



October 2023

Newsletter 3 – 6.10.23

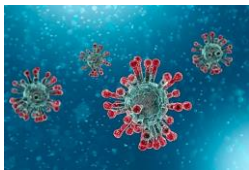
SECTION 1: ATTENDANCE

ILLNESS

If your child has sickness or diarrhoea, it is recommended they remain absent for 48 hours after the last incidence in accordance with the Department of Health's guidelines. In any other circumstance, please continue to advise school on a daily basis of the reason for continued absence. The Little Orange Book is on our website to support parents to make informed decisions about keeping children off school if they are unwell.



<https://nenc-northtyneside.icb.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Little-Orange-Book-NT-version-v2.pdf>



COVID

Government guidance no longer advises that we test for covid, even if we are symptomatic. In line with the latest guidance on school attendance, we would expect children to come to school with general cold symptoms such as a mild cough, runny nose or sore throat but children should not come to school with a temperature of 38 degrees or above. Further guidance can be found here: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/covid-19/covid-19-symptoms-and-what-to-do/>

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 attainment have higher rates of attendance.
- National data shows us that children not meeting the expected standard in reading, writing and maths had an overall absence rate of 4.7% (so their overall attendance was 95.3%).
- The overall absence rate of children not meeting the expected standard was higher than among those meeting the higher standard (4.7% compared to 2.7%).
- For the most vulnerable pupils, regular attendance is also an important protective factor and the best opportunity for needs to be identified and support provided.
- Research has shown there are clear links between regular absence from school and harm for children (90% of young offenders have been persistently absent as young children) and serious violence (83% of knife possession offenders had been persistently absent for at least one year).

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 <small>(excluding Nursery)</small>	Highest class attendance!	Second place	Third place
Wb 25.9.23	95%	Year 2 (99%)	Year 4 (94%)	Nursery (96%)
Wb 4.10.23	96%	Year 3 (99%)	Year 4 (98%)	Year 2 (97%)

Our school target for attendance is 97%.



Please let Mrs Coates know, via ParentMail, if your child will be absent by 9:00am at the latest. Thank you.

If your child is not in school when the register closes at 9.15am (even if this is for a medical or dental appointment), they are marked as absent for the whole morning session. Therefore, we would encourage parents to make medical appointments outside school time, wherever possible please. Thank you.

If you are experiencing any difficulties and need support with your child's attendance, please contact school as soon as possible. Mrs Gurkin can visit you at home or meet you in school to offer support and advice.

We will now be taking appropriate legal action for children who are deemed persistent absentees (under 90% attendance). Please see the attendance policy on our school website for further information.



ATTENDANCE REWARDS

A reminder that, each week, the class with the highest attendance earns an extra playtime and individuals with 100% attendance will have their names added to a weekly hot chocolate draw.



MINUTES MISSED

During this fortnight, 158 (2 hours and 38 minutes) minutes 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.



PUPIL ABSENCES

	Whole School absence <small>(excluding Nursery)</small>	Absence caused by holidays	Other absences
Wb 25.9.23	5%	3%	2%
Wb 4.10.23	4%	1%	3%

As you know, there is no entitlement in law to time off in term time. Children who are absent from school fall behind in their learning, they miss out on school events and many find it difficult to catch up. In addition, school staff have to divert their attention away from other children in order to support those that have fallen behind due to a holiday related absence.

For this reason, any request for leave of absence due to holidays in term time will not be authorised. In the case of all unauthorised leave of absences, incurring 8 or more unauthorised sessions (4 days), an application for a Fixed Penalty Notice will be made to the Local Authority.

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
Demonstrating Love	Sofia Heidi	Sami Maryam	Ethan Harriet Isla	Alicia Ebuka	Daniel Esme Lydia	Aziza Zain
Demonstrating Determination	Malak Izzy	Arthur Anidunnu	Ryan Ayesha	Isaac Max Co	Jerome Livie	Abdul Darcey

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.



The following children have either earned a new TTRS title or engaged highly with TTRS during the last fortnight. Well done everyone!

	Children Need to Learn	Highest accuracy this fortnight	Highest engagement this fortnight	Average Daily Minutes
Year 2	x 2, x 5, x 10 (and corresponding division facts)	Thanuja, Teddy, Henry, Rory, Esim	Max C, Thanuja, Joshua, Henry	8
Year 3	x 2, x 5, x 10, x 3, x 4, x 8 (and corresponding division facts)	Jacob D, Theo, Rehan, Daniel, Elias	Thomas, Theo, Jacob C, Jacob D, Harry	9
Year 4	All tables to 12 x 12 (and corresponding division facts)	Aleeza, Sammy, Zain, Monty, Karlo, Huwariya, Charlie	Lauren, Aleeza, Jake, Darcey	8

Current rank of ARFS among nearby schools	16	Mean studio speed (seconds per question)	4.19
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HANDWRITING HEROES

As a school, we continue to have a real drive in school to improve handwriting, presentation of work and spelling. 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
Penny Rosa	Lyla Benjamin D	Max Cr Mabel	Ava Bella	Emma Zidan

SECTION 3: SOCIAL ACTION

Children in Years 1 – 4 have now selected their class representatives for our social action groups. It was fantastic to have so many children interested in taking on these roles. Congratulations to everyone who has been appointed!

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our School Councillors met this week and were joined by one of our school governors, Mrs MacRae. They discussed the roles and responsibilities of the School Council team, as year group representatives. The reps will discuss, with their classes, things that they like and enjoy about school and some things that they would like to improve. We also had an important discussion regarding the traffic on Christon Road and how we can help reduce the traffic by encouraging people to walk or cycle or use the public transportation in Gosforth.



WORSHIP COUNCIL

Our new Worship Council met for the first time this week. We discussed worship so far this term. The children have really enjoyed finding out about inspirational figures such as Rosa Parks, Maya Angelou and Ruth Bader-Ginsburg. They enjoy singing and feel that worship is a great way of encouraging our school values of love and determination. We also talked about how we will be involved in evaluating worship. The children were incredibly enthusiastic and are looking forward to playing a key role in school this year.

GREEN TEAM

Our new Green Team have been busy collecting litter from around the play area on Christon Field. We were shocked by how much rubbish there was in the park!



LIBRARY CHAMPIONS

As well as working hard to keep our library tidy and organised, the library champions have created posters to share with Years 1-4 informing them about our Library Rules. The Library Champions are fantastic role models!

CHARITABLE GIVING



Thank you for the generous donations for The People's Kitchen at our Harvest Festival. They were very gratefully received by this really worthwhile charity.

WORLDS BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING

Huge thanks to our Year 4 children and Mrs Singh for organising our coffee morning last week. We raised an amazing £472!



The raffle was drawn during the coffee morning – congratulations to all those who won a prize! The winner of “Guess how many Colin the Caterpillars” game was Ali Farrell! Well done!

SECTION 4: SCHOOL NEWS!

MIDDLE SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

A reminder that applications for middle school, for our current Year 4 children, must be submitted before the deadline on 31st October.



<https://www.newcastle.gov.uk/services/schools-learning-and-childcare/apply-school-place/applying-transfer-places>

NO OUTSIDERS

Sadly, our visit with Andrew Moffatt did not go ahead due to Andrew having a visit from Ofsted! We will rearrange this as soon as possible.



CHURCH LINKS



It was lovely to be part of the celebrations for Revd Ruth Stradling's ordination and Eucharist this week. Ruth has already visited school several times and taken part in collective worship with Father Paul.

All Saints' are running a Fairy Door workshop during October half term. Please see attached poster for more details and how to book.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

As October is Black History Month, in collective worship we have been thinking about racism and how we should treat everyone fairly. We have learned about significant people who have helped to change laws, hearts and minds over the years, including Nelson Mandela, Harriet Tubman, Martin Luther King Jr and Rosa Parks. We have linked this to our school values of love and determination and thought about how we can stand up for others if they are not treated fairly. This has linked beautifully to our work on No Outsiders and making sure everyone is valued.



BIRTHDAY CAKE

A polite reminder that we are not able to hand out birthday cakes or sweets in school but parents/carers are welcome to do so outside classrooms at the end of the day. Apologies for any inconvenience this causes.

WRAPAROUND BOOKINGS

Bookings for Wraparound Care are now managed by Child Care Bookings for Schools. This will make managing and making bookings far easier for parents and carers. You can still pay using either a debit/credit card or using childcare vouchers.



Childcare Bookings for Schools

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

EYFS OUTDOOR CLASSROOMS

Mrs Francis and Mrs Egdell spend a long time setting up their outdoor learning areas for their classes. We would be really grateful if parents and carers could make sure children do not play on the equipment/with the toys before or after school please. Thank you in advance for your support.





PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE

Mrs Coates will be sending out a parent questionnaire via ParentMail. We'd be really grateful if you could share your thoughts and feelings about school as well as provide us with some useful information about your child and your interests by Friday 20th October! Many thanks.

SAFEGUARDING

Mrs Massey, Mrs Ravel, Mrs Crozier and Mrs Francis are our school's Designated Safeguarding Leaders (DSL). Miss Wakefield is DSL for Wraparound care. 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:

- Initial Response Service – 0191 277 2500
- 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>

For more information, you can read our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy on our school website.

With my very best wishes,

Kate Massey

Headteacher

Be courageous; be strong.

Do everything in love.

1 Corinthians 16:13-14



DIARY DATES

New dates are in red, for your information

October 2023			
Monday 9 th October	Reception Forest School	pm	Children need to wear usual uniform top with joggers and bring named wellies to change into please.
Tuesday 10 th October	Years 1 – 4 Face Your Fears Day at Gibside	All day	Please see ParentMail for more information.
Monday 16 th October	Reception height & weight checks	am	
	Nursery Forest School	pm	Children need to wear usual uniform top with joggers and bring named wellies to change into please.

	PTFA AGM	6:00pm	Please come along to school to find out more about our brilliant PTFA!
Friday 20 th October	Show Racism the Red Card	All day	Children invited to wear red
Monday 23 rd October	Year 4 Forest School	pm	Children need to wear usual uniform top with joggers and bring named wellies to change into please.
Wednesday 25 th October	School Photographs	All day	All children to wear full school uniform please (relevant classes to bring PE kit to change into please).
Thursday 26 th October	Healthy Active Lifestyle opportunity for Year 3 & Year 4 (Team Games)	am	Children should arrive at school in PE kit please.
	Class attendance reward	pm	
Friday 27 th October 2023	Staff training day		School closed to children
30.10.23 - 3.11.23	October half term		School closed to children
November 2023			
Monday 6 th November	Year 3 Forest School	pm	Children need to wear usual uniform top with joggers and bring named wellies to change into please.
Thursday 9 th November	Year 2 visit to Newcastle Quayside	am	More info to follow on ParentMail
Friday 10 th November	Year 4 Remembrance worship	9:00am	Parents/carers welcome to attend
	Deadline for applications for Nursery places for January		
Monday 13 th November	Odd Socks Day		Antibullying Week. Children in Years 1 - 4 will take part in workshops
	Year 2 Forest School	pm	Children need to wear usual uniform top with joggers and bring named wellies to change into please.
	Antibullying Parent Workshop	5:30-6:30pm	More info to follow
Tuesday 14 th November & Wed 15 th November	Parent Teacher Consultations		More info to follow
Thursday 16 th November	Year 4 visit to Hindu Temple	am	Details will be sent via ParentMail.
Friday 17 th November	Children in Need		Children invited to wear something spotty to school.
Monday 20 th November	Year 1 Forest School	pm	Children need to wear usual uniform top with joggers and bring named wellies to change into please.
Monday 27 th November	Advent Worship led by Year 3	9:00am	Parents and carers welcome to attend
	Reception Forest School	pm	Children need to wear usual uniform top with joggers and bring named wellies to change into please.
December 2023			
Friday 1 st December	Children invited to wear something festive to school		
	Year 3 leading advent	9:00am	Parents/carers welcome to attend

	worship		
	Years 1 – 4 having PE sessions		Please wear PE kit (and a Christmas jumper!)
Monday 4 th December	Nursery Forest School		Children need to wear usual uniform top with joggers and bring named wellies to change into please.
	Flu vaccinations in school		
Friday 8 th December	Children invited to wear something festive to school		
Tuesday 12 th December	Year 3 visit to Durham University		More info to follow
Wednesday 13 th December	Nursery & Rec Nativity	9:30am	More info to follow
	Year 1 & 2 Nativity	1:30pm	More info to follow
	Year 3 & 4 Nativity	5:00pm	More info to follow
Thursday 14 th December	Year 3 & 4 Nativity	9:30am	More info to follow
	Nursery & Rec Nativity	1:30pm	More info to follow
	Year 1 & 2 Nativity	5:00pm	More info to follow
Friday 15 th December	Year 1 & 2 Nativity	9:30am	More info to follow
	Year 3 & 4 Nativity	1:30pm	More info to follow
Tuesday 19 th December	Year 1 & 2 Christmas Crafts	pm	More info to follow
	Year 3 & 4 Christmas Party	pm	More info to follow
Wednesday 20 th December	Year 3 & Year 4 Tyne Theatre	10:00am	More info to follow
	Year 1 & 2 Christmas Party	pm	More info to follow
Thursday 21 st December	Year 1 & Year 2 Tyne Theatre	10:00am	More info to follow
	Year 3 & 4 Christmas Crafts	pm	More info to follow
	Nursery & Reception Christmas Party	pm	More info to follow
	Class attendance reward		More info to follow
Friday 22 nd December	Year 1 – 4 Carol Service at St Nicholas' (South Gosforth)	1:30pm	More info to follow
22.12.23 – 5.1.24	Christmas Holiday		More info to follow
February 2024			
Friday 2 nd February	Year 3 leading Candlemas worship	9:00am	Parents/carers welcome to attend
19.2.24 – 23.2.24	February Half Term		School closed to children
Tuesday 13 th February	Year 4 Leading Shrove Tuesday Collective Worship	9:00am	Parents/carers welcome to attend
Wednesday 14 th February	Year 1 Leading Collective Worship	9:00am	Parents/carers welcome to attend
Thursday 15 th February	Year 3 leading Ash Wednesday Collective Worship	9:00am	Parents/carers welcome to attend
March 2024			
Friday 8 th March	Year 1 & Year 2 Mothering Sunday Service	9:00am	Parents/carers welcome to attend.
	Year 3 & Year 4 Mothering Sunday Service	2:45pm	Parents/carers welcome to attend.
Thursday 14 th March	Healthy Active Lifestyle opportunity for Year 1 & Year 2 (Multiskills)	am	Children should arrive at school in PE kit please.

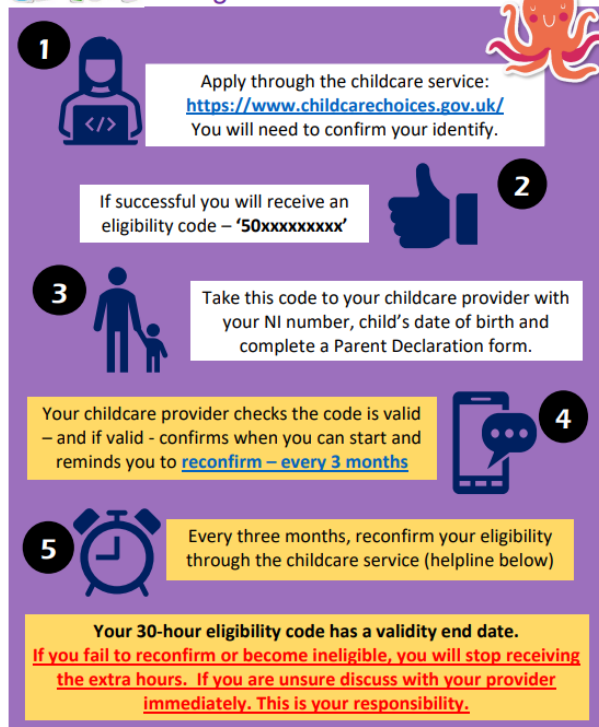
Tuesday 19 th March	Year 3 visit to Cragside		More info to follow
Wednesday 20 th March	Year 2 visit to Newcastle Castle		More info to follow
Tuesday 26 th March	Year 1 visit to St Mary's Lighthouse		More info to follow
Thursday 28 th March	Easter Service at All Saints' Church	1:45pm	Parents and carers invited to attend
29.3.24 – 12.4.24	Easter Holiday		School closed to children
April 2024			
Monday 22 nd April	Year 1 leading Collective Worship	9:00am	Parents and carers welcome to attend
May 2024			
Thursday 9 th May	Year 4 leading Ascension worship	9:00am	Parents/carers welcome to attend
Monday 13 th May	Year 1 leading Christian Aid Collective Worship	9:00am	Parents and carers welcome to attend
	Healthy Active Lifestyle opportunity for Nursery & Reception children	am	Children will wear PE kits in school
Friday 17 th May	Pentecost Service at St Nicholas' Church (led by Year 3)	1:30pm	Parents and carers invited to attend.
Friday 24 th May	Year 4 leading Trinity worship	9:00am	Parents/carers welcome to attend
27.5.24 – 31.5.24	May Half Term		School closed to children
Thursday 16 th May	Year 4 Residential at Dukeshouse Wood		More info to follow
June 2024			
Monday 3 rd June 2024	Staff training day		School closed to children
July 2024			
Tuesday 2 nd July	Year 2 visit to Grace Darling Museum		More info to follow
Thursday 11 th July	Music Concert at All Saints' Church		More info to follow
22.7.24 – 30.8.24	Summer Holidays		School closed to children
September 2024			
Tuesday 3 rd September 2024	School re-opens to children		


Be courageous; be strong.


Do everything in love.


1 Corinthians 16:13-14


Childcare Applying for 30 hours free childcare
Choices through the childcare service




1  Apply through the childcare service:
<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>
You will need to confirm your identify.

2  If successful you will receive an eligibility code – '50xxxxxxxx'

3  Take this code to your childcare provider with your NI number, child's date of birth and complete a Parent Declaration form.

4  Your childcare provider checks the code is valid – and if valid - confirms when you can start and reminds you to [reconfirm – every 3 months](#)

5  Every three months, reconfirm your eligibility through the childcare service (helpline below)

Your 30-hour eligibility code has a validity end date.
If you fail to reconfirm or become ineligible, you will stop receiving the extra hours. If you are unsure discuss with your provider immediately. This is your responsibility.

For support call Customer Interaction Centre on **0300 123 4097**



OCTOBER SPORTS CAMPS 

WESTFIELD SCHOOL 

30TH OCTOBER - 3RD NOVEMBER

nextgensportscamps.co.uk