



# Archibald First School

## Summer 2 Newsletter 2020



We have officially made it to the end of the summer term. Usually I would say that it doesn't seem 5 minutes since we were welcoming our new families into school as the children joined Nursery and Reception whilst some of us can still remember welcoming our Year 4 children into school all those years ago! Now whilst this is true does anyone else feel the last 4 months have been the longest EVER! I'm slightly worried as my daughter keeps giggling 'Mum, you've got another 7 weeks of me...!' I'm not sure what she means?

Whilst the last 4 months have been challenging, thought provoking, different, alternative, a learning curve, a new way of life, hard, fun, enlightening... it is still worth thinking back over the school year to reflect on how much your child has grown and developed not only academically but socially and emotionally too.

One positive about lock down has been the children having time to discover talents and embrace life skills that they otherwise may not have. We have seen bird boxes built, bike riding conquered, art work perfected, letter writing to friends attempted, mesmerising culinary talents and so much more.

Some of you have even braved cornflower gloop, painting and mud! Others have embraced pyjama days, film nights and board games. Whilst many have dug out the old PE kit to venture on bike rides and discover new local walks.

As I write this, we are planning for us all being back in September – full time!!! Letters will come out to you from your child's new class teacher and the information regarding start times and the more 'official plans' will be sent via Parent Pay as soon as we have pulled these all together.

In short: start and finish times will be amended as will break and lunch times for autumn 1.

I must finish my part by saying thank you; what an exciting, nervous, daunting and challenging first two terms as a Headteacher. The support from the children, staff, families and governors has been very much appreciated.

Thank you

x

# Lockdown Captured...:

## Funniest Photos

Charlotte and Emilia have been getting creative with clay 🙄💩



## Biggest Smiles



## Gardening Delights

Yesterday while it was still sunny we went down the allotment and scattered our mini meadow seeds! We spotted lots of bees buzzing around too. We then decided to come back and enjoy the last of the sunshine drawing. 🐝🐝





## Sunflower Winners



Then final lockdown sunflower photo. They have been hard work, but fun at the same time, just like children!



## Easter Winners

There is an Easter Egg Rapunzel in there somewhere...



An Easter wreath made by Nikiesha from an egg crate and some rock painting for school !





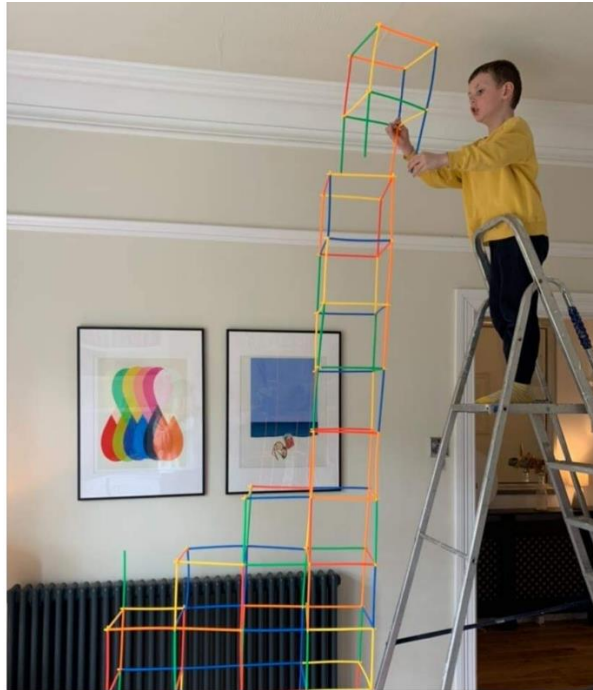
*Best new arrival...*

 **Rosie Sinclair** ▸ Archibald 2019-20 ...  
2 June at 13:35 · 📷

Hello everyone, I hope you all had a wonderful half term and have been enjoying the sunshine!  
It's been a whirlwind 2 weeks in the Sinclair household as Baby Ella made an appearance on the first day of my maternity leave! What brilliant timing!  
She's such a good girl and enjoys sleeping lots just like her Mummy!  
She can't wait to meet you all when it's safe to do so, hopefully it won't be long!



*Best Tower*



*What made me the hungriest!*



*Best Grandpa*

Home learning put on hold for a long round trip to see Pop Pop and Nanny! Even better when Pop Pop has done some of your school work for you. Don't tell Miss RW White! 🐝



# Artistic Talents

Had an arty kind of weekend - Layla learning to use art pastels



Erin has finished her aquarium picture!

# Reports

We hope the end of year reports capture your children and give you a further insight into their time at school. A **huge** thank you has to go to each of the teaching staff; the reports take an incredibly long time to write as each one is personal to your own child.

Please return the reply slips (Year 4 and Nursery) and the forms booklet (Reception – Year 3). Thank you.



## Welcome to Archibald



Please welcome Mrs Hazel McGurk and Mrs Nicola McNally to Archibald. Mrs McGurk will be teaching in Year 1 and Year 2 whilst Mrs McNally will be teaching in Early Years.

They are looking forward to meeting you all. Just as we did for Mr Bourke, we will ask via the Facebook page for your questions to ask them both. Watch this space.

### *Photograph and Communication Permissions*

All our families have identified how your children's images can be used:

- Displays
- Newsletters
- Publications
- Archibald Website
- Archibald and GST Twitter
- GST Publications
- GST Website
- External Agencies

Please remember you can change your permissions at any time by completing a new form at the school office and informing us in writing. If you would like to check the permissions you originally gave, please contact the school office.

This also applies to the school sending text messages and emails as a form of communication. However, please remember that by declining to receive texts or emails information must be obtained via the website after an initial paper letter has been sent. No reminders will be sent in paper form.

### *Eco Drive: Water Bottles, Battery Hunt and Stationery*

Please remember water bottles on the first day back in September! Can we also remind you that we collect used batteries and broken stationery in school too?



## *September Uniform*

We are very proud of our school uniform and how smart the children look wearing it. The summer holiday is a great time to check out your child's uniform ready for the new school year.

Please ensure all uniform fits, especially PE shoes and school shoes, as we expect the children to return to school dressed ready for the year ahead. Replace name labels too!

School shoes must be plain and dark in colour – trainers are not school uniform even if they are black!

For Autumn 1, all PE will take place outside; Children in Year 1-Year 4 will need a pair of plain navy or black jogging bottoms and a jumper (preferably plain red although it could be the colour of their school team).

Trainers will be needed.

Thank you for supporting this and promoting our school uniform.

## *Sporting Events and Sports Days*

It has been another great year for PE and Sport at Archibald! A massive thank you to all the children, parents, staff and external agencies who have helped us to have such wonderful opportunities throughout this academic year, even in the situation we find ourselves in.

After all the hard work this year, we are delighted to announce that we achieved the Virtual School Games Award for the 2019/20 academic year. The School Games Mark is a Government led award scheme launched in 2012, facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community. The usual application has been paused this year, however, we are delighted to have been recognised for our success during partial school closures. Our sporting achievements this year include hosting our first ever Virtual Sports Day. Well done, and thank you to everyone who took part!


## *Early Years*

The Early Years staff would like to say a massive thank you to all of the parents/carers of the Early Years children for their contributions to their children's learning journey's on Tapestry. We have had some wonderful day by day or week by week accounts of activities as well as parents keeping in touch. We know that home learning has been a roller coaster of a journey for all of us but we have been overwhelmed by the uptake of all the activities and tasks we have placed on Tapestry. Thank you - Mrs Nelson and EYFS team.

## *Moving On*

We would like to take this opportunity to say Goodbye to some wonderful families and children who have joined us in Nursery but sadly this is the end of their journey with us at Archibald and we know they will continue to be fabulous in their new schools.

The time has come to say good bye to our fabulous Year 4 pupils. Over the past five years, we have watched them grow and blossom and are so proud of what they have achieved and the lovely, young people they have become. It has been an unusual year for them all and not quite the year we had planned. However, we have





watched this particular group of children adapt to an ever-changing, uncertain situation with such strength and resilience. They have had their year cut short and have missed out on various events and traditions, but the way in which they have addressed this has been commendable; they have dealt with huge disappointment with understanding and empathy. We are going to miss them all terribly but wish them every success and happiness as they transition to their new schools. They are leaving us as happy, successful, confident individuals who are ready for the next phase of their learning journey. Year 4, it has been an absolute pleasure, enjoy every minute of your new adventure!

## *Diary*

The school diary of events is published on the website. Dates are always on this well ahead of time, and we highlight where any changes are made which happens in the busy life of a school.

We also endeavour to share upcoming dates on each newsletter.

The diary will be updated over the school holidays.

### **September**

07 Staff Development Day: School Closed to Pupils

08 Welcome back! Please see the plans for returning to school.





# Ideas for the Summer

Check out the blog in EYFS for 50 things to do this summer 2020 and other summer activities such as science experiments and baking. Have fun, smile lots and we look forward to seeing you all in September.

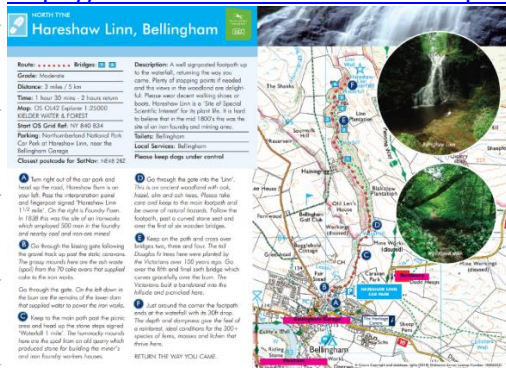
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The year 3 team have had a great year and we've loved listening to all your adventures in and out of school. We've been inspired by a lot of your activities and we've loved trying out all the new recipes, walks and craft ideas. Here are some new walks, books and recipes we're going to all try out this summer.

Love Mrs Nisbet, Mr Morrow, Mrs Marshall

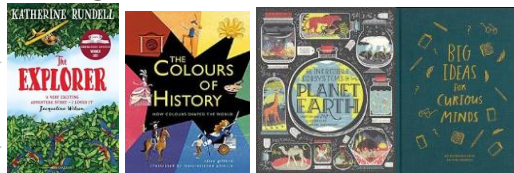
## Hareshaw Linn

<https://www.northumberlandnationalpark.org.uk/walk/hareshaw-linn-walk/>



## Alnmouth Beach walk (Thanks Archie)

## Reading Books:



## Campfire Recipes:



This is a really easy recipe which you can then cook on your campfire whilst camping or even in your back garden! <https://veganonboard.com/campfire-bread-on-a-stick-recipe/>

Or, if you prefer cooking in the kitchen, try this tantalising Thai Red curry! <https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/thai-red-curry>



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## A Summer of Sport

At Archibald, we all know how important it is, for our physical and mental health, to complete at least 60 minutes of exercise each day. With this in mind, we would like to sign post you to some local providers who are beginning to open up their services again. The first announcement came from **Lee Sterry Sports**. Lee Sterry Sports are thrilled to announce that they will be hosting their summer holiday courses - with a twist! A variety of sports will be offered in a fun and safe environment at Cochrane Park. Contact [coaching@ls-sc.co.uk](mailto:coaching@ls-sc.co.uk) ASAP to reserve a space.

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★ **Science**

★ The summer holiday is the perfect time to be a super scientist! There is so much you can do at home and in our local area. You could make a bug hotel for your garden, plant a sunflower to see how tall it will grow or perhaps build a den out of sticks and leaves. It might be fun to go on a scavenger hunt with a nature colour wheel to try and find as many different colours as possible. You could also use a magnifying glass to investigate how many minibeasts live in your garden. Why not head down to St. Mary's lighthouse to investigate the rock pools? If you would prefer to carry out an activity inside then you could try making a tower as tall as possible. What should you use? Anything you can find that might be suitable! Have fun with your super summer science!



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★ **Tie Dying**

- Tying marbles or pebbles for a spotty dye
- Twisting for a spiral dye
- Random crunched for traditional
- Lines for horizontal tie dye

★ **NEED**

- white t shirts/vest tops/leggings
- string or elastic bands
- marbles or pebbles
- dye
- salt
- bucket or deep bowl
- wooden spoon

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★ **National Trust**

★ <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/features/50-things-to-do-before-youre-11-activity-list>

★ Find out about all of the '50 things to do before you're 11¾' activities with this handy list from the National Trust. From stargazing to crawling through mud looking for animal clues, we have something for every young explorer.

★ They have 50 ultimate activities for you to enjoy, so get out in the fresh air and build a den, make your world spin by rolling down a hill or watch stars glitter in the night sky. You'll be a seasoned adventurer by the time you've managed to try out all 50 activities. And it doesn't end there. You can enjoy doing our '50 things' again and again, in all seasons.

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★ **Great Park Community Centre**

★ GPCC are offering Free Play on their outdoor courts between 3.30 and 5.30pm each day. Bookings can be made in advance. They also offer pay and play tennis opportunities, as well as memberships. Their Butterflies and Bugs Holiday Camp from Monday 20th July.







## **Cycling**



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p6SNCvIN4EI>



We all remember that exciting moment of learning to ride a bike for the first time. It's exhilarating and a brilliant bonding moment for you and your child - not to mention a great photo opportunity. But where do you get started with teaching your child to ride a bike without stabilisers? Here's our nine-step guide.



### **What you'll need:**



- A bike without stabilisers per child
- A spanner to remove and replace the pedals. If the pedals aren't already marked left and right, make a note yourself as the left pedal threads in the opposite way to the right
- You may want to bring a camera to capture the moment.



Cycling for the first time without stabilisers can be a very powerful memory in a child's life. It's an achievement that will help build confidence and a natural sense of adventure. And teaching your child to ride a bike is a wonderful memory-making moment for you too.



### ***Nine steps to riding a bike without stabilisers***



**1. Lower the seat and remove the pedals:** Lowering the seat and removing the pedals enables the child to scoot along on the bike with both feet. Use this opportunity to provide instruction on using the brakes.



**2. Giant steps:** When the child is ready, encourage them forwards for about 10 metres using giant steps.



**3. Kangaroo hops:** Encourage the child forwards for about 10 metres using the hops.



**4. Put one pedal back on:** Either left or right, it doesn't matter. Make sure the child is comfortable on the bike and feels secure. An easy way of doing this is to get them to do a little 'wiggle' with the brakes on.



**5. One pedal scoot:** With one foot on the pedal encourage the child to scoot forwards using the other foot. Make sure they are looking up. Stop after about 10 metres.



**6. Both pedals on:** Put the other pedal on. Do the 'wiggle' (with brakes on) to show that the bike is stable and safe.



**7. First go:** Hold the child, not the bike. Explain that you are going to hold their back and their shoulder/upper arm. Get the child to put their feet on the pedals and check that they are ready. Encourage them to look up, let go of their brakes and pedal. Walk forwards (still holding on to them) and slowly release your grip. Stop after three to five metres.



**8. Second go:** Do the 'wiggle' (with brakes on). Holding the child as before, get them to put both feet on the pedals. Encourage them to look up. If all clear, count down from three and encourage the child to let go of the brakes and pedal forwards. Let go after a few steps, then step back to exaggerate the distance they have travelled. Shout 'stop' after 5 - 10 metres. Now count out the paces so they can see how far they have gone.



**9. Third go:** This time, reduce contact with the child by gripping their clothes with one hand and holding the bike handlebars with the other. Repeat steps as before, releasing them after only a few steps and letting them ride for as long as they wish.



### **Things to remember when teaching children to cycle without stabilisers**



- Find a quiet, traffic-free area such as a cycle path or somewhere with short grass or smooth tarmac.
- A slight downwards slope can often help.
- Look out for hazards like pedestrians, dogs, balls, and vehicles.
- Ensure that pedals are replaced correctly.



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Take what you need...



**SUMMER**  
 IS TIME FOR WATERMELON  
 GOLD DRINKS  
 BAREFOOT AND BARBEQUES  
 POPSICLES PICNICS POOLS  
 CORN ON THE COB LEMONADE SUNSHINE  
 READING CAMPFIRES CHERRIES  
 ROAD SEA SHELLS  
 TRIPSSMORES **FUN**

Great Mums

- Have sticky Floors
- Messy Kitchens
- Laundry Piles
- Dirty ovens and
- Happy Kids

**SUMMER RULES**

- BUILD A FORT RIDE A BIKE
- READ BOOKS VISIT A PARK
- run through sprinklers
- CATCH fireflies EAT WELL
- IMAGINE SLEEP IN
- WISH ON STARS
- DRINK LEMONADE
- MAKE SMORES WATCH A SUNSET
- WATCH FIREWORKS HAVE A PICNIC
- CAPTURE THE MOMENT
- RELAX BE A KID

The quickest way for a parent to get a child's attention is to sit down and look comfortable.

- Lane Ollinghouse

THE GREATEST  
 LEGACY WE CAN  
 LEAVE OUR  
 CHILDREN IS  
 HAPPY MEMORIES.

EVERY SUMMER  
 HAS ITS OWN  
 STORY

**Bad Parent Bingo - Summer Holiday Edition**

On Phone In Park	Wine Opened Before 5pm		TV/Gaming /Gadgets Ban Threat
Sounding Like Your Parents	Forgotten Birthday Party	Hiding In Bathroom	
Piggy Bank Raided For Small Change	Haven't Read To Them	Sweets Before 10am	Nagged Into Purchase
		Happy Meal For Lunch	

**PARENTING over summer break**  
 Day One                      Day Fifty



**7 things you will NEVER hear your kids say during the summer holidays!**

- I'm finished with the TV/ Playstation/ Xbox, I'm just going to take the dog for a walk and get some fresh air!
- I've so much to do, I don't know where to start!
- These swimming goggles fit me perfectly!
- Do you think I need more sunscreen now that I've been in the water?
- No Mam/ Dad, YOU sit down there and I'll get YOU an ice-pop from the freezer..
- We don't need to go anywhere today; we are just happy being here with you .. do you need any help?