



July 2025

Newsletter 20 – 18.7.25



HEADTEACHER MESSAGE

Another year is (almost) done! Thank you everyone for your support during this mega-year! Our SIAMS inspection last September and following Ofsted in December seem like a dim and distant memory but I'm, nevertheless, really grateful to you all for the support, encouragement and acknowledgement of our achievements. Thank you to all the parents, grandparents and other friends of our school who give their time to help on educational visits, listen to readers, help with repairs etc. We are really lucky to have such an engaged and supportive community.

This week has been a really busy one with lots of events, wrapping up and getting prepared for next steps. As well as saying goodbye and good luck to Mrs Palmer, Miss Bowers and Mrs Richardson, we have also said our goodbyes to our Year 4 children today. We hope that their memories of their time at ARFS are fond ones and that they will not only take their learning with them but also our school values as they move to the next stage in their education. We know they will continue to make us proud!



Of course, I need to give a huge thank you to our amazing staff and children for their hard work this year. The school has moved from strength to strength and we look forward to building on this next year.

I hope you all have a safe and restful summer break and we look forward to seeing most of you in September.

Best wishes,

Mrs Massey
Headteacher

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!

SECTION 1: ATTENDANCE

WORKING TOGETHER TO IMPROVE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

- Good attendance at school is essential for children to get the most out of their school experience, including their attainment, wellbeing and wider life chances.
- Nurseries and first schools play a vital role in embedding good attendance habits.
- Even at first school, children with the highest attendance have higher rates of attainment.
- National data shows us that children not meeting the expected standard in reading, writing and maths.
- For the most vulnerable pupils, regular attendance is also an important protective factor and the best opportunity for children's needs to be identified and support provided. Research has shown there are clear links between regular absence from school and harm to children.

Improving school attendance is everyone's business. Please support us in promoting the benefits of good attendance with your child - not only for their education but, also, to support their wellbeing and future life chances. Thank you.

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

	Whole School Attendance (excluding Nursery)	Highest class attendance!	Second place	Third place
Wb 7.7.25	97%	Year 4 (99%)	Year 3 (98%)	Reception (97%)
Wb 14.7.25	96%	Year 1 (98.3%)	Reception (98%)	Year 4 (96%)

Did you know ...?

- 95% attendance = two weeks absence
- 90% attendance = 4 weeks absence
- 85% attendance = 6 weeks absence
- 80% attendance = more than half a term of absence
- 75% attendance = more than 9 weeks of absence

Please remember that I am unable to authorise absences during term time for family holidays. We would be grateful if

parents/carers could also inform grandparents, family and friends, who may be looking to book birthday or Christmas trips away, that these do not fall under exceptional circumstances and will not be authorised.

If you need any support regarding attendance, please do not hesitate to come and speak to us as we can help you access support from the school nurse, attendance officer or other appropriate services.

We recognise that children may sometimes have a legitimate reason to be absent from school, and we are also aware that some families face difficulties which may impact on their child's education, therefore, the traffic light system has been put in place to support families by highlighting concerns at an early stage.

We hope that you will continue to support our school by promoting school attendance and by informing us if you feel there are any issues that are preventing your child from attending school regularly.

If you would like to discuss this further, please get in touch (grant.short@clennelleducationsolutions.org).

ATTENDANCE

Why is it important?

Attendance	Days absent	Weeks absent	Lessons missed	Impact
95%	9 days	2 weeks	50 lessons	89% or below Drastic effect on academic achievement
90%	19 days	4 weeks	100 lessons	96% - 90% Cause for Concern
85%	29 days	6 weeks	150 lessons	
80%	38 days	8 weeks	200 lessons	
75%	48 days	10 weeks	250 lessons	100% - 97% Excellent!
70%	57 days	11.5 weeks	290 lessons	

ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

ATTENDANCE AWARDS

This week we have celebrated the following children for 100% attendance at school this year:

- Danny (Year 4)
- Jerome (Year 4)
- Mika (Year 2)
- Grace (Nursery)
- Annabelle (Nursery)



MINUTES MISSED

During this fortnight, 2 hours 45 mins of learning time have been missed in school due to lateness. Please try to arrive on time at school, between 8:35am – 8:45am. Thank you. Our first lesson of the day is reading so children arriving late miss vital learning.

For children who arrive late, more than once in a week, we run a Friday lunchtime catch-up session with class teachers.

PUPIL ABSENCES

	Whole School absence (excluding Nursery)	Absence caused by holidays	Other absences
Wb 7.7.25	3%	1%	2%
Wb 14.7.25	4%	1.5%	2.5%

SECTION 2: SCHOOL CELEBRATIONS!



SCHOOL VALUES

As you know, our school values are love and determination, based on the Bible passage: Be courageous; be strong. Do everything in love (1 Corinthians 16:13-14). The following children have been nominated by staff and/or peers for showing these values in school. Well done everyone!



	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Staff
Demonstrating Love	Ivy	Marnie	Mehr	Ava	Ranveer	Albatool	Mr Hunter
Demonstrating Determination	Isaac	Jacob	Ollie	Melissa	Esim	Scarlett	Mrs Norman

TIMES TABLE ROCKSTARS

By the end of Year 4, children are expected to know all their multiplication tables up to 12 x 12 and Year 4 children undertake their statutory Multiplication Tables Check in the summer term.



	Children Need to Learn	Highest engagement this fortnight	Highest accuracy this fortnight
Year 1	x 2, x 5, x 10 (and corresponding division facts)	Nyah Ani Yashika	Ani Nyah Yashika
Year 2	x 2, x 5, x 10, x 3 (and corresponding division facts)	Musa Sacha Ethan	Musa Sacha Eisa
Year 3	x 2, x 5, x 10, x 3, x 4, x 8,	Elvis	Thanuja

	x 6 (and corresponding division facts)	Thanuja Harmony	Henry Nuh
Year 4	All tables to 12 x 12 (and corresponding division facts)	Theo Jacob D Percy	Theo Jacob D Rehan

Current rank of ARFS among nearby schools	6	Mean studio speed (seconds per question)	2.6
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HANDWRITING HEROES

As a school, we continue to have a real drive to improve handwriting, letter formation and presentation of work. Each week, class teachers will choose someone who has worked hard to improve their presentation or who consistently demonstrates exemplary standards of presentation. Well done and thank you to the following children:



Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Oliver Y	Urwah	Ethan	Elli	Thomas

SECTION 3: SOCIAL ACTION

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Mrs Francis is delighted to announce her new School Council for 2025-26. The School Council will work together on whole school issues and aim to improve our school for everyone.



Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Chair & Vice Chair
Isla Charlie	Jacob Penny	Scarlett Sacha	Alicia Teddy	Mabel Henry

LIBRARY CHAMPIONS

Mrs Crozier is eager to get her new Library Champions trained up to help maintain and promote our school library and class library areas. Rory, Esim, Eva & Max Cr have been appointed to take on this challenge – well done!



PLAY LEADERS

Indi, Phoebe, Thanuja and Rahaf have been nominated to be Play Leaders next year during playtimes and lunchtimes. This role will involve setting up games and activities and encouraging younger peers to be active at playtimes.

GREEN TEAM

Green Team are a group of passionate environmentalists who undertake social action within our local area and school grounds in order to bring about environmental change. They will continue to embed our Climate Action Plan and will take part in regular litter picking, encouraging biodiversity and managing waste.



Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Sanjibati Jude	Leo Rosa	Musa Ethan	Max Co Mia

WORSHIP COUNCIL

Worship Council will meet with Mrs Brown & Miss Lawton to reflect on the impact of collective worship in school and to plan and deliver church services next academic year.

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Margot Josiah	Oliver B Nyah	Ruby John	Ivy Nuh

SECTION 4: SCHOOL NEWS!

CLUBS – AUTUMN TERM

	Who?	When?	To book
Choir	All children in Years 1 – 4	TBC	Email admin@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk
All Stars	All children in Years 1 – 4	Tues fortnightly 12:30-1:00pm (Year 1 – 4)	Email beckymcbride90@gmail.com
Young Leaders	Year 4	Monday 12:40-1:00pm	Email Margery.Ellwood@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk
School Council	Nominated children from Years 1 – 4	Wednesday 12:20-12:45pm	N/A
Green Team	Nominated children from Years 1 – 4	Thursday 12:20-12:45pm	N/A
Worship Council	Nominated children from Years 1 – 4	Ad hoc	N/A
Library champions	Nominated children from Year 4	Monday 12:20-12:45pm	Email Emily.Crozier@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk
Playleaders	Nominated children from Year 4	Daily 10:30-10:45am	N/A
Violin	All children in Years 3 & 4	Monday 3:15pm or 3:45pm	Register here
Guitar	All children in Years 3 & 4	Tuesday 3:15pm or 3:45pm	Register here
Gosforth Voices	All children in Years 3 & 4	Wednesdays throughout the year. Held 3:45-4:45pm at Grange First School	Sign up here
Gosforth Band	All children in Years 3 & 4	Wednesdays throughout the year. 3:45-4:45pm at Archibald First	Sign up here

		School	
Lee Sterry KS2 football	All children in Years 3 & 4	Tuesday 3:15pm – 4:15pm	https://www.ls-sc.co.uk/schools/
Andrew Cartwright Multiskills Rec & KS1	All children in Reception, Years 1 & 2	Monday 3:15pm – 4:15pm	https://goteamup.com/p/7576178-andrew-cartwright-football/courses/118755/
Andrew Cartwright KS2 Football	All children in Years 3 & 4	Monday 3:15pm – 4:15pm	https://goteamup.com/p/7576178-andrew-cartwright-football/courses/118756/
Rugby Minis	Years 2, 3 & 4	Thursday 3:15-4:15pm	https://www.rugbyminis.co.uk/archbishoppruncie

WONDE



For those parents and carers of children who are in receipt of free school meals, Wonde vouchers have been scheduled for 19.7.25 for the six week break.

Newcastle City Council operates an Apply Once process for Free School Meals. During your child's academic life you will only ever have to apply once for Free School Meals while they attend a Newcastle school. You can apply [here](#).

BEACH TRIP

Unfortunately our beach visit on Tuesday was postponed due to a very wet weather forecast. This trip will now go ahead for children in Years 1 – 4 in September.



STAY AND PLAY

Thank you to all the parents and carers who came along to Nursery and Reception's stay and play sessions last week. A wonderful time was had by all!



NECCR

We have received the "leaderboard" from NECCR and I'm delighted to share with you that our school raised £2302.85 and came 25th out of 61 schools! Considering our small size, I think this is amazing! Thank you to everyone who supported, ran or donated. Overall, the 11 schools within GST raised £21,096!

CAKE SALE

Nursery held the final cake sale of the year, raising £46 – huge thanks to everyone who donated or purchased. The cake stalls have received really positive feedback this year so we hope to run these again next year.

CAKE SALE



ONLINE SAFETY

As we come to the end of the academic year, please find attached **Internet Matters** parent's guide to supporting children's move to secondary school. This information is helpful for parents of Year 4 children moving to middle school. Childline also have a 'Moving Schools' webpage and anytime support at:

<https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/school-college-and-work/school-college/moving-schools/>



As we break up for summer, many children will no doubt increase their time online over the next few weeks. With that in mind, I would like to remind you of the internetmatters.org guide which includes a Little Digital Helps Toolkit.



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

In Collective Worship we have reflected upon climate change over the last couple of weeks. We have discussed our school vision of being net zero by 2030, over the last fortnight, we have considered transport, saving water, reducing waste, planning for biodiversity in order to safeguard God's creation.

This week, we have reflected on the year and thought about how we feel about upcoming changes. Children have offered some really insightful and thoughtful reflections.



JOSEPH & HIS AMAZING TECHNICOLOUR DREAMCOAT CONCERT

Thank you to all our wonderful children who performed last Friday. The concert was a wonderful end to the year and a fabulous celebration of Miss Bowers' musical skills and enthusiasm. The concert was really well

attended – thank you to everyone who came along to support.



READING BUDDIES

Could you or a grandparent spare 20 - 30 minutes once or twice a week to help children with reading? We operate a successful reading buddy scheme with parents, grandparents and friends of the school, sharing books with children in Key Stage One and Key Stage Two. If you could spare an hour or two a week please contact the school office. You will require DBS clearance through the school - please contact Mrs Coates.

PLAYGROUP

Our pre-school playgroup runs every Wednesday during termtime from 1:30-3:00pm. It is now well established and growing each week, which is fantastic. If there are any members of our school community who would like to be included in a rota for helping at playgroup (setting up, serving refreshments and tidying up etc), please let Mrs Francis know. You will require DBS clearance through the school - please contact Mrs Coates. Thank you.



SAFEGUARDING

Mrs Massey, Mrs Francis, Mrs Crozier and Mrs Ellwood are our school's Designated Safeguarding Leaders (DSL). Mr Brown is DSL for Wraparound care. Children are regularly reminded who they can talk to if they are worried about something in school.



If you have concerns about a child, please contact one of us. **If it is an emergency and a child is in immediate danger, please call the police.** 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:

If you have a non-emergency concern about a child contact:

- Initial Response Service – 0191 277 2500
- Emergency Duty Team – 0191 278 7878 (out of hours)
- 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>

All concerns that a child or young person is suffering or is at risk of suffering significant harm must be referred directly to the Initial Response Service of Children's Social Care in accordance with the Newcastle Safeguarding Children Board Procedures. Please refer to the Newcastle Safeguarding Children Partnership website for safeguarding policies and procedures. For more information, you can read our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy on our school website.

With my very best wishes,

Kate Massey
Headteacher





DIARY DATES

New dates are in red, for your information

Friday 18 th July	Year 4 Leavers' Service (at school)	9:15am	Parents/carers of children in Year 4 invited to come along. We anticipate this will finish around 10:45am.
	Picnic lunch for all children		Please book via ParentMail if you do not usually have school lunches
	Year 4 water fight	Pm	Children need to bring clothes and shoes to get wet, a water gun and a towel
	PTFA "Freeze Friday"	3:15pm	
Monday 21 st July – Friday 29 th August	Summer holiday	-	School closed to children
September 2025			
Monday 1 st September	Staff Training Day	School closed to children	
Tuesday 2 nd September	Children back to school	8:35am	
	Nursery stay and play sessions for new admits		
Wednesday 3 rd September	New Nursery children morning or afternoon sessions		
	Playgroup restarts	1:30-3:00pm	
	RWI Phonics meeting for Year 1 parents and carers		
Thursday 4 th September	RWI Phonics meeting for Reception parents and carers	5:00pm	Please sign up via ParentMail
Monday 8 th September	New Nursery children start usual attendance pattern		
	Launch of walk to school programme		
Wednesday 10 th September	RWI Phonics meeting for Year 1 parents and carers	5:00pm	Please sign up via ParentMail
Thursday 11 th September	Year 4 cake sale	3:15pm	
Thursday 18 th September	Flu immunisations		More info to follow
Friday 19 th September	Nursery parents invited to stay for lunch		More info to follow
Wednesday 24 th September	SEND coffee morning	9:00am	
Friday 26 th September	MacMillan World's Biggest Coffee Morning		Hosted by Year 4 but everyone is encouraged to attend. Please save the date!
October 2025			
Friday 3 rd October	Harvest Festival at All Saints' Church	1:45pm	

Monday 6 th October	SEND Reviews – all year groups		
Monday 20 th & Tuesday 21 st October	Parents Evening	From 2:00pm	
Friday 24 th October	Staff training day	All day	School closed to children
27 th – 31 st October	Half term		School closed to children
November 2025			
Thursday 6 th November	Year 3 cake sale	3:15pm	
Friday 7 th November	Deadline for Nursery applications for January intake		
December 2025			
Tuesday 2 nd December	Reception parents and carers invited to 'Stay & Play'	2:00pm	
Thursday 4 th December	Nursery parents and carers invited to 'Stay & Play'	2:00pm	
Wednesday 10 th December	Nursery & Reception Nativity	9:30am	
	Years 1 & 2 Nativity & e-safety briefing	5:00pm	
Thursday 11 th December	Years 1 & 2 Nativity & e-safety briefing	9:30am	
	Nursery & Reception Nativity	2:00pm	
	Years 3 & 4 Nativity & e-safety briefing	5:00pm	
Friday 12 th December	Years 3 & 4 Nativity & e-safety briefing	9:30am	
	Years 1 & 2 Nativity & e-safety briefing	1:30pm	
Monday 15 th December	Years 3 & 4 Nativity & e-safety briefing	1:30pm	
Friday 19 th December	Carol Service at St Nicholas' Church	1:45pm	
22 nd Dec – 2 nd January	Christmas Holidays		School closed to children
January 2026			
Monday 19 th January	SEND reviews		
Monday 26 th January	Parents Evening		
February 2026			
Wednesday 4 th February	SEND Coffee morning	9:00am	
Thursday 12 th February	Year 2 cake sale	3:15pm	
Friday 13 th February	Mothering Sunday Service at St Nicholas' Church	1:45pm	
16 – 20 th February	Half term		School closed to children
March 2026			
Tuesday 24 th	Reception parents and	2:00pm	

March	carers invited to 'Stay & Play'		
Thursday 26 th March	Nursery parents and carers invited to 'Stay & Play'	2:00pm	
	Year 1 cake sale	3:15pm	
April 2026			
3 – 17 th April	Easter Holidays		School closed to children
May 2026			
Monday 4 th May	Bank Holiday		School closed to children
5 th & 6 th May	Year 4 residential - Seahouses		
Thursday 14 th May	Ascension Day service at All Saints' Church	1:45pm	
Thursday 21 st May	Reception cake sale	3:15pm	
Friday 22 nd May	Pentecost Service at St Nicholas'	1:45pm	
25 – 29 th May	Half term		School closed to children
June 2026			
Monday 1 st June	Staff training day		School closed to children
Tuesday 2 nd June	SEND reviews Year 1 & Nursery	From 3:30pm	
Wednesday 3 rd June	SEND reviews Year 2 & Reception	From 3:30pm	
Thursday 4 th June	SEND Reviews	From 3:30pm	
15-19 th June	School Sports Week		
Monday 15 th June	Year 3 Sports Day	2:00pm	
Tuesday 16 th June	Year 4 Sports Day	2:00pm	
Wednesday 17 th June	Nursery Sports Day	9:15am	
	Reception Sports Day	2:00pm	
Thursday 18 th June	Year 2 Sports Day		
Friday 19 th June	Year 1 Sports Day		
Thursday 25 th June	Year 3 sleepover at school		
Tuesday 30 th June	Nursery parents and carers invited to 'Stay & Play'	2:00pm	
July 2026			
Thursday 2 nd July	Reception parents and carers invited to 'Stay & Play'	2:00pm	
Friday 17 th July	Year 4 Leavers' Service	9:15am	
20 th July – 1 st September	Summer Holiday		School closed to children