



ARCHBISHOP RUNCIE CHURCH OF ENGLAND (VA) FIRST SCHOOL



April 2019 - Newsletter 27

ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Whole School (excluding Nursery)
91.1%	87.6%	98.2%	98%	97.9%	97%	95.7%

Our school target for attendance is 97%.

PTFA NEWS



PTFA Film Night yesterday was very well attended and enjoyed by all (staff and parents included!). A reminder that the PTFA are holding a cake stall on Friday 26th April. Any donations would be gratefully received on the Friday morning.



In addition, the PTFA have given out sponsorship forms today for the sponsored walk taking part at Druridge bay. Please be sure to ask all visiting family over the holidays if you are able to join us on the day. The sponsorship form will be sent out from the PTFA separately.

PE KITS

PE kits have been sent today/yesterday home for washing. Please use the opportunity to make sure their kit, in particular footwear, still fits well and is still clearly named.

LOST PROPERTY

A purple digital watch was found in school last week. Please contact Mrs McCloud if it belongs to you!

FOREST SCHOOL



Forest School was, as always, a huge hit with the children and staff (despite the rain!). The highlight was pizza making (and eating!) and making Easter crowns. Thank you for making this experience possible with your financial contributions.

STAFFING

Congratulations to Mrs Chandler who has now completed her NQT year! It has been fantastic to see our NQTs blossom over the time they have been with us!



This week, we made an appointment for a Teaching Assistant, to work in Reception class, starting after Easter. Unfortunately, her family circumstances have drastically changed overnight and she is now unable to start therefore we will recruit after Easter.

SPONSOR A RESOURCE



After the huge success of "Sponsor a Tree" the Parent Council have suggested parents and families being able to sponsor other items in school. Class Teachers will send out a "wish list" of resources/books etc that families can donate or "sponsor" in their class newsletters, after Easter.

Y4 BIKEABILITY

On 24th April Year 4 children are invited to bring their bike to school



to take part in a

“Bikeability” session. Consent forms have been sent home in book bags.

This training is a National Training standard which giving trainees a real cycling experience developing principles for better and safer cycling. This training is conducted in the school grounds. All children must wear a cycle helmet and their bike must be road worthy and have a working brake. If your child cannot wear a helmet (eg due to religious headwear or cochlear implant), please speak to the Road Safety Instructor to discuss further prior to the training.

The Instructors are trained Bikeability Instructors and have DBS certificates. The Instructors will assess the pupils’ ability throughout the training. The training will cover aspects such as control, observations, signalling, passing and turning. More information regarding Bikeability can be found at bikeability.org.uk

For your child to take part in Bikeability, please complete this Consent Form and return it to the School.

YEAR 2 VISIT TO GRACE DARLING MUSEUM

On Thursday 25th April , Year 2 will be visiting the Grace Darling Museum in Bamburgh. They will leave shortly after registration and return by hometime. Please could parent helpers come into school for the briefing, prior to departure, at 9:00am? We do still need parent helpers please. There will be space on the coach for parent helpers. Please pay on ParentMail.



YEAR 1 VISIT TO DOBBIES

On Friday 26th April, Year 1 will be visiting Dobbies Garden Centre for a planting workshop. They will leave shortly after registration and return for lunch, in school. We only have three parent helpers so far so please let Miss Wilkinson know if you are available to help. Payments can be made on ParentMail.



A PLEA FROM MRS CHANDLER

A reminder that Nursery (or other) children are not allowed to bring sweets to school please. Chewing gum is also not allowed. We would be grateful if they could also leave toys and other personal belongings at home. Toys often end up getting lost, broken or played with by other children, which can be upsetting when you are three!

WATER BOTTLES

A reminder that children are only allowed to bring water in their water bottles please. Staff will send bottles home each Friday for washing. Please ensure bottles are returned to school each Monday and are clearly named. Bottles can be filled at school, rather than carrying a full bottle to school.

YEARS 3 & 4 RIVER CRUISE

Years 3 and 4 are going on a river cruise, “from quay to sea” on Friday 26th April. We will be setting sail at 10am. The three hour cruise is a fantastic way to see the changing face of the River Tyne from the best vantage point in town.



The cruise will take us under the magical Gateshead Millennium Bridge, which opens especially for the cruise to enjoy the panorama of the Tyne Gorge before returning downriver as far as the river mouth.

We will see the legendary shipyards of Tyneside, the international Ferry Terminals, the Port of Tyne, the Fish Quay and the glorious vistas of the river mouth, including Tynemouth Castle and Priory, the memorial to Admiral Lord Collingwood and the beautiful sandy beaches of South Shields. The cruise turns at the piers, where seals and dolphins are regularly seen and returns to Newcastle Quayside. All parent/volunteer helpers will need to pay for the boat trip, as well as for their child(ren).

This can be a very chilly visit so please make sure children are wrapped up warm!

VISITS

We have been kindly asked by several parents if it would be possible for them to pay for/contribute to another child's visit/events payments as a charitable gift. In future, we will able "donations" setting on ParentMail payments for visits, visitors and events which will allow parents who would like a donation to do so.

ILLNESS



It is recommended that any child with diarrhoea and/or vomiting symptoms must stay away from school until they have been free of symptoms for **48 hours** and feel well. We are aware parents want their child(ren) to return to school promptly after illness but please make sure your child has been free of symptoms for 48 hours before their return to school (the '**48 hour rule**'). This will help attending children to remain fit and well and therefore maintain their high attendance!

PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE

Thank you to all the parents who have already completed and returned the Parent Questionnaire online. It is great to receive your feedback to help us continue to understand the strengths of our school and areas for further improvement. The questionnaire response window closes on Sunday 7th April, after which I will share results.



PARENT COUNCIL

We now have a Parent Council board on the yard so you can keep up to date. If you would be interested in establishing a pre-ARFS playgroup please contact them so we can gauge interest.

AUTISM AWARENESS WEEK

Children have taken part in a range of PSHE activities this week linked to Autism in order to raise awareness and understanding of children with additional needs. They have shown themselves to be a caring, welcoming and inclusive group of children of whom we are proud! Thank you to Mrs Kohannejad for the session she led with Years 3 and 4.



SPELLING

After Easter, children in Years 1-4 will complete a spelling quiz to assess their spelling of the words that are sent home, each week. This is a trial and will be reviewed by staff at May half term. We would welcome your feedback too! Spelling quizzes will take place on a **Thursday** so children have had a full week to learn their spellings.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS – SUMMER 1

To book places in after school clubs please contact providers directly. All contact details are on our school website. Please note the new Multi Sports After School Club for Years 1 & 2.

	Before School	Lunchtime	After school
Monday	Breakfast Club 8:00-8:50am Places must have been booked and paid for online in advance	French (Y1 & Y3)	Dance (Y1-Y4) 3:15-4:15pm Mr Renny's Football (Y3 only)
Tuesday			Taekwondo (Y1-Y4) 3:15-4:15pm
Wednesday		Italian (Y3 & 4)	Awards (Y4) 3:15-4:30pm Lee Sterry Multi Sports Club (Y1&2) 3:15-4:30pm
Thursday			Art (Y1-Y4) 3:15-4:15pm
Friday		French (Y2 & Y4)	Y3&4 Lee Sterry Football (Y3 & Y4) 3:15-4:30pm

DANCE CLUB

Dance Club will continue on Mondays after school from 3.15pm until 4.15pm. The class is open to children in years 1, 2, 3 & 4 regardless of experience and ability. Payment is made on a termly basis, at a cost of £5 per week. Due to a few bank holidays the dates that the club WILL be running are as follows;

- 29th April
- 13th, 20th May
- HALF TERM
3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th June
- 1st, 8th July

9 weeks in total – so a cost of £45 for the full term. The children can attend in their school uniform but may wish to wear trainers. If you would like your child to join Dance Club please contact Brooke directly (brooke@freelance-dance.co.uk or 07783 421132) **and** return this form directly to her by Friday 5th April 2019 to secure your child's place in the club.

CHILDREN'S CANCER RUN, SUNDAY 19th MAY 2019

Yesterday, the children had a special assembly where they heard about the great work of the charity and how they can take part in the run. Thank you to Simon Scott-Harden and Ian Pickett for leading this. Children were enthused about taking part in the run! Children received pencils, stickers and a leaflet about how to register.



To register:

i) Logon to www.childrenscancerrun.co.uk

ii) Register for the event.

iii) Look for the section "Are you running for a school or running independently?" and make sure you select Archbishop Runcie C of E First School.

YOU MUST SELECT THE SCHOOL IF YOU WANT TO RUN AT THE SCHOOL'S ALLOCATED TIME AND TO RECEIVE CHILDREN'S T-SHIRTS PRIOR TO THE EVENT.

Siblings, friends and relatives can all be entered under Archbishop Runcie C of E First School. This means they will be able to run at the same time and will receive their t-shirts in advance.

SCHOOL MEALS MONEY

The lunch register on ParentMail is up to date and showing accurate balances as at the end of this term. Please kindly pay any monies outstanding before the start of Summer Term and make payment for the term ahead. Taking into account the Bank Holidays and KS2 visit the amount payable for Years 3&4 for the half term is £46 (£2.00 per meal). Nursery parents will need to calculate their amounts payable according to their child's attendance pattern (£1.90 per meal). If you have any queries about your ParentMail payments for school meals, please e-mail Mrs McCloud (admin@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk) and she will address this early next term.

HEADTEACHER MESSAGE

This term has flown by... The staff, governors and friends of our school have worked tirelessly to provide the very best education for our children. We are delighted with the standard of work across school. Well done everyone! After Easter we will be continuing our drive to further improve standards, of spelling and handwriting in particular. Please support us in this by reading and spelling "common exception words" (sent home by class teachers), appropriate to your child's age. Common exception words are words that cannot be spelled using phonic knowledge; children therefore need to learn these spelling by heart.



Thank you everyone for your ongoing support this term- we really do appreciate it. Thank you also for all our Easter treats and good wishes- you are all very kind! The staff and I wish you all a peaceful, restful Easter break.

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

As a school, we value the positive relationships forged with our parents and carers. We encourage close links with parents, carers and the wider community and believe that pupils can benefit when the relationship between home and school is a positive one. We also strive to make our school a place where, as adults, we model the behaviour we teach and expect from our pupils. In general, we place a high importance on good manners, positive communication and mutual respect.

On occasions, the behaviour of a small minority of parents and carers has fallen short of what we expect. This can manifest itself in aggression or abuse towards members of the school community. This can be physical, in written communication (including social media), on the telephone or in face-to-face incidents.

All members of the school community have the right to work, or be in school, without fear of aggression or abusive or insulting behaviour, conduct or language from parents and carers. The Governing Body has a responsibility to protect staff and pupils from such behaviour.

I have set out below what our School expects of its parents, carers and other visitors when they visit the school.

At Archbishop Runcie CE First School the expectations for parents, carers and other visitors are:

- Parents coming into the building must report, on arrival, to the school office via the main entrance.
- Parents accessing the site must not interfere with the work of the school or disrupt the peaceful environment of the school.
- If a parent/carers disrupts the work of the school, or causes a disturbance in any way, the Governors have delegated to the Headteacher the power to order his/her removal from the school premises. They will not be able to return to the school premises until such a time as they receive confirmation from the Headteacher that they may re-enter the school grounds.

Kind regards,

Sarah Hawkins

Chair of Governors

STEM CHALLENGE: Make a balloon rocket

You will need

- 1 balloon (round ones will work, but the longer “airship” balloons work best)
- 1 long piece of string
- 1 plastic straw
- tape

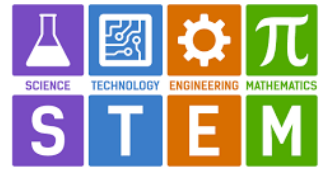
What to do

- Tie one end of the string to a chair, door knob, or other support.
- Put the other end of the string through the straw.
- Pull the string tight and tie it to another support in the room.
- Blow up the balloon (but don't tie it.) Pinch the end of the balloon and tape the balloon to the straw as shown above. You're ready for launch.
- Let go and watch the rocket fly!

How it works and questions to ask your child

As the air rushes out of the balloon, it creates a forward motion called THRUST. Thrust is a pushing force created by energy. In the balloon experiment, our thrust comes from the energy of the balloon forcing the air out. Different sizes and shapes of balloon will create more or less thrust.

1. Does the shape of the balloon affect how far (or fast) the rocket travels?
2. Does the length of the straw affect how far (or fast) the rocket travels?
3. Does the type of string affect how far (or fast) the rocket travels? (try fishing line, nylon string, cotton string, etc.)
4. Does the angle of the string affect how far (or fast) the rocket travels?



Dates for your Diary

New dates are in red, for your information.

Date	Event	Additional Notes
April 2019		
Sunday 7 th April	Deadline for Parents Questionnaire	
Friday 19 th April	Messy Church at Gosforth, St Nicholas'	Contact Gill Mitchell for more details
Tuesday 23 rd April	School re-opens to children	
	ESH Group STEM activities for Rec & Y1 children	
	Shakespeare Day	Activities in school
Wed 24 th April	Y4 Bikeability	
	Bugs 'n' stuff visit for Nursery and Reception	Please pay £3.50 on ParentMail
Thursday 25 th April	Year 2 visit to RNLi Grace Darling Museum in Bamburgh	Please pay on ParentMail.
Friday 26 th April	Deadline for acceptance of Nursery places	
	Y3 & Y4 River Cruise from Quay to Sea	ParentMail form to follow. Parent volunteers will need to pay.
	Y1 visit to Dobbies Garden Centre	Please pay online
	PTFA Easter Cake Stall	After school- please send cake donations to school on the day
Saturday 27 th April	PTFA Sponsored Walk	Druridge Bay
Monday 29 th April	Behaviour Workshop for parents.	5:00- 6:30pm Please book places online.
Tuesday 30 th April	9:00am Y1 Phonics Screen Workshop for Parents	
	2:00 GST Cross Country Run at Grange First School	
May 2019		
May	Year 2 Statutory Assessments	Y2 children must be in school please
	PTFA 5p challenge	Details to follow
Thursday 2 nd May	International Laughter Day	
	Governors Ethos Cttee	
Friday 3 rd May	Governors Ehos Cttee	
Thursday 9 th May	Governors TLA Cttee	
12-18 May	Christian Aid Week	More info to follow
Monday 13 th May	Parent Workshop on Multiplication and teaching your child times tables	Please book online. Workshops at 9:15am and 5:00pm
Thursday 16 th May	Themed lunch	Details to follow
	Governors Safeguarding visit to school	
Friday 17 th May	Worship (lead by Year 1) 9:00am	Parents welcome
Sunday 19 th May	Greggs Children's Cancer Run- Newcastle Racecourse	Details to follow
Monday 20 th May	Y1 DAAB planting	Selected children only
	Wesak (Buddhist)	Activities in school
	GCMS Y5 Leader to visit Y4 children	
Tuesday 21 st May	Happy Shoes Day	Walk to school and wear your own shoes- donation of £1 please.
	World Day for Cultural Diversity	Activities in school
	GST Moderation	Staff only
	Governors Finance Cttee Meeting	
Friday 24 th May	GST Daft Day for DAAB	Details to follow
	School closes for half term	
June 2019		
Monday 3 rd June	GST Staff Training Day- school closed to children	
Tuesday 4 th 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	
Saturday 8 th June	Teddy Bears Picnic in the grounds of Gosforth, St Nicholas'	All proceeds will go to ARFS
Monday 10 th June	10:00am Pentecost Service- All Saints'	All welcome
10-14 th June	Year 1 Phonics Screen	Y1 children must be in school please
Tuesday 11 th June	9:15 Reception Parents Stay & Play	Parents invited to all or part of session
Wed 12 th 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 th June	PJ Day for Ronald McDonald House Charities	Children invited to wear PJs for school for a £1 donation
Tuesday 18 th June	Big Gig (Gosforth Band & Gosforth Voices)	Northumbria Sports Central
Thursday 20 th June	Y4 Leavers' Service	St Nicholas' Cathedral
	Govs TLA Cttee Meeting	
Monday 24 th June	Y2 French Club today	Lunchtime
Tuesday 26 th June	"No Outsiders" project PSHE sessions and Worship	
Tuesday 25 th June	New Nursery Parents Meeting 5:00pm	
Thursday 27 th June	New Reception Parents Meeting 5:00pm	
	Y5 staff to visit Y4 children	
	TBC Nursery visit to Railway Museum	More information to follow
Friday 28 th June	Non Uniform Day	Please send bottles or tombola prizes
	Y1 French Club today	
	Y2 Big Sing 1:15-2:30pm	Details to follow
July 2019		
Tuesday 2 nd July	Gosforth Pyramid Concert (Trinity Church)	For children in Gosforth voices & Gosforth Band
	Y3 & Y3 Beach safety session	
Thursday 4 th 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 th July	End of year reports sent home	
Saturday 6 th July	PTFA Summer Fair 3:00pm-6:00pm with BBQ	
8-12 th 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 th July	Drop in sessions to speak to teaching staff	No appointments required
Tuesday 9 th July		
Monday 8 th July	Y1 & Y2 Beach safety session	
	9:15 French Assembly	
Wed 10 th 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 th July	N & Rec Sports day (1:30pm)	Parents invited
Thursday 11 th July	Y4 Transition activities TBC	
Fri 12 th July	Year 1-4 Sports Day (1:30pm)	Parents invited
	Year 4 Leavers' Disco after school	Details to follow
Monday 15 th 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 th July	Forest School- N, R & Y1	
	Y3 & Y4 instrumental concert TBC	Parents invited
Thursday 18 th July	Cakes in the Courtyard	All helpers and volunteers invited- please join us!
Friday 19 th July	9:15am Y4 Leavers' Service	Y4 Parents and carers invited
	3:15pm Picnic in the Playground	Everyone welcome!

	School closes for Summer	
September 2019		
Monday 2 nd September	Staff Training Day	School closed to children
Tuesday 3 rd September	School opens to children	
Wed 25 th -Thursday 26 th September	Y4 Residential to Dukes House Wood	

“Love to learn, learn to love”

Colossians 3:23-24

FREE 10 week basic tech skills course for Mums (with cake)!
 10am – 12noon Mondays
 from 29th April
 (term time only!)



This course was developed by mums for mums to take the mystery out of technology. There are no tests to take, just a chance to learn from others and arm yourself with more knowledge and gain confidence in a variety of tech skills.

Closest metro: Regent Centre

To find out more and register:

bit.ly/NUtechmums | facebook.com/techmums/
 ✉ Elena.german@ncl.ac.uk | ☎ Elena, 0191 208 4149

Or come along for a chat at one of our coffee mornings at Gosforth Civic Theatre:
 April 4th 10am – 12noon, April 24th 10am – 12noon

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WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK
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 Enquiries:
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