



# Archibald First School

## Summer 1 Newsletter 2019



Believe it or not, there are only 7 weeks of the school year left! We can still remember the children joining us back in September coming into their new classes, and for the younger children, their new school.

School is exceptionally busy at this time of year as the teachers focus on writing each of the children's reports. A huge amount of time goes into writing these and we hope that they provide you with an insight into your child at Archibald including their talents, achievements and progress throughout the year. We often hear the teachers commenting on 'Can you remember when...', and 'How far have they come...' which is just lovely.

Despite there only being 7 weeks left, there are still plenty of opportunities for you to come into school and many events for the children to participate in... Informal parents' afternoon, sports days, productions and our new parents' evenings to welcome you to the new year group.

### *Eco Drive: Water Bottles*

Please remember that as part of our Eco Drive from Tuesday 4th June we are asking every child to bring in a re-useable plastic drink bottle filled with fresh water each day.

#### **In/Out of School**

- Water bottles should be sent into school every day.
- Water bottles will be sent home at the end of each day for families to clean and refill.
- Bottles must be named.



#### **Refilling**

- Water fountains will be located around school for the children to refill their bottles at break or lunchtime if needed.

#### **Storage**

- Water bottles will be stored in a crate in your child's classrooms.

#### **Reusable Bottles**

- The water bottle **must be reusable** as a bottle of shop bought water does not support our Eco Drive.

#### **Content**

- **Only plain water** must be inside the bottles (no juice, pop, carbonated or flavoured water).

#### **Advantages**

- Children will continue to access to fresh drinking water each day in school.
- Parents can monitor their child's intake of water.
- Environmental impact of saving over 150 000 cups per school year.

**Watch out for news on our Big Battery Hunt...**

## *Children's Cancer Run*

What an amazing day we had. Over 250 people turned out on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May to run for the Archibald First School Team!!!! Surely we had to have the largest team there?

Thank you to everyone who joined us to run, walk or crawl, to spectate or to cheer us on. A huge thank you to everyone who has popped change into the school buckets or sponsored the children or staff. Watch out for the total raised by our team <https://www.neccr.org.uk/event/childrens-cancer-run-2019/schools-leaderboard-new/>

Please either pay your sponsor money on-line on your Justgiving fundraising page or send your cheques payable to NECCR and your sponsor forms (**please use gift aid wherever possible**) directly to the address below with **a note to say it is for our school total**: NECCR, Sir James Spence Institute for Child Health, RVI, Newcastle, NE1 4LP. The Just Giving page is the quickest way of getting it to the charity.

Please do not bring sponsor money into school.



## *Beginning and End of the School Day*

Please remember to ask any questions and pass on any messages for teachers to the staff located on the entrance doors at the front and rear of the schools. Members of staff are always there at the doors as a friendly face ready to listen and to relay information to the teachers whilst they focus on meeting and greeting the children. If they are busy with another parent, please wait to pass on the message through them.

We do appreciate that there may be confidential information which needs to be shared therefore in this instance please telephone the school office to speak with the class teacher prior to the start of the school day (we are all in very early). Our teaching time begins at 8.55am and teachers need to be ready for their children. Thank you for your support and understanding with this.

The staff always see the children out at the end of the day, and once the children have all been dismissed this is an ideal time to for them to speak with you as parents away from the hustle and bustle of the busy morning classrooms.

If you need a longer discussion, please contact us and we can make an appointment for you so that we can talk to you outside of teaching time and give you the time and focus needed.

Whilst we aim for all children to come into school independently this most definitely applies to those children in Years 3 and 4 who should be coming into school by themselves every day!

## *Thank you PTFA*

A huge thank you to all of you as members of our PTFA. Each year group will have received a staggering 750 pounds over the course of the school year which has been used to support educational visits and visitors to enhance our curriculum provision.

We always try to include this in our visit letters to show you how the money has impacted and where it has it been used. Remember to check out Twitter @archibaldfirst or our school news to see more about these visits and visitors.

We are also eagerly anticipation work on the playground which we hope will start on the summer holidays.

## *Visit Payments*

Whilst the PTFA continue to support our trips and visits which helps to reduce the cost to families, there is often still a voluntary contribution to be made.

Please understand that if the cost is not covered by voluntary contributions then school is in the position of either making up the shortfall from the school funds or cancelling the visit. A recent trip had a shortfall of £160.

We do not want to cancel visits (and this would always be very last resort) however, if costs are not covered by such a significant amount we will have to make this very difficult decision. To help us with this, please ensure your child's Parent Pay account is kept up to date and payment is made prior to the visit taking place.

Please speak with us if you would like to talk about the payments – pop to the office or catch Mrs Bayes or Mrs Turner.

Thank you for your understanding and appreciation of this.

## *Congratulations to Mr Morrow*

A huge congratulations to Mr Morrow who will return to school as a married man after the half term break. We hope the day is very special in every way.



## *Smile Please!*

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



## *New Bike and Scooter Storage*

Watch out for our new bike and scooter storage which we are hoping to be installed soon.

We are hoping that by increasing the storage available will encourage even more of our families to walk, cycle and scoot to/from school which is not only fun but will also positively impact on our fitness levels and the environment.

Please remember that dismounting scooters and cycles before coming into the yard 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.



## *Sun Safety*

As summer time arrives, please remember to apply sun cream to your child before they come into school.

A hat or a cap is always a good idea to keep in their bookbag too. *Early Years staff have asked that all children in EYFS bring in a cap / hat every day to protect them when outside.*

However, as we all know how much (and how quickly) the British weather can change, a coat is always needed.



## *Summer Uniform*

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! If sandals (plain and suitable for school) are worn these must be worn with socks to protect the children's feet, be flat and fasten securely. Whilst this may not be the most fashionable – it does guard the children's toes if they fall or are stood on.

All cros, beach shoes, heeled sandals and flip flops can be saved for weekend wear.

Thank you for supporting this and promoting our school uniform.

## *Summer Sporting Events and Sports Days*

We have LOTS of sporting events coming up and for the children to take part they do need FULL PE kit including outdoor shoes.

Please could you use the half term holidays to check with your child that he or she has a plain red t-shirt, blue PE shorts and suitable outdoor sports shoes that fit. Football kits or own sportswear is not permitted.

We do not want children missing out on events due to not having their own PE Kit, and it is far nicer to wear their own kit as opposed to borrowing one.

**Check out the school diary for the dates for sports day events – remember to wear your own sports kit just in case we need any adult participation...**

## *Parent Lunches*

We are looking forward to parents joining us for a school lunch with their child / children after the holidays. Please make sure that slips and payments are returned by Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May if you wish to join us.



## *Fish and Chip Friday*

Thank you to Mrs Smith and her team for planning a very special end of term lunch of fish and chips served in traditional cartons with ice-cream and cones for dessert! YUM YUM!



## *Car Park*

The vast majority of our families enter and leave school in the right way – thank you! As a polite reminder to everyone; the car park is NOT for use by parents or children - not even when collecting children from After School Club. Please enter and leave school via the gates at the front of school, and not by walking through the staff car park.

Thank you to those families who always do 😊.



# Calendar



## 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
- ★ 05 Welcome to Archibald: A Meeting for parents of children starting Nursery or Reception in September 2019 6pm. Please note this is not suitable for children to attend.
- ★ 06 Nursery 2 Parents' Lunch 11.30am
- ★ 06 Class 7 Parents' Lunch 12.15pm
- ★ 10 Informal Parents' Morning Nursery 1 only 10.30am-11.30am
- ★ 10 Class 8 Parents' Lunch 12.15pm
- ★ 12 Class Photographs
- ★ 12 Informal Parents Afternoon Nursery 2 – Year 4 1.50pm-2.50pm
- ★ 20 Clean Air Day
- ★ 21 Class 2 and Nursery 2 to Rising Sun
- ★ 22 Summer School Fair + Nursery cake sale 12 to 2 pm
- ★ 24 Class 1 and Nursery 1 to Rising Sun
- ★ 25 Class 5 to the Quayside

## July 2019

- ★ 01 Welcome to Year 4 meeting 5.00pm-6.00pm
- ★ 02 Class 6 to the Quayside
- ★ 03 Class 5 Assembly 2.50pm
- ★ 03 Disco for Reception to Year 4, 5 to 6.30 pm
- ★ 03 Welcome to Year 1 meeting 5.15pm-6.15pm (timed to fit in with dropping off and collecting from the disco)
- ★ 04 Year 4 children to Middle Schools – Transition Day
- ★ 04 Move Up Day – classes to spend the morning with their new teachers
- ★ 04 Visits to Reception for children joining Archibald Reception classes in September 2019
- ★ 08 Year 4 Production for parents with young children/babies 2.00pm TBC
- ★ 08 Year 4 Production 6pm TBC
- ★ 09 Welcome to Year 3 meeting 5.00pm-6.00pm
- ★ 09 Nursery 1 Sports Day
- ★ 10 Sports Day
- ★ 10 Welcome to Year 2 meeting 5.00pm- 6.00pm
- ★ 11 Nursery 2 Sports Day
- ★ 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 TBC
- ★ 19 School closes for the summer break at 3.15pm