



June 2023

Newsletter 18 – 23.6.23



SECTION 1: 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	Finley Archie	Ava Fatima	Joshua Rio	Bella Theo	Aleeza Amelia	William Hugo
Demonstrating Determination	Thomas Rosa	Felix Ryan	Mabel Phoebe	Thomas Razan	Isaac Alfie	Safaa Nancy Emmie

HANDWRITER OF THE WEEK

We are having 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:



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
Ethan	Sienna	Charvitha	Max	David
Ayesha	Joshua	Joshua	Bobby	Ben

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.



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

	Children Need to Learn	New Rock Stars, Heroes and Legends in this class	Highest engagement this fortnight
Year 1	x 2, x 10	Esim	Thanuja, Max, Henry
Year 2	x 2, x 5, x 10 (and corresponding division facts)	Omar, Jerome	Joshua, Jerome, Rehan
Year 3	x 2, x 5, x 10, x 3, x 4, x 8	Max, Nolan, Aleeza	Alfie, Lauren, Yaz

	(and corresponding division facts)		
Year 4	All tables to 12 x 12 (and corresponding division facts)	Joshua, Nancy, Thomas	Zoe, Denver, Thaddeus

Current rank of ARFS among nearby schools	19	Mean studio speed (seconds per question)	4.17
---	----	--	------

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 compared to those with the lowest attainment.
- 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 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 (excluding Nursery)	Highest class attendance!	Second place	Third place
Wb 12.6.23	97%	98% (Year 2)	98% (Year 4)0	96% (Nursery)
Wb 19.6.23	96%	99% (Year 1)	98% (Year 2)	97.8% (Rec)

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. Mr Tolan 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 the last fortnight, 265 (4 hours 25 mins) 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 (excluding Nursery)	Absence caused by holidays	Other absences
Wb 12.6.23	3%	2%	1%
Wb 19.6.23	4%	2%	2%

SECTION 2: SOCIAL ACTION



SCHOOL COUNCIL

School Council have successfully introduced our new playground Reading Shed and added new playground equipment. Please do not allow your children to use the play equipment before or after school. Thank you.



WASTE WARRIORS

Our Waste Warriors have delivered whole school collective worship linked to our food waste audit and have developed an action plan to reduce our food waste. They are meeting with Miss Cooper next week to make some suggestions... watch this space!



GREEN TEAM

Green Team continue to pick litter in the area around school each Monday. Last week, we had our biggest collection so far! We had several members of the public thank us last week too. Thank you all of our Green Team!

LIBRARY CHAMPIONS

The Library Champions have been working on class library areas, restocking boxes, sourcing magazines and labelling books ready for lending these out, in addition to reading books, in September.



SECTION 3: SCHOOL NEWS!

STRIKE ACTION

As you are probably aware from the media, the National Education Union (NEU) are taking further strike action on Wednesday 5th and Friday 7th July.



YEAR 4 TRANSITION PLANS

Unfortunately, Wednesday 5th was a transition day for our Year 4 children to visit their middle schools. Gosforth Junior High and Gosforth Central Middle School will be unable to staff this transition day due to the strike action. However, the transition day on Thursday 6th July will still go ahead. To our knowledge, Gosforth East Middle School NEU members have not yet made their decision on strike action.



TRANSITION PLANS (CURRENT RECEPTION - YEAR 3)

Children will spend all day on Thursday 6th July with their new class teacher, in their new classroom while the current Year 4 children spend the day at GCMS. Children new to Years 1 & 2 will enter via the KS1 entrance, as usual, and new Year 3 & Year 4 children will enter via the KS2 entrance (next to the school field). Current Year 4 children will meet in the Hall for registration before being walked to GCMS by a member of staff. Children will be dismissed at their new classroom door (current Year 4 will be dismissed at the KS2 cloakroom door). If you have any questions, please do get in touch.

STATUTORY ASSESSMENTS

Year 1 Phonics Screens, Year 2 SATs and Year 4 Times Tables checks are now complete. The children have been amazing! Parents and carers will receive results alongside end of year reports.



COURTYARD

Our central courtyard in school is in need of some TLC! If you are a keen gardener and would like to help us give it a summer tidy up, please get in touch! Thank you!

CHURCH LINKS & COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Rev'd Shipton, Rev'd Jones and Father Paul continue to lead worship each week. They build on themes we are learning about in school which, this week, has been the Fruit of the Spirit. We will continue to reflect on this over the coming weeks too.



NURSERY & RECEPTION PLACES

We have a small number of Nursery & Reception places remaining for September 2023. We offer both 15 and 30-hour places in Nursery. If you know anyone with a Nursery or Reception age child, please let them know!



Thank you to those of you who have already spread the word and recommended the school. It is lovely to see your positive comments being shared on Facebook – it is always lovely to get such feedback and really is appreciated.

CLASS VISITS & VISITORS

Year 1 have been exploring Gosforth and thinking about how it has changed over time. They took part in a walking tour led (impromptu!) by staff and parents due to the tour guide being taken ill. We wish Colin a speedy recovery.

Year 4 visit to Vindolanda has, unfortunately, been postponed until Thursday 13th July due to issues around transport. Thank you to PTFA for paying for the coach which will significantly reduce the cost to families.



SPORTS DAYS

Nursery, Reception, Years 3 & 4 have held their Sports Days this week. Thank you to everyone who attended. We were really lucky with the weather and everyone seemed to have a fabulous time. Some classes even had a parents' race! Year 1 & Year 2 have been postponed until next week due to forecasted rain. Please see new dates below. We are really sorry to any families that this has inconvenienced.

LUNCHTIME CLUBS – SUMMER 2

Club	Day <small>(may change due to staff commitments)</small>	For children in	Run by
Choir	Wednesday	Y1 – Y4	Miss Bowers
Library Champions	Thursday	Y3 & Y4	Mrs Crozier
Y3 & 4 Football Club*	Thursday	Y3 & Y4	Lee Sterry
Y1 & 2 Football Club	Friday	Y1 & Y2	Lee Sterry
Green Team	Monday	Selected children Year 1 – Year 4	Mr Hunter



*Football Club is open to all children in Years 3 and 4 to train together; however, Lee Sterry will select specific children to take part in competitions as they occur. Children should wear uniform for school and bring football kit to change into at lunchtime please. Children selected to take part in competitions will need shin pads and football boots.

WRAPAROUND BOOKINGS

We are pleased to announce that Miss Wakefield has taken over as Breakfast Club and After School Club Lead and is in the process of planning lots of exciting activities for those children who are lucky enough to attend our wrap around care.



**Childcare
Bookings
for Schools**

A reminder that, from September 2023, bookings will be managed by a separate company for a trial period of a year. Whilst this will mean some changes in the short term, it should make bookings far easier to manage for parents - both those making regular bookings as well as those who need ad-hoc care. More details with specific instructions will follow shortly.

Please do contact us if you have any queries.

FOREST SCHOOL

At Forest School, each child planted a sunflower, which they brought home to grow. We would love to see pictures and updates, on Twitter, of how your sunflower is growing. Mrs Francis is keen to see who can grow the tallest sunflower. Good luck!



PTFA

Class cake sales – There will be class cake sales after school on 30th June and 7th July. On their selected date, we would be grateful if children in each class could bring a clearly labelled donation of cakes to sell (please provide a full list of ingredients). These will be available for parents/carers to buy after school (with cash!) on the day. Children will not be buying them during the day so children should not bring money to school.

Cake Sales	
Year 2	30.6.23
Year 3	7.7.23
Year 4	7.7.23

Due to food allergies in school, all cakes will need to have ingredient and allergen information provided on the label please. Please do not use ingredients that include nuts. Parents/Carers buying cakes after school will be responsible for checking ingredients are suitable for their child. Thank you for your understanding.



14th July Summer Social, after school – please save the date and look out for more details coming soon

about what we have lined up.

SAFEGUARDING

Mrs Massey and Mrs Francis are our school's Designated Safeguarding Leaders (DSL). 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

Monday 26 th June	Y4 working with GEM Education		Please wear full school uniform (not hoodies)
Tuesday 27 th June	Visit from Newcastle Library Service to launch Summer Reading Challenge	am	
	Year 1 Sports Day	2:00pm	The pedestrian gate on Christon Road will be open at 1:50pm and will be locked at 2:00pm for parents and carers attending sports day.
Wednesday 28 th June	Year 2 Sports Day	2:00pm	The pedestrian gate on Christon Road will be open at 1:50pm and will be locked at 2:00pm for parents and carers attending sports day.
Thursday 29 th June	Year 3 activities and sleepover at school with Mr H Outdoor Experiences	All day & night	More info to follow
	Year 4 visit to Vindolanda &	All day	Please see ParentMail

	Roman Army Museum		
	Welcome meeting for new Year 3 (current Year 2) parents & carers	5:30pm	Please book places via ParentMail
Friday 30 th June	Reception visit to Gosforth Library	pm	Half of class only (no permission required)
	Year 3 & 4 GST Football Competition (mixed boys and girls team)	9:30-12	Selected children only
	Years 1 & 2 Football lunchtime starting	12:15pm	Children need to come to school in uniform and bring football clothes to change into please.
	School Council Meeting	2:45pm	
	Year 2 Cake Sale	3:15pm	We would be grateful if Year 2 children could bring labelled donations of cakes to school on this date. Thank you. ***These foods will need to have ingredient and allergen information provided on the label please***
July 2023			
Week beginning 3.7.23	SEND Reviews	3:30-5:30pm	Please book via ParentMail
Monday 3 rd July	Reception Stay & Play	2:00pm	
	GCMS leading Spanish session for Year 4	am	
Tuesday 4 th July	Nursery Stay & Play	2:00pm	
	Welcome meeting for new Year 4 (current Year 3) parents & carers	5:30pm	Please book places via ParentMail
Wed 5 th July	NEU Strike Action		School open to all classes
Wednesday 5 th July	Welcome meeting for new Year 1 (current Reception) parents & carers	5:30pm	Please book places via ParentMail
	Reception transition will go ahead as planned	Morning or afternoon	
Wed 5th & Thurs 6th July	Transition Day for Rec – Year 4 across GST schools	All day	No PE kits
Friday 7 th July	NEU Strike Action		School open to all classes
Thursday 6 th July	Laura Tisdall visiting Years 3 & 4 (Local Historian)	pm	
Friday 7 th July	Year 4 Bikeability	Morning or afternoon session	Please see info on ParentMail.
	Year 2 visit to Grace Darling Museum (Bamburgh)	All day	ParentMail to follow
	Coffee Morning in school for parents/carers of children with SEND	9:00am	This will be an opportunity to meet fellow parents/carers as well as the new SENCo
	Nursery visit to Gosforth Library	pm	Half of class only (no permission required)
	Year 3 & Year 4 Cake Sales	3:15pm	We would be grateful if Year 3 & Year 4 children could bring labelled donations of cakes to school on this date. Thank you. ***These foods will need to have ingredient and allergen information provided on the label please***
Tuesday 11 th July	Eat Smart project conclusion	9:00am	Parents and carers welcome to attend
	Years 1 – 4 ARFS Summer Music Concert at All Saints'	1:30pm	More info to follow
	All Saints' Leavers event	3:30pm	More info to follow from All Saints'

Tuesday 11 th & Wednesday 12 th July	Drop-in parents evening (in case parents have questions about their child's report).	3:30-5:00pm	No appointment needed
Thursday 13 th July	Year 4 visit to Vindolanda & Roman Army Museum	All day	Please see ParentMail
Friday 14 th July	Deadline for wraparound bookings for Autumn 1		Please book via ParentMail
	Reception visit to Discovery Museum		ParentMail to follow
	Year 3 visit to Great North (Hancock) Museum		More info to follow
	Year 4 Cricket Competition	9:30-11:30	Selected children only
	Nursery visit to Gosforth Library	pm	Half of class only (no permission required)
	School Council Meeting	2:45pm	
	Year 4 Cake Sale	3:15pm	
	PTFA Summer Fair	After School	Info to follow
Friday 14 th July & Saturday 15 th July	St Nicholas' Beer Festival	11:00am-11:00pm	For more info please contact 07788202252
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



**Gosforth Park
Out of School
Club**

"The appeal to my children is the welcoming, calm, caring, inclusive nature of the care – it is not just sporty children who will have fun" A parent



A Summer holiday you won't forget.....

Open from Monday 24th July to Friday 1st September 2023

Prices sessions are £15 half day, £28 full day, full week £136 includes breakfast and/or tea. We have two or three bought in providers per week in addition to all the fun club staff led activities. These half day sessions have an extra £3 charge.

We are registered with OFSTED, accept children ages 4 to 13 and we accept all childcare vouchers.

We are based in Havannah First School, Great Park. For more details and TO BOOK please visit:

www.gosforthparkoutofschoolclub.co.uk

For more info email:

Admin@gosforthparkoutofschoolclub.co.uk or call Natalie on 07875297296 or Rachael on 07928779201



@ Havannah First
school

Summer Holiday Playscheme






Book from just half a day to
the full six weeks
A full and varied activity plan

This year all of our activities are club based and include:

- multi sports
- dance
- cookery
- art and craft activities
- sessions run by KidZRFit
- water play
- magician
- circus skills
- drumming workshops
- Big science uk
- animal encounters with Animal Antics
- lots of outdoor play in our adventure play area.



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 – '50xxxxxxx'
- 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**

Newcastle
City Council 