

# Archibald News

Archibald Primary School

Ayresome Green Lane

Middlesbrough TS5 4DY

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Headteacher: Mrs A. Jefferies

Deputy Headteacher: Mr S. Cowgill

Archibald Primary School – “Believe and Achieve”



2025 - 2026

Issue 24

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2026



🌐 website: [www.archibaldpri.org.uk](http://www.archibaldpri.org.uk)

✉ email: [office@archibaldschool.org.uk](mailto:office@archibaldschool.org.uk)



## Handwriting Competition 2026 Winners

Special congratulations to the winners of our 2026 Handwriting Competition. In previous years, the standard of submissions was very high, and teachers had a real challenge to pick the winners. In each year group there were three prize-winners, first, second and third - with an additional extra prize for the most improved handwriting.

<p><b>Reception</b></p> <p>1st Prize: Kassius 2nd Prize Amillah 3rd Prize: Talia Most improved: Shiraz</p>	<p><b>Year 4</b></p> <p>1st Prize: Sienna 2nd Prize: Jackson 3rd Prize: Ellison Most improved: Muhammad</p>
<p><b>Year 1</b></p> <p>1st Prize: Jessica 2nd Prize: Zahra 3rd Prize: Delva Most improved: Holly</p>	<p><b>Year 5</b></p> <p>1st Prize: Osinachi 2nd Prize: Haleem 3rd Prize: Jett Most improved: Caa</p>
<p><b>Year 2</b></p> <p>1st Prize: Phoebe 2nd Prize: Charles 3rd Prize: Archie Most improved: Jason</p>	<p><b>Year 6</b></p> <p>1st Prize: Wania 2nd Prize: Dylan 3rd Prize: Taman Most improved: Alfie R</p>
<p><b>Year 3</b></p> <p>1st Prize: Brian 2nd Prize: Rebeca 3rd Prize: Zakwan Most improved: Adejay</p>	<p><b>Class 9 Nurture Class</b></p> <p>Fantastic Effort: Shyanne Most improved: Roman P</p>

All the prizes were presented in assemblies last Friday, and the winning submissions will be displayed on our Handwriting Display for everyone to admire.

**Congratulations to all the winners!**

## World Book Day 2026

World Book Day is one of the annual moments in our school calendar that feels so joyful as classrooms, corridors and playgrounds fill with children in fantastic costumes, celebrating their favourite characters and authors. Here are some images of the fantastic costumes celebrating some great authors and characters last Thursday.



Archibald Primary School Safeguarding Leads: Mrs E Verheyen , Mrs A Jefferies





# Attendance Dashboard



School attendance Wb 2.3.26	<b>95.9%</b>
Classes with the highest attendance wb 2.3.26:	Class 13 Class 15 <b>100%</b>
Attendance for the school year to date:	<b>93.7%</b>

## Archibald Primary School Attendance League Table 2025-2026

Wb 2.3.26	week	*cum.
Class 1	96.8%	93.5%
Class 2	92.9%	94.1%
Class 3	97.1%	93.4%
Class 4	91.7%	92.4%
Class 5	98.9%	94.4%
Class 6	96.3%	95.4%
Class 7	99.3%	96.5%
Class 8	97%	95.4%
Class 9	76%	74.2%
Class 10	94.3%	92.6%
Class 11	93.3%	92.3%
Class 12	96.5%	94.6%
Class 13	100%	92.5%
Class 14	97.1%	93.6%
Class 15	100%	95.2%
Class 16	96.9%	95.4%
Class 17	92.1%	92.3%
Class 18	97.8%	95.2%

\*Cumulative from 2.9.25

<90%	90% +	96%+
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If you need help or support with getting your child into school on time, or with anything attendance related, please contact our Attendance Officer – Details below.

School Attendance Officer: **Mrs Lisa Davies**  
School Attendance Champion: **Mr S Cowgill**

Attendance Hotline: ☎ **01642 804 101**



## ATTENDANCE CHALLENGE

Each week all pupils with 100% attendance for the week are awarded an **Attendance Challenge Token** which they then place in our token jars. There is one token jar for EYFS, one for KS1 and one for KS2.

At the end of each half term, we choose tokens from each jar. Pupils who have their name drawn are able to choose prizes from the attendance prize box. Last week we had **345 pupils with 100% attendance for the week** 4 more than the week before the half term break. Each will receive a token to place in their token jar. Well done!

## Archibald Attendance Aces

Our Archibald Attendance Aces are pupils with 100% attendance for the term. At the end of this term all pupils who are Attendance Aces receive a special treat. We currently have **159 Archibald Attendance Aces** - pupils with 100% attendance for this term.

## Helpful Hints for Top Attendance

- Unless they are too ill to attend school, **all pupils should be in school, on time every day.**
- Whenever possible **medical appointments should be made outside of school times.** If a pupil has a medical appointment in school time you should provide the school with evidence. There is no need to stay off school all day for a medical appointment. If possible, your child should come into school at the start of the day to get an attendance mark for the morning session, and then return to school after their appointment.
- **Pupils should not stay off school on their birthday.**
- **A leave of absence form must be completed for holidays.** The school cannot authorise holidays in term time – such absences will be classified as unauthorised.
- **Our Attendance officer is here to help.** If you are struggling to get your child/ren to school on time, please contact school.



<90%	<b>RED</b>
90%-96%	<b>AMBER</b>
96%+	<b>GREEN</b>

## Diary Dates

### THIS WEEK

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March**

Y5 Peat Rigg Adventure – 1 week

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March**

Rhyme Time at KFC Foundation 9am



**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March**



**ECO SHOP**

open from 2pm

### NEXT WEEK

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March**

Y5 and Class 12 Extra PE at Goals

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March**

Y3 and Class 11 Extra PE at Goals

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March**

Red Nose Day 2026. For

information, see Newsletter

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### COMING SOON

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March**

Triangulation Meetings all week

Y5 and Class 12 Extra PE at Goals

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March**

Y3 and Class 11 Extra PE at Goals

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March**

Y6 Practice SATs Week 2

Triangulation Meetings all week

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April**

Archibald Attendance Aces 100%

attendance Reward

School Closes for Easter Holiday

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April**

**NEW** Y6 Easter Club - Details to Follow

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April**

School re-opens – Summer Term 2026

Y3 Class 8/10 Swimming lessons at

Borocuda – details to follow

**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April**

**Community Connections Market** from

2.30pm – details to follow

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May**

KS2 SATS week (Monday to Thursday)

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June**

**NEW** Y4 Multiplication Tables Check

(2 weeks)

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June**

**NEW** KS1 Phonics Screening Check

Week

Please keep a look out on the weekly newsletter for further dates of planned events in school. We aim to give you as much notice as possible. Please be aware that these dates and times are provisional and are subject to change.

### MIDDLESBROUGH SCHOOL MEALS

## LUNCH MENU THIS WEEK

Week 3	Main Course	Dessert
<b>M</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pasta beef bolognaise with garlic bread</li> <li>Homemade Cheese pasty or roll with mashed potato (V)</li> </ul>	Fruit sponge and custard
<b>T</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chicken and vegetable pie served with boiled potatoes</li> <li>Chilli con carne and rice (V)</li> </ul>	Fruit Cheesecake
<b>W</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Roast chicken in gravy with mashed potato</li> <li>Lasagne and crusty bread (V)</li> </ul>	<b>Apple and banana cake</b>
<b>Th</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Burger in a bun served with oven roasted wedges</li> <li>Singapore Quorn noodles (V)</li> </ul>	Steamed chocolate sponge and custard
<b>F</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fish portion or fish fingers served with chips</li> <li>Wholegrain Tomato and basil pasta bake served with garlic bread (v)</li> </ul>	Apple oaty Flapjack
<b>Available Daily</b>	Daily Vegetable Selection Sliced Bread	Fresh Fruit Fruit Jelly Cheese & crackers
	Assorted fresh sandwiches and wraps Fresh salad bar options	
	<p><i>All meals are freshly cooked on the premises each day. Menu subject to change depending upon supplies and deliveries. Did you know?... Our lunch menu rotates on a three-week cycle You can check out the full menu on our school website. Click <a href="#">HERE</a></i></p>	

## New School Gates

**We are pleased to inform you that our new gates at the Barnaby Avenue entrance have now been installed and are up and running.**

The new pedestrian gate will be open for pupils and parents/carers until 8:45am each morning and between 2:45pm - 3:15pm at the end of the school day.

To get access outside of those times parents/carers will need to press the intercom, which will connect to the school office.

We endeavour to respond as quickly as possible, but this may not be straight away during busy times, so please bear with us.

The main gate for the carpark will not be accessible for parents and the visitors carpark will now be for visitors only.

Thank you for your co-operation and understanding.

These new gates will help make our school site a lot more secure and safe for pupils, staff and visitors throughout the school day.

# Share and Celebrate!

Lots of our pupils have been very busy over the past few weeks and there are some great achievements to share!



River and Emmie from Y5, Class 15 participated in a dance competition over the holidays and both brought back lots of medals which they had won in various dance categories ranging from bronze to gold!



Ashmigaa danced at a celebration award ceremony where she was celebrating a fantastic test score of 97/100 in her own language, Tamil.



Lakshmi from Class 18, has been very busy in the half term holiday. Lakshmi completed her International Tamil Language exam with the 3rd highest score in the UK! 🏆



Lishaan from Y6 Class 18 has achieved this medal for SPAG English SATs exam in his tuition

### YouTube Safety Update: New Parental Controls

YouTube have published their latest update on how parents can support their child on YouTube. YouTube will now allow parents to set the amount of time viewing Shorts – this can even be set to zero. YouTube Shorts are short videos, usually less than 60 seconds long, which when continuously watched, can lead to excessive screentime. Furthermore, parents will also be able to set bedtime and ‘take a break’ reminders. You can find out more here:

<https://blog.youtube/news-and-events/updates-youtube-supervised-accounts-teens/>

If you would like to find out more about supervised accounts on YouTube, then this article explains the different settings available:

[https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/10315420?hl=en-GB&ref\\_topic=15279060&sjid=15225282118002181205-EU](https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/10315420?hl=en-GB&ref_topic=15279060&sjid=15225282118002181205-EU)

Would you like to read this newsletter in a different language? You can use the translate tool on our web version: <https://www.knowsleycitycs.org.uk/march-2026/>

### Mobile phones: do you know the risks?

We know that children having access to a smartphone can expose children to risks including:

- Viewing inappropriate content
- Excessive screen time/use, which in turn can affect their mental health and sleep pattern.
- Contact from inappropriate people/grooming
- Cyberbullying
- Spending money on in-app purchases/scams

#### What effects do mobile phones have on children’s mental health?

Compass discuss the research around this important topic, outlining the positive and negative effects that mobile phones have:

<https://compass-uk.org/services/compass-changing-lives/online-resources/what-effects-do-mobile-phones-have-on-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health/>

#### EE Online Safety Hub

EE has published age guidance for smartphone usage to improve children’s digital wellbeing. In summary, they recommend that children under 11 should use non-smart devices, for children aged 11-13, they advise that if a smartphone is used, then parental controls should be enabled and access to social media restricted. Finally, for 13-16-year-olds they still recommend that parental controls are implemented and appropriate restrictions set up. You can read the full guidance here:

<https://ee.co.uk/internet-online-safety>

#### Could you delay when your child is given a smartphone with Smartphone Free Childhood?

The premise behind this movement is that all parents/carers of a class all agree not to give their children smartphones (therefore the level of peer pressure is reduced) for a set time or until a specific age:

<https://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org/>

#### What device?

When you think it is the right time for your child to have a phone, then ‘Which?’ provide an overview of some options available:

<https://www.which.co.uk/reviews/mobile-phones/article/buying-a-first-mobile-phone-best-dumb-phones-and-smartphones-for-kids-aA03C3Y8aTzr>

# Virtual Private Networks

A Virtual Private Network (VPN) helps make your connection between a device and the internet more secure and can help protect personal information and add privacy. However, whilst a VPN has benefits, it is important that you are aware that if your child is using a VPN, they may be able to get round Wi-Fi restrictions, access blocked or restricted websites and bypass parental controls. It may also mean that their browsing history is hidden.

The NSPCC provides a helpful overview of VPNs, plus top tips and conversation starters here:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/vpns-and-online-safety/>

# Social Media Algorithms

## What is an Algorithm?

Algorithms influence what we see on social media platforms and predict what type of content we are most likely to interact with, thereby keeping us online for longer. The algorithm uses information such as who you follow, what you have searched for and what you have watched, liked or shared to determine what it thinks most interests you. It will then show you this content more, for example, in the explore tab on Instagram.



## What do I need to know?

Whilst there are benefits to algorithms, for example it means we tend to see content that does interest us, unfortunately there are negatives as well. They can lead to increased screentime as we continue to see things that interest us. Secondly, it can lead to users being shown large amounts of inappropriate content which can for example, exacerbate negative body image or heighten access to misogyny content. It can also lead to 'echo chambers' where you are only seeing content that relates to your opinion rather than seeing a balanced viewpoint.

## Further information

- <https://cybersmarties.com/behind-the-screen-how-algorithms-shape-what-kids-see-online/>
- The BBC discuss algorithms in this article about doomscrolling: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zwnk3qt>

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# Five Nights at Freddy's

Five Nights at Freddy's is a horror game designed to frighten players with jump scares or creepy characters. It can be accessed from several places, for example on an Xbox (PEGI rating of 12) and on the App store (age rating of 13+). There is merchandise available, which may suggest that it is child friendly. We would recommend that you preview the game first to ascertain its suitability for your child. You can view Bark's review here:

<https://www.bark.us/content-review/five-nights-at-freddys-review/>

# Screen time and online harms

The Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health have created a page that brings together key resources on screen time. Find out more here:

<https://www.rcpch.ac.uk/resources/screen-time-online-harms-resources-members>

# New government campaign: Is your child influenced by toxic content?

The Government have launched a new campaign providing guidance to parents on safety settings, conversation prompts and advice for tackling misinformation and harmful content. It also includes a quiz to help you and your child spot misleading or unreliable information online. You can find out more here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/is-your-child-influenced-by-toxic-content-new-government-campaign-supports-parents-to-talk-about-harmful-online-content>

## ADVANCE WARNING RED NOSE DAY – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2026

To celebrate Red Nose Day 2026, the school Council will be holding a non-uniform day on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March.

For a small donation pupils will be able to come to school in non-uniform.

The theme chosen this year is 'colours' and the School Council would like pupils to wear any, or as many colours as they can!

# RED NOSE DAY

## INFORMATION FROM MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL



Does your child have a SEND support plan or EHCP? If so, please come along and drop in to one of our sessions where we will gain your views and opinions on The White Paper proposals that has been recently published – if you have any worries, concerns and/or questions please come and have a chat.

A member of the Parent Carer Forum will be in attendance to support and signpost you as needed.

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March**  
**9:30-11am**  
**@ Park End Hub TS3 0AA**

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 1-2:30pm**  
**@ The Live Well Centre, Central Middlesbrough TS1 2PA**

## INFORMATION FROM NEWPORT COMMUNITY HUB

### Community Easter Trip The Moors National Park - Danby

Explore Together, Discover More

**Date: Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2026**  
**Time: 10.30am - 3.00 pm**

**Meeting point:**  
**Newport Community Hub**  
**St Paul's Road, TS1 5NQ**



- COST PER PERSON IS £1 (PAYABLE WHEN BOOKING) CHILDREN UNDER 2 ARE FREE.
- BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL
- BRING YOUR OWN PICNIC.
- DANBY IS A NATIONAL PARK, WITH PICNIC AREAS AND PLENTY OF PLACES TO EXPLORE.

To book  
email: [newportcommunityevents@middlesbrough.gov.uk](mailto:newportcommunityevents@middlesbrough.gov.uk)  
or

Phone: 01642 802892  
or  
In person at the Hub.

