



## November 2019 – Newsletter 13

### WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Whole School (excluding Nursery)
96%	87%	99%	90%	96%	98%	94%

Our school target for attendance is 97%.

### PTFA NEWS

We are all really looking forward to the PTFA Christmas Fair next Friday. Please come along if you are able to. Football Club will be outdoors on the 13<sup>th</sup> during the Christmas Fair so please ensure children are dressed appropriately. Thank you!



### ILLNESS



We have a legal responsibility to follow up any absences so we would be grateful if parents could inform school via phone, email or ParentMail if your child will not be attending school due to illness. You can email Mrs Pygall on [admin@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk](mailto:admin@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk) or leave a message on ParentMail.

Please make contact each day or, if you think your child will be absent for two days due to sickness or diarrhoea, please let us know this! It is taking Mrs Pygall a long time to make contact with parents of absent children each morning. Thank you for helping us with this.

### PANTOMIME

The whole school are due to go to the Pantomime on the 20<sup>th</sup> December but at the moment there are over 80 children that still have not paid. Although this is a voluntary donation, if there are insufficient contributions this visit will have to be cancelled. We would appreciate your donations please.



### NATIVITY

Last year, we only allocated two tickets per family and not all were taken up, meaning our children sometimes performed to a half full hall (which is really sad when they work so hard!). Therefore, this year we hoped that by increasing this to three tickets the hall would be full and children would be able to perform to a wider audience. We are unable to limit ticket quantity on ParentMail which has caused an issue when parents have booked more than their allocated three tickets and Mrs Pygall has had to phone around all parents who have booked more than their three allocated tickets. This has taken an extraordinary amount of her time!

Mrs Pygall has now made contact with all families who have over booked tickets in order to resolve this issue. If you think you do not need all three of your tickets that you have reserved, please let us know so they can be allocated to another family. Thank you to those families who have generously reduced



their ticket allocation to enable others to attend. Your generosity and kindness is very much appreciated. Thank you also for the patience of those families who found themselves unable to book tickets on ParentMail, due to overbooking of others, while Mrs Pygall dealt with the matter (which hopefully now has been resolved!).

Early next week, we will send your paper ticket(s) home in book bags. We have tried our best to give parents tickets to their requested performance(s). Please ensure you **bring the paper ticket for admittance** to the Nativity. Thank you!

We would welcome suggestions of how we could manage this better in future. Please let Mrs Pygall know your thoughts! Thank you.

At ARFS, we perform Nativities in Key Stages meaning there are only two classes for the parts to be shared between. We do this so that more children can be involved in the performance. However, our Nativities are a team effort and *every* role is important. We are delighted at how well our children participate and endeavour, over their time at ARFS, to offer a variety of roles to children.

EYFS do still have some tickets remaining. Please contact Mrs Pygall if you would like to be added to the waiting list for these. KS1 & 2 Performances are fully booked.

### CHARITABLE GIVING

The food bank donations have grown hugely this week. Thank you to all our children and families who have given so generously. Mrs Armstrong will be delivering our contributions on 16<sup>th</sup> December so please ensure donations are at school before then. Thank you!

### 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 what Advent means to Christians and how we can use it as a time of preparation and getting ourselves ready, both practically and in spirit. We have thought about how 'Advent' is also part of the word 'Adventure' and, for Christians, Advent is like an adventurous journey with God.



### OPERATION ENCOMPASS

On Thursday, Year 4 listened carefully to a session on appropriate relationships, friendships and secrets. We also held a drop in session for our community members to come along to.

### PARENT COUNCIL

This morning, our Parent Council met. It was a really positive and productive meeting. There was a suggestion that there is enough parents who are sufficiently concerned about parking to begin a parents parking patrol rota. If you would be interested in becoming involved please contact the Parent Council via email. Thank you. [parentcouncil.archbishopuncie@gmail.com](mailto:parentcouncil.archbishopuncie@gmail.com)

### RESOURCE & HELP REQUESTS

Costume letters have now been sent out (if required). Please send these to school, if you have not already, by Wednesday next week. Please remember to name everything! Thank you.



The Star

She didn't have a speaking part  
Because the words were tricky.  
(Though was glad she wasn't Mary  
Because Joseph's hands were sticky.)

She'd hoped to be an angel  
Because angels point their toes.  
But they'd offered her a shepherd  
And she didn't like the clothes.

Now all the parts were given out  
And she was just 'the crowd'  
As she faced the sea of mums and dads  
Her little head was bowed.

Until she saw, right up the back,  
Her mummy's loving glance.  
That found her and stayed fixed on her  
Through every song and dance.

Whilst one king whacked the others,  
With his golden box of myrrh,  
Her mummy never peeped at them,  
Those eyes stayed fixed on her.

And even though poor Jesus fell,  
When the manger somehow tipped,  
And Gabriel danced a solo  
That wasn't in the script.

Her mummy just looked straight at her  
Like no one else was there.  
It made her feel so wonderful  
And she no longer cared.

That she didn't have a 'proper' part  
Which everybody 'ahed'  
Because looking through her mummy's eyes  
She would always be the star.

Emma Robinson 2015

Year 2 would like to request small cardboard boxes (large match size) and would like to invite any parent helpers to help with their DT project on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> (pm) and Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> (pm). Please let Miss Orr know if you can help!

If any parents would like to help make Christmas cards and other craft activities please contact class teachers, via email.



#### Y4 MULTISKILLS

Next Thursday, Year 4 are at Walker Dome at a Multiskills festival. Please send children with suitable footwear. Thank you!

#### PERMISSION FOR VISITS

In line with national guidance, we will no longer request *permission* for educational visits within school time. We will continue to inform you, via the newsletter, of visits and, on occasion, request help and voluntary contributions.

#### 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.



Mrs Francis is holding a meeting for January starters on **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December** at 5:00pm.

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

#### NEWSLETTER

From January, our school Newsletter will be sent fortnightly. This will be reviewed at Easter so do let us know what you think! Thank you.

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



**“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>		
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	5:00pm New Nursery Parents Meeting for January intake	
	Chris Bostock (storyteller) for Nursery and Reception children	Please pay via ParentMail
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Please bring nativity costumes to school	
	Christmas Lunch for children, staff and governors- <b>wear a Christmas jumper if you'd like to!</b>	Children who are usually packed lunch will be able to book a school meal via ParentMail
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Y4 Multiskills festival at Walker Dome 1:00-2:45pm	Children may be slightly late returning to school
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day	Suggested donation of £1
	Years 1-4 will be attending "The Christmas Journey" at Trinity Church Y1 & Y2- 9:30-10:30am Y3 & Y4- 11:00-12:00	If you are able to help walk the children there and back please contact Class Teachers directly. Thank you!
	PTFA Christmas Fair at School 3:15pm	
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	1:30pm KS2 Nativity (1)	2 tickets per family will be able to be booked via ParentMail from November.
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	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)	
	2:00pm KS1 Nativity (2)	
	EYFS Party	Children only- please sign up to bring food
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). Children will return to school for lunch before the Carol Service
	Carol Service at St Nicholas' Church <b>Wear a Christmas jumper if you'd like to</b>	Years 1-4 attending. Children will be dismissed from Church after the service if parents are in attendance.
<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
15 <sup>th</sup> January	Y3/4 Computing with GEM Education	
	Gosforth Voices	3:45-4:45pm at Grange First School
	KS2 Micro Bit 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!
	Year 2 Newcastle Castle Visit	
	PTFA Film Night	
<b>Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> January</b>	<b>Weekly, whole class ukulele lessons begin for Years 3 &amp; 4</b>	<b>No charge</b>
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	Road Safety sessions for Nursery, Reception and Year 1	
	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
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
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 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
	Parents Evening	
12 <sup>th</sup> February	Gosforth Voices	3:45-4:45pm at Grange First School
13 <sup>th</sup> February	Valentines Disco	
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	Love is... Worship, led by Year 1	
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	International World Thinking Day	Cubs, Beavers, Brownies, Rainbows invited to wear uniforms.
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> February	Lent Worship, led by Year 4	
	Prospective Nursery Parent visits 4:00pm	Please book a place via the school office
26 <sup>th</sup> February	Gosforth Band	3:45-4:45pm at Archibald First School
<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
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day	Children invited to dress as a book character
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	Class visits to Gosforth Library	
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
11 <sup>th</sup> March	Gosforth Band	3:45-4:45pm at Archibald First School
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
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 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 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- 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	
<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 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 Parents 9:00am	
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	GST Teach Meet	Staff only
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	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". Suggested donation £1.
	9:00 Y4 Times Table test Parent Workshop	
	Eid activities in school.	
Monday 2 <sup>th</sup> May- 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
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	2:30pm Pentecost Worship, led by Year 4	
	Year 1 Phonics Screen assessment	Year 1 children must be in school please
	All Saints' Schools Week	
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
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 starting Nursery in September 2020	
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	New Reception Parents Meeting for children starting Reception class in September 2020	
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	Gosforth Band	3:45-4:45pm at Archibald First School
	Y4 statutory Times Tables test	
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	Big Gig all day (Gosforth Voices & Gosforth Band) Best of British theme	Northumbria Sports Central
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 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	
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> May	Y2 Team Games festival at Walker Dome 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

**The Donkey's Christmas Journey**  
1<sup>ST</sup> - 22<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER 2019

**DEXTER**

COME IN TO ST THOMAS' AND TAKE THE SAME JOURNEY THAT MARY, JOSEPH AND THE DONKEY TOOK ON THEIR WAY TO BETHLEHEM!

AS YOU EMBARK ON THIS FUN ACTIVITY FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY, YOU'LL HAVE TO OVERCOME OBSTACLES SUCH AS RIDDLES, DOT-TO-DOT DRAWINGS AND 'WHAT'S IN THE BOX?'

**St Thomas**

**Captain Ted's**  
Children's Entertainment Centre

**HOLIDAY CLUB!!!**

We are running our fabulous Holiday Club to include the Staff Training Day on the following dates:

**Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> & Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan & Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January**

Only £25 all day 8.30am-5.30pm, including snacks, lunch and tea.  
8.30am-1pm £17.50 including snack and lunch  
1pm-5.30pm, £17.50 including snack and tea

Including arts and crafts, movies, baking, fun and games!

Speak to a member of staff now to book your place!

Childcare vouchers accepted

a jolly good place to play