



# July 2017



## *The Final Countdown!*

We have reached the last few days of the academic year and what a busy year it has been! The children have thoroughly enjoyed and benefitted from a range of visits and visitors as stimuli for their topic work. They have undertaken some exciting learning and sporting activities and gained academically and socially over the course of the year. This week most classes enjoyed Forest School days on Monday and Thursday and the Early Years Garden Party on Tuesday was blessed with a lovely sunny afternoon. A great time was had by all. The grand finale of the week will be the Year 4 Leavers Presentation on Friday morning.

## *'Gosforth Gets Going' Fortnight*

Many children took part in a range of activities during *Gosforth Gets Going* fortnight. Sadly the Cross Country at Grange First School had to be cancelled due to the weather but other activities such as Football, Dodgeball, Glow Zumba, Skittleball and Cricket took place at a range of different schools. Groups of Reception children from the other schools enjoyed Yoga with Miss Stokes when they visited us. Our children took part with enthusiasm showing great teamwork and excellent sporting behaviour - gracious in winning (the Cricket) as well as in defeat. We are very proud of them all!

In addition our Year 2 children attended a Skipping Festival at the Junior High Academy which they thoroughly enjoyed. Skipping has become quite a playground craze of late with children spurred on by Year 2's new found skills!

## *Get Active Outdoor Challenge*

Earlier in the term we invited the children to take part in the *Get Active Outdoor Challenge*, challenging them to see how many different outdoor activities they could manage over a six-week period. Nine children rose to the challenge and produced fantastic diaries of their experiences. Cycling, running, canoeing, tree climbing, ropes, riding, climbing, scooting, swimming ... the list goes on and on!! Huge congratulations to Bea and Iona (Reception), Zara (Year 1), Ali and Toby (Year 2), Rory (Year 3) and George and Sadie (Year 4).



## *GST Daft Day*

Last week, Grace and Alfie (Y3) visited Daft As A Brush House to help present a giant cheque to Brian Burnie. This was monies raised by Gosforth Schools Trust on their Daft Day. The charity was delighted to receive the cheque for £3757.54 which will be put to good use furthering their valuable work in the support of cancer care patients.

Thank you everyone for your generosity.



### ***Reading Books***

This week we will be collecting in all the reading books from the children and sorting out new ones for next year. Please continue to read with your child over the holidays; any stories / non-fiction books that interest them will be valuable practice and will maintain their skills over the coming weeks.

### ***The BFG***

Key Stages 1 and 2 enjoyed an afternoon with a professional storyteller reading them the Roald Dahl story, *The BFG*. They thoroughly enjoyed the experience and were talking about it very enthusiastically afterwards.

### ***Summer Fayre***

Thank you to everyone who attended and supported the PTFA Summer Fayre. The kind weather and the superb organisation of the committee meant we all enjoyed a really good time and raised much needed funds for our school. Huge thanks to everyone involved for making it such a success.

### ***Sports Day***

After a tense run up to it, with daily checks on the weather forecast, Sports Day was another great occasion. Early Years took part in their own event in the morning followed by the rest of the school in the afternoon. Thank you to everyone who came along and supported the children; it was a great atmosphere and once again our children demonstrated their positive sporting behaviour and excellent teamwork. Thank you to the PTFA for providing refreshments during the afternoon; they were much appreciated. Thanks also must go to Mrs Karin Smurthwaite, our specialist PE teacher, who helped plan the event and co-ordinated activities on the day. We look forward to working with Mrs Smurthwaite again in the second half of the Autumn Term.

### ***Ofsted Inspection***

Thank you to all parents who contributed to ParentView in advance of or during our recent inspection. Your support is appreciated. The report is not yet with us but should be received the first week back in September when it will be shared with parents.

### ***Secondhand Smoke is Poison Campaign***

We have been asked by Public Health to publicise this campaign. The new 'Secondhand Smoke is Poison' campaign by Smoke Free North East is supported by the British Lung Foundation and Smoke Free Newcastle and warns that the only way to protect families from secondhand smoke is to smoke outside. More information on keeping a smoke-free home plus advice on ways to quit is available from [www.smokefreefamilies.co.uk](http://www.smokefreefamilies.co.uk).

### ***Staff Changes***

A number of staff changes are taking place at the end of this term. Mrs Wilkinson, Miss Stokes and Miss Cartmell are leaving Early Years. Mrs MacIver, Miss Green & Mrs Douglas are moving to new schools and Mrs King is retiring. We thank them all for their contribution to our school and wish them well in the future. They will all be missed.

### **All Saints Service**

It was a real pleasure to see so many families at the service at All Saints on Sunday. I was taken completely by surprise and thoroughly enjoyed reminiscing about my career! I was immensely touched by the whole event and have to admit to shedding more than a few tears!! Thank you for making it so special.

As I said at the end of the service, it has been a privilege and a pleasure to serve Archbishop Runcie and the community over the last nineteen years. I will miss everyone very much but know, in handing over to Mrs Henry, that our school will be in good hands. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the staff for their dedication and passion for our school, the governors for their commitment and support and all the children and families for making Archbishop Runcie the wonderful place it is. I wish everyone well in the years to come and look forward to hearing news of school from time to time.

### **Next Term**

School re-opens on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September for the new year. Dinner money for the first half term, for Years 3 and 4, will be £68 as the Council is making no increase to the cost of school meals. It would be helpful if dinner money for the half term could be paid in full in the first week of term and any part payments made on Mondays thereafter. Thank you.

### **Dates For Your Diary**

Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> September	-	Staff Training Day - school closed
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	-	School re-opens at 8.45 am
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup>	-	Meet the new Headteacher open morning - 9.00-11.00am
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup>	-	Meet the new Headteacher open afternoon - 1.00-3.00pm
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	-	Meet the New Headteacher open evening - 4.00-6.00pm
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup>	-	Year 2 Parents Welcome Meeting 9.00am
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	-	Year 1 Parents Welcome Meeting 9.00am
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	-	Year 3 Parents Welcome Meeting 9.00am
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup>	-	Year 4 Parents Welcome Meeting 9.00am
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	-	Nursery Parents Welcome Meeting 9.00am
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup>	-	Reception Parents Welcome Meeting 9.00am
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> October	-	Key Stage 1 & 2 Harvest Festival 2.00pm
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>	-	Parent Teacher Consultations
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	-	Parent Teacher Consultations
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup>	-	Staff Training Day - school closed
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> November	-	Flu Immunisations - Reception to Year 4
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	-	Foundation Stage Nativity - morning Key Stages 1 & 2 Performances - afternoon
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	-	Key Stages 1 & 2 Performances - morning Key Stages 1 & 2 Performances - evening
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	-	Carol Service at St Nicholas Church - 2.00pm

*And finally...*

School closes on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July for the Summer holidays. Children are invited to bring a toy or game to play with - nothing fragile, valuable or with easily lost pieces, please!

We say farewell to some of our Nursery children and to our Year 4 children who are moving to new schools. We wish them every success in the future.

We all join in wishing you a very happy holiday with your families and look forward to welcoming most of you back in September.

ARCHBISHOP RUNCIE CHURCH of ENGLAND (VA) FIRST SCHOOL



2016 - 2017

# July Newsletter

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**Disclaimer**

From time to time we send out leaflets and letters signposting parents to activities and organisations in the local area. These are purely for information and not necessarily endorsed by the school. The school cannot accept any responsibility for such activities.