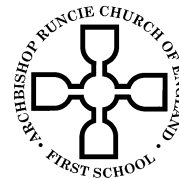




# ARCHBISHOP RUNCIE CHURCH OF ENGLAND (VA) FIRST SCHOOL



## March 2019 - Newsletter 24

### ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Whole School (excluding Nursery)
92.2%	98.5%	93.8%	90.0%	97.9%	98.3%	95.2%

Our school target for attendance is 97%.

### PTFA NEWS

A reminder that we will be planting the trees on Friday 22nd March and that we will need as many volunteers as possible please (both parents and grandparents) - even just for an hour! Please bring along a spade and plant a tree (or two) with your child(ren).



As part of this project, the PTFA are asking for Gift Aid. This means your donation could make an even bigger impact at no extra cost to you. Donations from UK taxpayers qualify for Gift Aid. This means that for every £1 you give, we can claim an extra 25p. For example, a gift of £10.00 means we can reclaim £2.50 making your gift worth £12.50. It won't cost you a single penny more, but it will help the PTFA increase their funds for the benefit of our children.



### WORSHIP

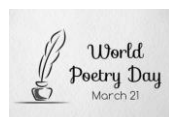
Worship has had a scientific twist this week, in support of STEM week. We have learned about the Flipflop Project in Kenya, which aims to reduce the amount of plastic in our oceans - they even made a boat by recycling washed up plastics, including washed up flip flops!

### GOSFORTH VOICES

Today, we welcomed Gosforth Voices. It is always a pleasure to listen to the children of GST perform! It would be great if we could increase the number of children representing ARFS in the choir. If your child is interested in joining, please see information attached or contact Georgina Biddle. [SISMusicHubAdmin@newcastle.gov.uk](mailto:SISMusicHubAdmin@newcastle.gov.uk)



Gosforth Voices will also be performing at the Achievement Awards on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March. We have every confidence that they will be fantastic!



### WORLD POETRY DAY

Parents and carers are invited to watch children in Years 1-4 recite a poem as a class, on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March at 2:30pm.

### SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding training for all parent helpers, volunteers and Reading Buddies will be held, in school, on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March from 9:00-9:30am. Please complete the ParentMail form online to let us know if you can attend.

A reminder that Mrs Mann, Miss Burns and I are Designated Safeguarding Leads. If you have concerns about a child, please speak to one of us.



## STAFFING



Miss Leigh (one of our Reception Teachers) has decided to seek employment in a school closer to home, after Easter. We are currently in the process of recruiting a member of staff to work in Reception, alongside Miss Baharie from April. We will, of course, keep you informed when we appoint.

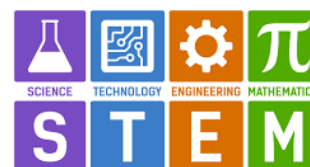
We would like to thank Miss Leigh for her hard work during her time at ARFS. We appreciate how much effort it has been for her; travelling a long way, to and from school on several buses, each morning and evening as well as working full time, with a young child at home. We wish her every success for her future and look forward to hearing how she's getting on.

Miss Burns is now back at school so, if you would like to discuss the progress of your child, please arrange to see her on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March. You can sign up for an appointment on ParentMail from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> at 6pm when the appointment booking system will go live.

Mr Hunter is hoping to be back next week- we are all looking forward to seeing him!

## STEM WEEK

STEM week has been a resounding success this week! Thank you to Mr Renny for organising all the events and visitors to school and thank you to all our parents who have worked with children in school this week. The children have been enthusiastic about all things STEM which has hopefully helped to enthuse the next generation of scientists and engineers!



Building on this success, every week until Easter, Mr Renny will be setting an *optional* Science challenge for children to complete over the weekend (please see below). The challenges can be undertaken with family and friends and are designed to encourage a love of science amongst our children. Mr Renny would love to hear how your child has got on with each challenge so please send any comments and feedback directly to him by Sunday evening via email - [tom.renny@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk](mailto:tom.renny@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk) . Any photos of children completing tasks with parents/carers/friends are welcome too! Over the coming weeks, we will add these photos to a display in school to celebrate the children's efforts and scientific enquiry.



## PARENT WORKSHOP

The Parent Workshop, on Monday, was extremely well received by those parents who attended and we all left with some tips! Thank you to Paula Stones for running the session. Because parents were so positive about the session, I am arranging for Paula to re-run the workshop on an evening. Details to follow.

## LETTER FROM A LOCAL PARENT

I have been contacted by a local resident and parent, asking me to share the following message;

*"Every morning I walk my young children to school along Christon Road where they are subjected to pollution from idling vehicles. On occasions my children have started to choke on the fumes. I am growing increasingly concerned about the impact car emissions are having on my children and all the other children who walk to school along Christon Road. The attached article shows that my concerns are valid and that the potential damage to my children's health is real."*



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-47520848>

*I would be very grateful if you could please kindly ask parents and guardians of pupils at Archbishop Runcie who drive to school to turn their engines off when waiting outside school and alert them to the harm car pollution can cause our children."*

Coincidentally, one of our parents has also raised this as a concern this week.



### CHARITABLE GIVING- RED NOSE DAY

The children have really enjoyed "doing something funny for money" today. We have enjoyed looking at all the red noses and comedy glasses! In total, we raised £118.93 for Comic Relief. Thank you to all those who contributed. Lots of children had recycled their red noses from last year, or used face paint, as part of our aim to reduce single use plastic in school- what great thinking!

### WHAT TO EXPECT

A new version of "What to expect, when?" has just been released. This is a document created by Action for Children, with the Department of Education. It is very helpful in helping guide parents through their children's learning and development, within the Early Years Foundation Stage. We have added the document to the school website, for your information.



### ALL STARS CRICKET

All Stars Cricket is the England and Wales Cricket Board's entry level participation programme, aimed at providing children aged five to eight with a great first experience in cricket.

Every child that registers will receive a backpack full of goodies including a cricket bat, ball, activity book, personalised shirt and cap all sent straight to your door. You can now sign up for programmes starting from May 2019. Just visit <https://www.ecb.co.uk/play/all-stars> to book a place.

### KS2 FOOTBALL TEAM

We were informed on Tuesday that GST have now changed the Year 3 football tournament to Years 3 & 4. Consequently, Mr Renny will be running **a Year 3 and Year 4 football club 3:30-4:15pm, every Monday** for the remainder of this half term. The purpose of this club is to select a team for the Year 3&4, seven a side **mixed** team for the Gosforth Gets Going Football Tournament. We will need at least two girls on the team!



Children attending should wear a football kit, including shin pads and football boots, as, unless weather is severe, the sessions will take place on the field. Children should also bring a bag to put their muddy shoes in, after the session.

Please complete the form on ParentMail if your child is interested in attending these sessions. If you have any questions, please contact Mr Renny directly (tom.renny@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk). Apologies for this late change of plan.

### READING RECORDS

We have noticed a decrease in parental comments in children's Reading Records since the beginning of the year, particularly in Years 3 and 4. Please could we ask you to give a brief comment **on each book separately** and then a short comment **each time your child re-reads** their book? A short daily reading session (e.g. ten mins per day) is often more productive than an infrequent longer one.





Comments about fluency, expression and intonation, as well as understanding (comprehension of events and inference about characters feelings) are really useful please (rather than a comment about completion). This will enable us to use your daily comments as part of our ongoing assessments. Question stems, to support you with this, are stuck inside Reading Record front covers. Re-reading texts is really important and will help children develop their fluency and pace. Thank you so much in advance for your understanding and support.

### **PERSIAN NEW YEAR**

Mrs Kohannejad is coming into school, next Thursday morning, to teach our children about Persian New Year, celebrating a season of new life, and wishing for good luck in the year ahead. Children will be planting seeds and decorating eggs. She has requested that each child brings in a hard-boiled egg (it may be wise to bring two- just in case!). The staff will be having an egg decorating competition too!!



### **PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE**

We would be grateful for your feedback about various aspects of school life. Please complete the ParentMail form online (which will be available early next week) to give your views to help us recognise our strengths and further improve our school.



### **Y4 RESIDENTIAL (For the attention of parents of current Y3 children)**

The £20.00 deposit for the Year 4 residential visit, to Dukes House Wood, in September, is due on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March. Please pay via ParentMail. We need to let Dukes House know final numbers on 22<sup>nd</sup> March so if deposits are not received, we will assume you do not wish your child to attend and will make alternative arrangements for your child.

### **SAVE THE DATE: CHILDREN'S CANCER RUN, SUNDAY 19<sup>th</sup> MAY 2019**

We will be sending out some more detailed information in April about this year's Children's Cancer Run and the exciting plans we have to get the children enthused about this great opportunity to have fun, get fit and help others.

For those that have done it before (or those who know they want to enter) the event will again be taking place at Newcastle Racecourse on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May. There are runs of various lengths, suitable for all ages of school children from nursery age up.

Early bird entries end soon so if you want to enter go to <https://www.neccr.org.uk/event/childrens-cancer-run-2019/>. Please make sure you select the "Run for your school option" and select Archbishop Runcie.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or queries.

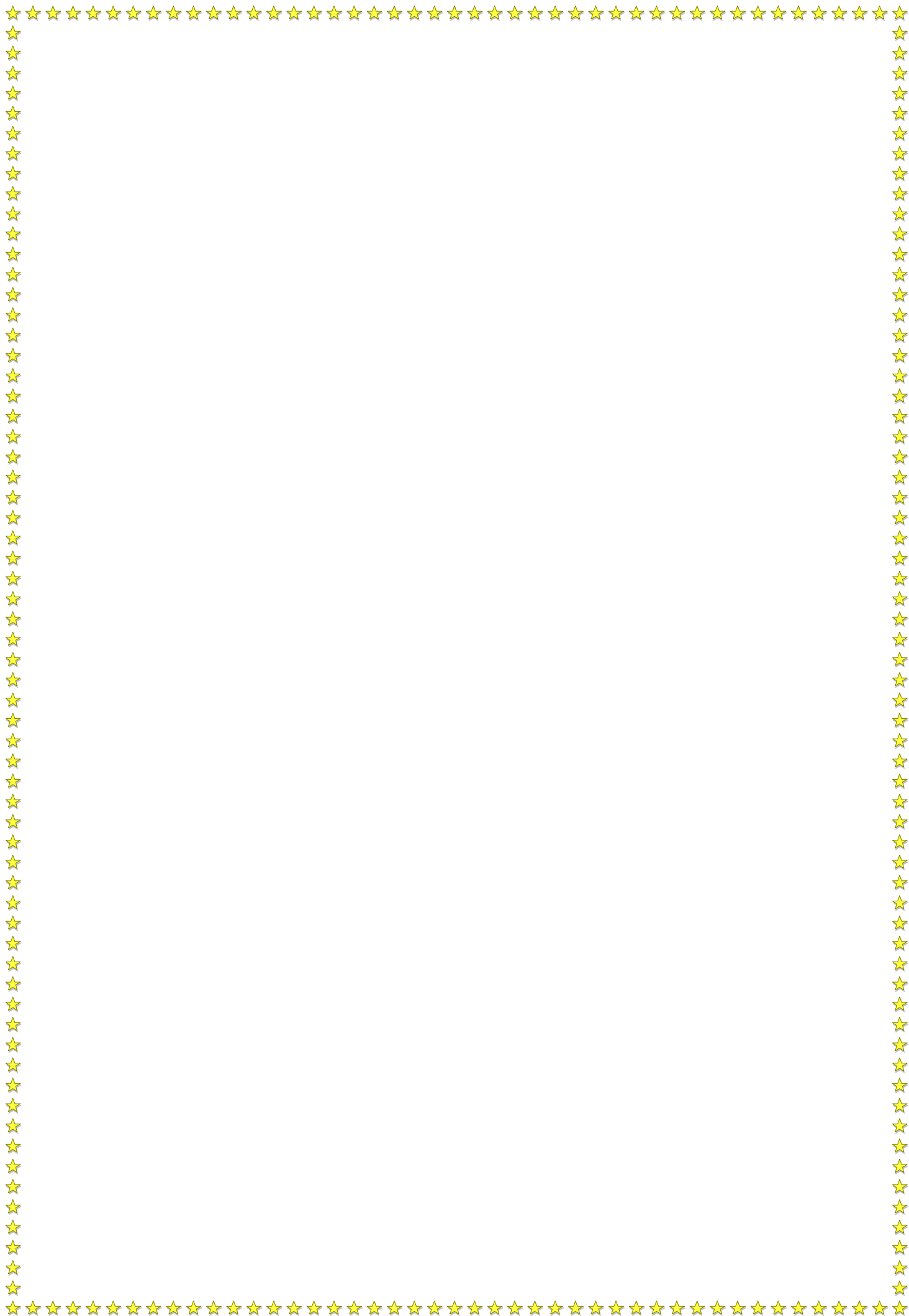
With my very best wishes,

*Mrs KE Massey*

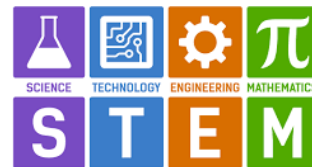
Headteacher

**"Love to learn, learn to love"**

Colossians 3:23-24



## STEM CHALLENGE 1: Make a paperclip float

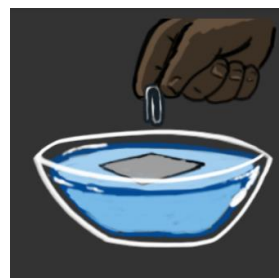


### You will need:

- clean dry paper clips
- tissue paper
- a bowl of water
- pencil with rubber

### What to do:

- Fill the bowl with water
- Try to make the paper clip float...(this won't work!)
- Tear a piece of tissue paper
- GENTLY drop the tissue flat onto the surface of the water
- GENTLY place a dry paper clip flat onto the tissue (try not to touch the water or the tissue)
- Use the rubber end of the pencil to carefully poke the tissue (not the paper clip) until the tissue sinks. With some luck, the tissue will sink and leave the paper clip floating!



### How it works and questions to ask your child:

**SURFACE TENSION.** There is a sort of skin on the surface of water where the water molecules hold on tight together. If the conditions are right, they can hold tight enough to support your paper clip. The paperclip is not truly floating, it is being held up by the surface tension. Many insects, such as water striders, use this “skin” to walk across the surface of a stream.

1. How many paperclips can the surface tension hold?
2. Does the shape of the paperclip affect its floating ability?
3. What liquids have the strongest surface tension?
4. Can the surface tension of water be made stronger? (try sprinkling baby powder on the surface)

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

It has been fantastic to see the school twitter account take off over the last few months- it is great to see all the exciting things happening in school.

As a Governing Body, we are always looking to explore possible ideas for funding streams, which we could use. If anyone has any suggestions, please let us know!

*Sarah Hawkins*

Chair of Governors

## Dates for your Diary

New dates are in red, for your information.

Date	Event	Additional Notes
<b>March 2019</b>		
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 3 visit to Egyptian Exhibition at the Hancock Museum	Please pay online
	Football Club with Year 3 & 4 (boys and girls) 3:30-4:15pm	Contact Mr Renny directly for more info
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Let's Laugh Day	
	School Nurse delivering PHSE sessions in school	
	5:30pm Reasoning Workshop for parents	Please book places online
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Purim (Jewish)	Activities in school
	STEM Assembly for Reception & Year 1	
	GST Board of Directors Meeting	
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	World Poetry Day	2:30pm Poetry Performance for parents of Y1-4 children
	Gosforth Pool School Swimming Gala 9:30am	Selected children only (letters have been sent)
	Persian New Year	Activities in school- Please bring a hard-boiled egg (or two).
	GST Moderation Meeting	Staff only
Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Deadline for Nursery applications	
	9:00am Safeguarding Briefing for all parent helpers/volunteers in school	Please complete the ParentMail form
	pm Tree Planting in school	See info from PTFA
	First instalment for Y4 Dukes House Wood visit (Sept 2019)	Please pay via ParentMail
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	STEM workshop for Rec & Y1	
	School Nurse delivering PHSE sessions in school	
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	2:15pm Nursery Parents Stay & Play	Nursery parents invited
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	9:15 Reception Parents Stay & Play	Reception parents invited to all or part of session
	Year 4 Parent Teacher Consultations	Please book your appointment online
	Full Governing Body Meeting	
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	Y1-4 Mothers' Day Service 9:00am	Mums (or alternative carer) invited!
	N & Rec Mothers' Day Service 2:30pm	Mums (or alternative carer) invited!
	Nursery places offered	
<b>April 2019</b>		
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	GCMS Spanish event for Y4	Selected children only
	11:00 Parent Council	
	Autism Awareness Week	Activities in school
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	Forest School- N, Rec & Y1	Please wear outdoor clothes with long sleeves and bring wellies if wet/sunhat and suncream if warm
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Forest School- Y2, Y3 & Y4	
	School Nurse delivering PHSE sessions in school	
	Cross Country Event- Blakelaw	
	Autism Awareness Day	Activities in school
Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	9:00am Year 2 SATs Meeting for Parents	Y2 Parents- please come along!
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	PTFA Film Night- Sing along Greatest Showman	Please note, this film is a PG
	Y3 & Y4 Football Tournament BEFS	
	No Art Club tonight	
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Service at All Saints Church for children in Y1-Y4 2:00pm	<b>All Saints' Church</b> , West Avenue (off the High Street)

		Families welcome
	School closes for Easter	
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	School re-opens to children	
	Shakespeare Day	Activities in school
Wed 24 <sup>th</sup> April	Y4 Bikeability	
	Bugs 'n' stuff visit for Nursery and Reception	Please pay £3.50 online
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>TBC</b> Year 2 visit to RNLi Grace Darling Museum at Bamburgh	Please note that this is not yet confirmed. More info to follow in due course.
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	Deadline for acceptance of Nursery places	
	Y1 visit to Dobbies Garden Centre	Details to follow
	PTFA Easter Cake Stall	After school- please send cake donations to school on the day
Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	PTFA Sponsored Walk	Druridge Bay
<b>May 2019</b>		
May	Year 2 Statutory Assessments	Y2 children must be in school please
	PTFA 5p challenge	Details to follow
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	International Laughter Day	
	Governors Ethos Cttee	
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	Governors TLA Cttee	
12-18 May	Christian Aid Week	More info to follow
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	Themed lunch	Details to follow
	Governors Safeguarding visit to school	
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	Worship (lead by Year 1) 9:00am	Parents welcome
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Greggs Children's Cancer Run- Newcastle Racecourse	Details to follow
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> May	Y1 DAAB planting	Selected children only
	Wesak (Buddhist)	Activities in school
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	Happy Shoes Day	Walk to school and wear your own shoes- donation of £1 please.
	World Day for Cultural Diversity	Activities in school
	Governors Finance Cttee Meeting	
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	GST Daft Day for DAAB	Details to follow
	School closes for half term	
<b>June 2019</b>		
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	GST Staff Training Day- school closed to children	
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	School reopens to children	
	Eid-UL-Fitr (Muslim)	Activities in school
	pm KS2 All Saints Schools Week visit	Details to follow
	Safeguarding update for Governors	
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	10:00am Pentecost Service- All Saints'	All welcome
10-14 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 1 Phonics Screen	Y1 children must be in school please
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	9:15 Reception Parents Stay & Play	Parents invited to all or part of session
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup> June	GST Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Fair - open to all parents of children on the SEND register	Held at GCMS
	Class Photos	
	2:15pm Nursery Parents Stay & Play	Parents Invited
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	PJ Day for Ronald McDonald House Charities	Children invited to wear PJs for school for a £1 donation
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	Big Gig (Gosforth Band & Gosforth Voices)	Northumbria Sports Central
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> June	Y4 Leavers' Service	St Nicholas' Cathedral
	Govs TLA Cttee Meeting	
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	Y2 French Club today	Lunchtime



Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	New Nursery Parents Meeting 5:00pm	
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	New Reception Parents Meeting 5:00pm	
	TBC Nursery visit to Railway Museum	More information to follow
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Non Uniform Day	Please send bottles or tombola prizes
	Y1 French Club today	
	Y2 Big Sing 1:15-2:30pm	Details to follow
<b>July 2019</b>		
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Gosforth Pyramid Concert (Trinity Church)	For children in Gosforth voices & Gosforth Band
	Y3 & Y3 Beach safety session	
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	Governing Body Meeting	
	Transition Day for all classes	Y4 children visit GCMS (all day)
	Y4 Parents Transition Evening at GCMS	Info to follow from GCMS
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	End of year reports sent home	
Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	PTFA Summer Fair 3:00pm-6:00pm with BBQ	
8-12 <sup>th</sup> July	PE Week	If you know anyone who is involved professionally with any sports and could lead a session, please let Mrs Mann know!
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	Drop in sessions to speak to teaching staff	No appointments required
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July		
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	Y1 & Y2 Beach safety session	
	9:15 French Assembly	
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup> July	N & Rec Teddy Bears Picnic (am) children only	Please bring a teddy bear and a healthy snack to share with your friends
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup> July	N & Rec Sports day (1:30pm)	Parents invited
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	Y4 Transition activities TBC	
Fri 12 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 1-4 Sports Day (1:30pm)	Parents invited
	Year 4 Leavers' Disco after school	Details to follow
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Forest School- Y2, Y3 & Y4	Please wear outdoor clothes with long sleeves and bring wellies if wet/sunhat and sun cream if warm
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Forest School- N, R & Y1	
	Y3 & Y4 instrumental concert TBC	Parents invited
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Cakes in the Courtyard	All helpers and volunteers invited- please join us!
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	9:15am Y4 Leavers' Service	Y4 Parents and carers invited
	3:15pm Picnic in the Playground	Everyone welcome!
	School closes for Summer	
<b>September 2019</b>		
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	Staff Training Day	School closed to children
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	School opens to children	
Wed 25 <sup>th</sup> -Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> September	Y4 Residential to Dukes House Wood	

**“Love to learn, learn to love”**

Colossians 3:23-24

 **Captain Ted's**  
Children's Entertainment Centre

## EASTER HOLIDAY CLUB!!!

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup>-Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April**

**Only £25 all day 8.30am-5.30pm, including snacks, lunch and tea.**  
**8.30am-1pm £17.50 including snack and lunch**  
**1pm-5.30pm, £17.50 including snack and tea**

**Including arts and crafts, movies, baking, fun and games!**

**Speak to a member of staff now to book your place!**

**Childcare vouchers accepted**

**a jolly good place to play**

### Gosforth Voices & Gosforth Band

Gosforth Voices & Gosforth Band meet regularly to rehearse and have fun making music together. Pupils can join both Voices and Band (if they play an instrument) and it's FREE! We meet on Wednesdays at 3.45pm (dates overleaf) We have lots of performances throughout the year, including:

- ❖ Daft as a Brush School Proms at the City Hall
- ❖ Gosforth Voices Tour
- ❖ Big Gig at Sports Central
- ❖ Gosforth Pyramid Concert



"Gosforth Voices is lots of fun! My favourite part was going on tour because I felt like a star!"

"It's a good way to express your feelings...the music makes me feel joyful and the teachers make things really fun."

**2018 - 2019**

Fill in the form and return it to your school by 6<sup>th</sup> July

**Do you enjoy singing and making music with your friends?**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Year Group: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to attend:

☐ Gosforth Voices

☐ Gosforth Band, and I play

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact & telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Medical info/allergies: \_\_\_\_\_

I give/do not give permission for my son/daughter to be photographed or videoed for publicity purposes, which includes use on the Newcastle Music Service and Music Partnership North website, Facebook, Twitter & YouTube channel.

**Signed**

This data will only be used in relation to Gosforth Voices & Band, we will not share this information with other organisations, and will only hold this information for the period that your child is involved with the ensembles. You can opt out of communication by contacting [SlSMusicHubAdmin@newcastle.gov.uk](mailto:SlSMusicHubAdmin@newcastle.gov.uk)



### Gosforth Voices & Gosforth Band

Music Partnership North - Newcastle

In partnership with Gosforth Academy

Music Department & Gosforth Schools Trust



#### Gosforth Voices

for Years 3 & 4  
Wednesdays, 3.45 - 4.45pm  
Grange First School

**12<sup>th</sup> September 2018**  
**19<sup>th</sup> September**  
**26<sup>th</sup> September**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> October**  
**10<sup>th</sup> October**  
**28<sup>th</sup> November**  
**23<sup>rd</sup> January 2019**  
**6<sup>th</sup> February**  
**27<sup>th</sup> February**  
**13<sup>th</sup> March**  
**27<sup>th</sup> March**  
**12<sup>th</sup> June**

#### Gosforth Band

for Years 3, 4, 5 & 6  
Wednesdays, 3.45 - 4.45pm  
Archibald First School

**17<sup>th</sup> October 2018**  
**24<sup>th</sup> October**  
**7<sup>th</sup> November**  
**14<sup>th</sup> November**  
**21<sup>st</sup> November**  
**5<sup>th</sup> December**  
**16<sup>th</sup> January 2019**  
**30<sup>th</sup> January**  
**13<sup>th</sup> February**  
**6<sup>th</sup> March**  
**20<sup>th</sup> March**  
**5<sup>th</sup> June**  
**26<sup>th</sup> June**

