



Archibald First School

Summer 2 Newsletter 2019



We have made it! 190 school days (nearly) have flown by and the end of term is nearly here. 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!

It is always 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. We are extremely proud of the way the children have grown in confidence, character and as individuals!

We hope the end of year reports capture your children and give you a further insight into their year 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.

As we move towards the end of another busy and eventful year, on behalf of the staff and governors we would like to thank you for all your support this school year – thank you!



Goodbye Miss Kiddy

Miss Kiddy joined us back in November 2017. She has been an asset to Archibald and a great part of the team. Miss Kiddy leaves us to start a Masters degree in September. Congratulations, thank you and good luck!

Children's Cancer Run

Are you ready for the grand total raised....? **£4148** was raised by Archibald First School alone which is simply astounding! As Gosforth Schools' Trust we raised a massive **£13 690**. Thank you so much for your support.



Privacy Notice 2019

Please see the website under Key Policies for the updated Privacy Notice 2019.

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 and Battery Hunt



Thank you so much for your support for the use of reusable water bottles in school. The children have adapted really well to this over the last term.

We would also like to thank you for your support with washing these on a daily basis at home for hygiene reasons.

Please remember water bottles on the first day back in September!

Keep going with the Great Battery Hunt. Archibald will continue to recycle your batteries promoting looking after our environment. Once you have tipped the batteries into the pot, keep the cardboard box and reuse!

Beginning and End of the School Day

Last half term we reminded families of the systems we have in place for the start and end of the school day.

Thank you in advance for your continued support with this as the children move into new year groups in September.

Staff will continue to meet the children at the doors each day. You can ask these staff members any questions or pass on any messages.

Please remember that we aim for **all** children to come into school independently however this most definitely applies to those children in Years 3 and 4 who should be coming into school by themselves every day and carrying their own belongings.



PTFA Playground Revamp

Work will begin on the playground renovations in September. We can't wait to see phase 1 completed in the first half term of the school year.



Alongside the PTFA's considerable investment we have also financed new playground equipment to use in the revamped areas and storage for this. A rota of ball games will be set up for September including netball, hockey, football, basketball, dodgeball, with year groups having time each week on the 'ball court' to encourage inclusive play for everyone in school.

Parent Pay Accounts

Please ensure your parent pay account for 2018-19 is settled as soon as possible. This will include paying outstanding dinner money and music tuition payments.

Whilst contributions for visits are voluntary, please understand that if the cost is not covered by voluntary contributions then school has had to make up the shortfall from the school funds which means using money that would support the children in other ways.

With several visits only having 50% of the costs covered this may leave us in the position of cancelling visits. 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.

Thank you for your understanding and appreciation of this.



Big Sing and the Big Gig Gosforth Pyramid Concert

Children in Year 3 and Year 4 have had some amazing opportunities to perform this term. Members of Gosforth Band and Gosforth Voices joined children from 42 other schools across Newcastle and North Tyneside at The Big Sing. Our next event was the Gosforth Pyramid Concert held at Gosforth Trinity Church, children from Gosforth Band and Voices joined children from all three middle schools and the high school for an evening of musical delight. Last but not least Archibald's combined choirs took part in our first ever Big Sing, performing in the Northern Rock Foundation Hall.



Wanted...

A huge shout out for any unwanted/unloved but in good condition!

- Small world toys
- Pirate ships
- Dinosaurs
- Happy land items
- Emergency vehicles etc
- Polar region animals and toys
- Lego
- Playmobil



Do you have any dressing up costumes that need a new home? Are they in good condition and clean? We would love them in Early Years...

Clean Air Monitor

We are having an air quality monitor installed at the front of school. In the new school year, we will be working with the council and Green Team to monitor the air quality outside of our school gates. This will highlight the levels of pollution that our children are exposed to, and how this may alter at different points of the day.

In conjunction with this you will have now seen the new expanded bike and scooter storage which has been installed.

Walking, biking or scooting to school are the best ways to travel, a great physical way to start the day and impact positively on the environment and our children's health.



We appreciate that some families need to travel onwards to work, and we would like to encourage you where possible to park away from school and stride the last part of the journey

Year 4 Production

The fabulous Year 4 children put on a brilliant end of term production. They showcased their talents in spades as they sang and acted their way through 45 minutes of non-stop entertainment. 'Goodbye My Friend' proved a big hit with the audience and had everyone tapping their feet and singing along. The children worked incredibly hard to put together their show and we are immensely proud of each and every one of them. Year 4 you are absolute superstars and your new schools are in for a real treat!



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. Remember to replace name labels too!

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

Thank you for supporting this and promoting our school uniform.

Green Team

It has been a very busy term for Green Team. Not only have we carried out our recycling and litter picking duties but we have also launched The Big Battery Hunt! We told the whole school about it during an important assembly. Everyone was then given a box to take home to try and find as many used batteries as possible. They were brought to school and put in our big bucket in the hall so that they can be collected and recycled. Hundreds of batteries have been brought in and we are already onto our third bucket! Hopefully everyone can keep up their great battery hunting!

As if this wasn't enough, Green Team also performed some vital eco-friendly jobs during Clean Air Day! We made posters to spread the news about the big day and encouraged everyone to try to walk, cycle or scoot to school. On Clean Air Day itself we made tally charts to see how many people did just this and the good news is that it was a lot! We handed out stickers and high fives as a thank you to all those who helped make our air healthier. In fact, you may have even heard about all our great work to help keep the planet healthy on Heart FM!



Elmer: Welcome to Mac

It has all been very exciting at school as we make final preparations for the upcoming Great North Elmer Parade! Mac, who has been named as a tribute to Daniel McAdam, has been decorated and painted by staff and children and is due for collection in early July. He looks fantastic! We hope you are all looking forward to hunting around the North East to find him! Click the link to find out more about the Great Elmer Parade <https://www.stoswaldsuk.org/elmer/whats-on/elmer-s-great-north-parade/> Mac can be found in residence at Seven Stories, please go and pay him a visit if you can.

The Art Ambassadors have been busy this term designing, decoupageing and decorating a reading chair for each year group. These will be available for parent readers to use when the kindly come into school to read with the children. Keep your eyes peeled as they will be dotted around school soon!

Early Years: Moving on...

*And
so the
adventure
begins*

We cannot believe it is time to move up year groups again! The school years really do fly by! In Nursery and Reception, we have been enjoying circle time activities talking about what will be different when we move to our next classes. We have talked about things we are excited about, but also those worries about the unknown. We have recorded all our worries and shared these with the next year group teachers. (The reception children loved their transition morning on Thursday 4th July, where they explored their new classroom, got used to using different toilets and experienced playtime.

Special Education Needs and Disabilities

It was lovely to see parents at the SEN drop-in/coffee morning organised by Mrs West and Mrs Ward. There will be more of these sessions in the Autumn Term keep an eye out for dates.

The summer holidays are fast approaching. If you are looking for ideas of how to spend your days, there are a number of different websites with offers and ideas.

Follow this link to register on the disabled children's register to get a Max Card which gives discounts for lots of places or activities across the UK, e.g. free entry at Seven Stories and National Trust properties.

<https://www.newcastle.gov.uk/services/care-and-support/childrens-social-care-and-early-help/getting-help-children-and-families-0>

The Newcastle Support Directory on the Newcastle Local Offer page has a list of different activities and clubs being held across the city during the holidays.

<https://www.newcastlesupportdirectory.org.uk/kb5/newcastle/fsd/localoffer.page?localofferchannel=1>

It is always worth checking the Gosforth Schools' Trust SEND twitter account, @AllGosforth, for up-to-date information shared by schools and parents in the trust.

Welcome

We are sure you will join us in welcoming Mr Nettleship to Archibald. After spending the day with us in July, Mr Nettleship will officially join us from his current school, in September, to teach Class 9.

Sporting Events and Sports Days

What a fantastic year it has been! A massive thank you to all the children, parents, staff and external agencies who have helped us to have such wonderful opportunities throughout his academic year. A special thank you to Mr Walton who recently implemented our Sports Day events; we had a great day and are so grateful for your support!

After all the hard work this year, we are delighted to announce that we achieved the School Games GOLD Mark Award for the 2018/19 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, and we are delighted to have been recognised for our success.



Our sporting achievements this year include Key Stage 1 placing 1st in the Key Steps Gymnastics competition, and representing the city in the Tyne and Wear finals. With so many young people competing in local inter-school competitions this year, we are extremely proud of our pupils for their dedication to all aspects of school sport. As part of our application, we were asked to fulfil criteria in the areas of participation, competition, workforce and clubs, and we are pleased that the hard work of everyone at our school has been rewarded this year.

Welcome to Early Years 2019

Thank you to our new Nursery and Reception parents who attended our Welcome evening on June 5th, it was great to see and welcome so many of you there. The new Reception children have got their visit to Reception this Thursday. We are very excited about it and have lots of activities and toys for the children and parents/carers to explore. (What a wonderful visit all the new Reception children had on Thursday 4th July, so lovely to see them all exploring and having a go. We are looking forward to welcoming them all in September).



Our Nursery staff have enjoyed visiting the new Nursery children at home this week. It is such a special thing to do and so valuable for both children and parents as well as for school too. The children talk about these visits for years to come. We look forward to welcoming all the new Nursery children with their grown up in September for their visit and then phased start. Don't forget grownups there is a coffee morning Tues, Weds, Thurs 9.00am in the Portacabin on the yard for anyone wanting to meet other new parents, have bit of a chat or just somewhere to steady those anxieties we all have when our babies start Nursery and School. Everyone's welcome!



Archibald Family Support

Reception New Starters Coffee Morning

Come along to meet the Head and Deputy over a cup of coffee
9-9.45am on the 3rd, 4th, and 5th September in the School Portacabin.

Archibald Toddlers reopens 9am Friday 6th September 2019.

(We are currently full but there is a waiting list.)

Nursery 1 New Starters Coffee Morning

10.30-11.30am on Wednesday 11th September 2019 in the School Portacabin

Nursery 2 New Starters Lunch

12.30-1.30pm on Wednesday 18th September 2019 in the School Portacabin.

Parent/ Carer Drop in Starting Monday 30th September 2019

9-9-30am in the School Portacabin

New to the area and would like to know what is on offer locally?

Support and sign posting for eating, sleeping and toileting

Help with referrals for SEND and behaviour

A chat and a coffee with a friendly face

Lost Property

Lost property will be on display Tuesday and Wednesday. Anything not claimed by Wednesday night will be given to charity.

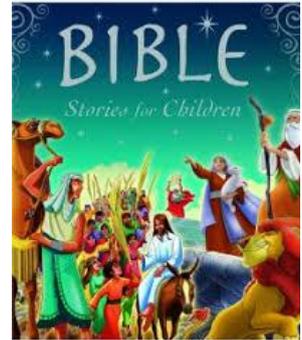
A final lost property table with items from the beach trip will be outside of school on Friday morning.

Open the Book

Each week the whole school takes part in a 'Open the Book' assembly where we listen to stories from the Bible and consider the messages that these tell. The children love the weekly assemblies which are taken by volunteers from our local churches.

We recently had a visitor into one of our assemblies, who is the Open the Book Area coordinator. Here is his feedback to the team who deliver the stories to us at Archibald...

- *The children greeted the staff, said hello and waved as they came into assembly. This is obviously a sign of the great relationship your team has built up with the children at Archibald.*
- *The pupil helpers were clearly enjoying themselves.*
- *The children relayed that they enjoyed the Open the Book stories in assembly. They said, "Teachers are always reading stories to us but this is much better!"*
- *The children were able to recall many of the stories they have listened to which is a testimony to the power of Open the Book storytelling and the performances.*
- *With 300 children in the hall, I could see that the whole audience gave the story their rapt attention throughout.*
- *The relationship between the school and the team is enhanced by the fact that you work there and Andrew visits in his own capacity as youth worker.*



We look forward to continuing our work with the Open the Book team in 2019-20.

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.

Calendar

July

17 Year 4 Leavers Assembly 10.00am

18 Longsands Trip Reception to Year 4

19 School closes for the summer break at 3.15pm

September

02 Staff Development Day: School Closed to Pupils

Staff will be completing Safeguarding and GDPR Training; they will look at the Science Curriculum as a staff team as well as looking at the new Ofsted Framework and what that means to us as a school for teaching and learning.

03 Welcome back! Doors open at 8.45am...