



Newsletter 17

5th June 2026

Headteacher Message



Welcome back to school!

I hope you all had a wonderful, relaxing May half-term break and are ready for an exciting final stretch of the school year. We have a packed few weeks ahead of us, starting with some important milestones for our children. A huge congratulations goes out to those of our Year 4, who have officially completed their Multiplication Tables Check (MTC). The rest of the class will complete theirs next week. Their hard work and dedication during practice has paid off, and we are incredibly proud of your efforts!

Looking ahead, we wish the very best of luck to our Year 1 children as they prepare for the upcoming Phonics Screening Check (PSC) next week. You have all been working so hard, and we know you will do your absolute best.

The rest of this term is filled with fantastic events and opportunities to celebrate together. Energy levels will be high as we look forward to our upcoming Sports Days, where teamwork and school spirit will be on full display. We are also preparing for our transition days, which will help everyone feel confident, excited and ready as they spend time getting to know their new teachers and classrooms for next year.

I am sure your child(ren) will have told you that our new facilities manager, Mr Sheridan, has taken up his post at ARFS and is getting stuck into his new role and all the extra duties associated with working in a first school!

Thank you for your continued support as we head into this busy and rewarding final half-term. Let's make it a fantastic couple of months!

With my very 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.
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- 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.

Promoting good attendance

As part of weekly celebration worship:

- The benefits of good school attendance are shared
- The attendance of each class is monitored each week and the class with the highest attendance earns an extra playtime. This is recorded in the main school hall.
- One child from each class with 100% attendance is selected each week to visit the Dojo Shop in school.

Half termly:

- The overall attendance of each class is monitored each half term and the class with the highest attendance earns reward.

Termly:

- Attendance data is shared with parents and carers via parent-teacher consultations (autumn & spring) and end of year reports (summer).

"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 18/05/2026 - 95%
- w/c 01/06/2026 - 95%

Highest class attendance:

- w/c 18/05/2026 - Year 4 96%
- w/c 01/06/2026 - Year 1 97%

Absence Headlines

During this fortnight, 210 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 18/05/2026 - 5%
- w/c 01/06/2026 - 5%

Absence caused by holidays:

- w/c 18/05/2026 - 2%
- w/c 01/06/2026 - 2.3%

Other absences:

- w/c 18/05/2026 - 3%
- w/c 01/06/2026 - 2.7%



Leave of Absence requests can be made to the Headteacher *in advance* by the parent/carer the child normally lives with if you want to take your child out of school during term time, however, it is only able to be authorised if there are exceptional circumstances. You can be fined for taking your child out of school without the school's permission.

Please note, as per DfE guidance, we routinely refer families who have taken holidays during term time to the LA for fixed-penalty notices:

- For first offences within a three-year rolling period, each parent/carer could be fined £160 to be paid within 28 days, which can be reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days.
- For second offences within a three-year rolling period, each parent/carer could be fined £160 to be paid within 28 days, with no option to pay a reduced amount.
- For your third offence within a three-year rolling period, parents/carers will not be issued with a fine and will be referred straight to court. This could be a fine of up to £2,500, a community order or a jail sentence up to 3 months. The court also gives Parenting Orders.

School Celebrations!



Demonstrating Love

Nursery

- Emma
- Joshua

Reception

- Lottie
- Annabelle

Year 1

- Yusuf
- Lola

Year 2

- Zephy
- Mehr

Year 3

- Ethan
- Ethan

Year 4

- Elli
- Nuh

Staff

- Mr Sheridan
- Mrs Kaur
- Mrs Coates



Demonstrating Determination

Nursery

- Elyana
- Seb

Reception

- Lucas
- Aga

Year 1

- Hadi
- Yusuf

Year 2

- Ollie
- James

Year 3

- Logan
- Kayden

Year 4

- Thanuja
- Mia

- Max Co

Staff

- Mrs Armstrong
- Mrs Lowe



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

- George
- Grace

Year 2

- Zephy
- Iyiola

Year 3

- Anneloise
- Kayden

Year 4

- George F
- Teddy



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.

Year 1 children should know by heart x2, x5, x10 (and corresponding division facts)

Year 2 children should know by heart x2, x5, x10, x3 (and corresponding division facts)

Year 3 children should know by heart x2, x5, x10, x3, x4, x8, x6 (and corresponding division facts)

Year 4 children should know by heart all tables to 12 x 12 (and corresponding division facts)

TTRS - Highest engagement

Year 1- Jacob M

Year 2- Yashika

Year 3 - Lyla

Year 4 - Esmin

TTRS - Highest accuracy

Year 1- Jacob M

Year 2- Ani

Year 3 - Felix

Year 4 - Max Cr

Current Rank amongst nearby schools: 30/105

Mean studio speed (seconds per question): 2.3 - wow!

Social Action Groups



At ARFS, our social action groups serve as a practical outworking of the school's theologically rooted Christian vision, empowering our children to become "courageous advocates" for change. These groups encourage children to live out our school values of love and determination by identifying and responding to needs within their local and global communities.

By participating in these social action groups, our children develop early leadership skills and a lifelong commitment to social responsibility, recognising that their voices and actions can truly improve the lives of others.



3 - Green Team



4 - Energy Champions



5 - Play Leaders



6 - Library Champions



7 - Worship Council



8 - School Council



9 - Hall monitors



SCHOOL COUNCIL

School Council have been brainstorming many different fundraising options. We had a fantastic meeting where our council members came up with lots of options and at our next meeting we will decide on one fundraising option and decide how we will promote and implement this.



PLAY LEADERS

Play Leaders have worked very hard since we have had some new playground equipment delivered, both in showing children how to use it safely and helping to organise it after use. Before they move to Middle School at the end of this term, we will be looking at how they can support the new Play Leaders in their new role.



GREEN TEAM

Green Team have, this week, welcomed Mr Sheridan to the team! He was very busy over half term watering our new trees in the heat over half term and, yesterday, he joined us for his first litter pick around school. We recruited some helpers this week to help us dig over and plant up the sensory herb planters in the courtyard - massive thanks to our Year 1 friends who lent a hand!



WORSHIP COUNCIL

Worship Council planned and led a wonderful Pentecost Service before half term, They read beautifully and Mrs Francis said the singing was uplifting!

Worship Council have had a busy few weeks with Easter, Ascension and Pentecost and will now have a well earned break from leading services for the rest of the school year.



YOUNG LEADERS

As we head into our final half term, the Young Leaders will be preparing for not only a debate amongst themselves, but we are preparing to lead a whole school worship to share what we have been learning about over the course of this year.



LIBRARY CHAMPIONS

The library champions have continued to work hard this week ensuring the library is tidy and stock put away correctly! Library Champions are like our very own 'school elves' who do so much work behind the scenes that can go unseen - we are very grateful for their time and commitment.

Clubs for summer term 2 (June/July)



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 (Years 1 - 4)
email: admin@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk
- **All Stars Bible Club** (run by a group of parents and church volunteers) - Tuesdays (fortnightly) 12:30pm (Reception - Year 4) email: beckymcbride90@gmail.com
- **Violin** Monday after school with Charlotte from Music Partnership North (Years 3 & 4)
<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=wLSfsgQNn0q0YsEpSx4bR6HhZ8onp51DiB-iHdtAkHdUNzg1S08yUTdTR0hGRzJSMkQySU5PVUJFVi4u&route=shorturl>
- **Guitar** with Jack from Music Partnership North (Years 2, 3 & 4) - Tuesdays after school
<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=wLSfsgQNn0q0YsEpSx4bR6HhZ8onp51DiB-iHdtAkHdUNzg1S08yUTdTR0hGRzJSMkQySU5PVUJFVi4u&route=shorturl>
- **Gosforth Voices** (Years 2, 3 & 4) run by Music Partnership North on behalf of Gosforth Schools Trust <https://www.newcastlemusicsservice.co.uk/ensembles>
- **Gosforth Band** run by Music Partnership North on behalf of Gosforth Schools Trust (Years 3 & 4) <https://www.newcastlemusicsservice.co.uk/ensembles>
- **After School Football** with Lee Sterry (Years 3 & 4) Tuesday 3:30-4:30pm
<https://www.ls-sc.co.uk/>

- **Lunchtime football** with Lee Sterry. No need to book and no charge - just bring a change of shoes and come along! (Year 3 & 4 12:00 - 12:20pm, Years 1 & 2 12:20-12:40pm)

Please note that any issues relating to clubs organised by external providers should be made directly to them, not to school, please.



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

BREAKFAST CLUB

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 to include breakfast of cereal/toast and milk/orange juice. Children must arrive before 8.15am if they require breakfast.

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

REDUCED PRICES & SUBSIDISED COSTS: If you are entitled to Tax Free Childcare, then in effect this will reduce the cost of childcare by 20% (equivalent to £4.80 a day). See : <https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>.

If you receive Universal Credit, you may be able to claim back up to 85% of the cost of childcare. This means Breakfast Club would only cost 90p a day! Check here:

<https://www.gov.uk/help-with-childcare-costs/universal-credit>

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Our After School Club runs 3:15-5:30pm, Monday - Friday.

Afterschool Club:

- 3.15- 4:15pm is £6.00
- 3.15-5.30pm is £12.50 and includes a snack and drink.

This week, we have been gathering suggestions from our children (at ASC) and parents/carers (via the display board in the main entrance). We are delighted to announce that the children have voted to have a Film Night to watch 'How to train your dragon' on Thursday 5th February. This is open to all but spaces must be booked as normal via Childcare Bookings for Schools.

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

REDUCED PRICES & SUBSIDISED COSTS: If you are entitled to Tax Free Childcare, then in effect this will reduce the cost of childcare by 20% (equivalent to £4.80/£10 a day). See : <https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>.

If you receive Universal Credit, you may be able to claim back up to 85% of the cost of childcare. This means After School Club would cost from 90p per day! Check here: <https://www.gov.uk/help-with-childcare-costs/universal-credit>



11 - Wraparound phone can be used outside school office hours (7:45-8:45am/3:15-5:30pm)

Wraparound have a mobile phone that parents/carers can use outside of school office opening times. This number should be used before 8am or after 3:30pm if you need to contact the wraparound team.

They can be contacted by calling 07340117366. This phone is not active during the school day and should not be used to make or cancel bookings.

Collective Worship

This week in school we have begun to explore and reflect on some of the parables of Jesus to discover how to live out our faith in the modern world. These stories use events to communicate profound spiritual and moral truths, encouraging us to reflect on the Kingdom of God and our responsibility to our community. We will be listening to lots more parables over the coming weeks.



PENTECOST SERVICE

Huge thanks to our wonderful Worship Council for preparing and leading our Pentecost Service before half term - I'm sure you will all agree that it was a fabulous way to end the half term. Thank you to everyone who was able to join us!



Church Links



ALL SAINTS' NEWS

Messy Church

The next services will be held at **3:00pm** in the All Saints Centre on **Sunday 28th June** - are very welcome.

PTFA update



SUMMER SOCIAL

The PTFA have been very busy behind the scenes planning our summer social next Friday.

The entry cost will be £6 per child and this will give them access to inflatables, silent disco and access to lots of other activities and stalls run by each class. Adult entry will be free.

Please bring your own picnic and blanket to enjoy (or you can pre-order pizza/fries before Wednesday 10th June at 8:00pm).

There will be ice lollies, soft drinks, prosecco and beer to buy on the day via card payment. This will be a cashless event.

Bookings are now open so please sign up and pay using this link: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-GB/ticketing/archbishop-runcie-ptfa-summer-social>. It would be really helpful if you could sign up ASAP to help us with planning for the day.

If you would like to help on the day we would love you to get involved - just speak to your class rep (listed below the email) or ask in your class Whatsapp group. If you have any questions please message us on archbishopruncieptfa@gmail.com.

We hope to see lots of you there!



ARFS TEA TOWELS

The project to design and print a school tea towel is underway. The PTFA have been in school this week, supporting every child (who has been in school) to draw a fabulous self-portrait. The tea towel will be printed in full colour, with every child in the school featuring. Orders for tea towels can be made through ParentMail.

When making your payment for tea towels, please ensure you change the amount you are paying to reflect the amount of tea towels you are ordering. The initial amount in ParentMail will always show £9 so this must be changed if you are ordering more than one. Prices are shown below:

1 tea towel - £9

2 tea towels - £16

3 tea towels - £21

4 tea towels - £26



EASYFUNDRAISING

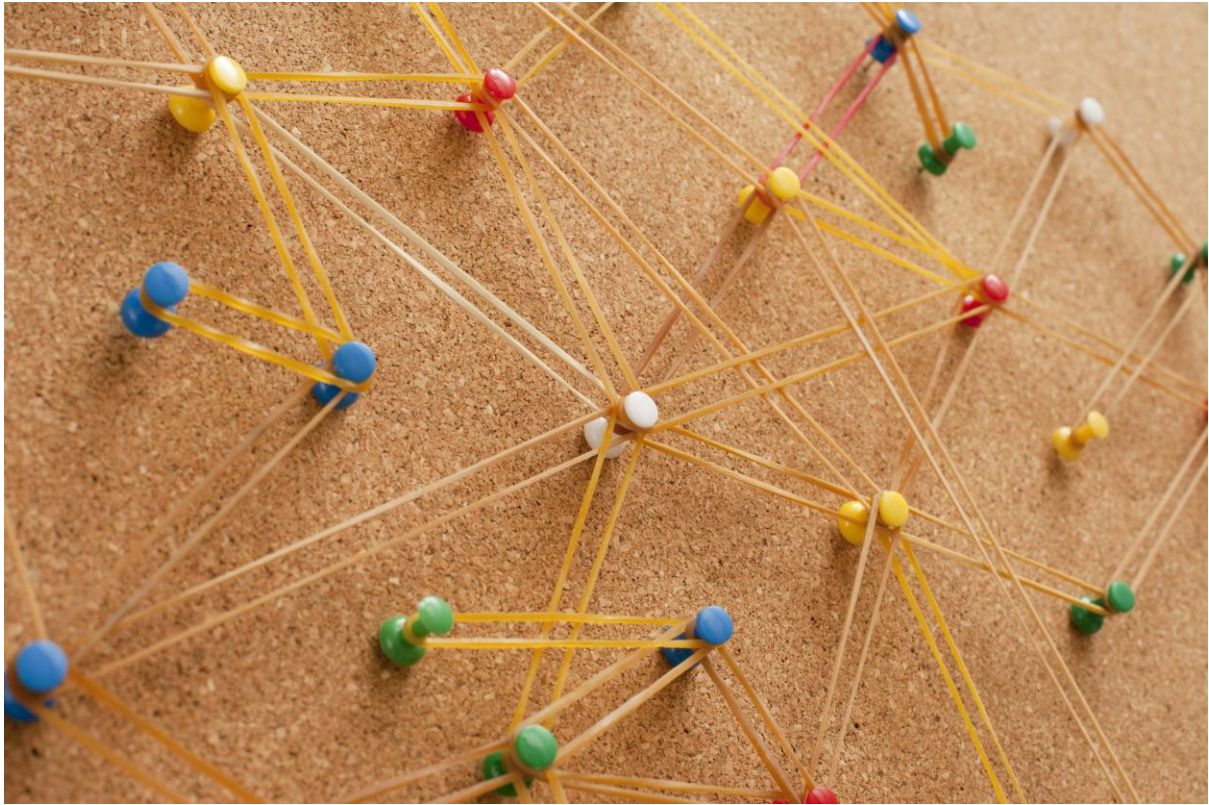
Shop with over 8,000 retailers via #easyfundraising and earn a free donation for Archbishop Runcie First School PTFA, Gosforth at the same time.

All the big names like eBay, Argos, John Lewis & Partners, Etsy, Tesco and Just Eat are ready to donate. It won't cost you anything extra!

Please sign up today and you could win a £250 donation:

<https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/archbishoprunciefirstptfa/kxzsy/s2s/FZ9Up2Ac/SE870/facebook/>

School News



RELATIONSHIPS MATTER

💡 **Happy Parents, Thriving Kids: A Free Session with Paula Davies**

Ever wonder how your daily interactions shape your child's behaviour? Join us for an insightful session with expert Paula Davies to discover how parent communication directly impacts your child's emotional well-being and success.

What you will take away:

- Practical tools to model healthy communication at home.
- Easy strategies to resolve disagreements constructively in front of your children.
- Proven ways to lower your child's stress and boost their security.

Turn everyday family moments into a powerful blueprint for your child's future.

Research consistently shows that how parents communicate with each other directly impacts a child's emotional development, academic success and future relationship

patterns. Paula Davies has offered to run a session for parents and carers of children at ARFS at 5:30pm on Monday 15th June. Please sign up to attend via ParentMail.



FAMILY PARTNER

In Newcastle, a Family Partner is a dedicated professional role within [Children & Families Newcastle](#). They work directly with families facing challenges to coordinate support, connect them with local groups and activities, and help parents navigate services so they only have to tell their story once.

Our school's Family Partner is Carly Burke

A Family Partner can offer:

- **Holistic Support:** They carry out whole-family assessments and create action plans (often called Early Help Plans) tailored to your specific needs.
- **Relationship Support:** They can help couples resolve conflicts, improve communication and better manage anger or depression.
- **System Navigation:** They act as a bridge between you and other specialist services (such as healthcare, schools and [Action for Children](#)).
- **Accessing Activities:** They connect families to the free, localized groups offered through the city's Community Family Offer, often based out of local Family Hubs

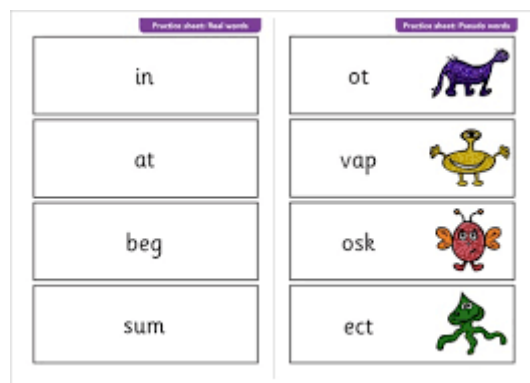
A Family Partner is there to help children, young people and families navigate services available to them and help them to work with organisations providing help.<https://www.servicestoschools.org.uk/Page/24136>



WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK

Before half term, ARFS took part in Walk to School Week. xx% of our children walked, scooted or cycled to school during this week - well done everyone!

Walking to school can improve children's health, boost classroom focus, lower community traffic congestion and protects the environment. Organised by the UK charity Living Streets, this five-day challenge encourages families to swap car keys for walking shoes or try "Park and Stride" options.



STATUTORY ASSESSMENTS

YEAR 1 PHONICS SCREENING CHECK

Before half term, Mrs Armstrong sent home QR codes to parents of children in Year 1. These codes will give you direct access to the RWI clips that will help your child prepare for the phonics screen check next week.

Administered every June in England, this short assessment requires children to read 40 words aloud to a familiar adult. It evaluates how well they blend sounds together, which is the baseline mechanism for reading unfamiliar words. It is a vital milestone because it confirms a child has mastered the foundational decoding skills required to become a fluent, independent reader.

If children do not pass the PSC, they will resit it in Year 2.

Results will be shared with parents/carers in the end of year reports.



YEAR 4 MULTIPLICATION TABLES CHECK (MTC)

Last term, Mrs Ellwood shared children's 'heat maps' with families of children in Year 4. These heat maps show which tables children know well (green) and which they need to consolidate (amber and red).

Knowing their tables gives children the confidence to tackle new mathematical challenges independently and with minimal stress.

The Year 4 MTC is a diagnostic tool which signals to schools which children need further support to learn their tables. Results will be shared with parents/carers in the end of year reports and with middle school staff so that support can be put in place during Year 5 for anyone who needs it.



MEET THE TEACHERS

There will be an opportunity for parents and carers to meet teaching staff for their child's next school year on the following dates:

- Nursery: Tuesday 30th June 5:30pm
- Reception: Tuesday 23rd June 5:30pm

- Year 1: Wednesday 8th July 4:30pm
- Year 2: Wednesday 8th July 5:30pm
- Year 3: Thursday 9th July 4:30pm
- Year 4: Thursday 9th July 5:30pm

Please note that these meetings are for parents and carers only.



DONATIONS NEEDED, PLEASE!

As summer arrives, we are looking forward to re-stocking and enhancing our playground activities for all our children . Our older children enjoy playing outside as much as the younger ones and we are looking for ways to keep playtimes fun and interesting. If anyone has any of the following items they could donate, we would be most grateful. Thank you!

- Dressing up costumes (age 6+)
- Dance/cheerleader pom-poms/props
- Children's magazines - National Geographic, Bang Whizz Pop, Eco Kids Planet and Lego are loved the most!
- Non-fiction books about British garden wildlife
- Pots, pans and utensils
- Tennis balls
- Dolls and prams



CAKE SALE

Reception raised £40 - well done! The next cake sale will be run by Nursery on Thursday 2nd July at 3:15pm - all donations will be gratefully received. Please remember to list ingredients of any homemade goodies! Thank you.

Please note that our cake sales are now cashless. Contactless payments can be made with a debit card or phone via our school SumUp machine.

Sporting News





SWIMMING GALA

Last month, some of our Year Four pupils represented ARFS in the Gosforth Swimming Gala at Gosforth Leisure Centre and they did so with so much Love and Determination. The sportsmanship that they showed to each other was commendable and three of the selected pupils made their respective finals, with one winning first place! Well done swimmers!



NECCR

We proudly took part in the NECCR on the 17th May - our school had over 100 runners which is wonderful - well done everyone! We will find out how much we raised over the next

The day was a fabulous community event and it was lovely to share it with so many of our current and previous families. Thank you to everyone who came along to run, walk and support. You can see more lovely photographs on our Facebook page!



SPORTS WEEK

On the week commencing 15th June, we will be taking part in a number of different sporting activities. This years theme for Sports Week is 'summer of sport'. The aim is for all children

to be physically active for at least 60 minutes each day and gain some knowledge about the sporting events that have happened this year or that are happening eg., The World Cup.

Please can all children come to school everyday in their PE kit as there are lots of exciting activities happening over the course of the week. We have got parachute games, multiskills activities, football and rounders events happening.



SPORTS DAYS

For Reception - Year 4 Sports Days, please arrive at 1:45pm via the playground gate where you will be greeted by Mr Sheridan and gates will be locked promptly at 2:00pm in order to make the site secure before children come outside. If you arrive after 2:00pm, you will need to enter via the main school entrance.

Class Teachers will bring children out at 2:00pm for their sports days. Nursery Sports Day will take place around 9:15am - please stay after drop off. Parents and carers are encouraged to attend - there is no limit to numbers. **Please note that children should wear their school PE kit for Sports Day, please.**

Mrs Francis & Miss Lawton will send Nursery & Reception PE kits home so children can come dressed in them for their Sports Days.

There will be a parents' race so, if you'd like to get involved, please wear your trainers! This is at your own risk and we cannot take responsibility for any injuries caused(!).

Sports days will take place as follows:

Nursery: Wednesday 17th June 9:15am

Reception: Wednesday 17th June 2:00pm

Year 1: Thursday 18th June 2:00pm

Year 2: Friday 19th June 2:00pm

Year 3: Monday 15th June 2:00pm

Year 4: Tuesday 16th June 2:00pm

GST DANCE SHOWCASE

The GST dance showcase will take place at Gosforth East Middle School (GEMS) on Wednesday 17th June at 6pm. Children taking part will be allocated 2 tickets each. Please see ParentMail that was sent out to those taking part earlier this week for further information.

Miss Armstrong will be walking along to GEMS with the children after school where they will begin rehearsals at 4:30pm. Please speak to Miss Armstrong if you have any questions.

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 Coates 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.

We are looking for the following volunteers:

- *Librarians*
- *Playgroup helpers*
- *Reading buddies*
- *School visit volunteers*

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

Dates for your diaries



Please see diary dates attached - this term is a busy one so please check you have added everything to your calendar! Dates can also be viewed on the school calendar at <https://archbishop-runcie.eschools.co.uk/web/calendar>

Mrs Coates regularly puts reminders of events on Facebook and Instagram to prompt parents too - please follow us to keep up with what's happening in school!

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.



WOMEN'S AID CAMPAIGN

Although we recognise domestic abuse comes in many forms and perpetrators are not always men, Women's Aid have launched a new campaign, 'The Monster Who Came to Tea', highlighting the impact of domestic abuse on both women and children. The film tells the story of a mother and daughter experiencing domestic abuse, seen through the eyes of a young girl named Lily. Alongside the film, Women's Aid have written an open letter calling on the Government to improve funding for specialist domestic abuse services.

Read the news story: Women's Aid launched sobering children's book 'Monster who came to tea' and calls on the Government to improve funding for women and children survivors of domestic abuse. You can read the story [here](#).

Watch the film: The Monster Who Came to Tea [here](#).



E-SAFETY UPDATE FOR PARENTS FROM ALAN MACKENZIE (ONLINE SAFETY SPECIALIST)

Virgin Media and Internet Matters have released a wonderful new resource for parents/carers. Called 'Find the Right Words', the video and resources help with some of those difficult conversations about how to keep children safe online. Link - [Find the Right Words.](#)

Steam is a huge digital distribution platform for PC gaming and hugely popular with children and young people. Basically Steam acts as a storefront, installer, launcher and social network for 30,000 games. Because of the vast range of games, some of which will not be suitable for children, it's important that parents understand the controls that are available to them on the Steam platform. Internet Matters have a 1-minute video on YouTube which will help with this. Link - [Parents video guide to Steam parental controls.](#)

Many children will have seen or heard some of the horrific events that have been happening recently. Whether that's on the news, someone discussing it, or perhaps online, children can be traumatised by what they are seeing and hearing. This article from The Conversation discusses the issue and gives some really good advice. Link: [The Conversation - How to talk to children when terrorist attacks and violence dominate the news.](#)

Roblox have been making some big changes recently, and that now includes 'age-gating' so that children and young people get the experience according to their age. This means that there are now 3 types of Roblox accounts:

- Roblox Kids - for children 5-8 years.
- Roblox Select - for children 9-15 years.
- Roblox - for anyone 16+.

For any users that have not completed an age check, they will be put into the youngest users category and parents can update or correct a child's age through a linked account. The link below will take you to a simplified breakdown of the different accounts.

Link: [What are Roblox Kids and Roblox Select?](#)



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>

Would you like to learn about autism, parent well-being and find community?



Are you a parent/carer of an autistic child aged between 2-15 years old?

Has your child been diagnosed within the last two years?

We would love you to join one of our free parent groups funded by the National Lottery Community fund.

- **Empower-Autism** groups help parents/carers understand and adjust to the new diagnosis, parent their autistic child well, and stay healthy and well as a parent/carer.
- **Empower-Autism** consists of five 3-hour sessions delivered online. Sessions are led by two facilitators who have substantial professional expertise and their own lived experience.
- **Empower-Autism** has been developed by researchers at the University of Manchester and evaluated in a large clinical trial. Results showed that parents/carers really value the programme and experienced significant benefits that lasted over the course of a year.



"I've learned to see the world how my son sees it"

- PARENTS OF AUTISTIC CHILDREN

"It's a good mental well-being toolkit"



For more information please visit our website

www.empower-autism.co.uk

Or contact our team at enquiries@empower-autism.co.uk

MANCHESTER
1824
The University of Manchester



12 - For family support, please scan.



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



SEND LOCAL OFFER

The Local Offer tells you what support is available in Newcastle. You can find out about schools, health services, and activities. It also helps families get the right help and support.

<https://childrenandfamiliesnewcastle.org.uk/send-local-offer>



FAMILY PARTNER

In Newcastle, a Family Partner is a dedicated professional role within [Children & Families Newcastle](#). They work directly with families facing challenges to coordinate support, connect them with local groups and activities, and help parents navigate services so they only have to tell their story once.

Our school's Family Partner is Carly Burke carly.burke@newcastle.gov.uk

A Family Partner can offer:

- **Holistic Support:** They carry out whole-family assessments and create action plans (often called Early Help Plans) tailored to your specific needs.
- **Relationship Support:** They can help couples resolve conflicts, improve communication and better manage anger or depression.
- **System Navigation:** They act as a bridge between you and other specialist services (such as healthcare, schools and [Action for Children](#)).
- **Accessing Activities:** They connect families to the free, localized groups offered through the city's Community Family Offer, often based out of local Family Hubs

A Family Partner is there to help children, young people and families navigate services available to them and help them to work with organisations providing help.

<https://www.servicestoschools.org.uk/Page/24136>



SENDIASS

Newcastle SENDIASS (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information, Advice and Support Service) is a free, confidential, and impartial service for parents, carers, children, and young people up to the age of 25. They offer guidance on education, health, and social care matters relating to special educational needs and disabilities.

Contact Information

- **Phone:** 0191 211 6255 (Available Monday to Friday, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM)
- **Email:** sendiassadmin@newcastle.gov.uk

Contact Us



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