



## July 2020

### Weeks 38 & 39 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

#### PTFA NEWS

We are really sad that, due to current circumstances, we have been unable to run all our traditional events for some time now. It is not only disappointing that we have been unable to raise funds for the school but, more importantly, that we have not been able to provide the usual smiles and fun for all the children within Archbishop Runcie First School. However, we couldn't let the term end without thanking two special members of the PTFA whose children will be leaving school at the end of Year 4.



Camilla has been part of the team for two years now but, prior to that, she has helped at all our events and sourced hundreds of raffle prizes over her time at the school. She will be a huge loss! Caroline has been a (very) long-standing member, serving a total of six years as treasurer for the PTFA. The title, "Treasurer", understates her contribution to the PTFA and the school – she has been much more than that. She's helped at every event she can, she's had late nights making fruit cocktail skewers pre-summer fairs and always made sure that the team are aware of what pennies we have in the bank to spend! Over her time on the PTFA, she has been part of raising over £40,000 for our wonderful school. I'm sure you would all be with me in saying a big thanks!

We know that next school year will be far from normal for the PTFA but we're determined to start raising money again to buy vital resources for the school and we look forward to your support in what will certainly be a very different schedule of events and fundraising.

*Bridget Higham*

Chair of the PTFA

#### THANK YOU!

After a very strange year we would like to extend our thanks to you all. Thank you to those of you who are at home and continue to show patience and trust in us to do the best for the school as a whole even when these have not been ideal for you as families. Thank you to those of you who returned your children to school; they have made a challenging time worth it! Thank you to all of them for being amazing! Thank you also to the governors for their support of the school. Finally, I would like to give huge thanks to our staff who have given their all to the children and the school throughout the year but especially during this last four months.



They have shown amazing resilience, determination and positivity. I could not have got through it all without them!

We would also like to thank the PTFA for their incredible hard work throughout the year and send our very best wishes to both Camilla and Caroline! They have contributed hugely to the school over the years and we are truly grateful.

Thank you also for all the cards, gifts and messages that we have received this week. We are so lucky to work with so many wonderful families who have shown such gratitude and appreciation to the staff for their hard work.

We are really excited to welcome those of you who are returning back in September. We acknowledge that there are both emotional and academic needs to consider for all children and, in particular, those who have not been in school this term.

We wish our wonderful Year 4 children the very best of luck for the next step on their journey and hope that they will keep in touch. It's been an emotional couple of weeks saying goodbye to my last class of children. I hope they enjoyed their send off today. They will be hugely missed!

I wish you all a wonderful summer!

With my very best wishes,

*Mrs KE Massey*

Headteacher

## SEPTEMBER

As explained in my previous newsletter and the Parent Protocol, the procedure for dropping off and picking up will be much like it was before lockdown.

Drop off	Pick up
Nursery- 8:50 - 9:00am	Nursery- 3:10-3:20pm
Rec am- 8:40 - 8:50am	Rec am- 11:15-11:30am
Rec pm- 12:45 -1:00pm	Rec pm- 3:00-3:10pm
Year 1- 8:40 - 8:50am	Year 1- 3:00-3:10pm
Year 2- 8:50 - 9:00am	Year 2- 3:10-3:20pm
Year 3- 8:40 - 8:50am	Year 3- 3:00-3:10pm
Year 4 – 8:50 - 9:00am	Year 4 – 3:10-3:20pm

As you will have seen in the previous newsletter, under the new guidance, classrooms will look a bit different to normal, though we have really tried to keep as much as possible as it was before. Children will still sit side by side but all desks will face the front rather than children facing each other. The structure of the school day will look much like it did pre-lockdown (minus whole-school Worship). Worship will be held in classes, PE will be outdoors (please send navy tracksuit bottoms and zip up tops and trainers) and children in Years 1 to 4 will have their own personal pencil case with the writing resources they need.

As per the previous newsletter, please find the email addresses of class teachers below. Please note that staff will not be able to email over the summer holidays but they will be in touch with you at the start of the new academic year.

Nursery	<b>Mrs Francis</b>	<a href="mailto:Kathleen.Francis@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk">Kathleen.Francis@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk</a>
Reception	<b>Miss Wilkinson</b>	<a href="mailto:Katie.Wilkinson@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk">Katie.Wilkinson@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk</a>
Year 1	<b>Miss Davison</b>	<a href="mailto:Allex.Davison@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk">Allex.Davison@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk</a>
Year 2	<b>Miss Nattress</b>	<a href="mailto:Megan.Nattress@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk">Megan.Nattress@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk</a>
Year 3	<b>Miss Gray</b>	<a href="mailto:Emily.Gray@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk">Emily.Gray@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk</a>
Year 4	<b>Mr Booth &amp; Miss Burns</b>	<a href="mailto:Jonathan.Booth@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk">Jonathan.Booth@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk</a> <a href="mailto:Jennifer.Burns@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk">Jennifer.Burns@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk</a>

## ATTENDANCE

Attendance in September will be mandatory and usual attendance policies will apply. Please remember to let Mrs Pygall know, via ParentMail, if your child is absent.



## BREAKFAST CLUB & AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

All families who expressed an interest in Breakfast Club and After School Club have now been allocated places but these must be confirmed and paid for, by today please, so we can arrange staffing for September. Thank you for your swift response to this.

## SCHOOL MEALS

Newcastle City Council have informed us that paid school meal prices will be increasing from September 2020. Meals in Nursery will be £2.10 per day and meals for children in Years 3 and 4 will be £2.20.

Please note that children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will still be entitled to a universal free school meal but that **once children leave Year 2, meals must be paid for**. Mrs Carrick is currently working through outstanding lunch debts so we would be grateful if you could check your account balance please. **Any unpaid debts will be referred to NCC Debt Management Service.**

If you want your child to change lunch arrangements from September (e.g. from school lunches to packed lunches or vice versa) please let Mrs Pygall know.

Free School Meal vouchers will continue over summer holidays for eligible families. Instead of £15 per week, families will be given a single payment of £105 for the seven-week summer holiday, week beginning 19<sup>th</sup> July.



## NURSERY PLACES

We have places available in our Nursery Class in September. If you would like to come for a visit or to find out more information, please contact Mrs Francis. We would love to meet your little ones!

## WEBSITE

Please look at the new Class Pages on the school website for end of year videos and a welcome from new teaching staff.

## HOMEWORK

We are looking at our home school learning offer and considering how to best approach this in the possibility of a 'local lockdown' or partial closure of the school in case of a future COVID-19 outbreak in the new academic year. As such, we have decided to roll out a new e-learning platform called IXL.

IXL provides Maths and English individualised instruction and assessment through 'quizzing' on computer, tablet or other mobile devices. Children are



given multiple-choice quizzes which they can do on their own, without adult supervision. If your child makes a mistake, it will explain the error in a child-friendly way and also feed this information back to teachers. The questions change depending on how your child is doing.

From September, we plan to use IXL **instead of CGP Maths and Grammar books**. Objectives will be set weekly, just as they were with CGP books, but there is much more choice and flexibility with IXL, meaning that objectives can more closely match with school learning. It also means that, in the event of sudden closure, we can set more objectives to allow a seamless transition between home and school learning. IXL would be set *alongside* White Rose Hub Maths resources, Oak National Academy, and others.

It is a very easy platform to use which children enjoy using and we would like children to give it a go over the summer if you wish. If you do log in, we would ask you to only do objectives in their **current year group or lower** – please avoid looking at their next year up. Thank you.

We have sent out usernames and passwords out in new reading records for our current Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 children, along with other log in details for different services depending on what we can offer to different children. We would love you to record the children's reading over the summer also. Thank you!

If your child is in school, they will have left school with their new reading record and they'll have given it a go in class already. If your child is not in school, you will receive the new reading record in the post which has been sent today.

For Year 4 children, we are giving them access until September so that, if parents want to keep some home-schooling up, they can continue to do so. This access in September will then be swapped to the new Reception cohort. Year 4 children who are not in school will receive a letter in the post soon which has their username and password.

This is being part funded by the PTFA and the families who have actively engaged with the PTFA's events and kindly donated. We are very lucky to have them and such a supportive set of parents!

#### UNNY HALL WILD FLOWER COMPETITION - YEAR 4

Thank you to everyone who took part in our annual wild flower painting competition. This year the winner was Sophie, followed by Ruman and Alice! Well done!



#### TAPESTRY

As your child's time in our Early Years is coming to an end, it is important that you download their Learning Journal before their Tapestry account becomes inactive. This is a lovely collection of memories of your child's time in Early Years to look back on over the years, detailing their start to school and also includes all of the observations you have added as a parent.

Tapestry have provided this quick video to show you how to do this at home, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I4SMT08B91s>

#### MUSIC TUITION

From September, NEMCo music lessons (brass, guitar and flute) will not take place during curriculum time as we found that children were missing valuable learning time each week to take part in music tuition. As soon as DfE guidance allows, these sessions will resume **after school**. There will be more information about this in due course.





## NEWCASTLE'S BEST SUMMER EVER

The Local Authority have received funding to support a wide range of families over the summer holidays. This includes activity packs, both physical and online, and organised (socially distanced!) activities. In addition, if you have any financial difficulties and are not covered by the food voucher scheme, emergency food parcels are also available through this service. The pamphlet for families has been attached to the ParentMail and if you have any further questions please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher.

## CHILDREN'S CANCER RUN

The 38th Children's Cancer Run was due to take place on Sunday 20th September 2020. I'm sure it will come as little surprise to you that, due to the continuing situation with Coronavirus and the recent cancellation of other high profile events within the region, the event will not go ahead. The new date for the 38th run as **Sunday 23rd May 2021**.



## SAFEGUARDING

Mrs Massey and Mr Booth are our school's Designated Safeguarding Leaders. If you have concerns about a child please contact one of us.

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:

- **Initial Response Service** – 0191 277 2500
- **Northumbria Police** – 101 (in an emergency always dial 999)
- **NSPCC Helpline** – 0800 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>



## OPERATION ENCOMPASS

You may be aware that cases of domestic abuse have risen significantly in recent weeks. Domestic Abuse cuts across all levels of society, across all ages, genders, cultures and races. Children exposed to domestic abuse are victims of child abuse. Operation Encompass was created to support children experiencing Domestic Abuse through timely

information sharing between police and schools.

If you feel at risk, please speak up. You can speak to school staff directly, if you feel comfortable doing so, or you can contact

- **National Domestic Abuse Helpline** - 0800 2000 24724-hour
- **Women's Aid**- <https://www.womensaid.org.uk/information-support/>
- **Live Fear Free Helpline** - 0800 80 10 800 (24 hours a day)
- **Men's Advice Line** - 0800 801 0327 (weekdays 9am-5pm)

For general enquiries

contact [info@operationencompass.org](mailto:info@operationencompass.org) or <https://www.operationencompass.org/>





**“Love to learn, learn to love”**

**1 Corinthians 16:14**

<b>September 2020</b>			
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> September 2020	Staff Training Day	All day	
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> September 2020	School reopens to pupils in Reception-Year 4 and current Nursery children (Reception half days)	<b>Drop off</b> Nursery- 8:50-9:00am Rec am- 8:40-8:50am Rec pm- 12:45 -1:00pm Year 1- 8:40-8:50am Year 2- 8:50-9:00am Year 3- 8:40-8:50am Year 4 – 8:50-9:00am	<b>Pick up</b> Nursery- 3:10-3:20pm Rec am- 11:15-11:30am Rec pm- 3:00-3:10pm Year 1- 3:00-3:10pm Year 2- 3:10-3:20pm Year 3- 3:00-3:10pm Year 4 – 3:10-3:20pm
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> September	New Nursery children start (please see information from Mrs Francis) half days		
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> September	All Reception children in for morning and lunch only.		Pick up at 1:00pm please
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> September	All Nursery and Reception children back full time		
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> September	Children's Cancer Run	TBC	
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> September- Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> October	Y4 Residential	TBC	We have requested that we postpone this event until summer 2021 and are awaiting confirmation. Please proceed with payment if you are able to.

**“Love to learn, learn to love”**

**1 Corinthians 16:14**

It's our **40<sup>th</sup>**  
**anniversary**



**Can you help us celebrate?**

It's not a celebration without a cake!

We'd love you to get involved and bake us a birthday cake.  
We like all kinds of cakes so why not make us your  
favourite and enjoy it at home?

Just remember to send us a photo or video before you eat it!



Send pictures or videos of your baking creations to  
[Community.relations@nexus.org.uk](mailto:Community.relations@nexus.org.uk), for the attention of  
Deborah Rodenby, by 31st July.