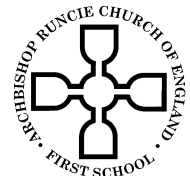


# ARCHBISHOP RUNCIE CHURCH OF ENGLAND (VA) FIRST SCHOOL



## **January 2019 - Newsletter 17**

### **ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK**

Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Whole School (excluding Nursery)
100%	95.3%	99.7%	99%	99.3%	98.7%	98.6%

Our school target for attendance is 97%. Well done everyone this week! This is the highest recorded whole school attendance this school year!

### **100% ATTENDANCE**

54 children were presented with certificates in Worship on Monday for 100% attendance during Autumn Term. This is fantastic! I wonder if we can improve this even further in Spring Term?



### **MESSAGE FROM THE PTFA**

We would like to say a huge thank you to all the parents, carers and children who have supported Parent, Teacher and Friends Association (PTFA) events over the last year. The funds raised have paid for a wealth of learning resources, programmes and equipment as well as refurbishment of classrooms, the hall and office.

These include:

- TenTown, which aides understanding of numbers in Early Years.
- Tapestry, which enables teachers to upload photos and comments on children's progress and share it with parents instantly.
- Time Table Rockstars, to support Years 2-4 learn their times tables.
- Homework books for Years 1-4.
- Packages have also been purchased that support staff in making more accurate day to day assessments about their children and to improve the quality of teaching and learning, ensuring all children are challenged in their learning across the curriculum.
- Commemorative sculpture in the courtyard, to mark the schools 30th birthday.



On behalf of the PTFA, we want to say a big thank you again as, without your support, we would not be able to help our school buy these vitally important resources and equipment.

There are lots of exciting events planned for this year and we hope you and your children will enjoy them! We will be fundraising for a new play area, to replace the trim trail recently removed, and a "Golden Mile" running track. Further information will follow from the PTFA shortly.

### **CLUBS**

We still have a few places left in our French lunchtime club:  
Year 3 - Mondays from 12:00 until 12:30



Year 1- Mondays from 12:30 until 13:00

Year 4 - Fridays from 12:00 until 12:30

Year 2 - Fridays from 12:30 until 13:00

If you are interested or want to find out more, please contact Mrs Baldasera on 0191 2851376 or 07815 115 468 or by email: [rachelbaldy@gmail.com](mailto:rachelbaldy@gmail.com)

There are also places remaining in Yoga Club, Awards Club and Taekwondo. All of the information about clubs is available on the school website and/or from the club providers direct.

### **ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL**

Please can I remind parents that if your child is unwell with diarrhea or vomiting, they need to be absent from school for 48 hours from the last incident of vomiting or diarrhea in accordance with Department of Health Guidelines.

For any absence from school due to illness, please report your child's absence on the first morning of absence before 8.45am by completing the absence report in ParentMail or e-mailing the school office. If you are unable to do this, then you can call the school office. Please provide full details as to why your child is unwell.

### **SCHOOL MEALS**

Mrs Battista's American Diner themed school meal yesterday was enjoyed by all (staff and pupils alike). Please can all parents check their school meal balance on ParentMail and make payment if needed? Please can I remind parents that school no longer accepts cash and cheques - all payments are now made through ParentMail.



### **EYFS WINNIE THE POOH DAY**

Children in Nursery have enjoyed a Teddy Bear's Picnic and craft activities and games linked to Winnie the Pooh today to celebrate National Winnie the Pooh Day. Reception children have enjoyed honey sandwiches and a Teddy Bear's Picnic too.

### **EYFS OPPOSITES DAY**

Nursery and Reception children are invited to come to school wearing their uniforms either inside out or back to front to celebrate National Opposites Day on **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> January**. The children will be doing activities, during the day, linked to opposites.

**OPPOSITE  
DAY**



### **UKULELE LESSONS**

All children in Year 3 & 4 will, from next week, begin weekly Ukulele lessons delivered by a teacher from the Newcastle Music Service. The children will be provided with a ukulele in school but these cannot unfortunately be taken home.

### **WATER BOTTLES**

A reminder that all children are asked to bring named, refillable, sports top water bottles into school each Monday, from home, please. These will be sent home for washing every Friday. As stewards of God's Earth, we are trying to reduce our use of disposable plastic cups in school. We would appreciate your support in this matter please.



### **BOOKBAGS**

A reminder that our new tables in KS1 & 2 have individual drawers for children to store their book bags in. Please could children all use school book bags rather than rucksacks. Thank you. Children should not bring personal belongings to school in their bags please.

## RECEPTION VISIT TO WALKER ACTIVITY DOME

Reception children have been invited to attend an Introduction to Play event on Thursday 7th February 1pm – 2.45pm at Walker Activity Dome. Due to timings of the event, children may be slightly late back to school- apologies for any inconvenience that this may cause.



## RESIDENTIAL SEPT 2019

We are currently discussing the possibility of introducing a Year 4 Residential visit **next academic year** (current Year 3s). In order to gauge parental opinion about this, we are asking the parents of current Year 3 children to complete the ParentMail form online. This is likely to be a two day (one night) visit for children and staff in September, within an hour of the school, undertaking a range of outdoor and adventurous activities for team building purposes. Most of the other First Schools do residential visits with Year 4 but we are interested to hear what you, as parents, think.

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

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

A document will be circulated containing all the questions and answers raised during the NEAT consultation process. This is taking a while to compile.

We really want to hear from you in response to the Consultation. A revised Consultation Response Form is now available on ParentMail, so if you haven't already responded, please would you do so? You will see that there is the option to simply state your position (agree or disagree) or abstain and the option to provide your reasons. You have until the 4th February to respond.

Governors will also be hosting a drop in session for parents to answer any questions at 2:30pm on Wednesday 30th January.

*Sarah Hawkins*

Chair of Governors

## Dates for your Diary

New dates are in red, for your information.

Date	Event	Additional Notes
<b>January 2019</b>		
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January	Years 3 & 4 start ukulele lessons in school	See info above
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	3:45pm Gosforth Voices Rehearsal (Grange First School)	Years 3 & 4
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Compliment Day	
	"Gosforth Gets Going" Multiskills Event (here) for Reception children across all Gosforth First Schools	In school time
	CHANGE OF DATE School Council Meeting with Mrs Mann	In school time
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> Jan	N & Rec "Opposites Day" (in school)	See info above
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> January	2:30pm NEAT Consultation Drop In Session for parents at school	
Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> Jan	Governors Teaching & Learning Cttee Meeting	
<b>February 2019</b>		
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> February	9:00am Parent Council Meeting	Parents who have expressed an interest have been invited
	End of Consultation to join NEAT	
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Safer Internet Day	Activities in school
	Chinese New Year	We are looking for parents who might be able to lead activities in school, linked to Chinese New Year. Please contact Class Teachers.
	10 children from Y1 to Zumba at GPFS	Details will be sent to selected children
	Governors Finance Cttee Meeting	
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Reasoning Workshop for parents 5:00-6:00pm	Please book places online
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Reception- Walker Activity Dome	Please complete form on ParentMail Children may be late back to school.
	GST Moderation Meeting	Staff only
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Worship (led by Year 2) 9:00am	Parents invited
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> Feb	"Love is..." Day	
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> Feb	N & Rec visit to Gibside	We will need as many Nursery & Reception parents as possible please!
	Y3 visit to El Torero	Details to follow
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> Feb	PTFA Film Night	PTFA to send more information
	St Valentine's Day	
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Random Acts of Kindness Day	
	PTFA Cake Stall after school	Please send cake donations to school
	School closes for half term	
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> Feb	School reopens to children	
	International World Thinking Day	Children invited to wear Brownie/Rainbows/Beavers/Cubs Uniforms
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb & Wed 27 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Parents' Evening	Please book online next week
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Year 1 visit from Captain Raggyberard	Please pay on ParentMail
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb	KS2 Quicksticks tournament 1-4pm	Selected children only- details to follow
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	Westfield "Sunshine in our pocket" event for selected KS2 pupils	Details will be sent to selected children
<b>March 2019</b>		
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	Better Reading Partners Workshop for all	Time TBC

	<b>reading buddies and any parents</b>	Please book places online
Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> March- Fri 8 <sup>th</sup> March	Book Week	Info to follow
Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Y1 – 4 visit to Seven Stories	Parent helpers required please! Children to wear school uniform and bring packed lunches please
Wed 6 <sup>th</sup> March	Y4 Worship – Lent begins	Parents invited
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day	Children invited to dress as their favourite book character
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	Governors Teaching & Learning Cttee Meeting	
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Red Nose Day for Comic Relief	Children invited to wear red for £1 donation
	<b>Gosforth Voices Tour</b>	
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Purim (Jewish)</b>	<b>Activities in school</b>
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	World Poetry Day	2:30pm Poetry Performance for parents of Y1-4 children
	GST Moderation Meeting	Staff only
Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Deadline for Nursery applications	
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
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	Y1-4 Mothers' Day Service 9:00am	Mums invited!
	N & Rec Mothers' Day Service 2:30pm	Mums invited!
	Nursery places offered	
<b>April 2019</b>		
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	
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	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	
	<b>Y3 Football Tournament BEFS</b>	
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	
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	Deadline for acceptance of Nursery places	
	PTFA Easter Cake Stall	After school- please send cake donations to school on the day
<b>May 2019</b>		
May	Year 2 Statutory Assessments	Y2 children must be in school please
Friday 3 <sup>rd</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
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
	<b>Wesak (Buddhist)</b>	<b>Activities in school</b>
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	Happy Shoes Day	Walk to school and wear your own shoes- donation of £1 please.
	<b>World Day for Cultural Diversity</b>	<b>Activities in school</b>
	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	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	Details to follow
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
	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	Govs TLA Cttee Meeting	
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	New Nursery Parents Meeting 5:00pm	
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	New Reception Parents Meeting 5:00pm	
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Non Uniform Day	Please send bottles or tombola prizes
	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
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	Governing Body Meeting	
	Transition Day for all Classes	
	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		
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 suncream 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	

**“Love to learn, learn to love”**  
Colossians 3:23-24