



Archibald First School Spring Newsletter 2019



It is hard to believe that we are two thirds of the way through the school year. As always it has been a busy term; in the last 6 weeks alone we have had Book Week, Science Week, a sponsored hop and two visits to Hawkfirst!

The children and staff continue to work as hard as ever and are a brilliant team!

We hope that you and your families enjoy the spring break together joining us back on Tuesday 23rd April for the Summer term.

Daniel

Thank you for thoughts and kind words to the children and staff at Archibald following the death of Daniel through cancer. He was a remarkable little boy who has been a part of our school since he joined us in Nursery.



It has been a difficult time for us as a school community, but one in which we have all supported each other to get through, and will continue to do so.



The children have been amazing. They have been respectful, sensitive and as understanding as they possibly can be. We are very proud of them.

School will be holding a celebration in memory of Daniel, which will be filled with joy and happiness to reflect the special little boy that he was. Together with Daniel's parents we will find a fitting tribute for Daniel as a part of Archibald First School family.

Children's Cancer Run

Archibald First School are taking part in the Children's Cancer Run on Sunday 19th May. So far we have a whopping 105 children taking part along with members of their family and the school staff. It will be a fabulous day, full of family fun which will also support a brilliant local charity.

The PTFA are currently looking into getting us a large banner to meet under in the schools waiting area. Thank you!

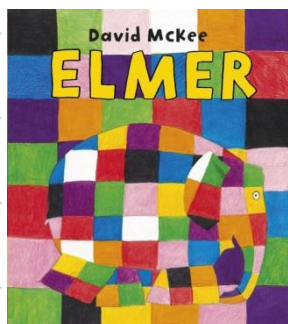
There is still time to sign up, and if you do so before March 31st there is a discounted entry fee.

<https://register.primoevents.com/ps/event/ChildrensCancerRun2019Newcastle>

Please remember to select 'Run for a Team' and to choose Archibald. It would be great if you could also set up your Just Giving page which is on your confirmation email. Your total raised, however big or small, will feed into the 'Archibald First School' team total for the school's leaderbaord.



Elmer



As we excitedly await the arrival of our very own little Elmer next half term, the children have been busy getting creative with their design ideas. Please keep your eyes peeled for upcoming Elmer information, pleas for your involvement in this exciting event and our Elmer's personal Twitter page. Let the creativity and fundraising for St Oswald's hospice begin!

Hawkhurst

Mrs Patrick has done a phenomenal job at organising Hawkhurst for the Year 4 children.

Class 10 returned on Friday evening after a fabulous three days away whilst Class 9 will venture out on Wednesday 3rd April for their visit. We hope everyone enjoys the updates on Twitter.

A huge thank you to the staff for their time away from their own families.



Sponsored Read and Listen

The Sponsored Read and Listen which took place during Book Week raised an almighty £1550 pounds for school to invest in new books. We asked the children and the staff what they would like and have therefore purchased lots of non-fiction books to support topic work, go into the class book corners and add to the school library.

We hope you enjoyed spending the time with your children in a favourite pastime of reading together.



#AFSFun

Over the Easter break why not tag us @archibaldfirst or include the hashtag #AFSFun to share your special family time?

Some ideas for the holidays...

Complete an Easter Egg Hunt at a National Trust venue, go for a walk through Belsay Gardens or Plessey Woods, climb the lighthouse at Whitley Bay, venture to Duridge Bay, plant spring flowers and bulbs together, visit Northumberland Park and use the bike track, drive to Kielder Castle for a family day out. What will you get up to?



Enjoy
Life
It's
Family
Time

Congratulations to Mrs Watson and family

A huge congratulations to Mrs Watson and her family on the safe arrival of Ida. Ida is absolutely beautiful, and has already been into school for cuddles from the staff. Enjoy your maternity leave Mrs Watson!



Smile Please!

Paul Gemmell our school photographer will be in school on Wednesday 12th June to work his magic with class photographs.



Parking: No Idling

Whilst waiting in cars at the start or end of the school day please ensure that your engine is turned off. *Idling in your vehicle is not acceptable.*

We work hard to maintain positive relationships with our neighbours on the street and we have had numerous reports of residents having to speak to drivers directly to ask you to turn your engines off.

Please be considerate of our children's health, the environment, and the local resident's.



Head Lice

As you know we send a weekly text out to remind families to check children's hair. This is to ensure that at the first sign of head lice they can be treated for the comfort of your child and to help prevent the head lice from spreading through the class.

We are unable to treat children's hair in school ourselves but we will contact you directly if your child has head lice. This enables you to treat them as soon as possible.

We would love to 'eradicate' the headlice but we cannot do this without everyone's help. Our school nurse Tarryn Munro, is more than happy to offer support and advice if needed, please contact the school office and we will pass on your request.

Thank you to all those families who support us with this.

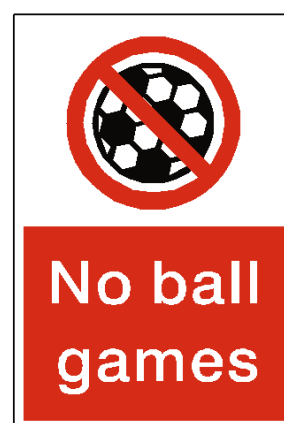
Safe Yard

Balls **MUST NOT** be used in the yard before school. Nor should scooters or bikes be ridden across the yard. This helps us to keep everyone safe at all times.

Last week a member of staff got hit in the face with ball and parents have also expressed worries about younger children in prams as balls fly across the yard.

Dismounting scooters and cycles before coming into the yard also helps keep everyone safe and prevent accidents. Please ask your children not to use them until they leave the school yard at the end of the day.

Thank you so much for helping us to keep everyone safe.



Summer Uniform

We are very proud of our school uniform and it is important that the children all look and feel smart.

If warmer weather arrives Reception to Year 4 summer dresses should be red and white checked/gingham. Nursery summer dresses are blue checked / gingham.

Please remember that all school shoes must be plain and dark in colour – trainers are not school uniform even if they are black!

Thinking of the summer term, if sandals are worn these must worn with socks to protect the children's feet, be flat and fasten securely. They should also be plain and appropriate for school (plain white, red, black or navy).

Please could you use the half term holidays to check with your child that he or she has a full PE kit in school, including shoes that fit. Children must wear a plain red t-shirt, blue PE shorts and suitable footwear. These can be bought from Tots to Teams. Football kits or own sportswear is not permitted.

Please also remember to label/name everything in the kit so that we can match any lost items with their owners. Thank you.

PTFA Sponsored Hop

Thank you very much to PTFA for organising the sponsored hop, there were a lot of very happy, red faced children. Thank you as parents and carers for your continued support through sponsoring your children.



The money raised is going towards the refurbished playground which we hope will be partially completed over the summer holiday.

School Council Update

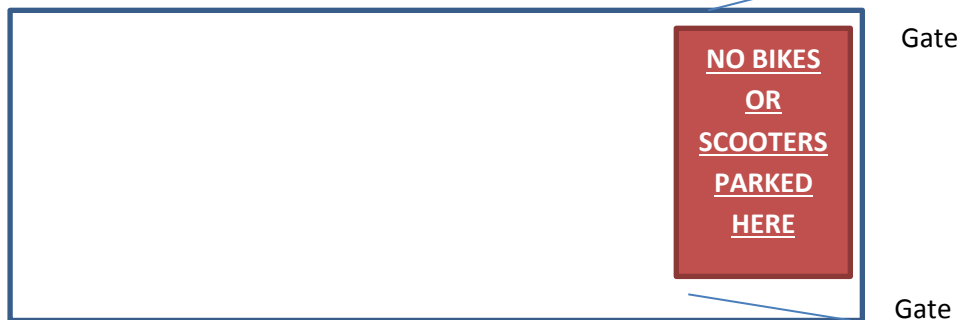
School Council would like to thank the PTFA for their generous donation. We have purchased a speaker for outside and use it during playtimes on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday. It's great to see the children dancing and having fun. School Council have also been thinking of lots of ideas to raise money for St Oswald's Hospice with the impending arrival of Elmer. We would just like to say thank you for your continued support and donations throughout the year.

Big Pedal

You may have noticed how busy the bike park was last week due to the Big Pedal event which we promoted in school. It would be wonderful if we could continue this fun and healthy approach to travelling to and from school going forwards.

We would love to expand our existing storage for bikes and scooters. If anyone works for a company that would be able to support us with this then please get in touch.

Please do not park bikes and scooters between the two gates in the bike park we need this as a clear path for visitors.



International Award

Archibald First School in Newcastle has been awarded the British Council's prestigious International School Award for working to bring the world into the classroom.

The International School Award celebrates the achievements of schools that do exceptional work in international education. Fostering an international dimension in the curriculum is at the heart of the British Council's work with schools so that children gain the cultural understanding and skills they need for life and work.



International work has involved working with our partner schools in Gelsenkirchen Germany and Alicante in Spain. The three schools took part in an E twinning project about Space and are currently working on a shared project about the environment involving a team of pupils in year 4. Senora Linfoot was delighted to receive the award on behalf of the school in the House of Commons Members' area in London. Can you spot the new white flag flying from the top of the school!

Clubs and Competitions

Firstly, a huge thank you and well done to all the staff, parents and children for the efforts that they have put in to all things sport related at Archibald! We made a fantastic start to the year with such a variety of clubs and competitions. Recently, Year 1 entered their first ever Balance Bike Derby and did fantastically with a pupil placed in the Top 3 for every race!

Before the Easter Break, Key Stage 2 will be showcasing their *Matilda - The Musical* dance at the City Hall alongside schools from all across the city! We are all very excited. Key Stage 2 will also be competing in a citywide Cross Country event at Blakelaw Playing Fields.

After half term, we are looking forward to welcoming NUFC to Archibald, who will be challenging the children with a range of competitive games and offering an extra-curricular club! We are also extremely excited to start our very first *Girls Only* Tag Rugby Club. Perhaps this will inspire some of our pupils to join one of the local clubs!



Science at Archibald: STEM

Everyone at Archibald had a wonderful time celebrating British Science Week. We started off with a GST STEM Leader Award competition. Pupils could design anything they wanted whilst also trying to think how their invention could help people or make the world a better place. There were so many brilliant designs that would make our world safer, cleaner, easier to travel around and a whole lot more entertaining!

We were incredibly fortunate to have lots of parents come in to work with our pupils during Science Week and show exactly how science can be used to help people in everyday life. Everyone was truly inspired!

Children across the school all carried out lots of fun and hands on investigations. This involved finding out about life cycles, animals, famous scientists, absorbing materials, friction, creating hypotheses and much much more! There really are lots of super scientists in the making here at Archibald!



Calendar

April 2019

23 School opens for Summer term 1 at 8.45am – welcome back!

May 2019

01 Parent/ Carer " Midweek Mindfulness Taster" 9- 9.20am

06 School closed for May Day Bank Holiday

10 Year 1 to Alnwick Castle TBC

10 Class 3 Cake Sale, 3.15 pm

15 Year 4 to Beamish TBC

16 Bikeability Class 9

17 Bikeability Class 10

19 Children's Cancer Run

20 Class 8 Assembly 2.50pm

22 Reception Assembly 2.50pm

23 VIP Day for the winning team

24 School closes for the summer half term break at 3.15pm

June 2019

03 Staff Development Day – School closed to pupils

04 School opens for Summer term 2 at 8.45am – welcome back!

05 Year 3 visit to All Saints Church am

05 Bring a Bottle for Summer Fair – Non-uniform Day

12 Class Photographs

12 SEND Coffee Morning with Angela Ward and Diana West 9-10am

19 Informal Parents Afternoon 1.45pm-3.00pm

22 Summer School Fair + Nursery cake sale 12 to 2 pm

25 Class 5 to the Quayside

July 2019

02 Class 6 to the Quayside

03 Class 5 Assembly 2.50pm

03 Disco for Reception to Year 4, 5 to 6.30 pm

08 Year 4 Production for parents with young children/babies 2.00pm TBC

08 Year 4 Production 6pm TBC

10 Sports Day TBC

12 End of Year Reports

12 VIP Day for the winning school team

12 End of Year Attendance Assembly

17 Year 4 Leavers Assembly 9.30am TBC

18 Cullercoats Trip Reception to Year 4

19 School closes for the summer break at 3.15pm