

Archibald First School

Autumn 1 Newsletter 2023

Welcome to the new school year

Welcome back to a new school year! An especially warm welcome is extended to our new families in Reception, Nursery and across the school. It is lovely to be back in school and to see all of the children in their classrooms and with their friends both old and new.

Please remember that we are here to answer any questions which you might have and to work with you for the very best outcomes for our children. Our door is always open: if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to call in to speak with us. We send newsletters home regularly, at least once a month but more often if we have information and news to share. We apologise that most of this newsletter reads as a list of what to do and what not to do! We will very soon get back to sharing good news and celebrating achievements. Please do read through all the information and look out for the information/invites regarding 5 school events.

Settling In

We have had a fantastic first two weeks at school. The children have settled in very quickly and have got straight back into learning. OPAL is back up and running making breaktimes full of fun, and everyone is following our rules and striving for our values. Well done, everyone!

Curriculum Information and Supporting Learning at Home

Teachers will continue to share information regarding the curriculum and key dates for each class through the half termly curriculum booklets. There is also a bank of information on our website about each curriculum subject which you might find useful.



Uniform

The most important thing about school uniform is that it is labelled! Every year we dispose of huge amounts of uniform, coats, hats, shoes, gloves etc which have been lost and which are not labelled. Please ensure that you have at least initialled labels in all clothes with a marker pen – expensive iron-on or sewn-in labels are great but a marker pen will do the same job!

After 9 days, our lost property box is already filling up quickly!!!

Event Invitation 1

Dear Archibald Families

Please come along to our
coffee morning offering

SEND support.

Come and chat to each other
and to Mrs West & Mrs Ward
in a supportive space to ask
questions, share strategies and
discuss experiences.

9am Monday 18th September

in the school portacabin

Families & School Together

Twitter/X

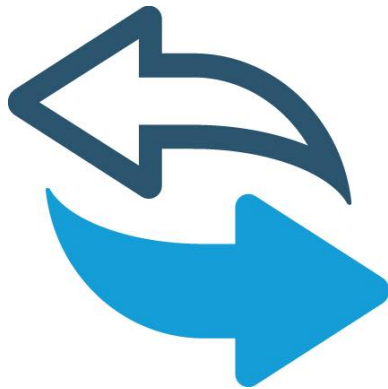
We love celebrating learning and our achievements in school. Please follow us at @Archibaldfirst.

Playground Safety

Please make sure you leave the playground by 3:40 so we can lock the gates ready for Wraparound and other school clubs taking place on site.

Bikes and Scooters

It's been lovely to see so many bikes and scooters in the racks this week. Please remember to dismount any bikes or scooters at the main gate and walk them on to the school site to avoid any bumps with pedestrians (adults too please). Please make sure bikes and scooters are parked up by 9am when the school gates will be locked.



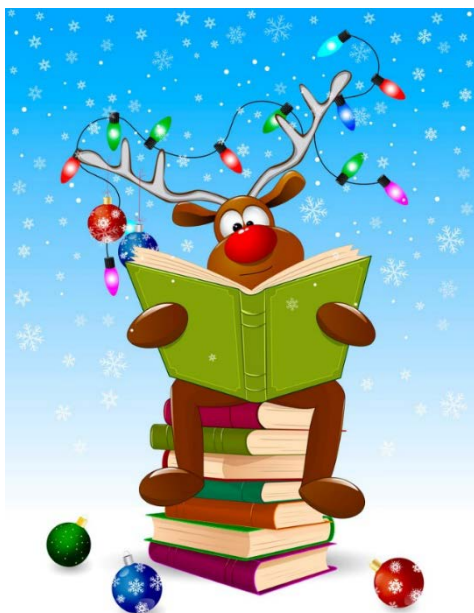
Archibald Exchange

[Archibald Exchange | Facebook](#)

The Archibald Exchange is a group set up by parents for parents. Please use it to swap clothes and toys etc to save these going to waste.

It may be a great place for you to swap Halloween costumes!!!!

Archibald Reads at Christmas...



Our new **Scholastic Book Club is up and running!** Go to <https://schools.scholastic.co.uk/archibald-first/digital-book-club> to browse the latest books and order online. For **every £1 you spend** on this month's Book Club, **our school will earn 20p** in Scholastic Rewards.

Please place your **order online by November 30th, 2023.**

Perfect presents for those Christmas Stockings!

Event Invitation 2

Creating Connections Coffee Mornings

Everyone at Archibald is invited to come along to our Creating Connections – School Community Coffee Morning on 9th October from 9 am – 10.30 am in the dining hall.

This is an informal opportunity for you to talk to other families and parents. We hope that you can make lots of new connections.

Cake donations are welcome and if possible, these could be dropped off at school on Thursday 8th October. If they are home-made (shop bought are absolutely fine!!!!), please include a list of ingredients.

On the morning, we will collect loose change for MacMillan.



Safeguarding

Designated Person(s) for Child Protection



Archibald First School fully recognises the responsibility it has to have arrangements about safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. We have a safeguarding and child protection policy which is updated annually and is available on request.

Our policy applies to all staff and volunteers working in the school including governors. All staff have recently undertaken Child Protection training.

The main designated safeguarding leader in school is



Rebecca Turner

If Rebecca Turner is not available contact:



Angela Ward
SEND Leader



Kym Mullick
Deputy Headteacher



Nicola McNally
Early Years



Kathryn Howard
| Key Stage 1



Sarah Graham
Key Stage 2

Applying for Reception and Middle School 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 [Apply for a school place | Newcastle City Council](#)

Closing Dates

Reception 2024: 15th January 2025 at noon

Middle School 2024: 31st October 2024 at noon

Nursery admissions begin January 2024 for a September 2024 start date.



[Reception New Starters - Archibald First School](#)

Middle School Open Evenings times and dates can be found on the school diary.

Equipment

The equipment in the yard is for the children at Archibald to use after 9.00am and prior to 3.00pm.

- Equipment, toys and resources that belong to school must not be used by the children of Archibald or their siblings before or after school.
- Please do NOT allow your children to climb up the red goals – these are going get broken. Ball games are not permitted before or after school due to congestion on the yard.
- Everyone is asked to keep off the grassed area – this includes parents waiting at the start and end of the day.
- The climbing frames are for school use only. Please do NOT use before or after school.
- Any equipment in the Nursery yard must also be left alone at the start and end of the day.
- Play sheds, boxes and shelves are not be accessed.

Thank you for your support and encouraging everyone to be responsible and respectful.



Event Invitation 3

Anxious or Anxiety

A Workshop for Parents with Chameleon Counselling

Monday 2nd October 2pm Portacabin

Graeme Rowlings, a Child and Adolescent Psychotherapist accredited with the UKCP, presents an introduction to understanding and managing anxiety.

He provides insight as to how anxious thoughts and feelings are processed and received in both the mind and body of the child and the responding parent.

As well, he will provide guidance and practical strategies to work with the child.

Please click on this link to register

<https://forms.office.com/e/bWMCwMDFXb>



Healthy School - Snacks

All children in Reception and KS1 are offered a piece of fruit or veg each day and so do not need to bring other snacks. If you would rather send in your own snacks then they should be only fresh fruit or veg and should not be pre-packaged. The same applies to KS2 snacks from home. Grapes All grapes sent into school should be cut in half 'longways' so that they do not represent a choking hazard. It would be great if we could encourage all our children to eat more fruit and vegetables every day!



Water



We ask all children to bring a water bottle every day. Water bottles should be named so that they don't get lost and should be taken home and washed each night so that they are clean and hygienic. We only allow children to have juice if they need it for specific reasons and these have been discussed in advance with class teachers.

Balanced Packed lunches

As a healthy school all meals prepared are balanced. We ask that parents supplying packed lunches from home consider this carefully and provide a balance of savoury and sweet along with fruit. No pop or fizzy drinks should be included. We ask that all chocolate spread, sweets / confectionary is kept for treats at home. **No nuts (including Nutella) please!**

Nuts

We are a nut free school!
We have a high number of children who have severe allergies in school. These children have adrenalin pens in schools due to the possibility of anaphylaxis.

Therefore, these items / ingredients are **NOT** allowed in packed lunches.

- whole nuts
- peanut butter (including sandwiches)
- chickpeas
- hummus
- chocolate hazelnut spread (any brand)
- nut-based sweets or biscuits including chocolate & nut-based bars/biscuits such as Nutella bars

Thank you for your care and attention regarding this, and for reducing the risk of reactions and anaphylaxis to our children.



Event Invitation 4



To celebrate **World No Car Day on 22nd September**, we are encouraging all children (and adults) at Archibald to travel to school without using a car if possible.

As part of this day, we will carry out a travel survey across school to identify the positive impact that Archibald children have made to our environment!

The **25th to the 29th September** will also be our **'Walk & Wheel to School'** week where children are encouraged to cycle, scoot, walk or even jog to school every day possible.

We look forward to celebrating World No Car Day and Cycle 'Walk and Wheel' to School Week and we hope that all the children enjoy exploring different ways of getting to school to help our environment.

Thank you for your continued support.

#CycleToSchoolWeek @BikeabilityUK & @Sustrans.



Helmets are strongly encouraged!

Event Invitation 5

Reception Harvest Festival Celebration

28th September 2023

2.50pm

Outside Class 1 gate

(Children are free to leave with grown-ups after the performance)



School Events

All of our events can be found on the school diary. Please check this for regular updates.

[Diary 2023-24 - Archibald First School](#)

September 2023

- 18 SEN Coffee morning 9 am
- 18 Year 3 to visit Friends of Gosforth Park
- 19 Year 3 Come and meet the teachers for coffee 9 am
- 20 Andrew Moffat delivering [No Outsiders](#) to each class
- 21 Year 1 Come and meet the teachers for coffee 9 am
- 22 World No Car Day
- 25 Walk and Wheel to school week CORRECT DATE
- 27 Reception and Year 1 Reading Meeting for Parents/Carers 5-6pm
- 28 Harvest Collection
- 29 Spanish Day in School – linked to the European Day of Languages



October 2023

- 02 Year 3 to visit the Great North Museum – Science
- 02 Class 10 Parent Lunch
- 02 Anxious or Anxiety – A Workshop for Parents with Chameleon Counselling 2 pm
- 03 Gosforth Central Middle School Open Evening for current Year 4 families 4.45pm-6.45pm
- 04 Individual School Photographs – ALL CHILDREN TO WEAR SCHOOL UNIFORM
- 04 Gosforth East Middle School Open Evening for current Year 4 families 6pm-8pm
- 06 Creating Connections – (School) Community Coffee Morning – 9 am – 10.30 am Cake donations and loose change welcome for MacMillan Coffee Morning
- 09 Class 9 Parent Lunch
- 09 Gosforth Junior High Academy Open Evening for current Year 4 families 4pm-6pm
- 10 Year 2 visit to the Discovery Museum – Bridges
- 13 Just One Tree Day – suggested donation £1 as every pound raised plants one new tree
- 13 Friday Phonics for Reception Parents 9-9.30 am
- 23 Take One Picture Week at Archibald
- 26 School closes at 3.15pm for the half term break
- 27 Staff Development Day – Poverty Proof Training with Children’s North East for all staff and governors (am) and History Development with an external trainer (pm)

November 2023

- 06 Welcome back to school for the second part of the autumn term