



Archibald



Summer 1 Newsletter

Welcome to our end of summer 1 newsletter! We hope that you and your children have enjoyed the last six weeks as much as we have. Moving around the school there has been a real buzz of energy and enthusiasm in the classrooms. The staff have talked so positively about the children as they have continued to go from strength to strength in their learning and progress since returning on the 8th March.

We hope that you all have a restful and sunny half term break with your families and look forward to seeing you all on Monday 7th June to embark on our final 7 weeks of the school year.



Smile Please

Class Photographs will be taken on Wednesday 9th June. All children must wear school uniform on this day.

PE will be moved to another day in the week.

Sponsored Read

WOW! You raised a tremendous £800 for new books from the sponsored read. School is adding £1200 to this pot to invest in books for home reading.

E-Scooters, scooters and bikes

Sadly, we must include another plea to our school community to NOT ride bikes, scooters OR E-Scooters on school premises. We kindly ask that adults ask their own children to dismount and walk with these. We also ask that adults do not ride their own bikes, scooters or E-Scooters in the yard. Unfortunately, we have had a parent cruising through school on their e-scooter and this has very nearly caused an accident.

Thank you to those of you who always do dismount!

It has also been raised that E-Scooters are being ridden on the footpaths during the school run. Please consider that E-Scooters are not permitted on pavements by law.

School Council



Year 4 school council reps together with Cristiano joined our partner schools in Gelsenkirchen and Alicante to discuss free time activities. This was a follow up to a discussion in March when pupils shared lock down experiences and fun activities to enjoy at home.



Year 3 Love Being Young Leaders!

Year 3 children have thoroughly enjoyed their topic this half term, which is called Gosforth Gets Green – We're Young Leaders! Pupils have explored the importance of teamwork through a tricky cup stacking activity, the key of communication via the walk of trust and even explored how to help the global community by having a go creating their very own charity logo and slogan! With these leadership skills in hand, Year 3 then took to the streets of Gosforth to see if they could help make our local community an even better to place to be. After the children had a board meeting (complete with a vital biscuit to increase productivity!) there were MANY wonderful ideas. Letters to councillors, litter picking and snazzy posters are just some of the great ideas on the go as decided by the brilliant young leaders of Year 3. Watch this space for more!

Lots of children have even shown excellent leadership skills outside of school as part of their home project. Pupils have carried out litter picking in their local area, planted flowers, cooked tea for their family and even made origami to send to their neighbours to put a smile on their face! This half term Year 3 children really have helped Gosforth Get Green and they truly are Young Leaders!



Roots, Shoots and Juicy Fruits!

Year 1 have been very busy this half term. We have been learning all about plants and helping Jack from Jack and the Beanstalk. Most recently, we have been planning and deciding where to put the amazing veggies and plants that were sent to us. We identified three areas around school, researched each one and wrote up our decisions before heading out to plant them! Thank you to The School Seed Bank, who are a free seed bank resource for Primary Schools and Nursery Units. They are based in the County Durham area, wishing to progress outdoor growing lessons & projects.



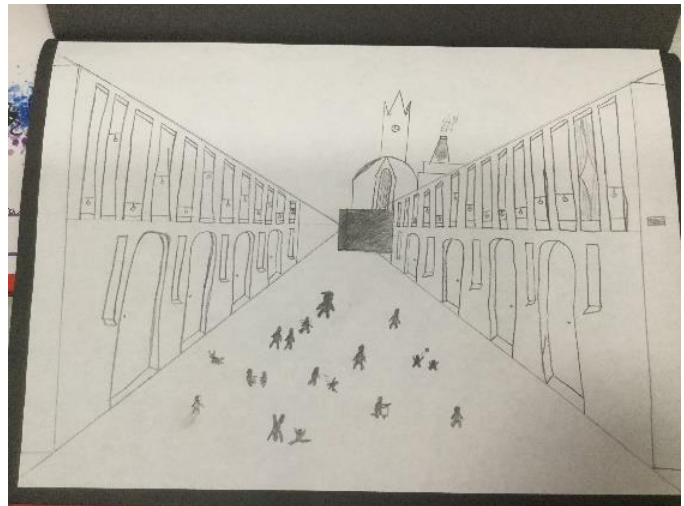
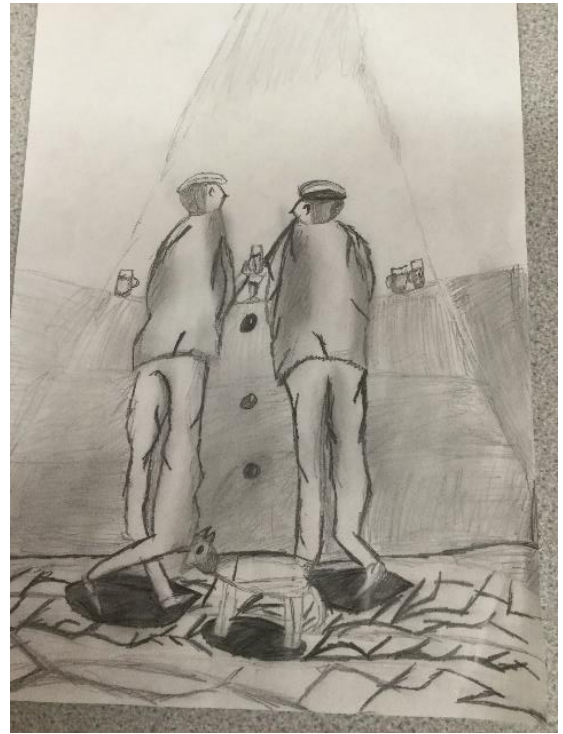
Reception Class Assembly!

We are very aware that our Reception families have not had the welcome into our school community we would normally like to provide. The remits of the DfE guidance has prevented us from opening our doors fully to you. Whilst it doesn't replace missed opportunities, please keep an eye out for a very special pre-recorded mini Reception class assembly which will find its way to you next half term via a link.

Nursery – we are in the early stages planning a little sing song for the adults!

The Tunnels Below

Year 4 have really enjoyed their topic of 'The Tunnels Below' and have loved learning about how Gosforth has changed over time and the impact of mining in Victorian times. As part of their learning, the children studied the artwork of Lowry and local artist, Norman Cornish, with a focus on scale and perspective. They enjoyed experimenting with these techniques to create their own pictures in the same style, taking inspiration from the Greats.

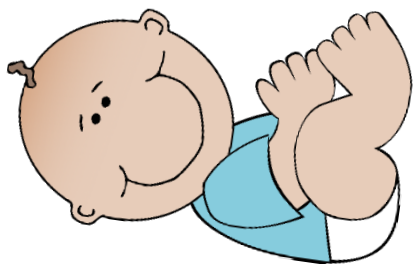


Swimming



Well done to Class 9 for all of their efforts in swimming for the past 2 weeks. Lovely to see a class of smiling faces trying something new. Whether you are in a swimming team or stepping into a pool for the first time, you all did tremendously well and have progressed to amazing swimmers. We think that we may have some professional swimmers in the future! Thank you to the Gosforth Leisure Centre for organising and the excellent coaching!

Staffing News



A huge congratulations to Mrs Jones who is expecting her second baby in September. Isobel, Mrs Jones's daughter, is very much looking forward to welcoming a baby brother into the household.

If you remember, we were due to say goodbye to Mrs McGurk at Easter time... well on the same day that she left us, a new opportunity came along and we have been lucky enough to have Mrs McGurk as part of our team until at least the end of the summer term.

If that wasn't lovely news in itself, the added news that Mrs McGurk, Mr McGurk and Jack are also expanding their family was certainly fantastic. Their new addition is due in November!



Mr Bourke has a different focus for his exciting news... he is off to be Deputy Headteacher in a larger primary school in Wallsend returning to where his teaching career began. From everyone at Archibald, we wish him well on his new venture.

We are delighted that both Mrs Watson and Mrs Marshall have returned to work after illness and injury. Welcome back to both members of staff!



Which leaves us with a final goodbye... Senora Linfoot will retire in July. Senora Linfoot has been with us since 2010 starting with us as Frau Linfoot before teaching herself Spanish and converting from being our German teacher to our Spanish teacher.

Eco Week

It is Eco week in school as of the 7th June. Each year group has identified a theme linked to the world which supports our aim of developing responsible citizens.

- Early Years – Endangered Animals
- Year 1 – The Importance of Bees
- Year 2 – Ocean Pollution
- Year 3 – Greta and the Giants
- Year 4 – Deforestation

New displays will go up in the school hall which we will share with you via Twitter @ArchibaldFirst. Watch out for class tweets sharing their other work too.



Swimming

Class 9 have thoroughly enjoyed their intensive swimming sessions since they began on May 17th and we have been very impressed with them. We have also been able to arrange for classes 7 and 8 to go swimming in June.

Looking ahead, we hope to take the 2021-22 year 3 cohort swimming in either the spring or summer term once we know the swimming pool arrangements. Watch this space!

Haircuts

There are a few alternative haircuts appearing in school – these are great for the holiday time but not suitable for school. Please remember that our school policy reads ‘Dyed colours, shaved swirls/lines or Mohican type styles are not permitted. All children, girls and boys, are requested to tie hair up where it is long enough to do so for PE.’ Thank you for supporting with this.

Clubs

It has been great having so many clubs back up and running during this last half term. We look forward to these continuing until July.

Year 4 Leavers

Year 4 parents/carers - watch this space for a letter sharing details of our end of year plans for our year 4 leavers. Due to restrictions, our plans will be different this year but we can assure you that the children will have a fun filled last week at school.

Activ5



From 21st-25th June, we will be taking part in Activ5 to coincide with School Sports Week.

ACTIV5 has one simple aim; to ensure as many pupils as possible from across the county participate in activities that will help to promote the importance and enjoyment of daily physical activity.

The programme will consist of a 'menu' of opportunities for all involved.

Examples of opportunities includes:

- LIVE content released each morning, including an opening address on day 1.
- Cross-curricular resources to support whole school engagement.
- Resources to support delivery of a range of fun activities, leadership opportunities and competitions.

During this week, each year group will also take part in a Sports Day. Children will compete in teams, wearing their team colour. A letter will be circulated regarding this nearer the time, however the events will **not** be open to parents and families this year.

Coats

Please remember to bring a coat to school every day! We are trying to get out whatever the weather. We hope the sun will make a welcome return soon.

Plans for the Summer Term Part 2



We are so excited to be planning for the future in school and to the return of more 'normal' times. However, although there are many changes in restrictions in terms of home and family life like meeting indoors, hugging and being able to go out to pubs and restaurants, guidance for schools remains largely unchanged.

We are still operating in bubbles, following the hands, face, space, ventilation guidance and minimising contact with shared resources. Our other protocols and routines will also remain for summer term part 2. We know there are lots of children across the city who are having to self-isolate due to bubble closures. It is unlikely that there will be any huge changes to the guidance in the final part of the summer term, but as soon as we receive any and can return to more of the things we love, we will let you know.

Regrettably 5 staff members have had their own children self-isolating over the last two weeks so we understand first-hand how frustrating this could be for the children and grown-ups if we found ourselves in this position after a successful return to school as of 8th March and when we are so close to the summer holidays.

Summer Holidays

Please note that if you travel abroad with your family over the summer holidays it will be vital that you follow the protocols in place for the specific country that you choose to travel to on your return to the UK.

Where the need to quarantine is identified, families will be expected to follow the guidelines even if this means children are required to be absent from school. Remote learning will be put in place from your child's new class teacher should this be the case.

Jubilee Road

Please be careful when crossing the road near the junction with Jubilee Road. It has been reported that some cars are travelling through the red lights.

Stay safe everyone.

Belongings from Home

Please remember that children should not be bringing in anything from home. Only bookbags/backpacks, water bottles and coats should be brought into school.

This prevents transfer of germs from home and school as well as keeping children's belonging safe.

Origami Project

This year Archibald is involved in a very exciting project led by local artist Simon Turner. We will all be folding a origami butterflies and once we have 1000, Simon will come and collect them all to turn them into a fabulous sculpture. The theme for the sculpture is the Butterfly Effect, which is the idea that one small action can have a knock-on effect and cause a massive change. This sculpture will come to Archibald for a little while and then will be given as a gift to St. Oswalds' Hospice. There is a video link on SeeSaw and Tapestry if you would like to practise at home.

