



February 2024

Newsletter 10 – 2.2.24

SECTION 1: ATTENDANCE

WORKING TOGETHER TO IMPROVE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

- Good attendance at school is essential for children to get the most out of their school experience, including their attainment, wellbeing and wider life chances.
- Nurseries and First Schools play a vital role in embedding good attendance habits.
- Even at First School, children with the highest 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 22.1.24	93%	Years 2 & 3 (98%)	Nursery (95%)	Year 4 (94%)
Wb 29.1.24	96%	Year 4 (100%) ★	Year 3 (99%)	Reception (94%)

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.



MINUTES MISSED

During this fortnight, 280 (4 hours and 40 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 22.1.24	7%	1%	6%
Wb 29.1.24	4%	0.5%	3.5%

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 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	Heidi Billie	Rudi Nyah	Lyla Dipti	Esim Sienna	Charvitha Abbie	Maya Nolan
Demonstrating Determination	Thomas Izzy	Oliver Zephy	Benjamin D Harry	Thanuja Millie	Razan Esme	Aziza 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 this fortnight
Year 2	x 2, x 5, x 10 (and corresponding division facts)	Thanuja Henry Max Cr	Thanuja Ebuka Elvis	6
Year 3	x 2, x 5, x 10, x 3, x 4, x 8 (and corresponding division facts)	Rehan Jacob D Theo Rosa	Rehan Jacob D Lydia George	1
Year 4	All tables to 12 x 12 (and corresponding division facts)	Yaz Zain Max Zidan	Emilia Yaz Aziza Yufus	2
Current rank of ARFS among nearby schools		14	Mean studio speed (seconds per question)	4.0

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
Mehr Ira	Henry Ruby	Jesse Elvis	Franki Thomas	Max Abdul

SECTION 3: SOCIAL ACTION

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our amazing School Council team met this week to discuss the best places to display our safety posters to tackle the traffic on Christon Road. During our next meeting we will be displaying them around the local area. Look out for them!



LIBRARY CHAMPIONS

The Library Champions have been busy improving our school library and how it is organised. They have plans ahead for a new display to celebrate reading across our school. We are really proud of how amazing it is looking!

We are looking for a group of volunteers to help our Library Champions complete our Library book sorting – if you have any time to give, please contact Mrs Crozier (Emily.Crozier@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk). Thank you.

PLAYGROUND LEADERS

Year 4 Playground Leaders have begun their games this week. Mrs Coates has ordered them new high-viz jackets so they can be easily identified on the yard. Thank you to those children who have taken on the role!



SECTION 4: SCHOOL NEWS!

REMINDER!

Lots of our Year 4 children are bringing in toys and stationery from home which is causing issues in class and interrupting learning. Please could we remind you that children should not be bringing anything in from home apart from a water bottle, snack, coat, gloves. Thank you.

GST PHOTO COMPETITION

Gosforth Schools Trust are holding a Photography Competition across all 9 First Schools and 2 Middle Schools. Children from all year groups are invited to submit a photograph which shows "Signs of Spring" before Friday 26th April. Please remember to include your name and class! There will be a winner selected from each age phase.



STEM WEEK



Mrs Egdell is in the process of arranging STEM week in school (8th-17th March). As usual, we are looking for visitors to classes to talk about Science in the real world. If any parents, carers or friends of our school are able to give some time to talk to children or lead science activities in school, please let Mrs Egdell know

(Emily.egdell@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk). Thank you in advance – I'm in no doubt that STEM week will, as always, be a really successful and engaging week in school.

BOOKBAGS

A reminder that children should not bring in rucksacks to school please as they take up a large amount of space in classrooms and corridors. Children should bring their reading book and reading record to and from school each day in their royal blue book bag. Thank you for your understanding.



EARRINGS



A reminder that all jewellery, including stud earrings, should be removed before school. As a school, we have a legal responsibility to ensure children can participate in PE lessons safely, which includes removing all personal effects, including ear and body piercings. Health and safety law takes precedence over other guidance because of the implication of "safety of others".

Children who are wearing earrings will therefore be unable to take part in PE lessons if they wear earrings at school.

WIND

We try to get children outside to play as much as we can, however, as part of our school Risk Assessments, we do not take children out to play or to Forest School in strong winds due to the risk of falling branches or children being blown over. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.



PARKING

Please remember not to park across garage doors and driveways. We regularly receive phone calls and emails from residents about this. Thank you for your understanding.

Additionally, please do not park on the painted footpath outside the Residents Association Building as this means children are then walking on the road. ASDA remain happy for our parents and carers to walk in their carpark and walk to school. Huge thanks to those of you who already do this.



PTFA

The PTFA will be holding a Valentines Cake Sale on Wednesday 14th February. Cake donations would be gratefully received on the day at the School Office. Please remember to include a list of ingredients. Thank you!

We would be really interested to hear about any suggestions of future events. Please email archbishopruncieptfa@gmail.com Thank you.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

In Worship, we have been thinking about Protected Characteristics linked to our No Outsiders ethos in school. We have learned about equality and discrimination and how we can take action to overcome this.



Year 3 also led Collective Worship on Friday on Candlemas. They gave us lots to think about for the day ahead. Thank you to all those who joined us.



WRAPAROUND BOOKINGS

Bookings for Wraparound Care are 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.

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



SAFEGUARDING

Mrs Massey, 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



Signs of Spring

PHOTO COMPETITION

Take a picture to show signs of spring.

COMPETITION
DEADLINE

APRIL 26

WINNERS
ANNOUNCED

MAY 03



Email or hand in your photograph to your school along with your name and year group. A school winner will be selected for EYFS, Years 1&2, Years 3&4, Years 5&6 and Years 7&8.

A GST winner will be selected for each group.



Show your photography skills to win a prize.



PTFA

Valentines Cake Sale

Wednesday 14th February at 3:15pm

Cake donations can be dropped off on the morning of the sale. There will be a donation box in the yard or you can hand these in to the school office.

All items if not pre-packed must contain a list of ingredients.

We look forward to seeing you all!



DIARY DATES



New dates are in red, for your information

February 2024			
Monday 5 th February	Nursery & Reception Forest School	pm	Children should wear school uniform tops, joggers and bring wellies and waterproofs to change into please.
Tuesday 6 th February	Safer Internet Day		Activities in school
Friday 9 th February	Deadline for Nursery applications for summer intake		
	NE Choir Competition at Durham Cathedral	am	Info has been sent to choir members via ParentMail
Monday 12 th February	Reception visit to Gibside		More info to follow (awaiting confirmation from Gibside) TBC – dependent on voluntary contributions and parent helpers
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
	PTFA Cake sale	3:15pm	Donations gratefully received – please remember to display ingredients. Thank you.
Thursday 15 th February	Year 3 leading Ash Wednesday Collective Worship	9:00am	Parents/carers welcome to attend
	Gosforth Pyramid Ceilidh at GEMS	2:00pm	Selected Year 4 children only
Friday 16 th February	PE activities in school		Children in Years 1 – 4 to wear PE kit please.
19.2.24 – 23.2.24	February Half Term		
Wb 26.2.23	SEND Reviews		Please book via ParentMail
Monday 26 th February	Year 4 Forest School	pm	Children should wear school uniform tops, joggers and bring wellies and waterproofs to change into please.
March 2024			
Monday 4 th & Tuesday 5 th March	Parent Teacher Consultations		Please book via ParentMail
Monday 4 th March	Year 3 Forest School	pm	Children should wear school uniform tops, joggers and bring wellies and waterproofs to change into please.
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day Bedtime Stories	5:00pm	Please book places via ParentMail
Friday 8 th March	Year 1 & Year 2 Mothering Sunday Service	9:00am	Parents/carers welcome to attend.
	Year 3 & Year 4 Mothering	2:45pm	Parents/carers welcome to attend.

	Sunday Service		
Monday 11 th March	Year 2 Forest School	pm	Children should wear school uniform tops, joggers and bring wellies and waterproofs to change into please.
Thursday 14 th March	Healthy Active Lifestyle opportunity for Year 1 & Year 2 (Multiskills)	am	Children should arrive at school in PE kit please.
Friday 15 th March	Red Nose Day		
Monday 18 th March	Year 1 Forest School	pm	Children should wear school uniform tops, joggers and bring wellies and waterproofs to change into please.
Tuesday 19 th March	Year 3 visit to Cragside		More info to follow
	Royal Opera House workshop with Choir		Info has been sent to Choir members via ParentMail
Wednesday 20 th March	Year 2 visit to Newcastle Castle		More info to follow
Thursday 21 st March	Year 3 & Year 4 singing at Newcastle Cathedral	9:30am	
Monday 25 th March	Nursery & Reception Forest School	pm	Children should wear school uniform tops, joggers and bring wellies and waterproofs to change into please.
Tuesday 26 th March	Year 1 visit to St Mary's Lighthouse		More info to follow
Wednesday 27 th March	PTFA Easter cake sale	3:00pm	Donations gratefully received please
Thursday 28 th March	ARFS has talent celebration		If your child has won a badge, award or trophy in one of their out of school activities since Christmas, they can bring it into school so we can celebrate their achievements.
	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
Friday 26 th April	Deadline for GST Photo Competition		See info in Newsletter 10
May 2024			
Friday 3 rd May	GST Photo Competition winners announced		
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 already in school
Tuesday 14 th May	No Outsiders demo lessons, open lesson and staff training.		More info to follow
Friday 17 th May	Pentecost Service at St Nicholas' Church (led by Year 3)	1:30pm	Parents and carers invited to attend.
Sunday 19 th May	NE Children's Cancer Run	TBC	Please save the date!

			https://childrenscancernorth.enthuse.com/pf/kate-massey-357dc
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
Thursday 27 th June	Year 3 sleepover at school		More info to follow
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
Thursday 18 th July	ARFS has talent celebration		If your child has won a badge, award or trophy in one of their out of school activities since Easter, they can bring it into school so we can celebrate their achievements.
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

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

NURSERY 30 HOUR PLACES

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 identity.
- 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**

HEALTHIER TOGETHER

The Healthier Together website (<https://www.nenc-healthiertogether.nhs.uk>) provides accurate and trusted healthcare advice for parents/carers, young people and professionals in the North East and North Cumbria. You can find parental advice on illnesses, allergies, vaccines, child development as well as many other topics. You can also download the Healthier Together app.

The Healthier Together website also includes the Little Orange Book which provides advice for babies and children when they are poorly.

