



Newsletter 13

20th March 2026

Headteacher Message



With the Easter holidays fast approaching and the sunshine finally making a welcome (if brief!) appearance, it truly feels like spring has arrived at last! There is a wonderful sense of renewal across the school, and it has been a joy to see our community making the most of the brighter days.

This week marked a lovely milestone with our first outdoor playgroup session, and we have been busy with a seasonal "spring clean" of our own. We are currently restocking

the playground sheds with exciting summer activities for the field, and the arrival of fresh bark has given our outdoor spaces a wonderful lift. We are delighted that the PTFA have agreed to fund a new 'outdoor classroom' in our forest school area and we are also grateful for the donation of some beautiful homemade bunting and new books for our outdoor reading area. Thank you!

While we have had a fantastic amount of activity in school over the last couple of weeks, there is still plenty more to look forward to as we approach the end of term.

With my very 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.

Promoting good attendance

As part of weekly celebration worship:

- The benefits of good school attendance are shared
- The attendance of each class is monitored each week and the class with the highest attendance earns an extra playtime. This is recorded in the main school hall.

- One child from each class with 100% attendance is selected each week to visit the Dojo Shop in school.

Half termly:

- The overall attendance of each class is monitored each half term and the class with the highest attendance earns reward.

Termly:

- Attendance data is shared with parents and carers via parent-teacher consultations (autumn & spring) and end of year reports (summer).

"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 09/03/2026 - 95%
- w/c 16/03/2026 - 96%

Highest class attendance:

- w/c 09/03/2026 - Year 1 98%
- w/c 16/03/2026 - Year 3 99%

Absence Headlines

During this fortnight, 220 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 09/03/2026 - 5%
- w/c 16/03/2026 - 4%

Absence caused by holidays:

- w/c 09/03/2026 - 1.5%
- w/c 16/03/2026 - 1%

Other absences:

- w/c 09/03/2026 - 3.5%
- w/c 16/03/2026 - 3%



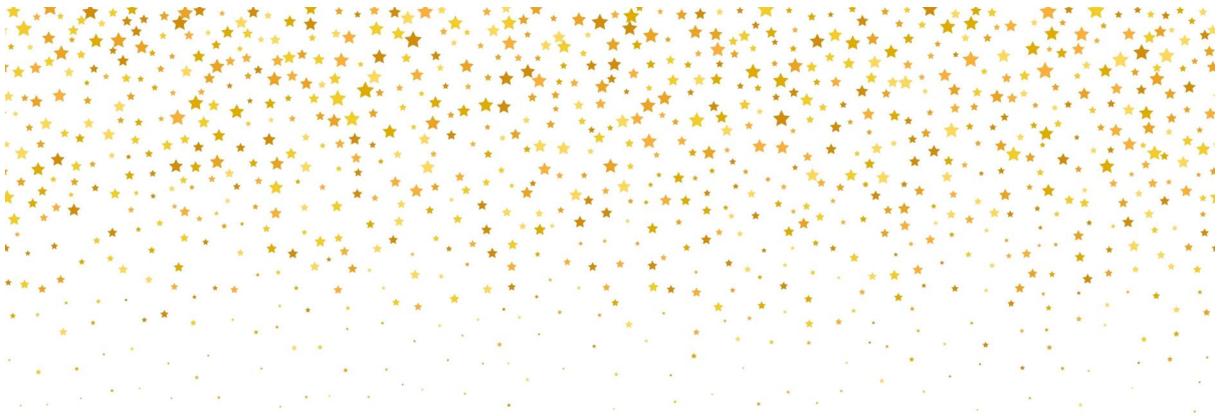
2 - <https://www.newcastle.gov.uk/services/schools-learning-and-childcare/parent-information/school-attendance-and-absence>

Leave of Absence requests can be made to the head teacher *in advance* by the parent/carer the child normally lives with if you want to take your child out of school during term time, however, it is only able to be authorised if there are exceptional circumstances. You can be fined for taking your child out of school without the school's permission.

Please note, as per DfE guidance, we routinely refer families who have taken holidays during term time to the LA for fixed-penalty notices:

- For first offences within a three-year rolling period, each parent/carer could be fined £160 to be paid within 28 days, which can be reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days.
- For second offences within a three-year rolling period, each parent/carer could be fined £160 to be paid within 28 days, with no option to pay a reduced amount.
- For your third offence within a three-year rolling period, parents/carers will not be issued with a fine and will be referred straight to court. This could be a fine of up to £2,500, a community order or a jail sentence up to 3 months. The court also gives Parenting Orders.

School Celebrations!



Demonstrating Love

Nursery

- Haris
- Abdul Rahman

Reception

- Ilhan
- Darcie Mae

Year 1

- Phoenix
- Torin

Year 2

- Ayra
- Leo

Year 3

- Arash
- Kayden

Year 4

- Henry
- Joshua

Staff

- Mrs Rusby
- Miss Lawton



Demonstrating Determination

Nursery

- Lori
- Cruz
- Luca

Reception

- Lottie
- Billy

Year 1

- Sanjhbati
- Ziyad

Year 2

- Sami
- Carter

Year 3

- Ahmed
- Scarlett
- Aadriti

Year 4

- Isaac
- Alicia

Staff

- Miss Cairns
- Mrs Brown



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 - Lyla

Year 4 - Max Cr.

TTRS - Highest accuracy

Year 2- Carter

Year 3 - Mika

Year 4 - Esimnachi

Current Rank amongst nearby schools: 65/101

Mean studio speed (seconds per question): 3.90

HANDWRITING HEROES!

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

- Oliver Y
- Yusuf

Year 2

- Ollie
- Evie

Year 3

- Alistair
- John

Year 4

- Max Co
- Phoebe

Social Action Groups



At ARFS, our social action groups serve as a practical outworking of the school's theologically rooted Christian vision, empowering our children to become "courageous advocates" for change. These groups encourage children to live out our school values of love and determination by identifying and responding to needs within their local and global communities.

By participating in these social action groups, our children develop early leadership skills and a lifelong commitment to social responsibility, recognising that their voices and actions can truly improve the lives of others.



3 - Green Team



4 - Energy Champions



5 - Play Leaders



6 - Library Champions



7 - Worship Council



8 - School Council



9 - Hall monitors



SCHOOL COUNCIL

School council are continuing on their quest to keep their friends active on the playground with the school games, personal best challenges. In years 1 and 2, the challenge is to see how many times you can pass a ball around your waist in 30 seconds. In years 3 and 4, the challenge is to see how many times you can pass a ball through your legs in a figure of eight in 30 seconds. Let's see who is up for the challenge?



PLAY LEADERS

We have finally been enjoying some much anticipated sunshine and our Play Leaders have been working hard to engage all of our pupils in some meaningful play. Lunchtime football has started, which has meant that the Play Leaders have had the opportunity for using our playground equipment more and it is fantastic to see the dressing up outfits and outdoor reading box being used so much! Long may this weather continue!



GREEN TEAM

Green Team have been busy, as always, cleaning up the local area. They continue to show dedication to the team and determination to make a positive difference to our locality.

Over the next couple of weeks, we will be replanting the wildflower garden and working with the North East Community Forest to plant our new trees and hedges in order to make our school into a little haven for wildlife and each other!



WORSHIP COUNCIL

I'm sure you will agree that our wonderful Worship Council planned and led a brilliant service for Mothering Sunday. Thank you to all those who were able to attend and take part.

We are now in the process of thinking about how we will mark the upcoming Easter celebrations (in school this year).



YOUNG LEADERS

In our meeting this fortnight, we have been discussing 'Raising Awareness'. We talked about which charities we knew of, both locally and nationally, and how both awareness and funds are raised. We linked this with some of the discussions that we have been having in our Year R.E. lessons recently and how caring for others is a key part of many different religions and world views.



LIBRARY CHAMPIONS

Our library champions have continued to work hard these past few weeks ensuring the library is tidy and all books are organised correctly. They do a wonderful job!



RED NOSE DAY

Thank you to everyone who donated to Comic Relief today. We have raised £113 which is fabulous. We couldn't believe how quickly the red noses sold - we will buy extras next year!!

Clubs for Spring Term 2 (March)



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

- **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.
- **Choir** with Charlotte from Music Partnership North - Monday 12:30pm (Years 1 - 4) email: admin@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk
- **All Stars Bible Club** (run by a group of parents and church volunteers) - Tuesdays (fortnightly) 12:30pm (Reception - Year 4) email: beckymcbride90@gmail.com
- **Violin** - Monday after school with Charlotte from Music Partnership North (Years 3 & 4)

<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=wLSfsgQNn0q0YsEpSx4bR6HhZ8onp51DiB-iHdtAkHdUNzg1S08yUTdTR0hGRzJSMkQySU5PVUJFVi4u&route=shorturl>

- **Guitar** with Jack from Music Partnership North (Years 2, 3 & 4) - Tuesdays after school
<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=wLSfsgQNn0q0YsEpSx4bR6HhZ8onp51DiB-iHdtAkHdUNzg1S08yUTdTR0hGRzJSMkQySU5PVUJFVi4u&route=shorturl>
- **Gosforth Voices** (Years 2, 3 & 4) run by Music Partnership North on behalf of Gosforth Schools Trust <https://www.newcastlemusicservice.co.uk/ensembles>
- **Gosforth Band** run by Music Partnership North on behalf of Gosforth Schools Trust (Years 3 & 4) <https://www.newcastlemusicservice.co.uk/ensembles>
- **After School Football** with Lee Sterry (Years 3 & 4) Tuesday 3:30-4:30pm
 - <https://www.ls-sc.co.uk/>
- **Lunchtime football** with Mr Hunter/ Lee Sterry. No need to book and no charge - just bring a change of shoes and come along! (Year 3 & 4 12:00 - 12:20pm, Years 1 & 2 12:20-12:40pm)
- **Dance Festival Rehearsals** - Years 3 & 4 with Miss Armstrong - Wednesday 3:15-4:00pm (see ParentMail)
- **Cookery Club** - selected children in Year 3 & 4 with Mrs Rusby - Wednesday 3.15 - 4.15 pm. Please speak to Mrs Rusby if you are interested.

Please note that any issues relating to clubs organised by external providers should be made directly to them, not to school, please.



10 - fsm

Breakfast Club runs daily, 7:45am - 8:45am

BREAKFAST CLUB

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 to include breakfast of cereal/toast and milk/orange juice. Children must arrive before 8.15am if they require breakfast.

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

REDUCED PRICES & SUBSIDISED COSTS: If you are entitled to Tax Free Childcare, then in effect this will reduce the cost of childcare by 20% (equivalent to £4.80 a day). See : <https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>.

If you receive Universal Credit, you may be able to claim back up to 85% of the cost of childcare. This means Breakfast Club would only cost 90p a day! Check here:

<https://www.gov.uk/help-with-childcare-costs/universal-credit>

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Our After School Club runs 3:15-5:30pm, Monday - Friday.

Afterschool Club:

- 3.15- 4:15pm is £6.00
- 3.15-5.30pm is £12.50 and includes a snack and drink.

This week, we have been gathering suggestions from our children (at ASC) and parents/carers (via the display board in the main entrance). We are delighted to announce that the children have voted to have a Film Night to watch 'How to train your dragon' on Thursday 5th February. This is open to all but spaces must be booked as normal via Childcare Bookings for Schools.

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

REDUCED PRICES & SUBSIDISED COSTS: If you are entitled to Tax Free Childcare, then in effect this will reduce the cost of childcare by 20% (equivalent to £4.80/£10 a day). See : <https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>.

If you receive Universal Credit, you may be able to claim back up to 85% of the cost of childcare. This means After School Club would cost from 90p per day! Check here: <https://www.gov.uk/help-with-childcare-costs/universal-credit>



11 - Wraparound phone can be used outside school office hours (7:45-8:45am/3:15-5:30pm)

Wraparound have a mobile phone that parents/carers can use outside of school office opening times. This number should be used before 8am or after 3:30pm if you need to contact the wraparound team.

They can be contacted by calling 07340117366. This phone is not active during the school day and should not be used to make or cancel bookings.

Collective Worship

This term, we are reflecting on the importance of Lent as a time of prayer, charity and fasting for Christians around the world. We have discussed the importance of Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday and some of the traditions associated with these special days. Father Paul has spoken to us about some Anglican traditions of Lent and Canon Shipton has helped us understand how Lent is observed, in differing ways, around the world.

We are using this season to try and understand the words and meaning of the Lord's Prayer so we have begun unpicking some of the language and phrases that are included in the prayer that Jesus taught us.



EYFS MOTHERING SUNDAY WORSHIP

Thank you all who attended the EYFS Mothering Sunday worship. The children led an amazing worship and were keen to tell their mums how much they meant to them. We hope you all had a wonderful Mothering Sunday!

YEARS 1 - 4 MOTHERING SUNDAY SERVICE

The service at All Saints' was incredibly well attended - thank you. We hope you enjoyed listening to the readings and joining in with the singing. Watching the children hand out their flowers is always such a highlight of the school year.



In collective worship over the last fortnight, we have reflected on each of the petitions of the Lord's Prayer and what they mean to each of us. We have learned about how different communities say the prayer in different ways to reflect their beliefs. The children have, as always, been incredibly thoughtful, reflective and respectful throughout these discussions. They have shown maturity in how they connect the prayer's words to their own lives and the values of our school community.

Church Links



Parent session - De-escalation and Zones of Regulation



On Thursday 26th March at 2pm, we are happy to host a parental session on de-escalation and Zones of Regulation in school hosted by the Local Authority Social, Emotional and Mental Health team (SEMh). This workshop will offer a safe space for parents to gain insight in how to support their children during times of difficulty. There will be a presentation of materials from the SEMh team, a chance to discuss hands-on techniques that work well and an opportunity for questions and answers.

Please email margery.ellwood@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk or complete the ParentMail form that was sent out earlier this week if you are planning to attend so we are aware of numbers.

PTFA update



EASYFUNDRAISING

Shop with over 8,000 retailers via #easyfundraising and earn a free donation for Archbishop Runcie First School PTFA, Gosforth at the same time.

All the big names like eBay, Argos, John Lewis & Partners, Etsy, Tesco and Just Eat are ready to donate. It won't cost you anything extra!

Please sign up today and they could win a £250 donation:

<https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/archbishoprunciefirstptfa/kxzsye/s2s/FZ9Up2Ac/SE870/facebook/>



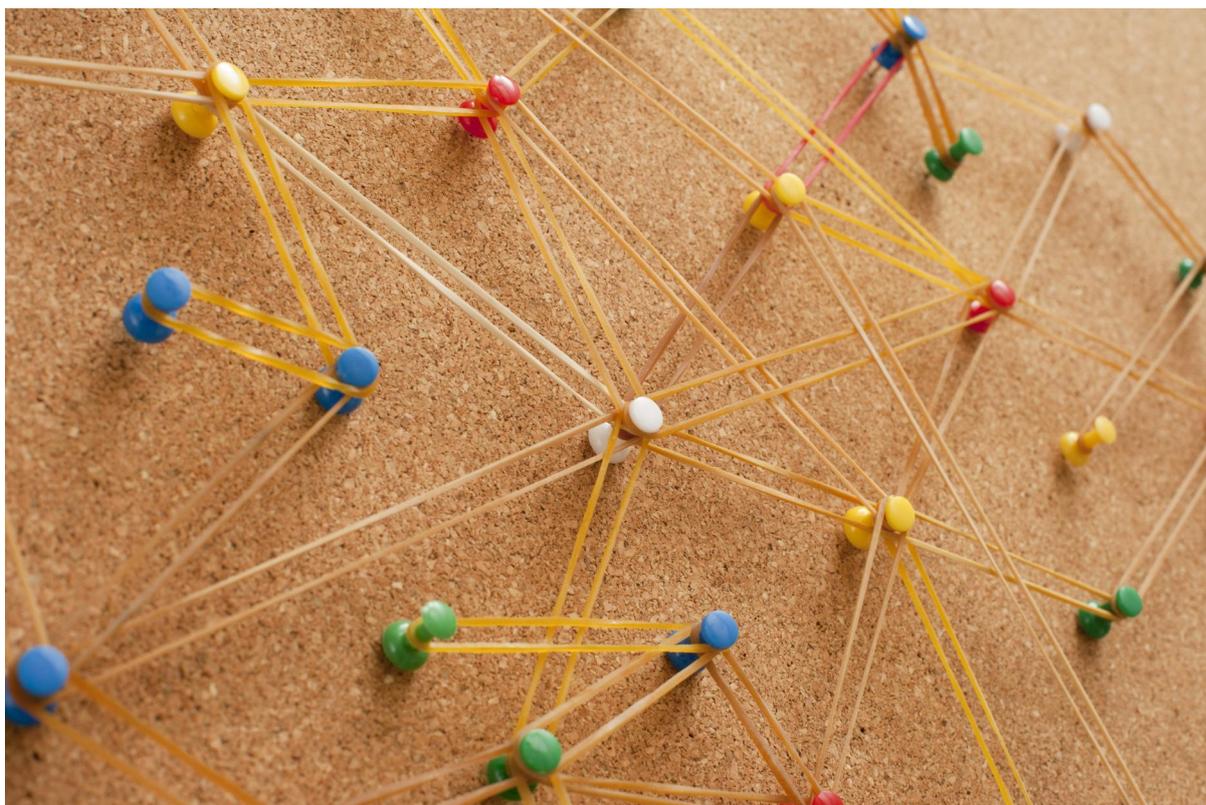
YEAR 1-4 DISCO

We were delighted that the PTFA disco last Thursday was such a success - thank you to all the parents and carers who came along to help. The children had a brilliant time and the tattoos and tuck shop appeared to be a particular highlight!

PTFA Meeting

The PTFA will be meeting at 9am on Monday 23rd March. Everyone is welcome to attend.

School News



PARENT GOVERNOR

Greg Farrell's term of office as parent governor will be ending this term as he is no longer a parent of children at ARFS. We would like to thank him for his time and commitment over the past 4 years as a governor (and many more before that as a parent!).

After Easter, the governing body will be seeking to fill this vacancy - further information will follow - but, in the meantime, if you would like to find about what the role entails, you can do so at <https://www.nga.org.uk/knowledge-centre/the-parent-governor-role/>

Governing within a school provides an opportunity for personal development, building your skills and experience in areas such as project management, budgeting and working as part of

a leadership team. Parent governors offer a parental perspective to issues being discussed; however, they are not expected to represent the parent body or act as a spokesperson. There are no specific qualifications or requirements for the role - every governing board needs a balance and diversity of knowledge, skills and experience.



DONATIONS NEEDED, PLEASE!

As spring arrives, we are looking forward to re-stocking and enhancing our playground activities for all our children . Our older children enjoy playing outside as much as the younger ones and we are looking for ways to keep playtimes fun and interesting. If anyone has any of the following items they could donate, we would be most grateful. Thank you!

- Dressing up costumes (age 6+)
- Dance/cheerleader pom-poms/props
- Children's magazines
- Non-fiction books about British garden wildlife
- Pots, pans and utensils
- Tennis balls

EID MUBARAK

Eid Mubarak to all those celebrating this weekend!

A reminder that parents and carers of children who have been absent today need to complete a leave of absence request, in advance, and return it to school as soon as possible, please. Thank you.

You can collect an absence form from the school office or find one on our school website.

[Archbishop Runcie C of E First School - Term Dates](#)



SEPARATED PARENTING RESOURCES

Families in Newcastle can access free, expert co-parenting support through [Relate Northumberland and Tyneside](#). They offer tools, workshops and counselling to help separated parents manage conflict, communicate effectively and build a stable routine from separate homes, often in partnership with local family services, including programs for reducing parental conflict.

Key Co-Parenting Resources in Newcastle:

- [Relate Northumberland and Tyneside](#): Located at MEA House, Ellison Place, Newcastle, they provide specialized counseling to support families in the North East.
- **Free Co-Parenting Toolkit:** [Relate provides a free online toolkit](#) specifically designed for parents in separate homes to improve communication and co-parenting stability.
- [Children and Families Newcastle](#): This group offers access to free Relate courses and parenting advice designed for local residents.
- [Co-parenting every day \(CoPE\)](#): A Relate program aimed at reducing conflict and helping parents focus on the emotional needs of their children.
- [Online Support & Tools](#): [Relate offers AI-powered tools and 25-minute chat sessions with counselors](#) to help navigate stressful parenting situations, say [Relate](#).

Focus Areas for Co-Parenting Success:

- **Effective Communication:** Moving from conflict to collaboration to reduce stress for children.
- **Shared Calendars:** Creating consistent routines for children across two homes.
- **Reducing Conflict:** Addressing damaging arguments that affect children.



Recommended Apps for Separated Parents

- **[OurFamilyWizard \(OFW\)](#)**: Widely used and often recommended by UK courts and mediators. It features a shared calendar, expense logs, and a "ToneMeter" to encourage non-confrontational communication.
- **Separating Better**: A free, UK-based app from charity OnePlusOne designed to help parents manage their separation, co-parenting, and emotions with practical, expert-led guidance.
- **[AppClose](#)**: A popular, free, mobile-only app that enables scheduling, expense management, and "on-the-record" messaging for communication.
- **[Amicable](#)**: An app designed to assist in managing daily co-parenting life, schedules, and goals, offering a 7-day free trial.
- **[TalkingParents](#)**: Offers secure messaging, calling, and shared calendars, with options to keep all records, which can be useful for legal, documented communication.
- **2Houses**: A tool focused on keeping both parents in sync with a shared calendar, expenses, and child information



Co-Parenting Everyday – Relate

7 sessions which are structured around improving communication, thinking about the experiences of each other and the children, attachment styles and how to resolve differences. Practitioners work alongside parents to understand and empower them to make changes in their lives which are sustainable and improve not only the outcomes of the parents, but also those of their children.

If you would like support, please contact paula.davies@newcastle.gov.uk



CAKE SALE

The next cake sale will be run by Year 1 on Thursday 26th March - all donations will be gratefully received. Please remember to list ingredients of any home made goodies! Thank you.

Please note that our cake sales are now cashless. Contactless payments can be made with a debit card or phone via our school SumUp machine.

Sporting News





DANCE FESTIVAL UPDATE

Miss Armstrong has spoken to the dance group and they have selected different colours of clothes that they would like to wear during the dance - costumes will be provided by school.



GIRLS' RUGBY

The Year 3 and 4 girls had a lovely time at McCracken Park for their T1 Tag Rugby event. They played 6 other schools in tournament style games with good results in all games. Lots of resilience and determination was shown. The girls received a medal, certificate and rugby ball in last weeks celebration worship. Thank you to Mrs Norman for taking them.



WONDE VOUCHERS

The Local Authority will be funding vouchers for 2 school weeks to the value of £15 per week, for each eligible pupil, for the Easter holiday. These are scheduled to be issues on Saturday 4th April.

If you think you may be eligible please visit

https://www.newcastlelea.org/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en



Children's Cancer Run, Sunday 17th May 2026

We would love you and your family to join our school team at this year's Childrens' Cancer Run at Newcastle Racecourse, Gosforth Park.

The Childrens' Cancer Run is a cross-country family fun run with a mini (1km), three-mile and five-mile route to choose from. The charity event is organised by Children's Cancer North and is once again being supported by Greggs. We are very excited to be participating in this event and would like to invite you to join us for what promises to be a fun filled family day out. All participants who pay for an entry to the run will receive a finisher medal and Greggs snack pack on the day and all children receive a Children's Cancer Run t-shirt. The fun continues in the Event Village too, with fairground rides, face painting, live music and entertainment, a Young Scientist Zone, food vendors and more!

Please complete an online entry form to join our school team:

1. Go to <https://childrenscancernorth.org.uk/event/childrens-cancer-run-2026/>
2. Click 'Sign up today!'

3. Select your registration preference (as an Adult, Child, or Family ticket type)
4. Under 'Create or Join a team' select 'Find' and type in our school name [INSERT NAME OF SCHOOL TEAM IF APPLICABLE]. Click 'Join' next to the school name.
5. Complete the remainder of the registration form and click 'proceed to payment' to complete the registration for you and/or your family.

If you do not wish to take part but wish to donate to our schools fundraising page you can do so by following the link below.

<https://childrenscancernorth.enthuse.com/pf/kate-massey-c3ef0>

If the school receives Pupil Premium funding for your child, the school can use the funding received to pay for their entry. Please contact the school office.

Training sessions will begin after Easter every Wednesday after school. Mrs Coates will send out further details via ParentMail.

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.



12 - Could you or a grandparent spare 20 - 30 minutes once or twice a week to help children with reading?

READING BUDDIES

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.

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!

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)

Instagram and TikTok - No End-to-End Encryption

It seems to be a week of unexpected (and positive) news. Firstly, Meta have decided to cease with their end-to-end encryption within Instagram DM's (private messages) and TikTok have reported they will not be using E2EE at all within their messaging.

Although some may understandably be concerned about privacy issues, from a child safety perspective this is huge. E2EE, such as that used within WhatsApp means that no-one, including the company, can interpret or see what is being sent, which makes it a relatively safe haven for criminal activity. Additionally, known CSAM cannot be detected and therefore cannot be reported to law enforcement for investigation.

TikTok are not introducing E2EE at all, Instagram will cease within DM's on 8th May this year. Link: [Meta pulling end-to-end encryption on Instagram DM's.](#)

Link: [TikTok puts child safety before privacy.](#)

WhatsApp Now Allows Under 13's

WhatsApp has been a significant concern for many schools, particularly chat groups where predominantly low level issues suddenly escalate. Last week, in another completely unexpected move, WhatsApp announced that children under 13 can now use WhatsApp via 'Parent-Managed Accounts'.

Essentially these are accounts set up by the parent on the child's device, but managed from the parents device. As well as no access to AI within WhatsApp and no ads there are parent management features which include:

- Contact management - parents can choose who can contact their child and which chat groups they can join. Children cannot join groups without parents approval. Messages from unknown contacts are sent to the parent first for approval.
- Activity notifications - parents can view their child's activity such as when a child adds a new contact or if disappearing messages are turned on. Parents will also be notified if their child blocks or reports a contact.

Link - [Introducing parent-managed accounts on WhatsApp.](#)

Link - [How to set up a parent-managed account.](#)



Community Notices



Attached is a message from the police about 'Ride Out'. Social media encouraging children to bring their bikes into the city centre, which sparked some unrest and illegality.

Easter Eggspllosion

10am-12pm | 28th March | JPC
All children in Reception to Year 6 welcome!

Join us for a cracking morning of fun, as we unscramble what the bible says about Easter

£3.50 Per Child

Sign up online at jpc.org.uk/children

The poster features a central image of a broken chocolate Easter egg with colorful confetti and other Easter eggs scattered around it. The background is a warm, orange-brown color.

Venue: Jesmond Parish Church, Eskdale Terrace, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE2 4DJ

About us: JPC is a large Church of England church not far from Newcastle town centre. We love Jesus, and want to tell others about him.

What to expect: A morning of games, chocolate, crafts, songs and a fab bit from the Bible about Easter. It's a drop-off event, so send your kids along and enjoy a morning to yourself!



Sign up here!



All leaders at this event have been safely recruited

EASTER EGGSPLOSION AT JESMOND PARISH CHURCH

Join us for a cracking morning of fun, as we unscramble what the bible says about Easter!

£3.50 per child. Sign up online at jpc.org.uk/children

Design an
**EASTER
EGG**

**HOW TO
ENTER**

Using the template provided,
design an Easter egg using whatever
artistic materials you like!

One entry per pupil.

All work must be your own.

Entries will be judged on
creativity & care taken.

WIN

***An Easter hamper
for your school!***

Everyone who enters will
receive a certificate.

CLOSING DATE:

Get in touch with Vision for Education for more information
or to take part in this competition.

T E

Children have been invited to design an Easter Egg using whatever artistic materials they like. Vision for Education have provided the Easter Egg template (attached) to create their design. The closing date is Friday 27th March. Please note - only one entry per pupil and all work must be their own. Entries will be judged on creativity & care taken.

The winners will receive an Easter hamper for our school! Everyone who enters will receive a certificate. Thank you.



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>



13 - For family support, please scan.



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

SEND LOCAL OFFER

The Local Offer tells you what support is available in Newcastle. You can find out about schools, health services, and activities. It also helps families get the right help and support.

<https://childrenandfamiliesnewcastle.org.uk/send-local-offer>



Contact Us



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