

St. Patrick's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter - Issue 8 - 25th October 2024

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Dear Parents, Carers & Parishioners,

After a brilliant 8 weeks back at school, we close today for the half term break. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support—returning back to school routines (or even beginning them for the first time for our Reception children) can be tricky sometimes, but the children have settled in brilliantly and are making great progress. This is certainly influenced by your support. I look forward to seeing you all during the various parent/carer and parishioner events that we have planned next half term.

Best wishes,

Sam Keys



<u>Arbor</u>

Reminder - if you have not already done so, could you please log in to Arbor and update all of the recently added parental consent requests for your children.

Fundraise and Recycle—Clothes Bank

Many thanks for all of the donations so far, please keep up the good work! Just a reminder that all items donated should be placed in bags before being put into the clothes bank. We have a supply of bags in the school office, so please call in if you need any!

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2024

A range of poppy products will be available for pupils to 'purchase'



with a suggested donation of 50p per item, in order to raise money for serving and exserving personnel and their families, from after half term.

<u>Clubs</u>

Next half term's after school clubs are live on Arbor.

Monday—Multi-sports with Craig's Coaching

Tuesday—Sewing and Crafts with Mrs Simpson

Wednesday—Dodgeball with Mr Holbrook

Thursday—Choir with Mrs Griffiths



Christmas Raffle Donations

We are beginning to make arrangements for our Christmas Fair and wondered if anyone had connections in the local area or beyond who would like to donate a raffle prize? If you know of anyone willing to donate, please put them in touch with Mr Keys.



Pupil Fundraiser

MacKenzie in KS2 is completing a fundraiser over the coming weeks in aid of Dementia. It is a knitting/crocheting challenge where she needs to knit/crochet daily in order to raise funds. At this stage she is making little teddy bears that she hopes to sell at the end of November and donate those proceeds too. She has already raised over £100 and we are very proud of her. If you are able to help her towards reaching her target of £200 or if you want to find out more—you can see the details here— Facebook



School Admissions Reminder—Deadline for secondary school applications 31st October

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 of school age? We in most year groups! Keys if you would like feel free to ask them



or family with children have spaces available Please speak to Mr more information or to contact school.



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.

Year	Attendance this week:		
SCHROLL	94.4%		
1/2 3	161161 98.04%		
3/4	93.42% - Indiana		
5 / 6	96.45%		
Weekly (Overall Attendance: 95.79%		
Yearly A	ttendance to date: 96.22%		

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

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 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.



HOUSE POINTS				
Feast Days:	St. Bede	St. Cuthbert	St. Hilda	St. Aidan
25th May				
20th March				
17th November				A VAC
31st August				
Weekly total	488	423	401	436
Running total	3053	2810	2821	3732

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

Olivia	Year R	For a super retell of Rosie's walk.
Jake	Year 1 / 2	For a great attitude and effort in lessons.
Oren	Year 3 / 4	For always participating.
Рорру	Year 5 /6	For amazing work in French.

	Rainbow Rewards			
Red	Is for the blood he gave (Be Kind)	Finn, Lloyd, Aidan		
Green	Is for the world he made (Be a steward)	Mrs Hutchinson, Miss Dennis, Oliver R and Chidera		
Yellow	Is for the light so bright (Be humble)	Isabella		
Orange	Is strong and full of might (Be courageous)	Oliver B, Oscar G, Dylan		
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)			
1	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 -

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 technology can we use to talk to people?	
Class 2	Why is London safer now than in 1666?	
Class 3	What is a food chain?	
Class 4	How does light travel?	
General	What do you find fun?	

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

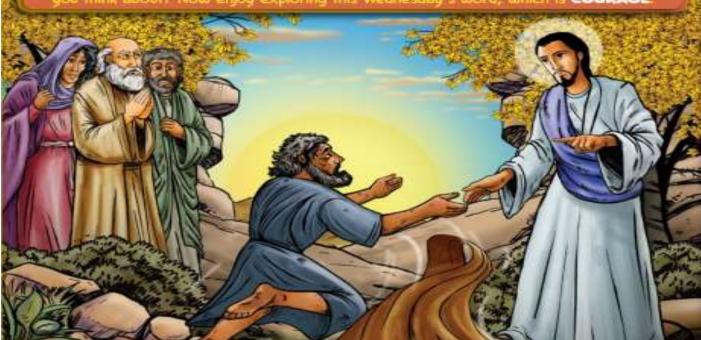
As Jesus left Jericho with his disciples and a large crowd, there was a blind man, called Bartimaeus, sitting at the roadside begging. When Bartimaeus heard that it

was Jesus who was walking by, he began to shout, "Jesus, Son of David, have pity on me! Help me!" Some of the people in the crowd told him to be quiet, but he began to shout louder until Jesus heard him. Then Jesus stopped and said, "Call him here." So they said to the blind man, "Have courage! Get up! Jesus is calling you." The man threw off his cloak, jumped up and went to Jesus. Then Jesus said, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said, "Master, let me see again." Then Jesus said to him, "Go! Your faith has saved you." And at once the man's sight returned and he followed Jesus along the road.



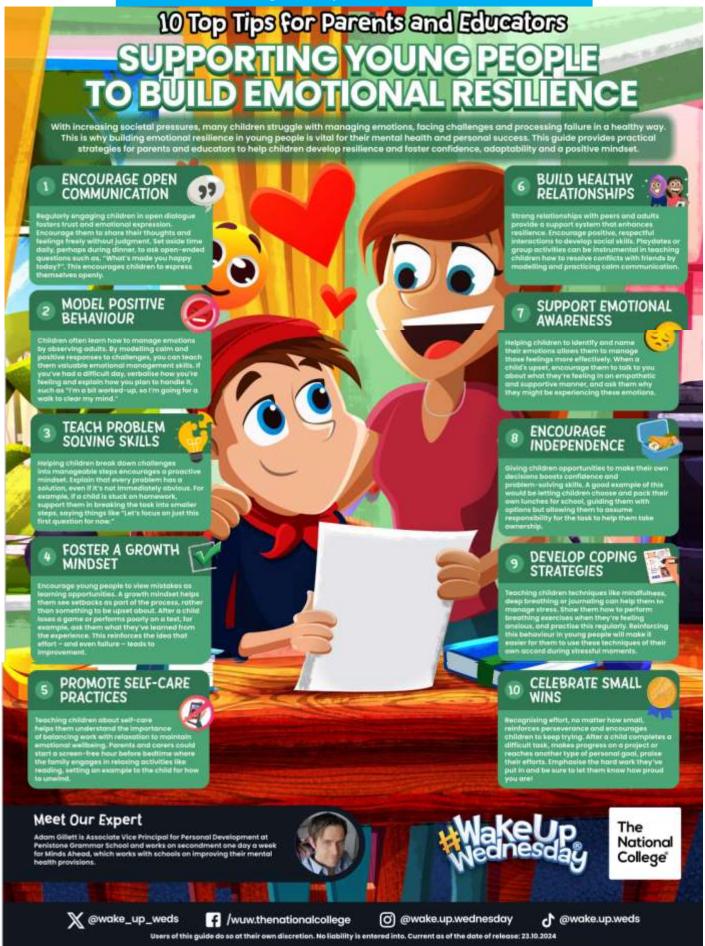
Taken from the Gospel of Sunday 27" October CF, Mark 10:46-52 (30" Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Which words stood out for you in this Gospel, and why? What does the picture make you think about? Now enjoy exploring this Wednesday's word, which is COURAGE.



WEIT THE GITTS THAT OUR HAS GIVEN

Article 19: The right to be protected from all forms of harm





New or changed dates in blue.

Date	Event	Time	Parents Invited
Friday 25.10.24	School ends for half term	3:25pm	-
Monday 4.11.24	Pupils return after half term break	8:55am	-
Monday 11.11.24	Remembrance — Class 3	9:15am	Yes
w/c Monday 11.11.24	Anti-Bullying Week		No
Wednesday 13.11.25	Coffee Morning—Time to talk	9:15am	Yes
Thursday 14.11.24	World Diabetes Day	All Day	No
w/c Monday 18.11.24	Parents Evenings	3:40pm—6pm	Yes
Thursday 5.12.24	Choir Concert	4pm	Yes
Tuesday 10.12.24	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Production	9:30am	Yes
Wednesday 11.12.24	KS2 Christmas Production	5pm	Yes
Thursday 12.12.24	Christmas Jumper Day	All Day	No
Thursday 12.12.24	Christmas Dinner Day	11:30am & 12:30pm	Yes
Monday 16.12.24	Christmas Party Day	All Day	No
Tuesday 17.12.24	Pantomime	Morning	No
Wednesday 18.12.24	Christmas Fair	2pm	Yes
Thursday 19.12.24	Mass and Carols—In Church	9:30am	Yes
Friday 20.12.24	End of Term	3:25pm	-