



July 2020

Weeks 36 & 37 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

PTFA NEWS

In preparation for the new school year, the PTFA have lots of pre-loved uniform for your children, in exchange for a donation. All money raised by the PTFA funds important resources, activities and events for our children.



If you would like to purchase items please email archbishopruncieptfa@gmail.com with the size/year group and the items you need and they will get back to you in the next two weeks regarding availability and pick up arrangements.

The PTFA have kindly bought a gazebo for use in school. This will initially support our Year 4 bubbles but will be put to good use in future too! Thank you.



THANK YOU!

Several parents have contacted me to thank the school for our efforts to get as many children back to school as possible. We really appreciate your support, thank you! The last few months have not been easy but we are really proud how well the school community has come together to support one another and, in particular, those families who needed our support the most.

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.



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!

DROP OFF & PICK UP

A reminder that, as per DfE guidance (and the Parent Protocol which was sent to all parents), only one parent or carer is asked to pick up/drop off children in school and not bring siblings please. Thank you for your support in this matter.

A reminder also that staff are not able to speak face to face with parents at pick up or drop off but please feel free to email or phone us if you have any questions or queries. Thank you.

WIDER OPENING OF SCHOOL

As you know, we were asked by the government to prioritise younger children in the first phases of wider opening. We took a phased approach to this which has been really successful. We would like to thank you all for your patience and understanding during this time.



Phase 1: From Monday June 2nd, children of Key Workers and vulnerable children were reorganised into age-based bubbles to support direct teaching.

Phase 2: From June 8th, children in Year 1 whose parents opted to return their child(ren) returned to Year 1 and Miss Young. They all skipped in happily!

Phase 3: From June 15th, children in Reception whose parents opted to return their child(ren) joined some of their friends and their Year 1 teacher-to-be, Miss Davison, in school. They were all so excited to be back and Miss Davison was delighted to meet them!

Phase 4: June 22nd, children in Nursery whose parents opted to return their child(ren) returned to school. Mrs Francis was thrilled to have them back!

Phase 5: June 29th, additional pupils returned, as per DfE guidance (disadvantaged and children of key workers).

Phase 6: June 29th further places were allocated to children in Nursery, Reception and Year 1 in an additional “bubble” in the Reception classroom. They have settled brilliantly!

Phase 7: On Monday this week, we moved Year 4 children who were in school into a “pop up classroom” (tent 1) outdoors for their final three weeks with us. We thought that this would make an exciting and adventurous end to the year that they (hopefully) won't forget! This has been met with huge positivity from parents, staff and children alike! Thank you. This bubble is now full.

All remaining Year 4 children are invited to join us (in tent 2!) from Monday 6th July for the final two weeks of term. Hopefully you saw the pictures of soldiers from 3rd Regiment Royal Horse Artillery putting up the tents on Thursday afternoon. This caused huge excitement amongst the children and staff!

Children in tent 2 should access the field via the gate from the car park (next to the storage container), should arrive between 8:40-8:50am and should be collected at 2:50-3:00pm from the same gate, please. We understand from some parents of Year 4 children that GCMS are offering transition activities during the school day, therefore parents may prefer to keep Year 4 children at home on these days. Please let Mrs Pygall know if your child won't be in.

Phase 8: Unfortunately, we have no further staff or rooms available in school to welcome any more children back on a full time basis. As the DfE guidance has changed, we are, however, now able to invite children in other year groups to meet their new teacher, before the end of term, as a transition activity. This will be a separate “bubble” to those children in school. Staff will also be making contact with children at home to introduce themselves either via phone or a postcard.

Arrangements will be as follows;

Nursery- Children and parents have already been invited into school for 1:1 meetings with Mrs Francis

Reception- Children and parents have already been invited into school for 1:1 meetings with Miss Wilkinson

Year 1 - 22 out of the 26 children in Reception are now in school. The remaining 4 children will be invited into school to meet Miss Davison next Friday, 12:40-1:40pm. Please check ParentMail for further information.

Year 2 - Year 1 children who are not currently in school will be invited to school to meet Miss Nattress, next Friday afternoon, in two small groups (either 12:45-1:45 or 1:50-2:50pm). Please check ParentMail for further information.

Year 3 - Year 2 children who are not currently in school will be invited to school to meet Miss Gray, next Friday afternoon, in two small groups (either 12:50-1:50 or 1:55-2:55pm). Please check ParentMail for further information.

Year 4 – Children in Year 3 have been taught by both Mr Booth and Miss Burns this school year. If you think your child would benefit from a further meeting of these staff, please contact them directly via email and they will arrange this.

Please note that all visits will take place outdoors and will therefore be weather dependant.

Thank you for your understanding.

Please contact new teachers directly if you think your child would benefit from a 1:1 visit. Email addresses for teaching staff are detailed below.

Nursery	Mrs Francis	Kathleen.Francis@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk
Reception	Miss Wilkinson	Katie.Wilkinson@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk
Year 1	Miss Davison	Allex.Davison@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk
Year 2	Miss Nattress	Megan.Nattress@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk
Year 3	Miss Gray	Emily.Gray@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk
Year 4	Mr Booth & Miss Burns	Jonathan.Booth@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk Jennifer.Burns@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk



ATTENDANCE

A reminder that attendance in school currently is not compulsory but we would still be grateful if you could let Mrs Pygall know, via ParentMail, if your child is not coming in as she still needs to provide the Local Authority with a reason for absence. Thank you.

As you know, Friday mornings in school are childcare only and bubbles are led by support staff. We would still be grateful if you could let Mrs Pygall know if your child will not be attending. Thank you.

BIRTHDAY SWEETS

Parents are welcome to give birthday sweets out themselves but we are not currently sending anything (apart from children!) home from school as we have been advised to minimise items coming into/out of school. Thank you for your understanding.



STAFFING

We are currently employing a significant number of additional staff in order to open as many bubbles as we can. The school is funding this increased staffing directly from the school budget. I would like to thank the governors for supporting us to do this in order to get as many children as possible back into school before the end of term.

Staffing all 8 bubbles has not been a quick or easy task so thank you for your ongoing patience and support of the school. Soon we will have 8 bubbles open, accommodating up to 120 children. This will mean that over 70% of our children will be back full time before the end of the school year - we do not know of a school with a comparable percentage and we are really proud of this!

A reminder that if staffing levels drop or there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 in school, the bubble will still need to close. We will give as much notice as possible.

We are delighted to announce that we have appointed Mrs Kimberley Valentine as School Business Manager 2 days per week, from September. Mrs Carrick will return to Gosforth Park First School. We would like to extend our thanks to her for all her work during her secondment.

We have also appointed Miss Stephenson as an additional Teaching Assistant for Key Stage 1 from September. Miss Stephenson is currently supporting Miss Nattress in the Year 3 bubble.



SEPTEMBER & AUTUMN TERM

The government have, yesterday, released guidance on the full opening of schools in September. You can read this at the following address <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

The guidance indicates that:

- Children will remain in class “bubbles” and will not mix with other bubbles or adults
- Schools will be open full time
- Children are not expected to socially distance within a bubble
- Shared spaces (such as the hall) can be used with cleaning between each bubble use
- School kitchens will be fully open
- Large gatherings such as Worship will not take place
- Classroom desks will face forwards and children will sit side by side
- Staggered start and end times will continue
- Gatherings at the school gates will not be allowed
- Visitors (including parents) in school will be minimised as far as possible
- Children will wash hands on arrival and throughout the day
- Children will have their own equipment to use e.g. pencils and rulers that are not shared
- Books can be taken home but will be quarantined on return to school
- Schools should limit the amount of equipment brought into school but lunch boxes and book bags will be allowed.
- Attendance will be mandatory for all pupils from September
- Use of public transport should be kept to an “absolute minimum”
- Usual uniform policy will resume
- Breakfast Club and After School Club will run, keeping children in bubbles where possible
- Wrap around provider use should be limited (including in summer holidays)
- Contact sports should not take place
- Outdoor sports will be prioritised
- The curriculum at the beginning of the year will address gaps in children’s knowledge
- Focused pastoral support will be provided for all children.



We will appreciate that we need time to read and understand this guidance further.

As PE will take place outdoors from September, children will need named trainers (that they can fasten themselves), navy tracksuit bottoms and a navy sweatshirt/zip up top to wear during PE. They will not need plimsolls.

BREAKFAST CLUB & AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

We have had such an overwhelming response to the Breakfast Club and After School Club plans- thank you for all your lovely comments! One parent has suggested that we remain open until 6:30pm however, we are sticking to 5:15pm finishing time for the following reasons:

- staff will have been on site since 8:00am so 5:15pm will be overtime on top of their working day
- we will not have a chef here to cater for children after school so we will only be providing healthy snacks (not a meal)
- Mr Hunter's working hours are only until 6:00pm.



We will consider opening further/employing staff for this role if demand is sufficient in the Autumn Term.

In response to other queries:

- We do accept childcare vouchers- please contact Mrs Pygall for further information
- All children who have booked a place via ParentMail have been allocated a place. We have had such an overwhelming response that we may need to limit numbers in future.
- Ad-hoc places can be booked if places are available. Tuesdays and Wednesdays are already full! Please contact Mrs Brown for Breakfast Club and Miss Willet for After School Club bookings.
- Breakfast Club and After School Clubs will be a permanent arrangement for our school.
- Classroom based after school clubs are likely to be able to take place e.g. Art Club
- Sibling discount is not available

Parents are still able to use external providers for wraparound care but are asked to limit the number of providers that they use. Current government guidance suggests that children in out of school care are kept within existing bubbles as far as possible.

CHILDREN'S BELONGINGS

Children's exercise books have been bagged (and quarantined) and are awaiting collection from the school office. Please email Mrs Pygall to arrange collection so she can leave bags outside for you to pick up.

Class Teachers have kept a small number of children's books to use as evidence of work undertaken this year. Parents have been contacted by Class Teachers if this is the case.

There are also some PE bags and water bottles which we will leave in the main entrance for collection too. Thank you!



READING BOOKS

We would be grateful if all reading books could be returned to school as soon as possible please. There is a box outside the main office for these to be returned. Thank you!

TRAVELLING TO SCHOOL

A reminder that use of public transport should be kept to an absolute minimum please. Please consider walking, cycling and using the car as an alternative to public transport, where possible. Thank you.



ONLINE & HOME LEARNING



In response to feedback from a small number of parents, we have reviewed our home learning offer and added bubble timetables to the class pages. These are not compulsory (or even expected) to be used by parents but we know that one or two families want additional structure. We hope they are helpful. As Year 4 will be in school there will not be a timetable online for them next week.

As always, if you need anything printed and posted out, please contact Mrs Pygall. If you email completed work to Class Teachers they will continue to respond and give feedback to children.

For the DfE list of online resources, please see

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-online-education-resources/coronavirus-covid-19-list-of-online-education-resources-for-home-education>

For guidance on supporting your child at home, please see

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/supporting-your-childrens-education-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

The guidance is designed to complement support and advice provided by school. Engaging with your child's learning will be helpful in their continued educational development.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>

UNNY HALL WILD FLOWER COMPETITION - YEAR 4

A reminder that Year 4 children should return their watercolour painting to Mrs Armstrong by 13th July. We can't wait to see their finished work!



YEAR 4 TRANSITION

Thank you to all the Year 4 parents for their suggestions of transition activities for our Year 4 children. We have included the suggestions that are possible under current DfE guidance. Unfortunately, traditional events such as "the tunnel of Teachers" may be more difficult!

wb 6.7.20	Monday	All Year 4 children invited back- please read Parent Protocol sent via ParentMail
	Tuesday	
	Wednesday	Children will take part in a range of transition related activities including Art, Forest School, PSHE, PE etc
	Thursday	
	Friday (am)	
wb 13.7.20	Monday	**Bigfoot Theatre Company "Memories and Moving On" film, Unny Hall competition deadline. If your child is not coming into school, please see email from Mr Booth about how your child can still be involved.
	Tuesday	
	Wednesday	Sports Day
	Thursday	Water fight – weather dependant! Please bring a named change of clothes, named towel and named water gun.
	Friday (am)	Please wear Leavers Hoodies to school am- Year 4 Leavers Service and presentation Children invited to bring a named T-shirt and named sharpie to school to "socially-distanced sign" Picnic lunch (provided by school) and games Ice cream van (hopefully!)

All activities are for children only and adults from home will not be invited to attend events in school due to current school guidance.

***By sending your child to school on this day or by submitting pictures/videos via email, you are consenting to the pictures/videos being used to make a whole class video, put together by Bigfoot Theatre Company. This video will be available to all Year 4 parents and carers to buy and the school will use it in accordance with the consent you have already given for pictures and videos (for social media and promotional purposes).*

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.

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 or <https://www.operationencompass.org/>

With my very best wishes,

Mrs KE Massey

Headteacher



“Love to learn, learn to love”

1 Corinthians 16:14

June 2020			
Monday 6 th July	CANCELLED KS1/2 Sports Day	1:30pm	Parents Invited
	CANCELLED PE Week (Mon- Fri)	All week	
	CANCELLED Drop in for parents	3:30-5:00pm	No need to book an appointment
Tuesday 7 th July	CANCELLED Drop in for parents	3:30-5:00pm	No need to book an appointment
Wednesday 8 th July	CANCELLED Y2 skipping at GJA	9:30-12:30	
	CANCELLED pm EYFS Sports Day	1:30pm	Parents invited
	Full Governing Body Meeting	5:30pm	
Thursday 9 th May	CANCELLED Y2 Team Games festival at Walker Dome	1:00-2:45pm	Children may be slightly late returning to school
Friday 10 th July	Reports out		
	Visits for children not in school. Please see ParentMail.		
Monday 13 th July	Y4 Unny Hall painting entries must be returned to school please		
	Year 4 Memories and Moving On sessions		By sending your child to school you are giving consent for them to be included in the video which will be available for parents and carers to buy
Friday 17 th July	Year 4 Leavers' Service & picnic		Children only
	End of term picnic lunch for staff and children		
	CANCELLED Picnic in the Playground	3:15-4:15pm	
	School closes for Summer		
September 2020			
Monday 7 th September 2020	Staff Training Day	All day	
Tuesday 8 th September 2020	School reopens to pupils in Reception-Year 4 and current Nursery children (Reception half days)	Drop off Nursery- 8:50-9:00am Rec am- 8:40-8:50am Rec pm- 12:45 -1:00pm Year 1- 8:40-:50am Year 2- 8:50-9:00am Year 3- 8:40-8:50am Year 4 – 8:50-9:00am	Pick up 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 th September	New Nursery children start (please see information from Mrs Francis) half days		
Friday 11 th September	All Reception children in for morning and lunch only.		Pick up at 1:00pm please
Monday 14 th September	All Nursery and Reception children back full time		
Sunday 20 th September	Children's Cancer Run	TBC	

Wednesday 30th
September- Thursday 1st
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