



## December 2019 – Newsletter 14

### WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

| Nursery | Reception | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Whole School<br>(excluding Nursery) |
|---------|-----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------------------------------------|
| 86%     | 97%       | 96%    | 93%    | 96%    | 99%    | 96%                                 |

Our school target for attendance is 97%.

**ARCHBISHOP RUNCIE PTFA RAFFLE LIST CHRISTMAS 2019**

- £100 voucher Concept Eye Clinic
- £40 Arlo voucher
- £25 voucher at Queen Victoria
- £20 cookery school voucher Blackfriars
- £25 restaurant voucher
- Garden lighting from Pond Planet
- Magnum of Prosecco
- Blow wave in January at Gallery 108
- £10 voucher The Jewellers Guild
- 4 Free Classes at Dance City
- Pair of sparkly shoes from Jump
- Voucher Charlottes Butchers
- Cream tea for 2 at Rosies
- Hot drink & cake for 2 at Cake Stories
- 5 swims at Jesmond Pool
- Months gold membership at Northumberland tennis club
- Voucher for Deli Espresso
- £5 gift voucher at WHSmith
- Voucher for Children's Art course at Turpentine
- £25 Oli & Joes voucher, Westerhope
- Captain Ted's Voucher
- Cut & Finish at Life of Riley
- Voucher for Saks hair, Gosforth
- Voucher for Saks beauty, Gosforth
- Sainsbury's – 2 boxes of biscuits
- Vi Kitchen – Rice Bowl and Chopstick Set
- Vi Kitchen – Rice Bowl and Chopstick Set
- Coffee & Cake for 2 at Greyjoys
- Gent's hair cut at U Salon
- Family portrait session with Michelle Fowler
- 2 pantomime tickets at the Theatre Royal

Logos for sponsors: ARLO, BLACKFRIARS, THE JEWELLERS GUILD, DANCECITY, JUMP, ROSIES, JESMOND POOL & GYM, TURPENTINE, OLI & JOES, SAKS, Sainsbury's, U Salon, MICHELLE FOWLER PHOTOGRAPHY, THEATRE ROYAL, POND PLANET.



### PTFA NEWS

As I type, our PTFA are busy preparing for our Christmas Fayre. Thank you for all the donations of cakes, bottles and gifts that we have received. Please do come along, at 3:15pm, if you are able to!

Raffle prizes are listed (to the left). Raffle tickets were sent home in book bags and extras can be bought from the Admin Office until Tuesday (or at the Fayre).

Thank you to all the local businesses and parents for these kind donations. The raffle is a huge part of funds raised by our PTFA and, as a small school, we rely on the PTFA for funding projects within school.



### RECEPTION APPLICATIONS

A reminder that the Reception Applications portal is now open. Applications must be made by 12 noon on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020 for children to start Reception in September 2020.

You can access this at [www.newcastle.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.newcastle.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

## PANTOMIME

Thank you to those parents and carers who have now paid for our visit to the Pantomime! Your support is very much appreciated. Without these donations, we would be unable to offer such visits to our children.



## NATIVITY



Tickets have now been sent home in book bags. We have tried our very best to give parents tickets to their requested performance(s). Please ensure you **bring the paper ticket for admittance** to the Nativity. Thank you!

EYFS will be selling photographs for parents so please bring your pennies along! Money raised will be spent on malleable materials for EYFS. We will also be taking donations towards performance licences at each performance. Thank you in advance for your generosity!



## CHARITABLE GIVING

Today is 'Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day'. We have raised £57.42 for this charity. Thank you to those of you who donated.

## CHRISTMAS PARTIES

Food lists for each class party are now attached to external notice boards, outside each classroom. We would be really grateful if each parent/carer would sign up to bring one item for a shared party buffet. If your child has dietary requirements, you may prefer to send a plate of prepared, suitable food for your specific child. Please ensure it is clearly named and well wrapped!



Children are invited to bring named party clothes, to change in to, on their party day if they would like to.



## FUNDAMENTAL BRITISH VALUES

This week, we have thought about the importance of individual liberty and encouraging children to express their views and choices.

## WORSHIP

This week we have thought about preparing for the big day and the reason for our celebrations, gift giving and decorations.



## RESOURCE & HELP REQUESTS

Reception would like any dragon toys for January and jigsaws, please. Next term, Year 4 will be learning about Greece. Any holiday photos or other sources would be appreciated. Similarly, Year 3 will be learning about Egypt so any holiday pictures, books etc would be helpful. Thank you!

## NURSERY- JANUARY 2020 INTAKE

After Christmas, we will be taking children into Nursery who have turned 3 this term. Therefore, if your child has turned 3 between September 2019 and December 2019, they will be eligible to start with us in January 2020. If you are interested in a Nursery place, or would like more information, please contact Mrs Francis.



Please remember parents will need to update details on the government website every 3 months to remain eligible for free Nursery 30 hour provision.





### CHURCH LINKS

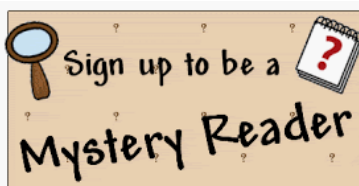
Thank you to Trinity Church for inviting us to watch a performance of "A Christmas Journey" this morning. We were delighted to be joined by Rev'd Shipton and Rev'd Davis from Gosforth, All Saints' for Christmas lunch on Wednesday too.

Years 1-4 are really looking forward to visiting Gosforth, St Nicholas' on Friday for our Carol Service at 2:00pm. We would be grateful if parents could meet at school at 1:20pm to help walk the children to the church. Children will be dismissed from the church at the end of the carol service, if parents or carers are present. Therefore, please can we ask children bring as few belongings as possible to school on Friday (no bookbags!) so we have less to carry. Thank you! Children in Nursery and Reception are welcome to join us, if accompanied by a parent or carer.

If parents and carers are not able to attend the service, children in Year 1-4 will return to school for collection, as normal.

### CHRISTMAS LUNCH

On Wednesday, children, staff, Governors, clergy and PTFA committee members enjoyed a school Christmas lunch! It was a lovely mealtime with delicious food, crackers and a festive playlist! Thank you to all the staff for 'mucking in' with preparing the hall and food, serving lunch, clearing tables and taking on extra yard duties. Children were delightful and really grateful for the effort that the staff had all gone to! We are lucky to work with such lovely little people!



### MYSTERY READERS

In Spring Term, we are launching "Mystery Readers" in school. This is an initiative where "guests" arrange to visit to read to the class at story time. Guests may be parents and carers, other family members, staff from other classrooms or non-class based staff etc. If you would be interested in being a Mystery Reader please let class teachers know your availability. Thank

you! Dates and times will be confirmed next term.

### METRO STRIKE- FOR INFO

I have been informed of strike action by train crew working on the Tyne and Wear Metro, scheduled for Friday 20 December and Saturday 21 December. If this action goes ahead, it is highly likely that there will be no Metro services, across the entire Metro system, on those days.

Families who usually travel by metro are asked to plan in advance for this strike as absences, for this reason, will not be authorised. Thank you.

### ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS

In the event of extreme weather conditions, resulting in insufficient staff being able to safely travel to school, school closure will be announced via ParentMail, twitter and school website. We will, of course, endeavour to keep school open if possible.



As always, if you have anything that you would like to discuss further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With my very best wishes,

*Mrs KE Massey*

Headteacher

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

We are delighted to welcome three new governors to our Governing Body. Firstly, Sarah MacRae who is as our new Parent Governor following the recent Governor Election; secondly, Rev'd Jane Nattrass as the new vicar of Gosforth, St Nicholas' who is automatically appointed as a governor at ARFS and Marian Cave who is a Foundation Governor appointed by the PCC of Gosforth, All Saints'.

Rev'd Andrew Shipton of All Saints', Mrs Massey, Mr Booth, Miss Wilkinson and I all attended the collation and induction of Jane Nattrass as Vicar of St Nicholas' last week. It was a lovely service; we were even asked to welcome her on behalf of ARFS along with other representatives of the church and community. We received such a warm welcome. We also met Bishop Christine, Bishop of the Diocese of Newcastle, who is keen to visit the school in due course as she has heard about all the positive changes.

A number of governors thoroughly enjoyed Christmas lunch at school on Wednesday alongside PTFA committee members: the food was delicious and we would love to thank the amazing catering team.

On behalf of the Governing Body, I wish all our staff, parents and children a wonderful Christmas!

With my very best wishes,

*Sarah Hawkins*

Chair of Governors



**“Love to learn, learn to love”**

1 Corinthians 16:13

## Dates for your Diary

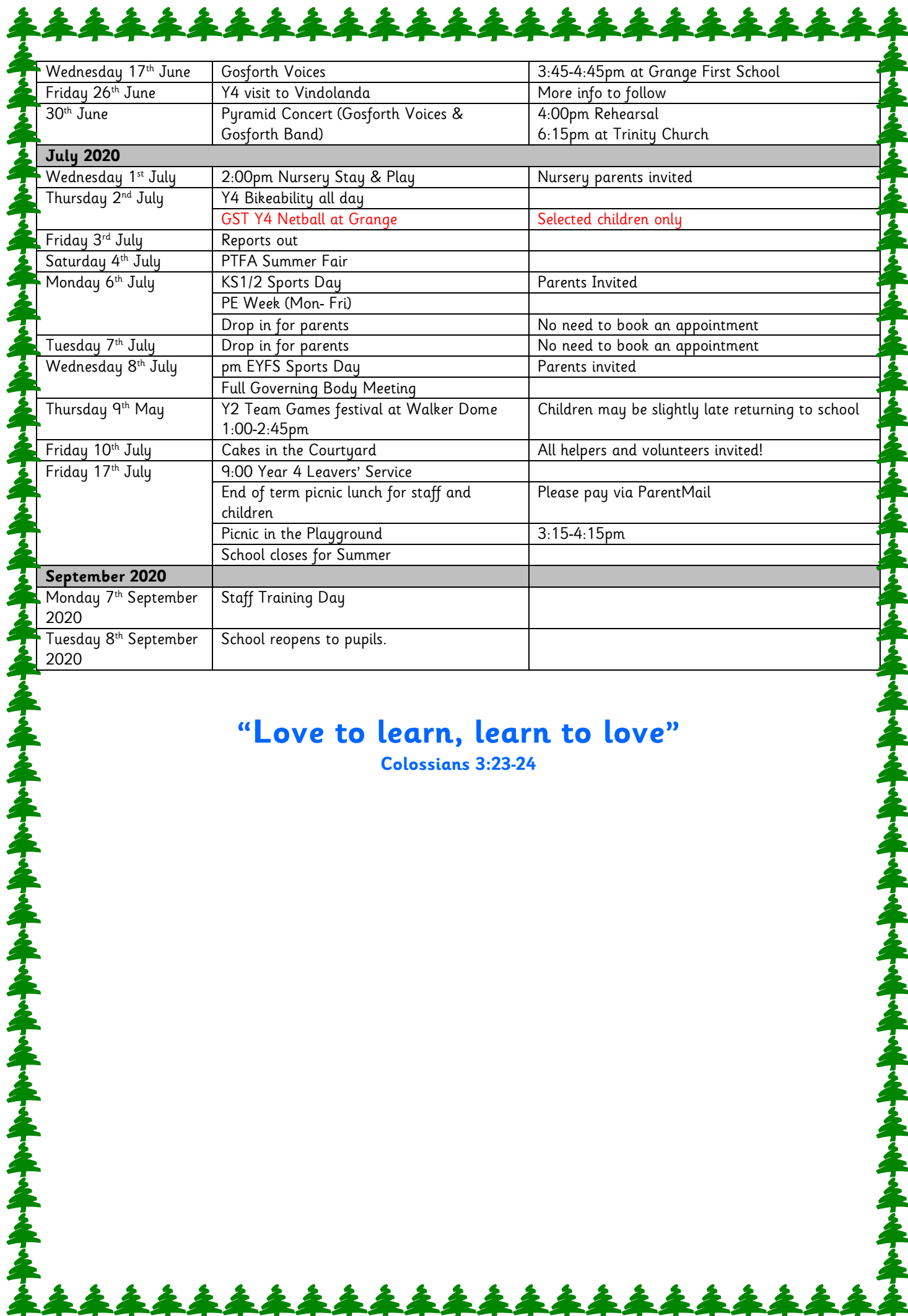
New dates are in red, for your information.

| Date                                | Event   | Additional Notes  |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>December 2019</b>                |   |   |
| Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> December    | 1:30pm KS2 Nativity (1)   | Please bring your tickets (sent home in book bags this week)  |
| Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December   | 12:45 Bible Club Planning meeting                                   |   |
|                                     | 2:00pm EYFS Nativity (1)  |   |
|                                     | 5:30pm KS1 Nativity (1)   |   |
|                                     | 6:30pm KS2 Nativity (2)   |   |
| Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December | 9:30am EYFS Nativity (2)  | Children only- please sign up to bring food   |
|                                     | 2:00pm KS1 Nativity (2)   |   |
|                                     | EYFS Party  |   |
| Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December   | No Taekwondo  |   |
| Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December  | KS1 & KS2 Christmas Party   | Children only- please sign up to bring food   |
|                                     | EYFS Polar Express Day  | Children in Nursery and Reception invited to wear PJs to school!  |
| Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December    | 10:00-12:00 Pantomime for Nursery- Year 4 at The Exchange           | £8 per child (including bus) please pay on ParentMail. Children will return to school for lunch before the Carol Service              |
|                                     | 2:00pm Carol Service at St Nicholas' Church                         | Years 1-4 attending. Children will be dismissed from Church after the service if parents are in attendance. No bookbags today please! |
|                                     | Wear a Christmas jumper if you'd like to.                           |   |
| <b>January 2020</b>                 |   |   |
| Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January      | Staff Training Day  | School closed to children   |
| Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> January   | Prospective Reception Parent visits 4:00pm                          | Please book a place via the school office   |
| Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> January     | Y1 Planetarium Visit (Centre for Life)                              |   |
| Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> January  | Y3/4 Computing with GEM Education                                   |   |
|                                     | Gosforth Voices   | 3:45-4:45pm at Grange First School  |
|                                     | KS2 MicroBit lessons in school                                      |   |
|                                     | Midday deadline for Reception class applications for September 2020 | <a href="http://www.newcastle.gov.uk/schooladmissions">www.newcastle.gov.uk/schooladmissions</a>                                      |
| Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> January   | Children's Choice Lunch   | We are hoping for 100% school lunch uptake! Please order lunches on ParentMail if your child usually has a packed lunch.              |
|                                     | Year 2 Newcastle Castle Visit                                       |   |
|                                     | PTFA Film Night   | More info to follow   |
| Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> January     | Gosforth Gets Going at ARFS   | Workshop for Reception children across GST  |
|                                     | Year 3 begin their Fishkeeper Fry Project                           |   |
| Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> January    | Weekly, whole class ukulele lessons begin for Years 3 & 4           | No charge   |
| Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January   | Road Safety sessions for Nursery, Reception and Year 1              |   |
|                                     | Year 4 PSHE session on relationships                                |   |
|                                     | EYFS Opposites Day  |   |
| Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> January     | Chinese New Year celebrations in school                             |   |
| Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> January  | Gosforth Voices   | 3:45-4:45pm at Grange First School  |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> January            | Gosforth Band   | 3:45-4:45pm at Archibald First School   |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup> January            | Year 4 PHSE Relationships   | In school   |
| Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> January   | 5:00pm Managing children's behaviour workshop for parents           |   |
| Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> January     | 9:00am Managing children's behaviour workshop for parents           |   |
| <b>February 2020</b>                |   |   |
| Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> February  | 2:00pm Reception "Stay & Play"                                      | Reception parents invited   |
| Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March       | Y3 & Y4 visit to Durham   | More info to follow   |

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|---|---|--|
| Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> February      | Gosforth Band   | 3:45-4:45pm at Archibald First School  |
| Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> February       | Reception visit to Walker Dome<br>1:00-2:45pm                       | Children may be slightly late returning to school  |
| Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> February        | Parents Evening   |  |
| Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February       | Safer Internet Day  | Activities in school   |
|   | 9:30-10:30 Year 1 Gosforth Gets Going event at GPFS                 | Selected children only   |
| Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> February     | Parents Evening   |  |
|   | Gosforth Voices   | 3:45-4:45pm at Grange First School   |
| Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> February      | PTFA Valentines Disco   |  |
| Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February        | Love is... Worship, led by Year 1                                   | All welcome  |
|   | Year 3 Operation Encompass session & drop in for parents and carers |  |
|   | Break up for half term  |  |
| Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February        | Children return to school   |  |
|   | International World Thinking Day                                    | Cubs, Beavers, Brownies, Rainbows invited to wear uniforms.  |
| Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> February       | Lent Worship, led by Year 4   | All welcome  |
|   | Prospective Nursery Parent visits 4:00pm                            | Please book a place via the school office  |
| Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> February     | Gosforth Band   | 3:45-4:45pm at Archibald First School  |
| Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> February        | 9:00 Parent Council Meeting   |  |
| <b>March 2020</b>                       |   |  |
| 2-6 <sup>th</sup> March                 | Book Week in school   |  |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> March                   | Gosforth Voices   | 3:45-4:45pm at Grange First School   |
|   | 5:30-6:30pm Bedtime Story Telling Evening in school                 | More information to follow   |
| Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March          | World Book Day  | Children invited to dress as a book character  |
|   | Bedtime stories at school 5:30-6:30pm                               |  |
| Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> March            | Class visits to Gosforth Library                                    |  |
|   | Year 2 visit to Centre for Life 10:00am - 2:00pm                    |  |
| 9-13 March                              | British Science Week  | We would welcome any parents/visitors to school linked to Science please.                                |
| Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> March            | Purim   | Activities in school   |
|   | Prospective Nursery Parent visits 4:00pm                            | Please book a place via the school office  |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup> March | British Science Week  | We will be looking for parents to come into school to lead science based activities for children please! |
| Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March          | Year 4 visit to Centre for Life 10:00am - 2:00pm                    |  |
| Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> March        | Year 3 visit to Centre for Life 10:00am - 2:00pm                    |  |
|   | Gosforth Band   | 3:45-4:45pm at Archibald First School  |
| Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> March         | Year 1 visit to Centre for Life 10:00am - 2:00pm                    |  |
| Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> March        | Gosforth Voices   | 3:45-4:45pm at Grange First School   |
| Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March           | Persian New Year  | Activities in school   |
|   | 9:00am Year 1-4 Mothers' Day Service                                | One member of each family invited to attend  |
|   | Visit from a local poet for Y1-Y4 TBC                               |  |
|   | 2:30pm EYFS Mothers' Day Service                                    | One member of each family invited to attend  |
|   | Closing date for Nursery applications for Sept 2020                 |  |
|   | Gosforth Voices Tour  | Performance in all GST school  |



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| Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March                                  | World Water Day  |  |
| Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March                               | Full Governing Body Meeting  |  |
|  | Gosforth Band  | 3:45-4:45pm at Archibald First School                                |
| Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March                                | Nursery visit to Walker Dome<br>1:00-2:45pm  | Children may be slightly late returning to school                    |
| Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March                                  | 9:00 SATs Meeting for Year 2 Parents   |  |
| Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> March                                 | 5:00pm New Nursery Parents Meeting, for<br>children starting after Easter                |  |
| <b>April 2020</b>  |  |  |
| Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> April                                | 2:00pm Nursery Stay & Play   | Nursery Parents invited  |
| Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April                                 | Autism Awareness Day   | Activities in school   |
| Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April                                   | Easter Service 1:30pm All Saints' Church   |  |
| Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> April-<br>Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> April | Easter Holidays  |  |
| Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April                                | Shakespeare Day  | Activities in school   |
| Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> April                                  | Deadline to accept Nursery places in school  |  |
| Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> April                                | <b>GST Boys Football competition at BEFS</b>   |  |
| <b>May 2020</b>  |  |  |
| May 2020   | SATs for Year 2 children   | Year 2 children must be in school please                             |
| Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> May                                   | Wesak (Buddhist)   | Activities in school   |
|  | Dinnington First School official opening   |  |
| Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> May                                     | Bank Holiday   |  |
| Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> May                                    | Christian Aid Worship, led by Year 2   | All welcome!   |
| Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> May                                  | Y3 Team Games festival at Walker Dome<br>1:00-2:45pm                                     | Children may be slightly late returning to school                    |
| Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> May                                    | 2:00pm Reception Stay & Play   | Reception Parents invited  |
|  | Phonics Screen Workshop for Year 1<br>Parents 9:00am                                     |  |
| Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> May                                   | GST Teach Meet   | Staff only   |
| Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> May                                  | <b>GST Y3 &amp; Y4 Bench ball competition at<br/>Brunton</b>                             | Selected children only   |
|  | Ascension Day Worship, led by Year 3   | All welcome!   |
|  | World Day for Cultural Diversity   | Activities in school   |
|  | Children's choice lunch  |  |
| Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May                                    | GST Daft Day   | Children invited to wear something "daft".<br>Suggested donation £1. |
|  | 9:00 Y4 Times Table test Parent Workshop   |  |
|  | Eid activities in school.  |  |
| Monday 2 <sup>th</sup> May-<br>Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> May     | Half Term  |  |
| <b>June 2020</b>   |  |  |
| Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June                                    | GST Staff Training Day   | School closed to children  |
| 1-5 <sup>th</sup> June   | Year 1 Phonics Screen assessment   | Year 1 children must be in school please                             |
|  | All Saints' Schools Week   |  |
| Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June                                   | 2:30pm Pentecost Worship, led by Year 4  |  |
| Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June                                 | Gosforth Voices  | 3:45-4:45pm at Grange First School                                   |
| Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> June                                  | Roy Lawson visiting Years 3 & 4  | More info to follow  |
|  | <b>GST Y3 &amp; Y4 Tag Rugby at RFFS</b>   | <b>Selected children only</b>  |
| Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> June                                    | Year 2 visit to St Mary's Lighthouse   |  |
| Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> June                                   | New Nursery Parents Meeting for children<br>starting Nursery in September 2020           |  |
| Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> June                                | New Reception Parents Meeting for children<br>starting Reception class in September 2020 |  |
| Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> June                                | Gosforth Band  | 3:45-4:45pm at Archibald First School                                |
| 15-19 <sup>th</sup> June                                       | Y4 statutory Times Tables test   |  |
| Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> June                                  | Big Gig all day (Gosforth Voices & Gosforth<br>Band) Best of British theme               | Northumbria Sports Central   |



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|--|--|---|
| Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> June        | Gosforth Voices                                      | 3:45-4:45pm at Grange First School                |
| Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> June           | Y4 visit to Vindolanda                               | More info to follow                               |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> June                  | Pyramid Concert (Gosforth Voices & Gosforth Band)    | 4:00pm Rehearsal<br>6:15pm at Trinity Church      |
| <b>July 2020</b>                       |  |   |
| Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July         | 2:00pm Nursery Stay & Play                           | Nursery parents invited                           |
| Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July          | Y4 Bikeability all day                               |   |
|  | <b>GST Y4 Netball at Grange</b>                      | <b>Selected children only</b>                     |
| Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July            | Reports out  |   |
| Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> July          | PTFA Summer Fair                                     |   |
| Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> July            | KS1/2 Sports Day                                     | Parents Invited                                   |
|  | PE Week (Mon- Fri)                                   |   |
|  | Drop in for parents                                  | No need to book an appointment                    |
| Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> July           | Drop in for parents                                  | No need to book an appointment                    |
| Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July         | pm EYFS Sports Day                                   | Parents invited                                   |
|  | Full Governing Body Meeting                          |   |
| Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> July          | Y2 Team Games festival at Walker Dome<br>1:00-2:45pm | Children may be slightly late returning to school |
| Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> July           | Cakes in the Courtyard                               | All helpers and volunteers invited!               |
| Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July           | 9:00 Year 4 Leavers' Service                         |   |
|  | End of term picnic lunch for staff and children      | Please pay via ParentMail                         |
|  | Picnic in the Playground                             | 3:15-4:15pm                                       |
|  | School closes for Summer                             |   |
| <b>September 2020</b>                  |  |   |
| Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> September 2020  | Staff Training Day                                   |   |
| Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> September 2020 | School reopens to pupils.                            |   |

**“Love to learn, learn to love”**

**Colossians 3:23-24**





Newcastle  
City Council

