



ARCHBISHOP RUNCIE
CHURCH OF ENGLAND (VA) FIRST SCHOOL



November 2018 - Newsletter 11

ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Whole School (excluding Nursery)
91.4%	97%	91%	99.3%	97.9%	95.3%	96.1%

Our school target for attendance is 97%.

Many children have been late for school this week; we understand that traffic is heavier in the winter months, and can be unpredictable, however we would encourage families to allow extra time for journeys to ensure they arrive at school for 8:45am, please. We understand that parking close to school can be very challenging but ASDA remain happy for our families to park in their carpark and walk to school from there.

The doors from the yard are opened at 8:45am and are closed at 8:50am, when teaching begins. Children who arrive after this time will need to enter school through the main office and complete a late arrival form. Children, who arrive late, miss key teaching and learning so please make every effort to arrive promptly. Thank you in advance for your support with this matter.

PTFA NEWS



PTFA Christmas Fair

The Christmas Fair will be held in school on Friday 14th December. The children from Years 1-4 will open the fair with carols around the tree- please come along if you are able to. Children will sing in the Hall then return to their classrooms for dismissal in the usual way. Parents and children will then be able to re-enter school through the main office, to attend the fair.

In preparation for this event, we will be holding a non-uniform day on Friday 7th December in exchange for tombola gifts. If you are able to help the PTFA set up, run the stalls or tidy up afterwards please contact your class rep. The PTFA are meeting in the "Snug" at The Gosforth Hotel on the High Street at 7:45pm on Tuesday 5th December to discuss the arrangements for the Christmas Fair. Anyone willing and able to help at the Christmas Fair is welcome to join them.

Easyfundraising

Before you start your Christmas shopping, did you know that whenever you buy anything online you could be **raising a free donation our School PTFA**? There are nearly 3,000 retailers on board ready to make a donation to our school, every time you shop online... and it doesn't cost you a penny extra!

It's really simple, all you have to do is:

- **Join-** <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/archbishoprunciefirstptfa/> and sign up for free.
- **Shop-** Every time you shop online, **go to easyfundraising first**, pick the retailer you want and start shopping.
- **Raise-** After you've checked out, that retailer will make a donation the PTFA for no extra cost whatsoever!

There are no catches or hidden charges and Archbishop Runcie CE First School PTFA will be really grateful for your donations.

Join, shop and raise here:
[easyfundraising.org.uk/archbishoprunciefirstptfa](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/archbishoprunciefirstptfa)





GST

Thank you to everyone who went to see the GST Poppies & Poems exhibition at Trinity Church this week- it was a fabulous display from all the schools and we have received lots of positive feedback already. Many thanks to everyone who made a poppy at home over half term- they were greatly admired!



STAFFING UPDATE

Mrs Redhead has, as you know, been working in school, 1 day per week, to support the school in moving forward. Her support has been fantastic! Following positive feedback from the LA and Diocese, during recent monitoring visits, her support will now reduce to ½ day per week.



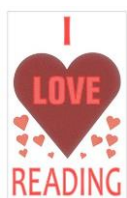
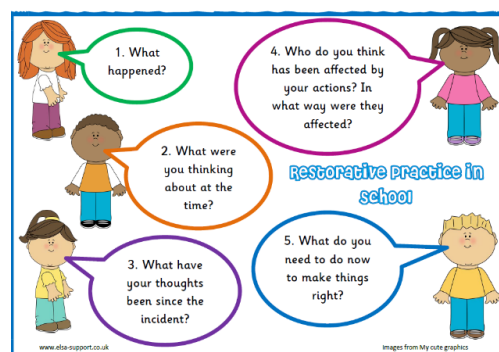
Newcastle East mixed multi Academy Trust (NEAT) continue to support and challenge our school in a number of other ways too; we have recently welcomed Sarah Stock to support new staff in Early Years, Lisa Bilton to support Mrs McCloud in the school office and Debi Bailey to undertake my Performance Management. All staff have benefitted from training provided by NEAT this term.

BEHAVIOUR

We have reviewed and updated our Behaviour Policy following staff training on “restorative practice”. Please have a look at it on the school website. Incentives and praise are used throughout school to reward and encourage positive behaviour. When incidents do occur, they will be dealt with using a restorative approach. Staff will use the following open-ended questions as a scaffold to encourage children to take ownership of their own behaviour and take responsibility for repairing damaged caused.

- ☐ Tell me what happened
- ☐ What were you thinking at the time?
- ☐ What are you thinking now?
- ☐ Who has been hurt/upset by your behaviour?
- ☐ What could you do to put things right?
- ☐ What would you do differently next time?

This approach has been proven to improve behaviour in many schools, similar to the approach of Restorative Justice used when dealing with crime, and supports our work on Growth Mindset whereby we can learn from our mistakes. Perhaps you could give this a try at home too- let us know how you get on! We have already noticed a significant reduction in incidents of poor behaviour, and an air of calmness and respect, within school.



READING BUDDIES

Another plea... Some classes are *still* in need of regular Reading Buddies. This involves an adult regularly listening to individual children (or a small group of children) read in order to develop their reading and comprehension skills. If you could spare an hour a week, please e-mail class teachers who will be delighted to hear from you. We would also welcome grandparents and other friends of our school- please pass on the message to anyone who you feel may be able to support us in this way.

PROSPECTIVE PARENT VISITS

We have begun showing prospective parents round school in the run up to Nursery and Reception application deadlines. It has been a really good opportunity for the staff to reflect on the strengths of our school and celebrate what makes our school distinctive. We have received fabulous feedback from the groups so far about the passion of the staff and the “feel” of the school. It is wonderful that visitors can see recognize these assets after a short visit.

Further visits will be held on:

- Monday 3rd December (Reception)
- Monday 14th January (Nursery)

MUSIC TUITION

NEMCO (North East Music) provide our music lessons in school to children in Year 3 and 4. Mr Docherty continues to offer brass lessons in school on Friday afternoons. Miss Wehr, is our new guitar teacher, and is providing lessons on a Thursday afternoon to small groups. Interest has been expressed in wind instrument lessons. NEMCO can currently provide a teacher, Mrs Belshaw, for a flute lesson to a group of 4 students on a Friday between 12.45pm and 1.15pm. Year 3 and 4 children can join but priority will be given to Year 4 children at present. Mrs Belshaw also teaches flute at GCMS so there is a natural progression for children to continue lessons at the middle school. You will need to register direct with NEMCO for guitar and brass lessons - details are available on our website. If you wish to express interest in flute lessons, please email Mrs McCloud as soon as possible.

LOST PROPERTY



There are lots of unnamed (and previously named, now faded) items of clothing in our lost property bin. If you have lost anything, please pop into the KS1 cloakroom to have a look, after school, via the office.

CURRICULUM

The Bigfoot Anti-bullying workshops held in school, on Monday, were excellent. Thank you to parents for supporting this activity with monetary contributions. We would not be able to offer these enrichment opportunities without your financial support. Please can you contribute by ParentMail payment if you have not done so already.

Bigfoot Theatre are returning to school on Tuesday 4th December to give a performance of "The Clumsiest Christmas Elf" to Nursery and Reception children. We would be grateful if you could make payments via ParentMail please.



WORSHIP

In the run up to Christmas, it would be wonderful to have a pianist to help us learn some carols. If you can play the piano, and would be able to spare half an hour of your time, we would very much appreciate your talents! Thank you.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

There are still places in Yoga Club (Monday) and Art Club (Thursday). We have hopefully secured a new dance teacher to start teaching classes on a Thursday, after school in the new year.

SUPPLY TEACHERS

As is common practice across all schools, we use supply teachers from time to time to cover staff absence in the event that they are ill or on a course, for their continued professional development. CPD for staff is vital in order to provide the best educational experience for our children, as well as being compulsory for newly qualified staff. Unfortunately, the majority of these courses are run during school hours but we endeavor, where possible, to organise CPD for afternoon sessions in order to minimize impact on core subjects. We do try our very best to use supply teachers who are known to our school, in order to provide consistency to our pupils, but this is not *always* possible. We have a strong working relationship with the supply agencies that we use and supply staff are provided to us on the basis that they will uphold our ethos and provide the best quality experiences for our children. The very first thing that they do, upon entering the classroom, is introduce themselves to the children and tell them where the usual member of staff is (if appropriate). Support staff are at hand, throughout the school day, to liaise and support as required (as am I!). Work is

provided by the class teachers to ensure continuity and reviewed when they return to school. I hope this offers parents some reassurance.

CROSSING PATROL

Advanced warning - There will be no Crossing Patrol on Christon Rd on Friday 7th December.

REMINDERS

Mrs McCloud has sent out reminders about outstanding payments and dinner money balances are up to date. We would be grateful if these could be paid as soon as possible please.

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”

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

I am delighted to inform you that, following the recommendation from Ofsted in July 2017, the Governors have successfully completed the Review of Governance.

I feel that this process has had a positive impact on the Governance of the school and that Governors can now clearly demonstrate that they are holding leaders to account, which has had a positive impact on outcomes for pupils. Governors are now undertaking their strategic role with greater confidence; this can be seen in the quality of challenge and monitoring, from Governors, within meetings and can be evidenced in the minutes of these meetings. These were areas for development that were identified by Ofsted during their last visit.

In addition, I was really pleased with the overwhelmingly positive feedback from the recent parent questionnaire, as well as the highly positive pupil survey carried out within school. 98% of pupils felt that our staff do a good job and 97% of pupils said that they learn a lot in lessons. 98% of pupils have enjoyed the recent trips and other activities, which have been planned to enrich our curriculum. Both parents and pupils have given valuable suggestions of ways in which our school can continue to develop which we will take on board. Thank you, to pupils and parents, for taking the time to complete these.

Kind regards,

Mrs S Hawkins

Chair of Governors

Dates for your Diary

New dates are in red, for your information.

Date	Event	Additional Notes
November 2018		
Wed 28 th Nov	N & Rec Julia Donaldson Day	N & Rec children invited to dress as a Julia Donaldson character
	Governing Body Meeting	
Thursday 29 th Nov	Year 1 visit to Discovery Museum	Please complete form and pay online. Children will need to wear uniform and bring a packed lunch. Parent helpers needed please!
Friday 30 th Nov	9:00 Advent Worship- led by Year 3 (in school)	Parents and carers welcome
	Help needed to decorate school please!	Please email Class Teachers directly.
December 2018		
Monday 3 rd Dec	Prospective Reception Parents Open Evening 3:30pm	Please let your friends with young children know!
Tuesday 4 th Dec	GST Council Meeting- GCMS	GST reps only
	Nursery & Rec Bigfoot Theatre visit to school	Please pay online
Friday 5 th Dec	7:45pm PTFA Christmas Fair Planning session	Meet at the Gosforth Hotel
REVISED DATE Thursday 6 th Dec	Nursery & Reception Story Party (in school) with Seven Stories	Please pay online
Friday 7 th December	Deadline for shoebox donations	
	No crossing patrol on Christon Road today	
	PTFA non-uniform day	Please bring tombola donations and bottles
Wed 12 th Dec	9:15- Reception Christmas "Stay & Play" 2:15- Nursery Christmas "Stay & Play"	Parents invited
	Year 2 visit to Shipley Art Gallery to see The Snow Bear with Chris Bostock (1:00pm)	Children will have a packed lunch. Children can wear festive PJs or a Christmas jumper and can bring a teddy. ParentMail form to follow. Parent helpers needed please!
Thursday 13 th Dec	Y3 & Y4 Multiskills festival at Walker Dome 1:00-2:45pm (we may be slightly late back to school)	Please send trainers and jogging bottoms. Please complete consent form online. Parent helpers needed please.
Friday 14 th Dec	Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day	Children and staff wear Christmas Jumpers for £1 donation
	School Christmas Lunch for staff and pupils	Please book online if your child usually has a packed lunch
	PTA Christmas Fair & Carol Singing (Years 1-4) 2:30pm-4:00pm	All welcome!
Monday 17 th Dec	Flu immunizations (pm) R-Y4	Forms now complete
	1:30pm KS2 Nativity (Y3 & Y4)	Ticket info to follow
	5:30pm KS1 Nativity (Y1 & Y2)	Children need to be back at school by 5:00pm please.
	6:30pm KS2 Nativity (Y3 & Y4)	
Tuesday 18 th Dec	Foundation Stage (N & Rec) Nativity 9:30am	Ticket info to follow

	Foundation Stage Party (N & Rec) pm	N & Rec children can bring party clothes. Please sign up to bring food.
	Key Stage One Nativity 2:00pm (Y1 & Y2)	Ticket info to follow
Wed 19 th Dec	"Appely Ever After" Years 1-2 Theatre visit- £5.00 per child 11:30am-3:30pm	Please pay online Please note we are likely to be late back to school
	2:00pm Foundation Stage Nativity (N & Rec)	Ticket info to follow
Thursday 20 th Dec	CHANGE OF DATE TO ACCOMDATE THEATRE VISIT- KS2 Party (Y3 & Y4) am	Y3 & 4 children can bring party clothes. Please sign up to bring food.
	KS1 party (Y1 & Y2) pm	Y1 & Y2 children can bring party clothes. Please sign up to bring food.
	PTFA Film night 3:15pm	Tickets available via PTFA
Friday 21 st Dec	2:00pm Carol Service for children in Y1-Y4	All Saints' Church , West Avenue (off the High Street) Families welcome to join us
	School Closes for Christmas (2 weeks)	
January 2019		
Monday 7 th January	School re-opens to children	
Thursday 10 th January	Y1 visit to Hancock Planetarium	Details to follow
Friday 11 th January	Y2 visit to Newcastle Castle	Details to follow
Monday 14 th January	Y4 visit from Mrs Durr- South Africa learning hook	In school, no cost.
	Prospective Nursery Parents Open Evening 3:30pm	Please let your friends with young children know!
Tuesday 15 th Jan	Deadline for Reception (Sept 2019) applications	See below
Friday 18 th January	N & Rec – "Winnie the Pooh Day" (in school)	More info to follow
Tuesday 22 nd January	Years 3 & 4 start ukulele lessons in school	More info to follow
Thursday 24 th Jan	Compliment Day	
Friday 25 th Jan	N & Rec "Opposites Day" (in school)	
February 2019		
Tuesday 5 th Feb	Safer Internet Day	
Wednesday 6 th Feb	Reasoning Workshop for parents 5:00-6:00pm	Please save the date!
Friday 8 th Feb	Worship (led by Year 2) 9:00am	Parents invited
Monday 11 th Feb	"Love is..." Day	
Tuesday 12 th Feb	N & Rec visit to Gibside	All Nursery children will need a grown up and we will need as many Reception parents as possible please!
	Y3 visit to El Torero	Details to follow
Thursday 14 th Feb	PTFA Film Night	
Friday 15 th Feb	Random Acts of Kindness Day	
	PTFA Cake Stall after school	
	School closes for half term	
Monday 25 th Feb	School reopens to children	
Tuesday 26 th Feb & Wed 27 th Feb	Parents' Evening	
March 2019		
Mon 4 th March- Fri 8 th March	Book Week	Info to follow
Mon 4 th March	Y1 - 4 visit to Seven Stories	Parent helpers required please! Children to wear school uniform and bring packed lunches please
Wed 6 th March	Y4 Worship - Lent begins	Parents invited

Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day	Children invited to dress as their favourite book character
Fri 15 th March	Red Nose Day for Comic Relief	Children invited to wear red for £1 donation
Thursday 21 st March	World Poetry Day	2:30pm Poetry Performance for parents of Y1-4 children
Fri 22 nd March	Deadline for Nursery applications	
Wednesday 27 th March	2:15pm Nursery Parents Stay & Play	Nursery parents invited
Thursday 28 th March	9:15 Reception Parents Stay & Play	Reception parents invited to all or part of session
Friday 29 th March	Y1-4 Mothers' Day Service 9:00am	Mum's invited!
	N & Rec Mothers' Day Service 2:30pm	Mum's invited!
	Nursery places offered	
April 2019		
Monday 1 st 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 nd April	Forest School- Y2, Y3 & Y4	
Tuesday 2 nd April	Autism Awareness Day	Activities in school
Wed 3 rd April	9:00am Year 2 SATs Meeting for Parents	Y2 Parents- please come along!
Thursday 4 th April	PTFA Film Night	
Friday 5 th April	Easter Service at All Saints Church for children in Y1-Y4 2:00pm TBC	All Saints' Church , West Avenue (off the High Street) Families welcome
	School closes for Easter	
Tuesday 23 rd April	School re-opens to children	
Wed 24 th April	Y4 Bikeability	
Friday 26 th April	Deadline for acceptance of Nursery places	
May 2019		
May	Year 2 Statutory Assessments	Y2 children must be in school please
12-18 May	Christian Aid Week	More info to follow
Thursday 16 th May	Themed lunch	Details to follow
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
Tuesday 21 st May	Happy Shoes Day	Walk to school and wear your own shoes- donation of £1 please.
Friday 24 th May	GST Daft Day	Details to follow
	School closes for half term	
June 2019		
Monday 3 rd June	Staff Training Day- school closed to children	
Tuesday 4 th June	School reopens to children	
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
	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
Tuesday 25 th June	New Nursery Parents Meeting 5:00pm	
Thursday 27 th June	New Reception Parents Meeting 5:00pm	
Friday 28 th June	Non Uniform Day	Please send bottles or tombola prizes
July 2019		
Tuesday 2 nd July	Gosforth Pyramid Concert	For children in Gosforth voices & Gosforth Band
Thursday 4 th July	Governing Body Meeting	
	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	
Monday 8 th July	Drop in sessions to speak to teaching staff	No appointments required
Tuesday 9 th July		
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
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 suncream 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	

“Love to learn, learn to love”

15 January 2019 (midday): Deadline to apply for reception class places for September 2019



www.newcastle.gov.uk/admissions

easyfundraising.org.uk
feel good shopping

Help out when you check out this Christmas

Collect FREE donations for **Archbishop Runcie PTFA** with all your online Christmas shopping!



We need you to...

- 1. Join**
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- 2. Shop**
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