



Archibald First School Autumn Term Newsletter 2018



This first half term has been a huge success! We are immensely proud of **all** the children at Archibald from our new starters who have joined school with enthusiasm and independence, to our oldest and wisest children who have taken on monitor jobs and are leading the school as Year 4.

During the last week of term we are holding our formal parents' evenings. Staff are looking forward to talking with you and continuing to work with you as we enter autumn term 2.



Communication

Twitter @Archibaldfirst



We use Twitter lots in school to share information with you and celebrate learning and events happening in school. Please follow us if you can and feel welcome to share your children's learning from home too. We love to see what everyone has been up to so please remember to mention us in your tweet by including @archibaldfirst

You can also follow @GosforthGST for news about learning across the Gosforth Schools' Trust.

Half Term Fun #AFSfun

Over the half term break why not tag us @archibaldfirst or include the hashtag #AFSfun to share your special family time and adventure? A great way of sharing ideas for other families to use too!

Some ideas for the holidays

Climb a tree, visit Seven Stories, ride a bike to the park, venture to Woodhorn, visit the library, discover the Centre for Life, make a picture using twigs, leaves and stones, jump in puddles, build a lego/playmobil city, read books together or go on a nature walk – perhaps you will find a bear or even the Gruffalo?

What will you get up to?

Recommended Read #AFSreads

Share your favourite books on twitter for others to see. Tells us why we should read them!

GDPR

Thank you very much for the completion of all the paperwork to enable us to be GDPR compliant. Your consent for contacting you via text messages and emails will mean that we can continue to be a paperless school where possible.

News and Events

Harvest

Our Harvest Festival took place on Tuesday 9th October. The whole school came together for an assembly delivered by the staff at All Saints Church. A huge thank you for all your donations for the West End Foodbank. Your generosity was overwhelming!



Daft as a Brush School's Prom.

Children from Gosforth Voices joined other choirs and instrumental groups from across the North East to celebrate the Daft as a Brush Children's Proms. Brian Bernie, the founder of the DAAB charity was overwhelmed by the children's performances. Wilbur and Emma were even interviewed by the BBC's Sharon Barbour at the event. Huge congratulations to all who attended.



No Outsiders

This year we are using a new programme to teach the children about the Equalities Act. This is part of the PSHE curriculum and will be taught through story books, pictures and discussions in classes and assembly. We will teach children that it's OK to be different, to be able to work with others and to welcome and respect everyone, regardless of their differences.

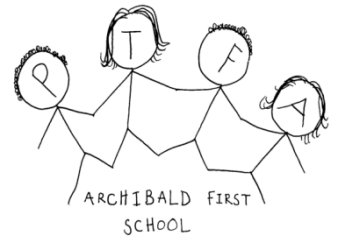
We have already started using some of the resources and the children have really enjoyed the stories and understand the concept of nobody being an 'outsider' in our school and our community.



Creativity and PTFA

Over the past few years the money that you have all raised as part of the PTFA has gone towards supporting creative opportunities for all your children. We are delighted to announce that this will continue this year. Each year group has £250 a term to help enhance the learning experiences and bring topics to life. With the donation of £1500 per term or £4500 over the school year this means that we can provide opportunities, visits and visitors into school that we simply could not afford without solely asking for parental contributions.

Each year group will use the money in different ways and at different times, but we will let you know how all the money has supported your children.



Tapestry

Parents of children in Nursery and Reception should now be receiving regular updates via our online Learning Journals, "Tapestry". Please do add your own observations and comments too!



GST Poppies and Poems Week



During the week of November 5th, each school across the Gosforth Schools' Trust will be taking part in Poppies and Poem Week as a recognition of the centenary of the end of World War 1 and 100 Years of the RAF. The British Legion's theme of saying 'thank you' will be prevalent during the week as we focus on thinking of the bravery and commitment of others.

At Archibald our week will begin with WW1 Assembly and Performance sessions for Years 1 – 4.

Year 4 will also be taking part in a theatre workshop at the Alphabetti Theatre and Discovery Museum. Within school, songs such as 'Pack up Your Troubles' and 'It's a long way to Tipperary' will be sang. Year 1 will be focusing on the animals of the war and the roles they played

Each child at Archibald will make a 3D poppy for a grand display in the school hall.

Poppies and Poems Event Invitation

We would also like to invite you to the 'GST Poppies and Poem' event being held at Trinity Church where work from each school will be showcased inside the Church.

The church will be open between 10.00am and 4.00pm on Wednesday 21st and Thursday 22nd November for members of our school community to look at the work we have completed in each of the 11 schools.



Important Reminders

Drinks in school

Every classroom has a water cooler and paper cups which all children can access throughout the day.

Water bottles should **not** be brought into school unless there is an explicit medical reason, in which case please come and speak to either Mrs Bayes or Mrs Turner. If there is a specific medical reason which means that the water coolers are not sufficient then only plain, still water must be in the bottles. Juice and flavoured water are not permitted.



A safe environment for everyone



Please support us in keeping the school a yard a safe environment for everyone. Bikes and scooters should be walked into and out of the yard – not ridden, and ball games are not to take place at the beginning and end of the school day. Our school yard is a very busy place with lots of parents and children and we would like to avoid any accidents.

Please note that dogs, with the exception of guide dogs, are not allowed with the school grounds even if they are carried. If you chose to secure your dog outside the school, please make sure it is away from entrances and not left unattended.

Parking

Thank you to all those parents who continue to 'park and walk'; we appreciate your support in making the roads close to school safer for children and their parents. We do open the doors at 8.45 am to allow you time to find a safe parking place and get into school for start of registration at 8.55 am.

For safeguarding, please do not leave young children unattended in cars - even whilst 'popping' across the road.

Sadly, we have had some complaints from our neighbours regarding cars idling outside residential homes and inconsiderate parking including across driveways blocking residents in.

We have a very good relationship with our neighbours and would like to ask that you take into account their needs when parking near school. Please do not park on the yellow lines or in the alley.



Healthy School – Health and Balance Packed lunches

As a healthy school all meals prepared are balanced. We ask that parents supplying packed lunches from home consider this carefully and provide a balance of savoury and sweet along with fruit. No pop or fizzy drinks should be included. We ask that all sweets / confectionary are kept for treats at home.



Uniform, coats and names belongings...

The children are all looking exceptionally smart in their uniforms. We are all wearing the correct uniform and shoes. Please continue to support this after half term.

As we are now heading towards the end of Autumn and the beginning of the winter months it is essential that all children have a suitable coat with them every day.

Over the holidays please double check that your child's name is inside each item. We already have a sizeable pile of lost property (3 black bin bags full) which cannot be returned due to being nameless. Remember one red jumper looks exactly the same as another...

Applying for Reception and Middle School Places.

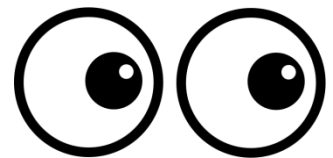
Please ensure that you apply for the next stage of your child's education by the closing date below.

Attending our Nursery does NOT guarantee your child a place in Reception. Details can be obtained at <http://newcastle.gov.uk/education-and-learning/admissions-and-schooltransfers>

Closing Dates

Reception 2019: 15th January 2019 at noon

Middle School 2019: 31st October 2018 at noon



School Yard Notice Board

Keep a look out for the 'revamped' school yard notice board. The school office team will be updating this soon and refreshing it on a regular basis to keep you all informed about upcoming dates and events at school and locally.

School Visit Packed Lunches

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to *universal free school meals* and will now be provided with a school packed lunch on trips, unless parents inform us that they will provide their child with one from home.

The packed lunch will contain (depending on availability of ingredients and known individual medical/dietary needs):

Ham (or turkey) sandwich,

Piece of fruit

Home-made cookie

Packet of Quavers

Carton of juice

Vegetarian option – Cheese (or egg) sandwich

Calendar

The calendar on the website is currently up to date and has events for throughout the year. We will be adding new events as the year goes on. Please check the events section regularly so that you do not miss anything important. As always, don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions.

November 2018

- 05 School opens for Autumn term 2 at 8.45am – welcome back!
- 05-09 WW1 Centenary Poppy Week in school
- 05 WW1 Assembly and Songs for Years 1 – 4
- 06 Class 10 to Walter World War 1 Experience Day
- 07 Class 9 to Walter World War 1 Experience Day
- 12-16 Antbullying Week
- 12 Odd Sock Day for Antbullying Week
- 16 Children in Need
- 16 Class 8 Cake Sale, 3.15 pm
- 21 Bring a bottle for Christmas Fair – Non-uniform Day
- 28 EYFS to Whitehouse Farm

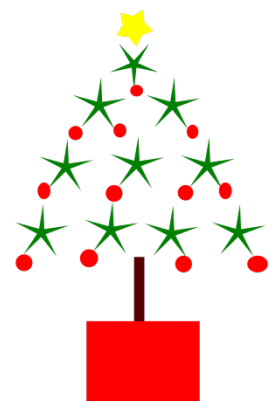


December 2018

- 05 Christmas School Fair + Reception Cake Sale, 5 to 6.30 pm
- 06 School Pantomime

Please note that these dates are all provisional. They will be confirmed by the end of November. A letter regarding ticket sales will follow after half term

- 10 Reception and Nursery 1 Christmas Show for parents with young children and babies 9.30am*
- 10 Key Stage 2 Christmas Concert for parents with young children and babies 2.15pm*
- 11 Key Stage 1 Christmas Concert for parents with young children and babies 9.30am*
- 11 Reception and Nursery 1 Christmas Show 2.15pm*
- 12 Key stage 2 Christmas Concert 9.30am*
- 12 Key Stage 1 Christmas Show 2.15pm*
- 13 Key Stage 1 Christmas Show 9.30am*
- 13 Reception and Nursery 2 Christmas Show for parents with young children and babies 2.15pm*
- 14 Reception and Nursery 2 Christmas Show 9.30am*
- 14 Key Stage 2 Christmas Concert 2.15pm*
- 14 VIP Day for the winning team
- 17 Year 2 and Year 4 Christmas Party
- 19 EYFS Christmas Party
- 19 School Christmas Lunch and Wear a Christmas Outfit Day
- 20 Year 1 and Year 3 Christmas Party
- 21 Christmas Church Service at Trinity Church. Please come and join us from 1.30pm
- 21 School closes for the Christmas holidays at 3.15pm



Most importantly we would like to say thank you for all your support over the first half term of the year. We hope that you have a lovely holiday with your families and look forward to seeing you on Monday 5th November.

Mrs Bayes