

## St. Patrick's Catholic Primary School Newsletter - Issue 4 – 27th September 2024

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Trust Headteacher: Mr S Keys

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Dear Parents, Carers & Parishioners,

It is hard to believe that we are 4 weeks into the new school year already. This week has been another busy one in school—starting with a Monday full of rain and ending with a Friday filled with cake. Thank you all for your support in making our Macmillan coffee event a success—we will update you with our fundraising totals next week. I would also like to thank you all for your responses regarding the school pantomime—as I said in Issue 1, my aim is to work with you to ensure your child receives the best possible experience with us, so having a community that are so willing to respond and share their views is excellent. We are delighted to confirm that the school pantomime visit to Consett will go ahead on December 17th (more details to follow regarding costs etc.).

Thanks, as always, for your continued support,

*Sam Keys*

### **Next week**

#### **Wednesday 2nd October 2024—Curriculum Evening**

On Wednesday evening, parents and carers are welcome to come to school to meet the teachers. In the Curriculum Evening session, staff will talk through the routines and expectations in each class. It is also a chance to ask any questions about the year ahead. If you can't make it, please get in touch and we will ensure you receive the same information. Class 1—3:30pm Class 2—4pm Class 3—3:30pm Class 4—4pm



#### **Thursday 3rd October 2024—Harvest Celebration—9:15am**

On Thursday morning all are welcome to join us as Class 4 lead our Harvest celebration.

#### **Friday 4th October—Reception (Class 1) Welcome Celebration—9:15am**

Our wonderful Reception (Class 1) children will be having a welcome celebration on Friday morning. Whilst all parents/carers are welcome to join us—it will be extra special for Reception parents/carers.



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## A message from our new Head Pupils

### Head Girl

Hello, my name is Isobel and I am the new Head Girl at St. Patrick's. I am excited to have this opportunity to make sure every pupil has a happy and joyful experience at school this year. My hobbies are baking, paper craft, knitting, swimming and I enjoy singing with the school choir. I hope to speak to many of you this year. If your child needs any help, please tell them they can come and see me. Thank you.

### Head Boy

Hello, I am Oliver and I am the new Head Boy at St. Patricks. I am really happy to have been chosen for this role. I want to make sure that all people are welcomed to our school and feel happy in our community. In my spare time, I like to play football, computer games and do crafts with my Grandad. All children can come and speak to me about any problems. Thank you.



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## Harvest Donations

Next week, Class 4 will lead a Harvest Celebration. As part of our efforts to support our local community, we are requesting any donations of food. With the donations, we will create Harvest Hampers and deliver these to people in the local community who need them. Please donate if you can (fresh produce and longer lasting). Also, if there is someone who you feel would benefit from a Harvest Hamper, please do let us know. This could be someone who is struggling financially, having difficulties with their physical or mental health, lonely or just in need of a boost.



## School Admissions Reminder

Is your child due to start primary or secondary school in September 2025? You can now apply for their school place. The deadline for applications is

- **Thursday 31st October 2024** for secondary school places. You must apply for a school place as there is no automatic transfer from primary school to secondary school.
- **Wednesday 15th January 2025** for primary school places.

Apply now: <http://www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions>

**Have you got friends or family with children of school age? We have spaces available in most year groups! Please speak to Mr Keys if you would like more information or feel free to ask them to contact school.**

**We are hosting open events on the 1st and 2nd October.**



ST. PATRICK'S  
LANGLEY MOOR

**Reception  
& School  
places  
available**

stpatrickslangley Moor, bwcet.com

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# Attendance

## Procedure for appointments during school hours

If you have to take your child out of school for any reason, including a medical, dental, school visit appointment, please could you inform the school office prior to the appointment along with any supporting evidence of the appointment. This is so that we can authorise the absence where we can and your child is not marked as unauthorised in our register.

Please see below guidance from the government regarding school attendance. <https://www.gov.uk/school-attendance-absence>

Children should aim to arrive in school by 8.55 am at the latest. **Persistent lateness causes disruption to your child's education.**

## Holidays in term time

It is Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust policy that we as a school must refer to the local authority when a child takes holiday during term time. You can see Durham's procedures here: [Holidays in term time - Durham County Council](#)

"Where leave of absence has not been granted, but the pupil does not attend, the headteacher will refer the case to the local authority in line with the National Framework. This may lead to the local authority issuing a fixed penalty notice." - BWCET Attendance Policy





Year	Attendance this week:
R	100%
1 / 2	99.35%
3 / 4	94.77%
5 / 6	95.06%
<b>Weekly Overall Attendance: 96.8%</b>	
<b>Yearly Attendance to date: 97.56%</b>	

## Standards at St. Patrick's

Our expectations on attendance must remain strong and, as the parent community know, we take this part of our job very seriously indeed. We will be contacting parents/carers of those children who are persistently absent, this means any child with an attendance percentage of 90% or less. Please understand that this is a supportive measure and that we are working hard to leave no stone unturned to help your child achieve the very best possible outcomes.







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HOUSE POINTS				
Feast Days:	St. Bede	St. Cuthbert	St. Hilda	St. Aidan
25th May				
20th March				
17th November				
31st August				
Weekly total	531	468	471	531
Running total	1750	1593	1627	1932

You will see your child's house points add up throughout the week via Class Dojo. This will only be used for house points this year and not school to home communication.

Stars of the week

-  Anya Year R For always joining in and trying her best.
-  Thomas Year 1 / 2 For working well with others and sharing ideas.
-  Summer Year 3 / 4 For great work with number bonds.
-  Mackenzie Year 5 / 6 For responding well to feedback.

Rainbow Rewards

Red	Is for the blood he gave (Be Kind)	Finn and Benediktas
Green	Is for the world he made (Be a steward)	Mrs Simpson
Yellow	Is for the light so bright (Be humble)	
Orange	Is strong and full of might (Be courageous)	
Purple	Is for his hour of sorrow (Be compassionate and say sorry)	
Pink	Is for a new tomorrow (Be just and fair)	
Blue	Is for the sky he made so we can aim high (Never give up or take the easy option)	

The rainbow is a sign of God's promise,  
 He will guide us through any storm.  
 When you feel battered by life's storms,  
 Just remember God's rainbow is coming -  
 It's only a prayer away.

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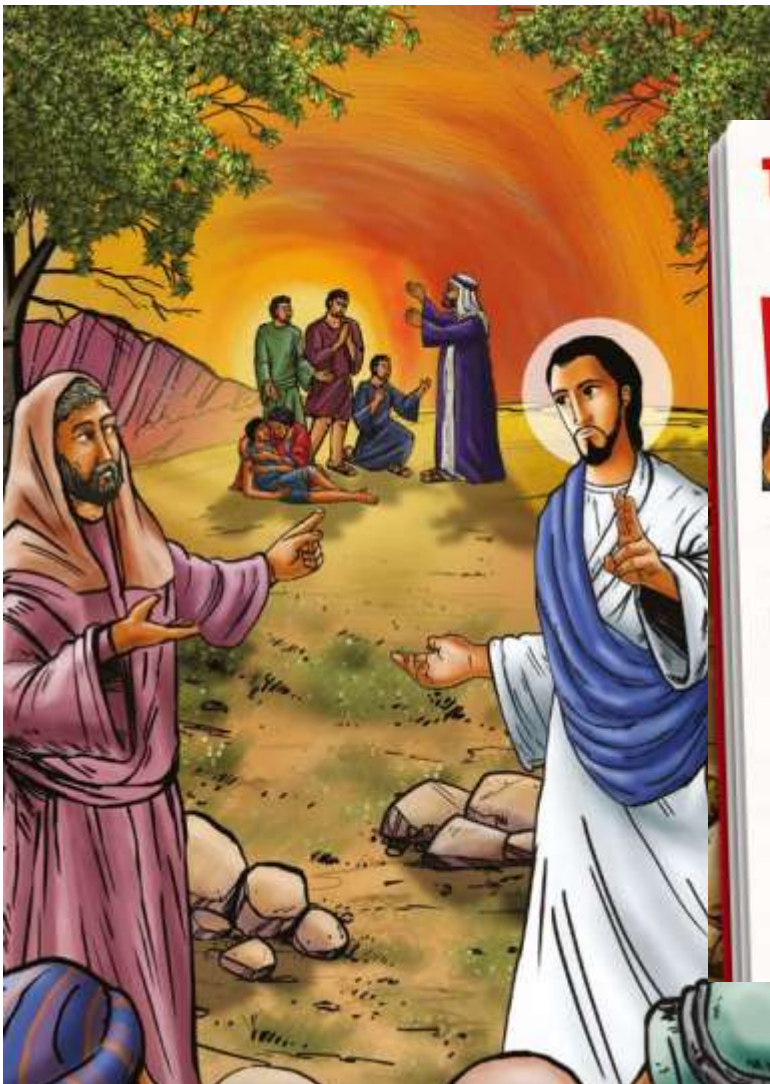
### Ask your child



We're sure you all ask your children what they have learned at school every day. We're also sure that the depth of answers that you receive will also vary, with some children saying, 'nothing'. To help aid your discussions, each week in the newsletter we will include a starter question that will help your child to talk about what they have been learning that week in school. Try it tonight.

Reception (Class 1)	What does squabble mean?
Class 2	What jobs are there in Keswick?
Class 3	Why do puddles disappear?
Class 4	What happened to the city of Carthage?
General	How are you feeling this week?

### Article 14: The right of freedom of thought, belief and religion



### **THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH** **Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2024**



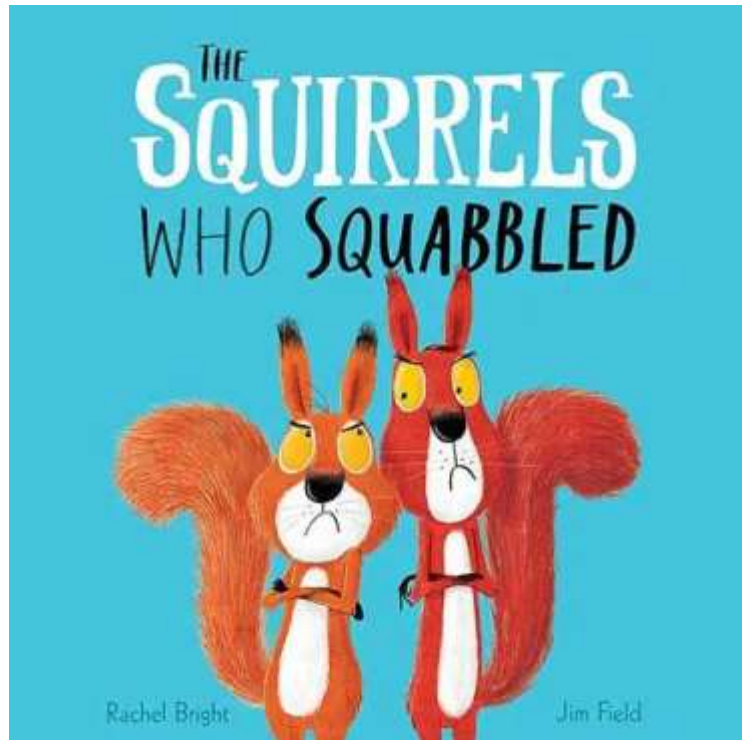
John said to Jesus, "Master, we saw a man who is not one of us casting out evil spirits in your name; and because he was not one of us we tried to stop him." But Jesus said, "You must not stop him: no one who works a miracle in my name is likely to speak evil of me. Anyone who is not against us is for us. If anyone gives you a cup of water to drink just because you belong to Christ, then I tell you most truly, they will most certainly not lose their reward."

*Adapted from Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48  
The 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year B*

# Reading Spotlight

This week the reading spotlight goes to the book in Class 1.

The Squirrels that squabbled by Rachel Bright and Jim Field



This funny story will make you laugh! It's about two greedy squirrels hurrying to get the last pine-cone of the season. The race is on! Let's find out who wins...

[The Squirrels Who Squabbled - Read Aloud \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

Can you ask your child questions about the story and encourage them to use 'because'?

We can do this by asking Why? questions and modelling our own answers too.

Adult: Why was the squirrel angry?

Child: He was angry because...

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# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators PROMOTING PHYSICAL WELLBEING

Physical activity isn't only beneficial for our bodies; it also plays a role in promoting mental wellbeing. With both the Euros and the Olympics this summer, it's an opportunity to engage young people in regular exercise which can reduce stress, improve mood and boost self-esteem. Despite these benefits, many children face barriers to participating in physical activity.

## 1 MAKE IT FUN

Incorporate activities that children enjoy, such as playing games or dancing. Encourage participation in team sports or group activities to foster social connections and a sense of belonging.

## 2 MIX MOVEMENT WITH LEARNING

Educational settings can incorporate movement breaks and physical activities to enhance movement focus, concentration and cognitive function. Embedding exercise into the curriculum can also reinforce learning and stimulate creativity. 'Revision walks' with podcasts and flashcards can benefit older learners.

## 3 CREATE OPPORTUNITIES

Provide clear chances for physical activity throughout the day, both indoors and outdoors. Schools can encourage active play during breaks and at lunchtimes, while limiting screen time at home can help keep children up and about.

## 4 PROVIDE POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT

Praise and encourage children for their efforts and achievements in physical activity. Recognise their progress and celebrate their successes to reinforce positive behaviours. Educators could do this in several ways, such as applauding their efforts at assemblies or celebrating their accomplishments in newsletters.

## 5 VARIETY IS KEY

Introduce a selection of physical activities to keep children engaged and prevent boredom. From swimming and cycling to yoga and martial arts, trying different types of exercise can help children to discover what they enjoy most.

## 6 ENJOYMENT OVER COMPETITION

Encourage children to focus on the enjoyment of physical activity rather than winning or achieving perfection. Emphasise effort, improvement and having fun rather than outcomes, to minimise the amount of stress that children can sometimes associate with sports and other competitions.

## 7 SET REALISTIC GOALS

Help children set achievable physical activity targets based on their interests, abilities and preferences. Celebrate their progress and successes to maintain motivation and enthusiasm.

## 8 MAKE IT ACCESSIBLE

Ensure that children have access to safe, suitable spaces for exercise at home, at school and in the community. Advocate for inclusive environments which accommodate diverse needs and abilities. Be a change maker in your community if facilities aren't already available.

## 9 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Parents and carers can be positive role models by prioritising their own exercise and involving children in their fitness routines. Gentle walks, bike rides or sports activities can be wonderful opportunities for bonding and staying active together.

## 10 ENCOURAGE PERSISTENCE

Help children develop resilience and perseverance by encouraging them to overcome challenges and setbacks in physical activity. Teach them the importance of perseverance and the value of effort in achieving their goals.

### Meet Our Expert

Adam Gillett is a learning and development specialist who, as well as working for Minds Ahead, is associate vice principal for personal development at a large secondary school in Barnsley. He was asked to be part of an expert research group for the Department for Education, one of only three school leaders to be asked to do so.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

X @wake\_up\_weds

f /www.thenationalcollege

IG @wake.up.wednesday

SP @wake.up.weds

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# School Open Morning



**Is your child due to start Reception  
in September 2025?  
Come and see how our school will  
help your child flourish!**

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2nd October 2024      10am - 11:30am

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Call us on 0191 3780552 or email [stpl@stpl.bwcet.com](mailto:stpl@stpl.bwcet.com) to  
find out more

Goatbeck Terrace, Langley Moor, Durham, DH7 8JJ



**Bishop Wilkinson**  
Catholic Education Trust

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New or changed dates in **blue**.

Date	Event	Time	Parents Invited
<b>October</b>	Black History Month	--	No
<b>Tuesday 1.10.24</b>	Prospective Parents Open Evening	4:30pm—6pm	Yes
<b>Wednesday 2.10.24</b>	Prospective Parents Open Morning	10:00-11:30am	Yes
<b>Wednesday 2.10.24</b>	Curriculum Evening	Class 1—3:30pm Class 2—4pm Class 3—3:30pm Class 4—4pm	Yes
<b>Thursday 3.10.24</b>	Harvest Festival Celebration—Class 4	9:15am	Yes
<b>Friday 4.10.24</b>	Reception Welcome Celebration	9:15am	Yes
<b>Thursday 10.10.24</b>	World Mental Health Day	All Day	No
<b>Friday 25.10.24</b>	Halloween Disco	Class 1 and 2— 3:25pm—4:25pm Class 3 and Class 4— 4:30pm - 5:30pm	No
<b>Friday 25.10.24</b>	School ends for half term	3:25pm	-
<b>Monday 4.11.24</b>	Pupils return after half term break	8:55am	-
<b>Monday 11.11.24</b>	Remembrance —Class 3	9:15am	Yes
<b>w/c Monday 11.11.24</b>	Anti-Bullying Week	--	No
<b>Wednesday 13.11.25</b>	Coffee Morning—Time to talk	9:15am	Yes
<b>Thursday 14.11.24</b>	World Diabetes Day	All Day	No
<b>w/c Monday 18.11.24</b>	Parents Evenings	3:40pm—6pm	Yes
<b>Thursday 5.12.24</b>	Choir Concert	4pm	Yes
<b>Tuesday 10.12.24</b>	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Production	9:30am	Yes
<b>Wednesday 11.12.24</b>	KS2 Christmas Production	5pm	Yes
<b>Thursday 12.12.24</b>	Christmas Jumper Day	All Day	No
<b>Thursday 12.12.24</b>	Christmas Dinner Day	11:30am & 12:30pm	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Monday 16.12.24</b>	<b>Christmas Party Day (Date changed)</b>	<b>All Day</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Tuesday 17.12.24</b>	Pantomime	Morning	No
<b>Wednesday 18.12.24</b>	Christmas Fair	2pm	Yes
<b>Thursday 19.12.24</b>	Mass and Carols—In Church	9:30am	Yes
<b>Friday 20.12.24</b>	End of Term	3:25pm	-

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