You can register here: <https://www.newcastle.gov.uk/services/schools-learning-and-childcare/help-school-and-learning-costs/apply-free-school-meals>



ANTIBULLYING WEEK - Please save the date!

Clennell Education Solutions are running an online workshop specifically for parents and carers of children at ARFS linked to anti-bullying - please save the date!

Topic: Anti Bullying for Parents of Archbishop Runcie

Time: Nov 10, 2025 05:00 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83888994313?pwd=v1rJZ0cszogIWtDH6WL9DMINne6Kgy.1>

Meeting ID: 838 8899 4313

Passcode: 136032



SCHOOL NURSE APPOINTMENTS - THURSDAY 23RD OCTOBER

A reminder that Lauren Boll (School Nurse) will be in school on Thursday 23rd October and she has a couple of remaining appointments in the afternoon. To book an appointment, please contact Mrs Coates (admin@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk¹) who can let you know Lauren's availability and get you booked in.

¹<mailto:admin@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk>



MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS

As you know, last Friday our children and staff wore green for World Mental Health day 2025. We used the opportunity to raise awareness of Mental Health throughout the day.

Ways you can support your child at home

- Build positive routines – healthy eating, exercise and sleep routines are so important.
- Be there to listen – regularly ask children how they're doing, encourage them to talk about their feelings and to know there's always someone to listen.
- Try to help your child(ren) to understand how they're feeling (naming the emotions they are experiencing) and why.
- Encourage practical interests – being active, creative, learning new things and being part of a team can all be helpful.
- Advice for parents can be found here: <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent>

Signs a child may be struggling

- Wanting to stay at home/indoors or with parents/carers all the time
- Sleeping problems
- Negative thoughts and low self-esteem
- Increased arguing and fighting
- Unexplained physical changes, such as weight loss or gain

Support in school

- At ARFS, we place a huge emphasis on relationships so that children know they can approach any adult in school for help.
- Worry boxes are available in all classrooms and outside my office for anyone who doesn't want to verbalise their worries.
- We use "Colour Monsters" in Nursery & Reception and "Zones of Regulation" in Years 1 - 4 to support children to identify, name and describe their feelings. We also have a range of resources and interventions based on these approaches that we share with children as appropriate.
- We have staff who have undertaken additional training in mental health awareness including emotionally based school non-attendance (EBSNA).
- Newcastle LA SEMH Service attend school and work with groups of children within the school day. With parental permission, they can also work with individuals.
- Monthly School Nurse service available to all children and families.
- Children with additional needs in social, emotional or mental health can be added to our SEND register.

Professional support

For urgent mental health support:

- Call Children and Young People's Intensive Community Treatment Service (ICTS) on 0191 246 6913²
- Text Children & Families Newcastle - text 85258 for immediate help

²[https://www.google.com/search?q=Children+and+Young+People's+Intensive+Community+Treatment+Service+\(ICTS\)+on+0191+246+6913&rlz=1C1GCFD_enGB1147GB1148&oq=mental+health+emergency+for+kids+in+Newcastle&gs_lcrp=EgZjaHJvbWUyBggAEEUYOTIHCAEQIRiPAjIHCAIQIRiPAAtIBCTkxNjRqMGoxNagCCrACAFefl-M7GH9TDSdxBSPjOxh_Uw0g&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8&mstk=AUTExfAQmhr8gLDkWP02K5mkMnAogB9t5p9B5yEgQJaRWJxLprlnys4uUcw18eUVh08SE4jhAfnezT5c5zGlv3AtZAAJ2GbIMIMS8txoYPZIO6pHhNH0XW4hsE8ir4dry59TukdMx6iizJGnPW0EFyLE_nDAv0tiQmAS3LGVFY0D09Bz5SVmbMkHD6-q3Cic5HpJbnshLGA-JMGDG7i5r956reTQXMOs75gorX9V1QIYvbykXUJWBrnZhKuY7MjVtMPGm1rloHVVU07z3DtCWuA62Kv0n&csui=3&ved=2ahUKEwiszb-QopmQAxU1WkEAHXI4HxoQgK4QegQIARAC](https://www.google.com/search?q=Children+and+Young+People's+Intensive+Community+Treatment+Service+(ICTS)+on+0191+246+6913&rlz=1C1GCFD_enGB1147GB1148&oq=mental+health+emergency+for+kids+in+Newcastle&gs_lcrp=EgZjaHJvbWUyBggAEEUYOTIHCAEQIRiPAjIHCAIQIRiPAAtIBCTkxNjRqMGoxNagCCrACAFefl-M7GH9TDSdxBSPjOxh_Uw0g&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8&mstk=AUTExfAQmhr8gLDkWP02K5mkMnAogB9t5p9B5yEgQJaRWJxLprlnys4uUcw18eUVh08SE4jhAfnezT5c5zGlv3AtZAAJ2GbIMIMS8txoYPZIO6pHhNH0XW4hsE8ir4dry59TukdMx6iizJGnPW0EFyLE_nDAv0tiQmAS3LGVFY0D09Bz5SVmbMkHD6-q3Cic5HpJbnshLGA-JMGDG7i5r956reTQXMOs75gorX9V1QIYvbykXUJWBrnZhKuY7MjVtMPGm1rloHVVU07z3DtCWuA62Kv0n&csui=3&ved=2ahUKEwiszb-QopmQAxU1WkEAHXI4HxoQgK4QegQIARAC)

If you are concerned about your child, it is important that you seek specialist support.

- BBC Mental Health First Aid Kit for Parents
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zy3yf82>
- Young Minds Parent Helpline – free, confidential advice
<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-helpline/>
- Action for Children – advice on spotting signs of concerns and advice on action you can take. <https://www.actionforchildren.org.uk/our-work-and-impact/children-and-families/mental-health-and-wellbeing/>
- Barnados – support to help children, young people and families who are struggling.
<https://www.barnados.org.uk/get-support/support-for-parents-and-carers/mental-health>
- Local NHS services
- Young Minds – advice and real-life stories. <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/>³
- NSPCC - https://www.nspcc.org.uk/advice-for-families/?utm_old=childrensmentalhealth
- Children and Young People's Service (CYPS) on 0191 246 6913

Some things you might want to consider when making a referral:

- Has there been a major event / change that has impacted your child e.g. parental separation, bereavement
- Does it only happen in school or only at home?
- Does it happen when they're with others or only when alone?

If you have concerns about your child's mental health, please contact us.

³<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/>



NURSERY APPLICATIONS

Applications for our January 2026 admission to Nursery are now open for children who turn 3 before 31st December 2025.

Closing date: Friday 7th November 2025

Offer day: Friday 14th November 2025

If you'd like to pop in for a visit and meet our Early Years staff, please contact Mrs Coates (admin@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk).



RECEPTION APPLICATIONS - Key dates

For families with a child who will turn 4, on or before the 31st August 2026, you can now apply for a Reception place.

Applications open: 1 September 2025

Applications close: 15 January 2026

National offer day: 16 April 2026

There are several opportunities for prospective parents and carers to come and visit ARFS - please contact Mrs Coates to book a tour (admin@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk).

What you need to do

- Check if you can apply and which address to use⁴
- Read the rules each school uses to decide who gets a place (called oversubscription criteria)
- Use all four school preferences
- Put your favourite school first – read the equal preference information below
- Apply on time – if you apply late there is less chance of being offered one of the schools you apply to

For further information please visit <https://www.newcastle.gov.uk/services/schools-learning-and-childcare/apply-school-place/applying-reception-places>



MIDDLE SCHOOL APPLICATIONS - Key dates

Although it seems early in the year (and the children have only just begun Year 4), parents and carers of children in Year 4 need to start thinking about applying for middle school places for September 2026.

⁴<https://www.newcastle.gov.uk/services/schools-learning-and-childcare/apply-school-place/legal-information-school-admissions>

Applications open: 1 September 2025

Applications close: 31 October 2025

National Offer Day: 2 March 2026



GREEN CAREERS WEEK

3-8th November is 'Green Careers Week' and as a school who recognises the importance of climate we will be marking this week with a special worship, led by Mrs Ellwood, and inviting in visitors who have green careers to conduct special lessons with our children.

Thank you to those of you who have already offered to help. If you would like to be involved or would like more information please email Mrs Ellwood (margery.ellwood@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk⁵).



SWITCH OFF FORTNIGHT

⁵<mailto:margery.ellwood@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk>

We will be learning about energy (energy sources, renewable power and natural resources) and encouraging more energy-saving behaviour. At the end of the fortnight, each class will nominate two "Energy Champions" to make sure lights, screens etc are switched off when not in use during the school day.



The next cake sale will be Year 3 on Thursday 6th November - all donations will be gratefully received. Please remember to list ingredients of any home made goodies! Thank you.



Our PTFA will be holding their AGM on **Thursday 27th November at 9:30am** in school. We would love as many parents and carers to come along as possible.

Each class has a parent representative who is the main channel of communication for the class. We currently have vacancies for class reps in Nursery, Reception, Year 2 and Year 3. If you would

like to become a class rep or would like further information about what this would entail, please email the PTFA who will be happy to help (archbishopprunceptfa@gmail.com). Thank you

N - VACANT

R - VACANT

Y1 - Shela Close

Y2 - VACANT

Y3 - VACANT

Y4 - Sarah McRea

Chair- Angela Nicholson

Secretary- VACANT

Treasurer - VACANT



BOOKBAG CHARMS

Please could we request that keyrings and other charms and toys are removed from children's bookbags as they are causing a significant distraction and some poor behaviour, as well as making them difficult to store in small spaces. Some children have rather large collections (which are often noisy!) attached which can be very challenging to store in school. Whilst I understand these can help make bookbags easier to identify, it would be more helpful to have the child's initials written in sharpie on the top of the handle.

I would strongly discourage parents and carers from writing children's names on their bookbags where this can be read by strangers. This presents a safeguarding risk because it provides personal information to strangers, making it easier for them to gain a child's trust. Initials

written on handles can be covered easily in public places and, when being held, will not be visible to others.

From Monday, these will be removed and returned to parents/carers at the end of the day.

Thank you for your support in this matter.



WELLIES

As the weather changes and playtimes tend to be wetter, children are invited to leave a pair of wellies in school to use during the school day. Please make sure these are clearly named!

If anyone has any old wellies that are no longer needed at home or that children have outgrown, these would be gratefully received in school too. Please ensure names are removed and we will write 'ARFS' on them to avoid any confusion! Thank you in advance.

Volunteer with us!



We are always looking for people to come and help in school! If you are interested in helping in school, please contact Mrs Lowe in the school office (admin@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk). All volunteers will require DBS clearance, and will need to provide references in line with our commitment to Safer Recruitment.



EDUCATIONAL VISITS

We often need helpers to support us on educational visits out of school. Visits may be full or part days and may be with any class in school. Helping on educational visits will include supporting a small group to achieve the intended learning outcome, promoting high quality discussions, supporting positive behaviour and respectful attitudes of a group of pupils and ensuring the risk assessment is adhered to.

Please note that volunteers must not use their mobile phones during school visits and they must maintain confidentiality at all times.

If you think you might be able to help, please let Class Teachers know. Thank you!



LIBRARIAN / VOLUNTEER

Mrs Crozier and the Library Champions are in the process of giving the library a revamp and they are looking for a helping hand from a "Library Volunteer". This will involve tidying books shelves, checking and replacing labels, revamping displays, categorising new books and generally helping to promote the school library and class libraries. If you are interested in helping on a weekly or fortnightly basis, please contact Mrs Crozier (Emily.Crozier@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk).

Please note that volunteers must not use their mobile phones during school visits and they must maintain confidentiality at all times. All volunteers will need DBS clearance.



READING BUDDIES

Could you or a grandparent spare 20 - 30 minutes once or twice a week to help children with reading? We operate a successful reading buddy scheme with parents, grandparents and friends of the school, sharing books with children in Key Stage One and Key Stage Two. If you could spare an hour or two a week (ideally in the afternoons!), please contact the school office. You will require enhanced DBS checks through the school - please contact Mrs Coates.

Please note that volunteers must not use their mobile phones during school visits and they must maintain confidentiality at all times.



PLAYGROUP VOLUNTEER

Mrs Francis is looking for a couple of warm and friendly faces to support in our pre-school playgroup every Wednesday afternoon. This would involve setting up games and activities for our young visitors, welcoming families to school and interacting with pre-schoolers before helping to tidy up the hall. If you think you might be interested, or would like to know more, please contact Mrs Francis (Kathleen.Francis@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk).

Please note that volunteers must not use their mobile phones during school visits and they must maintain confidentiality at all times. All volunteers will need enhanced DBS checks for this role.

Dates for your diaries



Please see diary dates attached. These can also be viewed on the school calendar at <https://archbishop-runcie.eschools.co.uk/web/calendar>

Safeguarding





WORRIED ABOUT A CHILD?

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

If you have a non-emergency concern about a child contact:

- Initial Response Service – 0191 277 2500
- Emergency Duty Team – 0191 278 7878 (out of hours)
- 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>

All concerns that a child or young person is suffering or is at risk of suffering significant harm must be referred directly to the Initial Response Service of Children's Social Care in accordance with the Newcastle Safeguarding Children Board Procedures. Please refer to the Newcastle

Safeguarding Children Partnership website for safeguarding policies and procedures. For more information, you can read our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy on our school website.



E-SAFETY - How to start a conversation with your child about using a phone safely:

Why do you want to get a phone?

Whilst deciding if it is time for your child to have their first phone can be a great opportunity to find out what your child expects to use their phone for. This could be for connecting with friends, playing games, for keeping in touch whilst out of the house or other reasons.

What do you like about using a phone?

You can ask your child about their favourite apps or games, what they like using their phone for, or you can ask them to show you how to play or use their favourite game or website.

What would you do if something worrying or upsetting happened on your phone?

You can ask them about the places they can go to find the safety advice, find out what they know about privacy settings, and ask them how to report or block on the services they use.

How can we do more online together?

Ask your child about activities or games that you could enjoy as a family, this can be a great time to establish a family agreement⁶ to manage your families time online.

⁶<https://www.childnet.com/resources/family-agreement>

- **Talk with your child about responsible use of their phone** Discuss what is okay and not okay to use their phone for. Talk about time limits and expectations of where the device can and cannot be used, this could include things like the phone being charged outside their bedroom overnight.
- **Discuss what to do if something upsetting or worrying happens** Give them the strategies they need in case something concerning happens whilst they are using their device. This could be to lock the screen and tell an adult, to make a report to the platform they are using, or to block the user.
- **Explore parental controls** Take a look at the controls available both on the phone itself and on your home Wi-Fi. Talk these through with your child too. Parental controls are a helpful tool, but an open conversation with your child is the most important thing.



SAFEGUARDING ALERT

We have been alerted to a safeguarding alert linked to some books by Andy Cope including those in the Spy Dogs, Spy Cats and Spy Pup Series.

The publisher, Puffin, has issued an alert regarding a link encouraging within the books children to find out additional information on the story. The link was intended to take children to Mr Cope's website, however this domain is no longer owned by Mr Cope and has been taken over by a third party. This third party is now publishing inappropriate adult content. The website is no longer associated with Puffin or Mr Cope. The content of the stories themselves remains completely appropriate and the website link is the issue. Children should not visit this website link.

In school, Mrs Crozier has already taken these texts off the shelves in our library. We are also checking to see whether any of these books are currently on loan. Please also check at home to see whether your child has a copy (either from school or their own). Thank you.

Community Notices



SEND PARENTS & CARERS 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.

These sessions run every Friday 10:00am-11:30am and Tuesdays 4:00-5:30pm at Gosforth Civic Theatre. No need to book - just turn up!

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>



8 - For family support, please scan.



9 - To see what is happening in the city, please scan.

Contact Us



Archbishop Runcie CE First School

Christon Road

Gosforth

Newcastle upon Tyne

NE31US

Visit us on the web at <https://archbishop-runcie.eschools.co.uk/web>

Tel: 0191 285 2663

email: admin@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk⁷

⁷<mailto:admin@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk>