



Newsletter 7

5th December 2025

Headteacher Message



As the term progresses, we have now entered the special season of Advent, a time of anticipation and preparation. Across the school, there is a palpable buzz of excitement as we look forward to all the upcoming festive events. The children (and staff!) have been working incredibly hard on their nativity performances, which promise to be wonderful celebrations of the Christmas story. Classrooms are decorated and the lighting of the Advent candles each week helps us to reflect on the themes of hope, peace, joy and love as we journey

through December. We are looking forward to sharing the performances and other special events with you and celebrating the spirit of community that this season brings to our school.

Best wishes,

Kate Massey

Attendance



Did you know ...?

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.
-
- 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.

Our full school Attendance Policy can be found on our website.

"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.



1 - Mrs Jan Gurkin

If you would like to discuss this further, please get in touch with our attendance officer Jan Gurkin (jan.gurkin@clennelleducationsolutions.org).

Attendance Headlines

Whole school attendance:

- w/c 24/11/2025 - 93%
- w/c 01/12/2025 - 92%

Highest class attendance:

- w/c 24/11/2025 - Year 1 98%
- w/c 01/12/2025 - Year 1 97%

Absence Headlines

During this fortnight, 175 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.

Whole school absence:

- w/c 24/11/2025 - 7%
- w/c 01/12/2025 - 8%

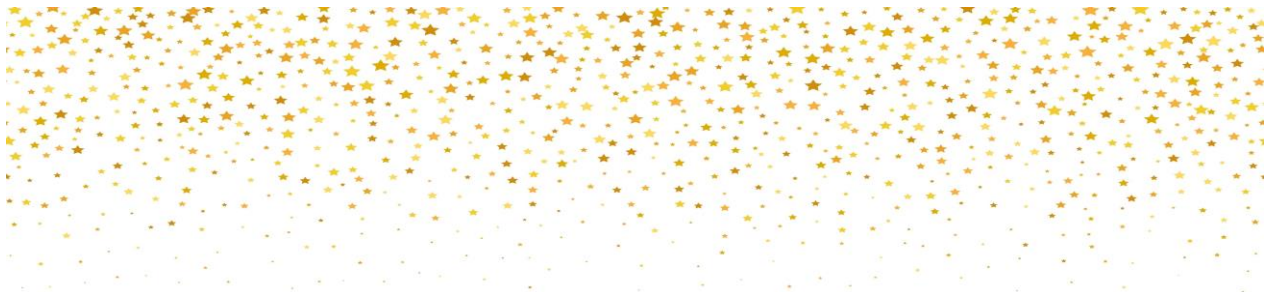
Absence caused by holidays:

- w/c 24/11/2025 - 1.5%
- w/c 01/12/2025 - 1%

Other absences:

- w/c 24/11/2025 - 5.5%
- w/c 01/12/2025 - 7%

School Celebrations!





Demonstrating Love

Nursery

- Henry
- Cruz

Reception

- Claudia
- Nooran

Year 1

- Jacob
- Izzy

Year 2

- Archie
- Hooriya
- Marcel

Year 3

- Maliha
- Alistair

Year 4

- Elli
- Rory

Staff

- Miss Cooper
- Miss Wears
- Mrs Francis
- Mrs Norman



Demonstrating Determination

Nursery

- Grace J
- Du'a Alaia

Reception

- Amyah
- Henry

Year 1

- Heidi
- Ivan

Year 2

- Oliver B
- James

Year 3

- Ava
- Henry
- Sacha
- Ethan

Year 4

- Alicia
- Hannah

Staff

- Mrs Lowe
- Mr Hunter



TIMES TABLES 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.

TTRS - Highest engagement

Year 2- Yashika

Year 3 - Benjamin

Year 4 - Max Cr.

TTRS - Highest accuracy

Year 2- Anidunnu

Year 3 - Benjamin

Year 4 - Max Cr.

Current Rank amongst nearby schools: 12th

Mean studio speed (seconds per question): 3.44



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:

Year 1

- Lola
- Hugo

Year 2

- Nura
- Urwah

Year 3

- Melissa
- Fatima

Year 4

- Samuel
- Eva

Social Action Groups



2 - Green Team



3 - Energy Champions



4 - Play Leaders



5 - Library Champions



6 - Worship Council



7 - School Council



SCHOOL COUNCIL

School Council have designed Christmas cards to send to our school community and friends of our school. We will make and send these out on Monday.



PLAY LEADERS

This week, our Year 4 Play Leaders have been busy helping to make breaktimes even more fun and inclusive. They have been organising games, supporting younger children in joining in activities, and modelling great teamwork and kindness on the playground. We are very proud of the responsibility and maturity they have shown!



GREEN TEAM

Green Team have been out and about in the local area litter picking with a festively dressed Mrs Lowe! We have discussed our Climate Action Plan and our grand plans for the new year. I have been so impressed with the children's commitment to making our school 'greener' and their determination to make the change.



YOUNG LEADERS

This fortnight, we have looked at leaders further afield and considered how world leaders show success. We have discussed what challenges leaders may face and how, having a strong team around them, can support their success.

We also revisited the challenges that the leaders were set last time, it has been fantastic to see how our pupils have been helping their families, neighbours and local communities. Well done everyone!



LIBRARY CHAMPIONS

Library Champions have sorted through Classroom Libraries and the library boxes and found a selection of festive, winter or Christmas themed books to put out on display for children to enjoy reading. We are very much looking forward to the countdown to Christmas...!

Clubs for Spring Term 1 (January)



We are delighted to be able to offer a range of extra-curricular activities for our children.

- Choir with Charlotte from Music Partnership North - Monday 12:30pm email: admin@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk
- All Stars Bible Club (run by a group of parents and church volunteers) - Tuesdays (fortnightly) 12:30pm email: beckymcbride90@gmail.com
- Violin - Monday after school with Charlotte from Music Partnership North
<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=wLSfsgQNN0q0YsEpSx4bR6HhZ8onp51DiB-iHdtAkHdUNzg1S08yUTdTR0hGRzJSMkQySU5PVUJFVi4u&route=shorturl>
- Guitar with Jack from Music Partnership North - Tuesdays after school
<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=wLSfsgQNN0q0YsEpSx4bR6HhZ8onp51DiB-iHdtAkHdUNzg1S08yUTdTR0hGRzJSMkQySU5PVUJFVi4u&route=shorturl>
- Gosforth Voices (Years 3 & 4) run by Music Partnership North on behalf of Gosforth Schools Trust
<https://www.newcastlemusicsservice.co.uk/ensembles>
- Gosforth Band run by Music Partnership North on behalf of Gosforth Schools Trust (Years 3 & 4)
<https://www.newcastlemusicsservice.co.uk/ensembles>
- Lacrosse with Kath from Whitley Bay Lacrosse Club (Years 2, 3 & 4) - Monday - 3.15-4.15pm - £4.00 per session - contact Kath on 07592 760881 to book.
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8 - Breakfast Club runs daily, 7:45am - 8:45am

We are pleased to offer our own Breakfast Club (7.45am - 8.45am) and After School Club (3.15pm - 5.30pm) in our school hall. If you have any queries regarding menus or activities, please email wraparound@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk

Breakfast Club sessions cost £6.00 and include a breakfast of cereal/toast and milk/orange juice. Children must arrive before 8.15am if they require breakfast. Afterschool Club, until 4:15pm is £6.00 and, until 5:30pm, is £12.50 per session and includes a snack and drink.

Bookings for Wraparound Care are managed by Childcare Bookings for Schools. You can pay using either a debit/credit card or using childcare vouchers.

The URL to access the booking system is **<https://archbishop-runcie.cbfs.uk/>**

Contact email address: archbishopruncie@childcarebookingsforschools.co.uk

Contact phone number: 01444 523335

Collective Worship

Over the last fortnight, we have reflected on the importance of Advent for Christians as the beginning of the church year. Father Paul has spoken to us about how God sent some important people to help prepare the world for the coming of Jesus. We have thought about the meaning of the word Advent (coming) and what Christians might do to prepare our hearts and minds.

On Monday, Year 3 led Advent worship for children and families. They helped us reflect upon some Advent traditions and symbolism in the UK, including the lighting of an Advent wreath. Rev Shipton told us about some of the different ways Advent is celebrated around the world and we learned about the significance of St Nicholas.



Church Links



ST NICHOLAS' CHURCH SERVICES

Everyone is welcome to attend.

Sunday 7th December at 4:00pm - Family service and candlelit procession

Wednesday 17th December at 6:00pm - Carol service at the Job Bulman

Wednesday 24th December at 3:30pm - Crib service

Wednesday 24th December at 6:00pm - Nine lessons and carols

Wednesday 24th December at 11:30pm - Midnight Mass

Thursday 25th December at 10am - Sung Eucharist

School News



TALENTS OUTSIDE SCHOOL

As you know, we have a very active school Facebook page and we would like to use it to celebrate the successes and talents of our wonderful children! If your child takes part in a significant event or achieves a significant accomplishment, please let us know by tagging us in a Facebook or Instagram post. We are very proud of all our children and want to share their success with our school community!



RECEPTION APPLICATIONS - Key dates

For families with a child who will turn 4, on or before the 31st August 2026, you can now apply for a Reception place.

Applications open: 1 September 2025

Applications close: 15 January 2026

National offer day: 16 April 2026

There are several opportunities for prospective parents and carers to come and visit ARFS - please contact Mrs Coates to book a tour (admin@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk).

What you need to do

- [Check if you can apply and which address to use](#)
- Read the rules each school uses to decide who gets a place (called oversubscription criteria)
- Use all four school preferences
- Put your favourite school first – read the equal preference information below
- Apply on time – if you apply late there is less chance of being offered one of the schools you apply to



For further information please visit <https://www.newcastle.gov.uk/services/schools-learning-and-childcare/apply-school-place/applying-reception-places>



AMAZON WISHLIST

Whilst there is absolutely no pressure to do so, several parents have suggested we set up an Amazon Wishlist to enable friends of our school to make a donation. You can find a list of items we are wishing for here:

<https://amzn.eu/1E02d6C>

Our wish list includes:

- craft materials e.g. Christmas crafts
- forest school resources and consumables e.g. marshmallow
- sreading books

- first aid resources

If you have a suggestion of something that we might benefit from, we'd love to hear from you! **Please make sure you get items delivered directly to school!** Thank you



PTFA UPDATE

Last Thursday, the PTFA met for the AGM and discussed plans for the year ahead. Our PTFA is open to all member of the school community (grandparents, aunts and uncles, friends of the school are all welcome) and many hands make light work so please try to come along to our next meeting on **Tuesday 13th January at 9:00am.**

Class Reps are a point of contact for anyone with ideas, suggestions or feedback.

- Nursery - Becky McBride
- Reception - Hannah Ballard
- Y1 - Shela Close
- Y2 - VACANT
- Y3 - VACANT
- Y4 - Sarah McRea

Chair- Angela Nicholson

Secretary- Sarah MacRea

Treasurer - Hannah Ballard



9 - An easy way to help us raise money!

EASY FUNDARISING

Easyfundraising works by partnering with over 8,000 retailers who donate a percentage of your purchase to a cause of your choice when you shop through the easyfundraising website or app. It is a free service for both shoppers and the causes they support, as the cost of the donation is covered by the retailer and comes at no extra cost to you. To use it, you register an account, select a cause to support, and then shop online as you normally would via the easyfundraising site or app, which directs you to the retailer's site.

You can join here, and then select **Archbishop Runcie First School PTFA**

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/how-it-works/>



NEW UNIFORM PROVIDER

We are delighted to let you know that Ekita will be sourcing ARFS uniform in addition to Tots to Teams at Kingston Park.

In line with our school ethos and values, Etika Uniforms believe that what children wear to school should reflect fairness, sustainability and compassion. By choosing ethically made uniforms, we set a powerful example and give parents an ethical choice. Ekita garments are made under fair working conditions, with environmentally friendly materials, and designed to last, supporting workers' rights, reducing environmental impact and turning uniforms into a true symbol of integrity and kindness.

A portion of each Etika school uniform sale directly funds educational initiatives in vulnerable communities in the UK and India.

From providing bicycles that aid children in travelling to school to supplying essential items such as shoes, stationery and uniforms, Ekita are dedicated to breaking down barriers to education and creating real opportunities for learning and growth.

To place an order, you can select ARFS at <https://etikauniforms.co.uk/schools-page/>

PERSONAL BELONGINGS

To foster a focused and equitable learning environment, could we kindly remind you that care children are able to leave all toys and other personal items at home and DO NOT bring them to school. These items can easily become a distraction during teaching time and often lead to disagreements, loss or damage, causing unnecessary distress for your child and their peers. We appreciate your cooperation in helping us maintain a productive and smooth school day for all our children. Thank you.

Christmas



NATIVITIES

Nursery & Reception: Born in Bethlehem

- 10.12.25 at 9:30am
- 11.12.25 at 1:30pm

Years 1 & 2: The Sleepy Shepherd

- 11.12.25 at 9:30am
- 12.12.25 at 1:30pm

Years 3 & 4: The Apprentice

- 12.12.25 at 9:30am
- 15.12.25 at 1:30pm

All performances are now fully booked. Physical tickets will not be issued; Mrs Coates and Mrs Bannon will check attendance at each performance against the bookings list.

The PTFA will be providing refreshments and will have a tombola at each performance so please bring cash along on the day.

Additionally, GEM Education have created a short e-safety video which we will show before each performance so please arrive promptly. Thank you.



CHOIR

Some of our choir attended Grainger Market on Monday to perform for shoppers and traders. They performed a range of festive songs and carols brilliantly and brought festive cheer to the market! Well done to all involved.



CHRISTMAS PARTIES

Christmas parties are taking place in the final week of term. Please send children to school in party wear that is appropriate for school (flat shoes - no open toes, appropriate length skirts/shorts and no midriffs on show!). Children will still be taking part in curriculum activities and therefore should not wear jewellery. Thank you.

We would be grateful if each child could bring a small contribution to share. From next Monday afternoon (8th Dec), each class will have a paper list up outside classrooms so parents/carers can sign up to contribute. For

those parents who are not on the school yard at drop off/pick up, please email Mrs Coates and she can sign you up. Thank you.

All foods must be individually wrapped with ingredients clearly listed on packaging please. Thank you for your understanding.

Class party dates are as follows:

- Nursery & Reception – Tuesday 16th December
- Years 1 & 2 - Thursday 18th December
- Years 3 & 4 - Tuesday 16th December



CAROL SERVICE

There is a Carol Service planned for the final afternoon (Friday 19th December) at St Nicholas' Church for children in Years 1 - 4. The service will begin at 1:45pm and finish at 2:15pm. Children will be dismissed from church, if their parents/carers are in attendance. Please see permission form on ParentMail.

Children should not bring book bags / anything extra on the last day so they don't have to carry their belongings to church. Nursery and Reception children are invited to attend if they are accompanied by a parent/carer. They can be collected from school at 1:00pm. Please indicate on the ParentMail form if your Nursery or Reception child will be attending, accompanied by a parent or carer.

It would be amazing if parents and carers of children in Years 1 - 4 could meet us at school at 1:00pm and walk to church with us and sit amongst the children during the service please.

At the end of the service, each class will be taken to a separate corner of the church. Children must be signed out and only collected by the person indicated on the ParentMail form, please. Any children without a parent/carer at church will return to school and can be collected at 3:15pm as usual (or attend After School Club).

Mrs Coates has sent the ParentMail form out so please complete this ASAP, many thanks.



CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Christmas lunch will be served to staff, governors and children on Wednesday 17th December. This is a lovely festive event in school and one of the highlights of the school year!

To order a school lunch for your child, please complete the ParentMail form by the end of today. The usual lunch charge of £3.00 will apply for children in Nursery, Years 3 & 4. Your ParentMail account will be updated to reflect the charge following the lunch if you pay for meals.

*****There will be no Playgroup running in school on Wed 17th December*****



PTFA FILM NIGHT

Last night, lots of children stayed behind after school for a festive film night. We had a slight technical issue with our school streaming account (everyone being logged in at the same time!) which meant things did not quite go according to plan but, nevertheless, staff and children enjoyed a cosy classroom film with lots of treats from the PTFA. Thank you to everyone who came along to support the event.



CHRISTMAS STORIES

On Thursday 18th December, Nursery and Reception children will be visiting Gosforth Civic Theatre for 'Stories with Santa' and Years 1 - 4 will have a festive storytelling session with Chris Bostock in school followed by hot chocolate round the fire. Payments can be made via ParentMail. Thank you.



CHRISTMAS JUMPERS

Children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper every Friday in December:

- Fri 12th Dec - donations for Save the Children can be made via ParentMail
- Fri 19th Dec - just for fun!

PRE-LOVED CHRISTMAS JUMPERS

Each year, the PTFA request donations of pre-loved Christmas jumpers and tops. These can be sent into school with children or dropped off at the school office before school. Thank you.

There is a growing collection of pre-loved jumpers and tops in the main entrance which are available to buy or swap - please pop along to the office to have a browse!

We would be grateful of any further donations to the office, please. Thank you in advance.



PTFA CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

The hampers are looking amazing - thank you everyone who donated items! You all did an amazing job of finding colour themed, festive treats - thank you!

Raffle tickets will be sent home by the PTFA next week and will be drawn on Thursday 18th December.

Hampers will be available to collect on Friday 19th December.



CHRISTMAS CARDS

We often receive a number of requests at this time of year from parents asking for class lists so their child can send Christmas cards to their classmates.

We will be giving out, upon request, class lists with first names only for data protection reasons (unless two children have the same name – in this case, we will give the least amount of letters of their surname to identify them). If you do not wish for your child's name to be included on these lists, please contact the school office. Thank you.

Christmas cards can be handed out at the beginning or end of the school day (not in class!). Thank you!

As a staff team we decided, several years ago, that in lieu of exchanging individual Christmas cards we would take part in the St Oswalds' "Share a card" campaign - children could do this too, if they wish.

Volunteer with us!



We are always looking for people to come and help in school! If you are interested in helping in school, please contact Mrs Lowe in the school office (admin@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk). All volunteers will require DBS clearance, and will need to provide references in line with our commitment to Safer Recruitment.

Please note that volunteers must not use their mobile phones during school visits and they must maintain confidentiality at all times. All volunteers will need enhanced DBS checks for this role.



EDUCATIONAL VISITS

We often need helpers to support us on educational visits out of school. Visits may be full or part days and may be with any class in school. Helping on educational visits will include supporting a small group to achieve the intended learning outcome, promoting high quality discussions, supporting positive behaviour and respectful attitudes of a group of pupils and ensuring the risk assessment is adhered to.

Please note that volunteers must not use their mobile phones during school visits and they must maintain confidentiality at all times.

If you think you might be able to help, please let Class Teachers know. Thank you!



LIBRARIAN / VOLUNTEER

Mrs Crozier and the Library Champions are in the process of giving the library a revamp and they are looking for a helping hand from a "Library Volunteer". This will involve tidying books shelves, checking and replacing labels, revamping displays, categorising new books and generally helping to promote the school library and class libraries. If you are interested in helping on a weekly or fortnightly basis, please contact Mrs Crozier (Emily.Crozier@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk).

Please note that volunteers must not use their mobile phones during school visits and they must maintain confidentiality at all times. All volunteers will need DBS clearance.



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 (ideally in the afternoons!), please contact the school office. You will require enhanced DBS checks through the school - please contact Mrs Coates.

Please note that volunteers must not use their mobile phones during school visits and they must maintain confidentiality at all times.



PLAYGROUP VOLUNTEER

Mrs Francis is looking for a couple of warm and friendly faces to support in our pre-school playgroup every Wednesday afternoon. This would involve setting up games and activities for our young visitors, welcoming families to school and interacting with pre-schoolers before helping to tidy up the hall. If you think you might be interested, or would like to know more, please contact Mrs Francis (Kathleen.Francis@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk).

Please note that volunteers must not use their mobile phones during school visits and they must maintain confidentiality at all times. All volunteers will need enhanced DBS checks for this role.

Dates for your diaries



Please see diary dates attached - this term is a busy one so please check you have added everything to your calendar! Dates can also be viewed on the school calendar at <https://archbishop-runcie.eschools.co.uk/web/calendar>

Mrs Coates regularly puts reminders of events on Facebook and Instagram to prompt parents too - please follow us to keep up with what's happening in school! She has also sent out a helpful Christmas timetable which will (hopefully!) help you plan ahead.



Safeguarding



WORRIED ABOUT A CHILD?

Mrs Massey, Mrs Francis, Mrs Crozier and Mrs Ellwood are our school's Designated Safeguarding Leaders (DSLs). 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 – 0808 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.



E-SAFETY UPDATE FROM ALAN MACKENZIE (ONLINE SAFETY SPECIALIST)

Protect Neurodivergent Children from Scams in Games

As we all know, neurodivergent children can be amongst those most vulnerable online, therefore more likely to become victims of things like scams. Those with ADHD, autism or other divergent ways of thinking might not recognise when someone intends to do harm.

Internet Matters have put together a brand new free guide for parents which explores how neurodivergent children's unique traits can leave them open to scams, particularly in games.

You can download the free guide [HERE](#).

Gadget Gift Guide

Christmas can be an exciting time when many children are given new devices and gadgets. Ireland's online safety charity, CyberSafeKids, have put together a brand new guide for parents and carers covering:

- The benefits and risks of popular smart devices and toys.
- What you can do to make them safer.

- Age recommendations
- And more.

You can download the guide [HERE](#).



Community Notices





SEND PARENTS & CARERS SUPPORT GROUP

Does your child have a special educational need or disability? Would you like to talk to other parents/carers or get advice from professionals? Whether your child has a formal diagnosis or not, you are invited to drop in to the SEND Support Group for an informal place to chat and get advice.

These sessions run every Friday 10:00am-11:30am and Tuesdays 4:00-5:30pm at Gosforth Civic Theatre. No need to book - just turn up!

COMMUNITY HUB NORTH

Children & Families Newcastle is part of a community network providing activities and services across four localities in the city for babies, children, young people and families. We are part of the North Community Hub. Community hubs link to other buildings in the locality to create a network of venues that offer activities and services.

The community hubs also offer a range of services including – health visiting, family support, community midwifery, mental health support, children’s therapies, youth provision, training opportunities, childcare and employability services. To find out what is available near you, telephone your local Community Hub at Fawdon Children’s Centre, Cairns Way, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE3 2SN. Telephone 0191 2115773 Monday to Friday 8.30am to 4.30pm.

<https://www.newcastlesupportdirectory.org.uk/north>



10 - For family support, please scan.



11 - To see what is happening in the city, please scan.

COMPETITION TIME!

Education World Bauble Competition

I'm delighted to share a festive creative opportunity for your pupils—Education World's Christmas Bauble Design Challenge! We're inviting children across the area to design their own Christmas bauble, inspired by what Christmas means to them. The winning design will be professionally made into a real bauble, and the winner will also receive an unforgettable hospitality experience at Newcastle vs Crystal Palace on Sunday 4th January, including complimentary food, entertainment, and some of the best seats in the stadium.

All details, including the brief and deadline for submissions, are included in the attached PDF. We would love for your school to take part and spread a bit of festive joy this season.

HOW TO ENTER

Education World would love to invite pupils from schools across our area to take part in a fun festive design competition!

Your challenge:

Create your own unique Christmas bauble design inspired by what Christmas means to you.

Deadline for submissions:

Friday 12th December

Winner's Prize:

Not only will the winning design be made into a real bauble to proudly hang on your Christmas tree, but Education World will also send the winner and their guardian to...

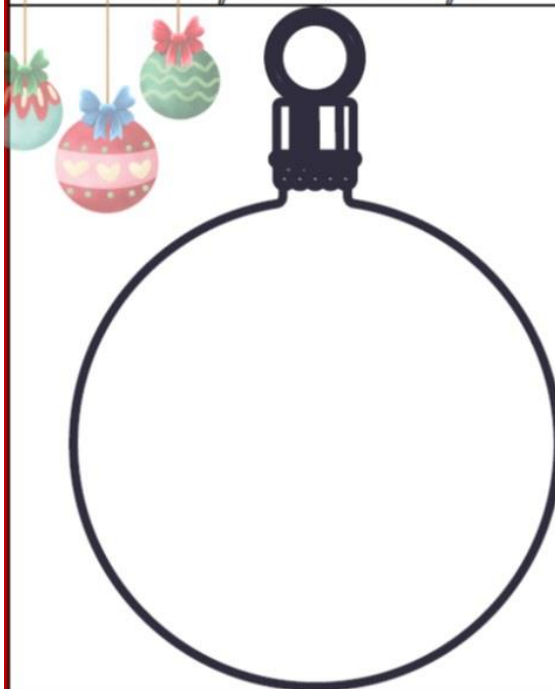
✨ **Newcastle vs Crystal Palace on Sunday 4th Jan!** ✨

This unforgettable hospitality experience includes:

- ✨ Entry to The Barracks
- ✨ Complimentary food
- ✨ Collectable pin badge
- ✨ Match day programme
- ✨ Fantastic entertainment
- ✨ Some of the best seats in the stadium

Because what Christmas means to us is spreading joy!

XMAS BAUBLE *design challenge*



COMPETITION TIME!

Vision for Education - Design our Christmas Card

Our Christmas Card Competition is back, and this year's theme is **"A Festive Scene."** Pupils are encouraged to get creative and design anything that reflects this theme. The winning pupil will receive a £50 gift voucher, and the winning school will be awarded a £250 book voucher. In addition, the chosen design will become our official 2025 e-card, shared with schools and partners across the country. Please see the attached poster for more details, and feel free to get in touch with any questions. The closing date for entries is **15th December**.



VISION for EDUCATION
Part of Edviva

CLOSING DATE:
Monday 15th December

DESIGN OUR CHRISTMAS CARD

THE THEME:
The theme for this year's Christmas card is:
A FESTIVE SCENE
Pupils can design anything they want to as long as it's inspired by this.
One entry per pupil.
All work must be your own.
Entries will be judged on creativity and care taken.

WIN!
The winning entry will feature on the official Vision for Education Christmas e-card

PLUS
The pupil with the winning design will receive:
£50 gift voucher & £250 book voucher for your school
Everyone who enters will receive a certificate.

Get in touch with Vision for Education for more information or to take part in this competition.
T 0161 367 4100 E matthew.poa@visionforeducation.co.uk



Kinship Family Christmas Party

The Newcastle Kinship Team are delighted to be hosting a free **Kinship Christmas Party** on **Monday 22nd December** and we really hope you can join us, (flyer attached).

This year's party will take place at **Walkerville Community Centre**, 6 Pinewood Close (off Appletree Gardens), Walkerville. Newcastle upon Tyne. NE6 4SZ.

On street parking is available nearby and Walkergate Metro Station is a 10-minute walk away. The building has level access.

We are planning lots of lovely activities including a disco with party games, Christmas craft/activity table and toddler soft play/ ball pool. And of course, it goes without saying... we are expecting a VIP guest appearance from the big man himself, bringing gifts for all the children. 🎅🎁🎁🎁

Light refreshments will be available.

Booking is essential. Spaces are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Please follow this link to complete our online booking form

[Kinship Family Christmas Party – Fill in form](#). Registration will close at 12noon on Monday 8th December (or sooner if maximum number of places reached).

Please note: This party is for Kinship families who are either resident in Newcastle or caring for a kinship child placed in their care by Newcastle City Council.

Contact Us



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