



Archibald First School

Autumn Term 2 Newsletter

2019



A very special message

What a whirlwind my last few days at Archibald will have been. Full of Christmas productions and parties, with lots of smiling faces and happy memories for me to take away.

It has been a wonderful 10 years leading Archibald. I have had the privilege to work with so many wonderful children and families both past and present and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for making this journey such a special one.

I will miss you all very much, but thought you might like to see a little snapshot of my grandson, who I am sure will keep me on my toes (once he starts moving around!).

I wish you all the very best for your future health and happiness.

Mrs. J. M. Bayes



End of Autumn Term

What another brilliant half term! It is hard to believe we are now (nearly) a third of the way through the school year.

Nursery Applications 2020

Archibald First School offer 15 hours of free nursery provision to children who are aged 3 on or before 31 August 2020. For 2020 we are also offering an option of 30 hours per week. The hours are offered as either Option 1, Option 2 or Option 3.

Option 1:

Monday 8.45 – 3.15

Tuesday 8.45 – 3.15

Wednesday 8.45 – 11.30

Option 2:

Wednesday 12.30 – 3.15

Thursday 8.45 – 3.15

Friday 8.45 – 3.15

Option 3:

Monday 8.45 – 3.15

Tuesday 8.45 – 3.15

Wednesday 8.45 – 3.15

Thursday 8.45 – 3.15

Friday 8.45 – 3.15



If your child is 3 on or before 31 August 2020 and is due to start Nursery in September 2020 we would be delighted to welcome you into the Early Years Unit for a visit, show you around and answer any questions you may have.

These visits take place throughout the spring term 2020 for Nursery on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9.30am and 10.00am prior to the dates that the applications need to be submitted. Please ring the school office to make an appointment to visit.

Nursery Deadline Dates

Nursery applications will be available from the School Office from 13 January 2020. Please note that your child's birth certificate and proof of your home address must be shown with the application form.

Deadline for applications: 20 March 2020

Deadline for accepting a place: 24 April 2020

Applying for Reception Places

Please ensure that you apply for the next stage of your child's education by the closing date below.

Attending our Nursery does NOT guarantee your child a place in Reception. Details can be obtained at

<http://newcastle.gov.uk/education-and-learning/admissions-and-schooltransfers>

Closing Date

Reception 2020: 15th January 2020 at noon

Christmas Productions

Christmas Productions commence in week 6! Each Key Stage has worked hard to put the finishing touches to their performances ready for their live audiences. The singing sounds fantastic and there are lots of smiles from the children.

Thank you for all your support with learning lines, providing costumes, and of course, listening to the songs being repeatedly sung around the house; we are sure that you will be word perfect too! Another big thank you must go to the staff who work with the children to pull it altogether.

We hope you all enjoy the shows!

Polite Reminder

Doors to the school will open 10 minutes before the performances as this allows us the time to set up the hall and get all the children ready, please wait outside in the yard until we open the doors.

Please remember that you must bring your programmes with you to show on the door. As you will understand, the audience number we can have for the productions is governed by health and safety standards. This means that all adults will need to be seated during the performances and can only attend a show for which they have a ticket. Thank you for your support with this.

Children, toddlers and babies are invited to the 'Dress Rehearsal Performances' as opposed to the main performances. Buggies and prams *cannot* be taken into the big hall or left in corridors due to fire restrictions.

For health and safety, NO hot drinks, even in reusable and take away cups, can be taken into the hall. Please drink these before coming into the school.

The Shows

Wow!! The Early Years children have blown us away with how fantastic their rehearsals for the Christmas performances have been. The narrators have quickly learnt their lines, the actors and actresses have found their places on the stage well and the beautiful twinkling Nursery stars are all amazing! Well done Early Years we can't wait to see many smiles in the audience.

Key Stage 1's Christmas production this year is Santa's On Strike, with Year 2 taking on the lead acting roles and Year 1 forming the joyful choir. We have all worked really hard learning our Makaton to go along with our Christmas songs too. Santa's on Strike is a fun filled show packed full of singing, dancing, cheeky elves

and a very grumpy Santa. Will the elves manage to convince Santa that not all children are 'horrid little tearaways' and that they still understand the true meaning of Christmas before it is too late?

The fabulous Key Stage Two children will put on a brilliant Christmas concert.

They will showcase their talents in spades as they sing, dance and perform their way through 30 minutes of non-stop entertainment. Our catchy songs will hopefully prove a big hit with the audience and have everyone tapping their feet and singing along. The children have worked incredibly hard to put together their concert and we are immensely proud of each and every one of them. Year 3 and 4 you are absolute superstars and you will certainly get everyone in the festive mood.



Christmas Jumper Day

Christmas
Jumper Day



Christmas Lunch for Reception, Years 1, 2, 3 and 4 is being served on Wednesday 18th December. The School Council would also like to invite all the children to dress up in a Christmas outfit. This is not a fundraiser, just a School Council fun day for all children and staff.

Christmas Church Service

Our Christmas Carol Service will be held at All Saints Church, Gosforth, on Friday 20th December at 1.30pm. Throughout the church service the children will be acting out the nativity, and there will be lots of festive singing. It would be lovely to see you all there and seats will be available from 1.20pm.

Please watch out for the 'reserved' and 'class signs' as we need these pews for the children and staff.

For Reception, Year 1, 2, 3 and 4 parents: If you are able to join us at the church your child can be signed out and taken home at the end of the service. We would therefore ask that book bags are not sent into school on the last day of term. The children will take their packed lunches to the church so that they are able to go straight home.

At the end of the service those children whose parents are unable to join us will return to school and can be collected at the normal time of 3.15pm.

The school office will be closed on Friday 20th December between 1.15pm and 3.15pm to allow all staff to join the school at the Church Service.



Think before you Snap!

Safeguarding: We do allow parents and carers to take pictures in the hall but this is on the understanding that pictures will not be shared on social media of any type, regardless of your settings. There are children who do not have permission for us to use their pictures in school for a variety of reasons and in some cases, it is imperative that their attendance at our school is not known by other people. If you share pictures on social media where children are identifiable, you could be putting children at risk.

Lost Property

Lost Property will be on display between the 9th and 13th December so please check the tables as you leave the Christmas Performances.

Anything with names on is returned to the children.

On the 13th, anything left will be either given to charity or offered to Mrs Roberts for the uniform swap shop.

PLEASE NAME ALL YOUR CHILDREN'S CLOTHES AND ACCESSORIES



#AFSFamilyTime



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

Some ideas for the holidays...

Christmas baking, a winter walk, winter art, a walk along the beach with a hot chocolate at the end, ice skating, snuggling up sharing books, watching Christmas movies or even a duvet day!

What will you get up to?

Staffing Update

Mr Nettleship will be staying with use after the Christmas holidays to teacher Year 4.

After the February half term, Mrs Watson will return from maternity leave to teach Nursery 1 Monday – Wednesday. Ms Turner has been a brilliant asset to the teaching team at Archibald over the last year working with our Nursery children!

Book People

What is Big Book Boost?

Big Book Boost is The Book People's brand new fundraising scheme. Every time you place an order with them over £10, they will donate £1 to Archibald for us to spend on books!

How can I be a Big Book Booster?

If you're new to The Book People, here's how you can get going on boosting a school's book budget; Choose Archibald on the drop down menu and then simply start shopping! Once you're ready to check out, you can either login or set up your account and off you go!

<https://www.thebookpeople.co.uk/bigbookboost>



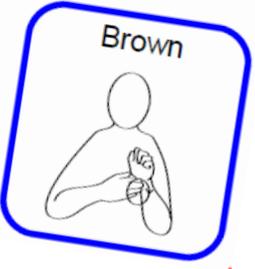
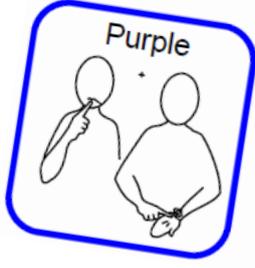
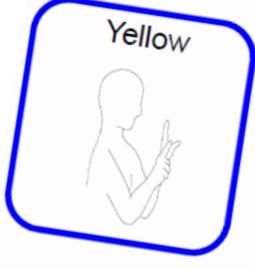
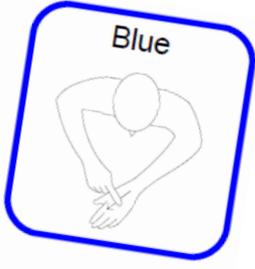
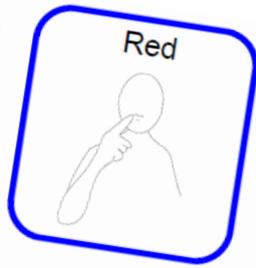
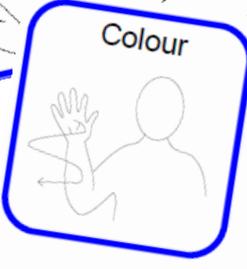
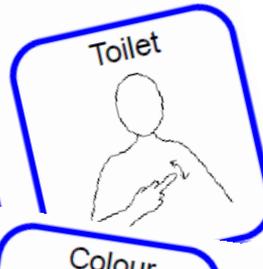
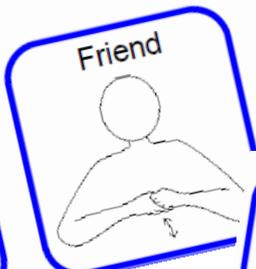
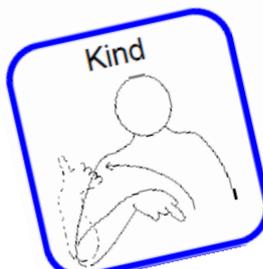
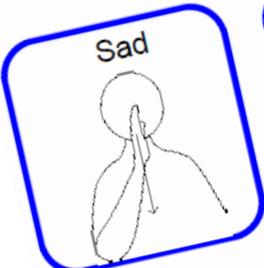
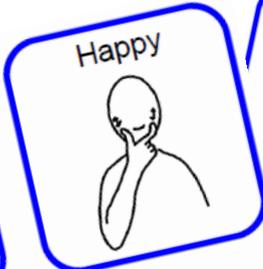
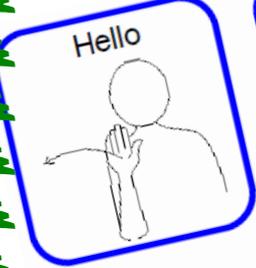
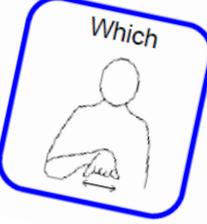
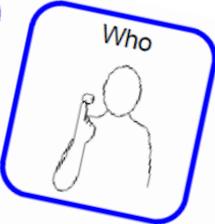
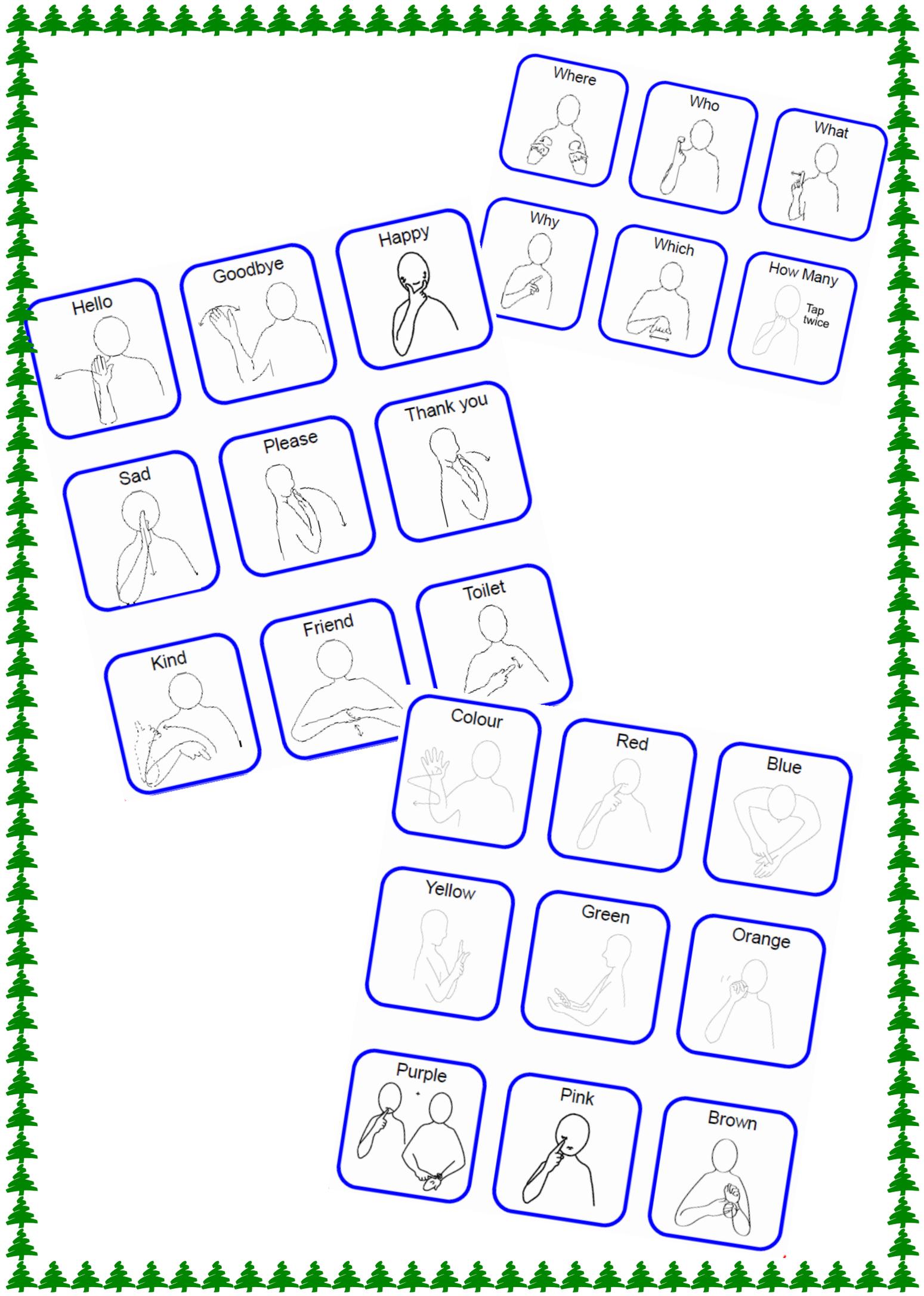
Makaton

Makaton is a unique language programme that uses symbols, signs and speech to enable people to communicate. Being able to communicate is one of the most important skills we need in life. Almost everything we do involves communication; everyday tasks such as learning at school, asking for food and drink, sorting out problems, making friends and having fun. These all rely on our ability to communicate with each other.

With Makaton, signs are used, with speech, in spoken word order. This helps provide extra clues about what someone is saying. Using signs can help people who have no speech or whose speech is unclear.

Our children in Early Years have been taught to use Makaton for the last two years. This year all the staff and children are working hard to learn and use Makaton daily to help ensure everyone at Archibald has the ability to communicate with each other.

Mrs Ward is hoping to run two parent sessions in the new year.



News and Events

Children in Need

We raised a fantastic £361 pounds for Children in Need - what an achievement!



Running Club

In Autumn 2, a new running club was set up and this half term it has been attended by 30 children across KS2. Mrs Kilgour organises the club which is also supported by members of staff. The children have really enjoyed the club despite the fact that the weather has not always been kind. You would be amazed at how competitive some of the children (and staff) are... We look forward to the club continuing in the New Year. Letters have been sent out via book-bags.

Archibald First School have been asked to 'take over' the Newcastle Park Run. Look out for more details and a confirmed date. In the meantime, why not sign your family up so that you are ready to go?

Christmas Fair

A BIG thank you to the PTFA for organising the Christmas Fair on 3 December. Thank you to all of you who made donations, to those who donated their time and to everyone who came on the night.

Green Team

Green Team absolutely love trees! Unfortunately, we also know that trees are being cut down all over the world. The good news is that children at Archibald don't just sit back, relax and watch our planet get destroyed! That's why we arranged One Tree Day. Everyone came to school in non-uniform and brought in loose change. For every pound that was raised, a new tree was planted. At Archibald, we want to be responsible global citizens and this means that we care about all areas of the world even if it they are far away from where we live. That's why our trees will be planted in countries called Indonesia, Mozambique, Haiti, Nepal, Kenya and even...Madagascar! Thank you to everyone at Archibald who has helped make our planet a healthier and happier place to live!

Year 1

Year 1 have had a trip-tastic half term! We have been to the beautiful All Saints Church to look at features inside and learn all about how a service is prepared for and conducted.

The following week we went to the Discovery Museum to explore how Newcastle has changed over the years and to build our very own locomotives inspired by George and Robert Stephenson. The children were particularly interested in the exhibit about the British Army and how that has changed after learning all about WW1 at the beginning of our topic.

Finally, we travelled to the Hatton Gallery to find out all about Roy Lichtenstein, a pop artist from the 1960's. He used ben-day dots to create different effects on the eye and his style of work was popular in superhero comics. We have had a brilliant half term and would like to thank all of the staff at the venues for providing us with such wonderful opportunities.

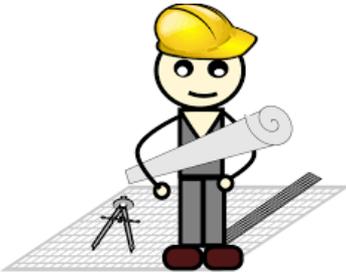


KS2 Dance Club

Dance Club will be starting in the new year in the run up to the Dance Festival on Wednesday 1st April 2020. The theme is undecided but it's always great fun! Letters were sent out last week.



Year 2 Architect Ambassadors



This half term Y2 were lucky enough to have Architect Ambassadors from RIBA (Royal Institute of British Architects) come in to teach us for two full mornings.

Linked to our Titanic topic, we looked at the full process of making a structure, from the designing to building and finally evaluating.

We also looked at scale drawings and had a go at doing our own of our classrooms, just like real architects. We used our problem solving skills to create a bridge and explored how to make it strong using a range of joining techniques. We were also lucky enough to look at how architects accurately measure using lasers as well as exploring thermal cameras. We cannot wait until next term when they return to teach us even more, we really were truly inspired.

Anti-bullying Work – Gosforth Schools' Trust



Following on from Anti-Bullying week, three pupils from Key Stage 2 participated in a trip to create a video all about anti-bullying. The children had to use their communication and teamwork skills to develop a number of IT based projects. Throughout the day, the children produced excellent and outstanding videos using a range of apps, IT equipment and other resources. Finally, children from other schools across the Gosforth Schools Trust reviewed and gave feedback on each other's videos. We can't wait to see the finished product!

Year 3 Caribbean Drumming

Year 3 have loved continuing their music sessions learning the Caribbean drums. From Ago go bells, to call and response games and learning a new song, it's been an action packed fun filled half term. We're looking forward to performing to the rest of the school and showing them our new found talent!



Year 4 E twinning Project



Ten pupils in Year 4 have begun an e twinning project with two groups of pupils from Spain and Germany. E twinning provides safe space for pupils and teachers to share information on the internet.

During a joint visit to Spain in October the project aims were agreed and pupils from Archibald were matched with one other pupil from either Spain or Germany. They have begun communicating and finding out about each other.

The focus of the project is science and the next steps are to choose an experiment from a shared booklet and then complete the experiment and report back using a variety of ICT tools.

Science on Stage kindly donated some super prism glasses which have proved fun for pupils and teachers.

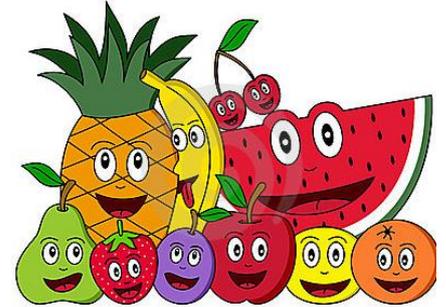
Key Stage 1 Fruit Snack

We have recently carried out a questionnaire about the fruit snack and salad bar. After listening to the children in Key Stage 1, for the spring term we will be trialling leaving the fruit boxes in the key stage 1 classrooms all day so that the KS1 children can access the fruit at the lunchtime and afternoon break as well as the morning break. We are also going to try and have a mix of fruit in the boxes each day to widen the choice for the children as we strive to encourage every child to eat a piece of fruit daily.

Key Stage 2 Fruit Snack

Years 3 and 4 children are asked and encouraged to bring their own fruit snack into school everyday. We are setting them the challenge of having a different type of fruit each day...

Apples, bananas, peach, pear, plum, cucumber, tomato, strawberry, orange, pineapple – what will you bring.



Mindfulness

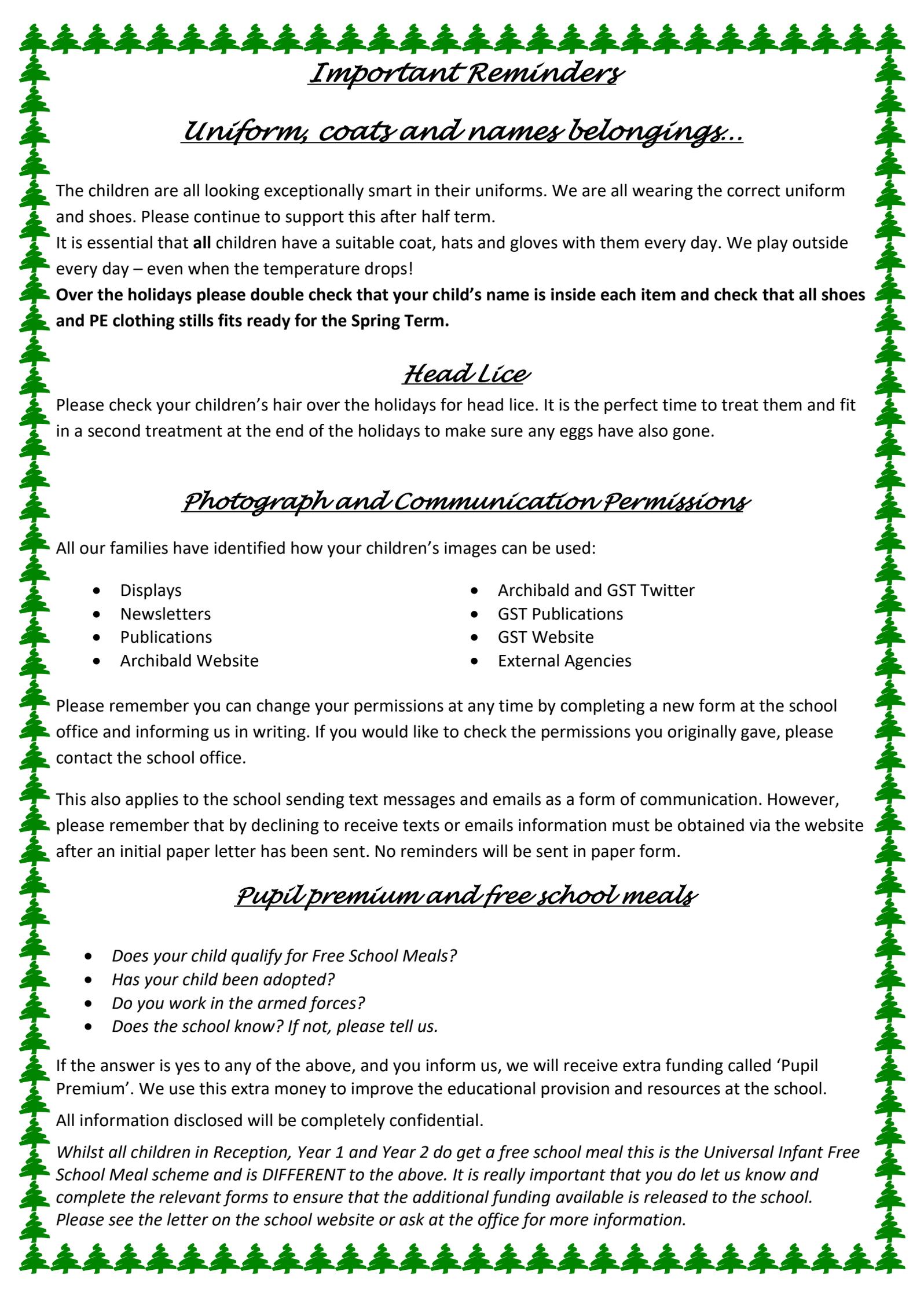
Key Stage 2 Mindfulness will continue on Monday lunchtimes in the school porta-cabin after the Christmas Holidays. Come along to just breathe, stretch and maybe learn to fly... Mindfulness will be delivered by Mrs West and Mrs Johnston.

There is no need to sign up this term, just come along and join in.



Gosforth Gets Going

The local schools have been working hard to provide quality sporting activities for our pupils. Gosforth Gets Going aims to encourage children to take part in sport and live an active lifestyle. The 2019-20 year was started with archery at Dinnington. The Sports Ambassadors reported about the experience and said the children in attendance loved trying something new - perseverance was certainly key for this new challenge! Archibald then hosted a dodgeball tournament with the emphasis on fun fitness rather than competition! One of the Y4 children asked if we could have more activities like this - watch this space... Well done everyone for a fantastic start to the year!



Important Reminders

Uniform, coats and names belongings...

The children are all looking exceptionally smart in their uniforms. We are all wearing the correct uniform and shoes. Please continue to support this after half term.

It is essential that **all** children have a suitable coat, hats and gloves with them every day. We play outside every day – even when the temperature drops!

Over the holidays please double check that your child's name is inside each item and check that all shoes and PE clothing stills fits ready for the Spring Term.

Head Lice

Please check your children's hair over the holidays for head lice. It is the perfect time to treat them and fit in a second treatment at the end of the holidays to make sure any eggs have also gone.

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.

Pupil premium and free school meals

- *Does your child qualify for Free School Meals?*
- *Has your child been adopted?*
- *Do you work in the armed forces?*
- *Does the school know? If not, please tell us.*

If the answer is yes to any of the above, and you inform us, we will receive extra funding called 'Pupil Premium'. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at the school.

All information disclosed will be completely confidential.

Whilst all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 do get a free school meal this is the Universal Infant Free School Meal scheme and is DIFFERENT to the above. It is really important that you do let us know and complete the relevant forms to ensure that the additional funding available is released to the school. Please see the letter on the school website or ask at the office for more information.

Times Table Rockstars

Children in Years 2-4 have access to Times Table Rockstars to support their understanding of multiplication and division facts. The top rock stars with the most coins in each year group to date are:

Year 2

Marc
Haydn
Jack McL
Lucy

Year 3

Sam S
Charlotte
Eneko
Dexter

Year 4

Jason
Jack B
Albie n
Charlie K

Remember to play in the Studio and see how fast you can answer questions. In your Stats you can see how quick you are...

	10	5	2	3	4	8	6	7	9	11	12
10	10 × 10	10 × 5	10 × 2	10 × 3	10 × 4	10 × 8	10 × 6	10 × 7	10 × 9	10 × 11	10 × 12
5	5 × 10	5 × 5	5 × 2	5 × 3	5 × 4	5 × 8	5 × 6	5 × 7	5 × 9	5 × 11	5 × 12
2	2 × 10	2 × 5	2 × 2	2 × 3	2 × 4	2 × 8	2 × 6	2 × 7	2 × 9	2 × 11	2 × 12
3	3 × 10	3 × 5	3 × 2	3 × 3	3 × 4	3 × 8	3 × 6	3 × 7	3 × 9	3 × 11	3 × 12
4	4 × 10	4 × 5	4 × 2	4 × 3	4 × 4	4 × 8	4 × 6	4 × 7	4 × 9	4 × 11	4 × 12
8	8 × 10	8 × 5	8 × 2	8 × 3	8 × 4	8 × 8	8 × 6	8 × 7	8 × 9	8 × 11	8 × 12
6	6 × 10	6 × 5	6 × 2	6 × 3	6 × 4	6 × 8	6 × 6	6 × 7	6 × 9	6 × 11	6 × 12
7	7 × 10	7 × 5	7 × 2	7 × 3	7 × 4	7 × 8	7 × 6	7 × 7	7 × 9	7 × 11	7 × 12
9	9 × 10	9 × 5	9 × 2	9 × 3	9 × 4	9 × 8	9 × 6	9 × 7	9 × 9	9 × 11	9 × 12
11	11 × 10	11 × 5	11 × 2	11 × 3	11 × 4	11 × 8	11 × 6	11 × 7	11 × 9	11 × 11	11 × 12
12	12 × 10	12 × 5	12 × 2	12 × 3	12 × 4	12 × 8	12 × 6	12 × 7	12 × 9	12 × 11	12 × 12

0-1s	1-2s	2-3s	3-4s	4-5s	5-6s	6-7s	7-8s	8-9s	9-10s	>10s
------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	-------	------

If you have lost your log in details, please see your class teacher.

Requests from the School Office

Please remember to check your emails regularly for communication from school. We will continue to keep the letters and diary on the website up to date. If you think something is missing, then please let us know.

If there are changes to pick-ups, please let office know in good time as it is often very busy at the end of the day which makes passing on messages more challenging.

Lastly if you have had any changes in phone numbers, home address or update of medical/allergies, please let us know asap as it is vital we have the most up to date information.





Digital Literacy

Santa is coming and he might bring a new piece of technology or a new game. If you need help, visit <https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/> which has lots of guides for setting up your devices and what you can expect from different games.

Autism Support

Mrs Ward and Mrs West are hosting an Autism Support morning 9am Wednesday 22nd January 2019 for parents to share their experiences and strategies over a cup of coffee.

Calendar

The calendar on the website is currently up to date and has events for throughout the year. We will be adding new events as the year goes on. Please check the events section regularly so that you do not miss anything important. As always, don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions.

We are looking forward to seeing you all back on Tuesday 7th January 2020.

From all the staff at Archibald

