



February 2023

Newsletter 11 – 17.2.23

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

	Whole School Attendance <small>(excluding Nursery)</small>	Highest class attendance!	Second place	Third place
Wb 6.2.23	95%	Reception (96%)	Year 3 (95.7%)	Year 4 (95%)
Wb 13.2.23	95%	Year 1 (97%)	Reception (96.2%)	Year 4 (96%)

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.

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

MINUTES MISSED

During the last fortnight, 225 (3 hours and 45 mins) minutes of learning time have been missed in school due to lateness.



ABSENCE DATA

	Whole School absence <small>(excluding Nursery)</small>	Absence caused by holidays	Other absences
Wb 6.2.23	5%	0.8%	4.2%
Wb 13.2.23	5%	0.5%	4.5%



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).



In school, we have been looking to see children demonstrating these core values. 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	Finley Anton	Ruby Benji	Indi Esim	Franki Rosa	Bobby Monty	Austin Taishaun
Demonstrating Determination	Penny Annabelle	Scarlett Jonah	Henry Ebuka	Isabella Lucas	Abdul Amara	Wasan Emmie

HANDWRITER OF THE WEEK

We are having a real drive in school to improve handwriting, presentation of work and spelling. Each week, the 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:

a b c d e f g
h i j k l m n
o p q r s t u
v w x y z

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Scarlett	Elli	Danny	Amelia	Oliver
Sacha	Henry	Jerome	Karlo	Blake

TIMES TABLE ROCKSTARS

As you know, by the end of Year 4 children are expected to know all their multiplication tables up to 12 x 12 and Year 4 children will undertake their statutory Multiplication Tables Check in the summer term.

	Children Need to Learn	New Rock Stars, Heroes and Legend in this class	Highest engagement this fortnight
Year 2	x 2, x 5, x 10	Olivia	Danny, Bella, Joshua
Year 3	x 2, x 5, x 10, x 3, x 4, x 8	Alfie, Max, Zidan, Monty, Nolan, Jake	Jake, Zain, Karlo, Sammy
Year 4	All tables to 12 x 12	Mustafa, Thaddeus, Zoe	Edward, Nancy, Thaddeus

Current rank of ARFS among nearby schools	24
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NEU STRIKE ACTION

As you know, the NEU has indicated that they will continue strike action for a further three days. Please make a note of the following dates and I will update you as soon as I know whether strike action will affect us on these days.

- **Tuesday 28th February 2023 (regional) - Year 2 closed**
- Wednesday 15th March 2023 (national) – further information to follow
- Thursday 16th March (national) – further information to follow



WORLD BOOK DAY

World Book Day (WBD) will take place on Thursday 2nd March 2023. Children are invited to come to school dressed as who they would be as a character in their very own book.

Thank you to everyone who has pre-ordered the book. These signed copies will be sent home on WBD.

CHURCH LINKS

Gosforth, All Saints' has a new website <https://www.allsaints-gosforth.org.uk/>
Please take a look!

Father Paul would like to invite children, with their parents/carers, from our school for pancakes on Shrove Tuesday (21 February) 11.00am - 2.00pm in the St Nicholas' church hall.





COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Year 1 led collective worship, this week, on the theme of "Love is..." They helped us think about being patient, kind and not boasting just like the Bible tells us in 1 Corinthians 13:4 – 7.

We have continued to think about the diversity of Christianity around the world. We have learned more about the First Nations peoples in northern Canada and we also have looked at St Valentine and thought about how to 'fill each other's buckets' with happiness and joy, linking it back to ideas from the Bible.

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

Last week, each class discussed Children's Mental Health Week and the importance of staying healthy in body and mind. We followed the theme of "Let's connect" and children were challenged to connect with someone new at school, at home or within their wider community. It was so heartening to hear of children playing with new friends, helping someone on the buddy bench who looked lonely, connecting with a new grown up in school and much more. Thank you everyone for embracing your challenge so admirably!



RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS

This week has been a love and kindness themed affair! Children and staff have been undertaking Random Acts of Kindness which have included holding doors open for others, welcoming new friends to our school, playing with children who look sad or lonely as well as cakes and treats in the staffroom! Our school is always a fantastic place to be but this week has been especially so! Thank you to everyone who has made someone smile this week!

GOSFORTH SCHOOLS' TRUST

Subject leaders from across GST have met, this week, to discuss plans for shared working and collaborative thinking. It is so great to get these meetings back up and running!



10-19 March
British
Science
Week
2023



BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK

British Science Week will be celebrated in school 10 - 19 March 2023. If you have a science based job or interest and would be willing to come into school to talk to a group of children or a class, we would love to hear from you!

Please contact class teachers directly to arrange a suitable time and discuss activities in more detail. Thank you.

CHOIR COMPETITION

Our school choir travelled to Durham to perform in the Cathedral last Friday. They took part in the Durham Vocal Festival and did an amazing job at representing our school and making Miss Bowers (and us all!) really proud. Well done everyone!

Thank you to Miss Bowers and Mrs Lavin for all the time they have given to rehearsals!





GOSFORTH VOICES TOUR

On Friday 24th March, Gosforth Voices will perform in each of the 11 schools within Gosforth Schools' Trust. It will be great to get the tour back up and running after covid as it is a wonderful opportunity for the choir to perform in each school.

Parents of children in Gosforth Voices are asked to drop their child off at Brunton First School (8.30am - 9am). They will then visit each school, by coach, dropping children back off at Brunton First School at 3.20pm.

There are two more rehearsals before the tour so if any Year 3 or Year 4 children still want to join please do let them know! It would be fantastic to increase our numbers within the choir. Thank you.

- 1st March
- 15th March

NSPCC

Thank you to everyone who took part in NSPCC Number Day, last Friday. There were some really creative ways to wear numbers! We raised £65.50! Well done everyone.



**CASH IS NOT
ACCEPTED**

CHARITABLE GIVING

A polite reminder that we do not accept cash in school. All payments must be made via ParentMail please. This now includes charitable donations. If you have any issues, please contact Mrs Coates. Thank you.

TURKEY - SYRIA EARTHQUAKE APPEAL

As you will be aware, devastating earthquakes have hit Turkey and Syria. Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) are taking donations in order to provide urgent aid to survivors. If you feel able to give, please make donations directly at <https://www.dec.org.uk/>

In school, we have spoken to children about the earthquakes and written prayers for water, food, shelter, medical treatment and other aid.



SAFER INTERNET DAY

GEM Education visited school and worked with children in Years 1 - 4 to make a short video about staying safe online. The children used green screen to create their videos and were so proud of their work!

CHILDREN'S CANCER RUN

2023 marks the 40th anniversary of the Children's Cancer Run! Schools from across the North East will be completely a cross-country fun run for all the family. You can help to raise money to support children diagnosed with cancer in our region, making life a little better for them and their families. It will take place on 14th May at Newcastle Racecourse.



It is quick and easy to register to take part.

- Families register to run directly through the event website, choosing our school from the drop-down menu.
- Runner packs for our school team, including the children's t-shirts, will be sent to our school in early May, along with a list of our runners.
- Our runners will have their own online fundraising page and we can track our school total so you can see how much we raise.

- Our school will be allocated a start time so that we can all run together, meeting at our school meeting point.

On the day, we can enjoy:

- A Greggs snack pack for all runners
- Medals for all runners
- T-shirts for all runners aged 16 years and under
- Fairground rides
- Metro Radio Roadshow
- Live music
- Side stalls and much more...!



SCHOOL COUNCIL

School Council will be meeting with local representatives to discuss food waste and create a plan to tackle this issue in school. They have also created a new "School Council" board in school.

WORSHIP COUNCIL

Worship Council have been thinking about different ways to evaluate Worship, checking that Worship leaders, be they the children or the adults (!), are being understood and that each session is enjoyed! They have their own evaluation book and have been recording the thoughts and feelings of children after Worship has happened. We will be using this to tweak future Worships and ensure suggestions are actioned!



LUNCHTIME CLUBS

Huge thanks to the staff who have led lunchtime clubs this half term. Lunchtime Clubs will resume after Easter.

BOWES MUSEUM

Please see the attached flyer showcasing the half term events for families (11.2.23-26.2.23) at The Bowes Museum. Under 18s, full time students and carers go free to The Bowes Museum.



FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Free School Meal vouchers will be emailed to eligible families on Monday 20th February. If you think you may qualify for income related free school meals, please contact the school office or apply directly at <https://www.newcastle.gov.uk/services/schools-learning-and-childcare/help-school-and-learning-costs/apply-free-school-meals>

Newcastle City Council operates an **Apply Once** process for Free School Meals. During your child's academic life, you will only ever have to apply once for Free School Meals while they attend a Newcastle school.

Your child and our school may be able to get extra help if you receive one of the qualifying benefits below. **We encourage all parents to apply for Free School Meals** so Newcastle City Council can assess whether your child and our school can receive this extra help. Even if your child does not want to take up a cooked meal during the school day, our school can still receive additional financial help which we can spend on your child (e.g. to cover the cost of school visits).



To be eligible for Free School Meals your child must be:

- in government-funded education full time up to the age of 19,
- or in a nursery class or nursery school and attending for full days.

You will need to get one of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)



SAFEGUARDING

Mrs Massey, Mr Booth and Mrs Francis are our school's Designated Safeguarding Leaders. 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.

HALF TERM

Thank you to all our families for the ongoing support that you show our school. Your children are amazing and we are so proud of them all! Huge thanks to the staff for their hard work this half term too. Our school is a very special place for us all to learn and grow together.

We hope you all have a restful half term and that spring arrives in time for us all to enjoy some sunshine during the break! School will resume on Monday 27th February 2023. We look forward to seeing you all then.

With my very best wishes,

Kate Massey

Headteacher



FAITH @ 4

MUSIC | STORY | CRAFT
FUN FOR ALL AGES

temptation

**ALL SAINTS PARISH CENTRE
SUN. 26 FEBRUARY AT 4PM**



**Be courageous; be strong.
Do everything in love.**

1 Corinthians 16:13-14

DIARY DATES

New dates are in red, for your information

20-24 February	Half term		School closed to children
Tuesday 21st February	Pancakes at St Nicholas' Church hall	11:00 – 2:00	Please come along!
Monday 27 th February	School reopens to children	8:35am	
Tuesday 28 th February	NEU Strike Action	-	Year 2 closed- Please see ParentMail to order lunches
March 2023			
Wednesday 1 st March	Gosforth Voices rehearsal	3:45-4:45pm	Grange First School, Gosforth, NE3 2NP
Thursday 2 nd March	World Book Day		Children invited to come to school dressed as a book character
Monday 6 th March	Welcome Meeting for parents and carers of children starting Nursery in summer term	5:00pm	
Tuesday 7 th & Wednesday 8 th March	Parent Teacher Consultations	pm	Please book via ParentMail – appointments will go live on Monday 20 th February at 5pm.
Wednesday 8 th March	Gosforth Band rehearsal	3:45-4:45pm	Archibald First School, Gosforth, NE3 1EB. It would be great to get some more ARFS along to this!
10-19 March	British Science Week		We will be looking for parents and carers to visit school to lead science themed activities! Please contact class teachers if you are interested in joining us.
Tuesday 14 th March Wednesday 15 th March	Year 1 Forest School	am	Children must wear long sleeved tops and trousers. We will be outdoors regardless of the weather so please send clearly named wellies, waterproofs, hats and gloves (and possibly a named change of clothes!) £1 donations can be made via ParentMail Please send children in their usual PE kit on their PE day. Thank you.
	Year 2 Forest School	pm	
	Nursery & Reception Forest School	am	
	Year 3 Forest School	pm	
	NEU Strike Action		
	Year 4 visit to Beamish	All day	
	Gosforth Band rehearsal	3:45-4:45pm	Archibald First School, Gosforth, NE3 1EB.
Thursday 16 th March	NEU Strike Action		Further information to follow
	Year 4 Forest School		Please see info above
Friday 17 th	Years 3 & 4 Mothers' Day	9:00am	Parents and carers of Years 3 & 4 welcome to

March	Service		attend.
	Years 1 & 2 Mothers' Day Service	2:45pm	Parents and carers of Years 1 & 2 welcome to attend.
Monday 20 th March	Nursery & Reception Mothers' Day Service	9:00am	Parents and carers of Nursery & Reception welcome to attend.
	Meeting for parents and carers of Year 2 children regarding end of KS1 assessments	5:30pm	Adults only please
Wednesday 22 nd March	Gosforth Voices rehearsal	3:45-4:45pm	Grange First School, Gosforth, NE3 2NP
	Meeting for parents and carers of Year 4 children regarding Multiplication Tables Check & Residential	5:30pm	Adults only please
Friday 24 th March	Deadline for Summer 1 Wraparound bookings	-	Please book via ParentMail
	Gosforth Voices Tour		
	School Council Meeting	2:45pm	
27-31 st March	Year 4 swimming lessons each day	-	More info to follow
Monday 27 th March	Year 1 & 2 Multi skills (in school)	pm	Please wear PE kits
	Meeting for parents and carers of Year 1 children regarding Phonics Screen	5:30pm	Adults only please
Tuesday 28 th March	Reception Stay & Play	2:00pm	Reception parents & carers invited
Wednesday 29 th March	Nursery Stay & Play	2:00pm	Nursery parents and carers invited
Thursday 30 th March	Year 2 leading Palm Sunday Worship	9:00am	Parents and carers of Year 2 welcome to attend.
Friday 31 st March	Deadline to accept Nursery place offers for summer term		
	Deadline for residential payments (Year 4 Dukeshouse Wood and Year 3 camping at school with Mr H)		Details will be sent via ParentMail
April 2023			
3.4.23-14.4.23	Easter holidays		School closed to children
Monday 17 th April	School reopens to children		
	Reception places offered by LA		
Friday 25 th April	School Council Meeting	2:45pm	
May 2023			
Monday 1 st May 2023	Bank holiday		School closed to children
Friday 5 th May	Coronation themed day in school		More info to follow
Monday 8 th May	Additional Bank Holiday for His Majesty's coronation.		School closed to children
11-12 May 2023	Year 4 Residential at Dukeshouse Wood		Details to follow
Sunday 14 th May	Children's Cancer Run	TBC	Please register at

			https://childrenscancernorth.org.uk/event/childrens-cancer-run-2023
Monday 15 th May	Year 1 leading Christian Aid Worship	9:00am	Parents and carers of Year 1 welcome to attend.
Thursday 18 th May	Year 4 leading Ascension Worship	9:00am	Parents and carers of Year 4 welcome to attend.
Friday 19 th May	Deadline for booking Summer 2 wraparound		Please book via ParentMail
	School Council Meeting	2:45pm	
Monday 22 nd May	Nursery Forest School	am	Children must wear long sleeved tops and trousers. We will be outdoors regardless of the weather so please send clearly named wellies, waterproofs, hats and gloves (and possibly a named change of clothes!) £1 donations can be made via ParentMail
	Year 4 Forest School	pm	
Tuesday 23 rd May	Year 1 Forest School	am	
	Year 2 Forest School	pm	
Wednesday 24 th May	Reception Forest School	am	
	Year 3 Forest School	pm	
Thursday 25 th May	Year 3 leading Pentecost Worship	9:00am	Parents and carers of Year 3 welcome to attend.
Friday 26 th May	Staff Training Day	-	School closed to children
26.5.23-2.6.23	Half Term		
June 2023			
Monday 5 th June	School reopens to children		
Tuesday 6 th June	Year 4 leading Trinity Worship	9:00am	Parents and carers of Year 4 welcome to attend.
Wb Monday 12 th June	Year 1 Phonics Screen		
Tuesday 13 th June	Nursery & Reception games (in school)	am	Children will wear PE kits in school
Wednesday 14 th June	Welcome Meeting for parents and carers of children starting Nursery in September 2023	5:30pm	
Thursday 15 th June	Welcome Meeting for parents and carers of children starting Reception in September 2023	5:30pm	
19 th -23 rd June	School Sports Week		Children to wear sports clothing all week (School PE kit on their Sports Day) please
Monday 19 th June	Reception Sports Day	2:00pm	Reception children to wear school PE kits please
Tuesday 20 th June	Year 1 Sports Day	2:00pm	Year 1 children to wear school PE kits please
Wednesday 21 st June	Nursery Sports Day	9:30am	Nursery children to wear school PE kits please
	Big Gig 2023		More info to follow
	Year 2 Sports Day	2:00pm	Year 2 children to wear school PE kits please
Thursday 22 nd June	Year 4 Sports Day	2:00pm	Year 4 children to wear school PE kits please
Friday 23 rd June	Year 3 Sports Day	2:00pm	Year 3 children to wear school PE kits
Thursday 29 th June	Year 3 activities and sleepover at school with Mr H Outdoor Experiences	All day & night	More info to follow
Friday 30 th June	School Council Meeting	2:45pm	
July 2023			
Wed 5 th & Thurs 6 th July	Provisional Transition Days for GST		
Friday 14 th July	Deadline for wraparound bookings for Autumn 1		Please book via ParentMail
	School Council Meeting	2:45pm	

17-21 st July	Year 3 swimming lessons each day this week		More info to follow
Friday 21 st July	Year 4 Leavers Service	9:00am	Parents and carers of Year 4 welcome to attend.
	School closes for summer	3:15pm	
September 2023			
Monday 4 th Sept 2023	Staff training day		
October 2023			
Friday 27 th October 2023	Staff training day		
30.10.23 - 3.11.23	October half term		
December 2023			
22.12.23 – 5.1.24	Christmas Holiday		
February 2024			
19.2.24 – 23.2.24	February Half Term		
March 2024			
29.3.24 – 12.4.24	Easter Holiday		
May 2024			
27.5.24 – 31.5.24	May Half Term		
June 2024			
Monday 3 rd June 2024	Staff training day		
July 2024			
22.7.24 – 30.8.24	Summer Holidays		
Tuesday 3 rd September 2024	School re-opens to children		

Be courageous; be strong.

Do everything in love.

1 Corinthians 16:13-14