



St Patrick's Catholic Primary School

NEWSLETTER – ISSUE 3 September 29th 2025

Dear Parents, Carers and Parishioners,
I can't believe that we are already four weeks into the school year. It's been another great week in school. The children are now well into their routine and enjoying learning across all the areas of the curriculum. Please take some time to check what is happening in the coming weeks and which children have been nominated for awards this week.

Mr Rogers

SCHOOL COUNCIL

The classes have nominated their school councilors for the coming year. We will be meeting this week to decide our first project. Good luck.

Class 2 (Year 1/2) – Anya (Y1) Amelie (Y2)

Class 3 (Year 3/4) – Isabella (Y3) Ava (Y4)

Class 4 (Year 5/6) – Ella (Y5) Jackson (Y6)



WORLD'S BIGGEST
**COFFEE
MORNING**
MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT



MACMILLAN COFFEE EVENT

Thank you for your support in making our Macmillan Coffee Event a great success. The amount raised will be included in next week's newsletter.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

On Friday we will be celebrating Harvest Festival. Any children who would like to donate can bring items throughout the week. Support for the work of food banks is crucial. Items requested are non-perishable foods and toiletries. Tinned products, soups, pasta, rice, cereal and biscuits would also be greatly received.

Class 2 (Year 1/2) will be leading a Celebration of the Word at 3pm on Friday. All are welcome.



SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

Is your child due to start primary or secondary school in September 2025?

- Friday 31st October 2025 for secondary school places.
- Thursday 15th January 2026 for primary school places.

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



START OF YEAR MASS REMINDER

The children will be attending our first mass of the year on October 10th at 9.30am. Please try and join us as we pray for a happy and holy year in school.

DIARY OF EVENTS

Key events this week:

- Oct – Black History Month
- 1st Oct – Perspective Parents Evening – 3.30pm
- 3rd Oct - Perspective Parents Evening – 9.30am
- 3rd Oct – Y1/2 Harvest Festival Assembly – 3.00pm

THE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

This newsletter is a key way for us to share information with you, but we would love to use it to further celebrate our children—including outside of school too. Please send in photos of your child undertaking activities outside of school, share new arrivals, success of siblings, birthdays and party fun. We are a strong family community - let's all celebrate the many wonderful achievements of our children together.



SAFEGUARDING

The wellbeing of our children is of paramount importance to all staff.

Should any parent have a concern regarding a child's wellbeing, please inform a member of the school's Designated Safeguarding Team: **Mr Rogers, Mrs Nowell and Mr Holbrook.**

In cases where school staff have concerns, they have a statutory duty to discuss the issue with one of the Designated Safeguarding Leaders to seek further advice.

"Safeguarding is thinking the unthinkable and then figuring out how to reduce the probability of the unthinkable happening."

Graham Fawcet





St Patrick's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Mr P Rogers

Telephone: 0191 378 0552

E-mail: stpl@stpl.bwcet.com

HOUSE POINTS

Feast Days:	St. Bede	St. Cuthbert	St. Hilda	St. Aidan
25th May				
20th March				
17th November				
31st August				
Weekly total	252	201	251	188
Running total	704	623	673	577

You will see your child's house points add up throughout the week via Class Dojo. Totals will begin next week. Keep looking to see how well the children are doing!

Stars of the week

Max	Year R	For fantastic phonics work.
Jake	Year 1 / 2	For working hard to focus and concentrate on his learning.
Natalia	Year 3 / 4	For amazing maths work this week.
Mackenzie	Year 5 / 6	For outstanding work in historical writing and analysis.

Rainbow Rewards

Red	Is for the blood he gave (Be Kind)	
Green	Is for the world he made (Be a steward)	
Yellow	Is for the light so bright (Be humble)	
Orange	Is strong and full of might (Be courageous)	Ezra (Rec) Lucas C (Year 2)
Purple	Is for his hour of sorrow (Be compassionate and say sorry)	
Pink	Is for a new tomorrow (Be just and fair)	Ella (Year 3)
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.

ST. PATRICK'S



School Open Sessions

Is your child due to start school in September 2026?

Come and see how our wonderful school will help your child flourish!

We are a nurturing and supporting school enable all pupils to thrive.

Wednesday 1st October - 4.30pm - 5.30pm

Friday 3rd October - 9.30am - 10.30am

All families welcome.

Call us on 0191 3780552 or email stpl@stpl.bwcet.com to find out more.

A Vibrant and diverse community where everyone is valued



Bishop Wilkinson
Catholic Education Trust
Through Christ, in Partnership

attendance MATTERS

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.**

Late arrivals

We understand that mornings can be hectic and that, on occasion events beyond parents' control can cause delays on the journey to school. However, we have noticed that the number of children arriving at school after the gates have closed at 8:55am has increased in recent weeks.

Class registers are taken at 9:00am prompt as we don't want to miss any learning opportunities. **All children should be in class and sat down by 9:00am.**

Year	Attendance this week:
R	100%
1 / 2	96.7%
3 / 4	96%
5 / 6	99.5%
Weekly Overall Attendance: 97.6%	
Yearly Attendance to date: 96.2%	

Standards at St. Patrick's

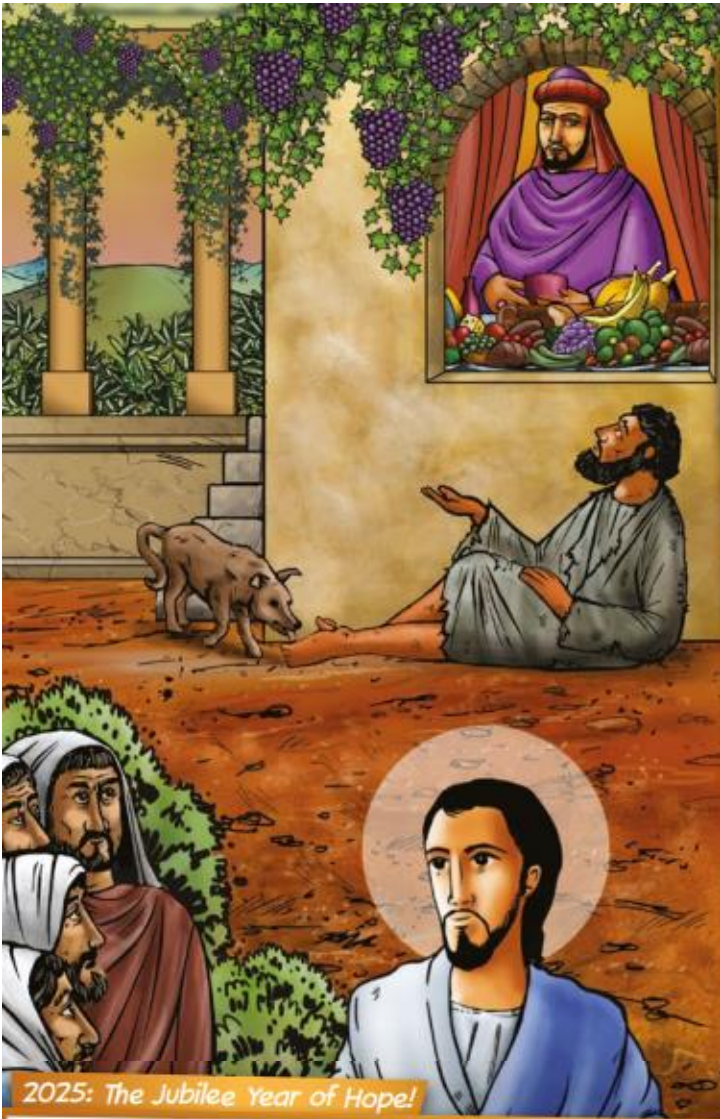
Our expectations on attendance must remain strong and, as the parent community know, we take this part of our job very seriously indeed. We will be contacting parents/carers of those children who are persistently absent, this means any child with an attendance percentage of 90% or less. Please understand 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.



Autumn Diary Dates

Date	Event	Time	All welcome
Friday 26 th September	European Day of Languages	All Day	
Friday 26 th September	McMillan Coffee Event	2.30pm	Yes
October	Black History Month		
Wednesday 1 st October	Prospective Parents Open Evening	4.30pm – 5.30pm	Yes
Friday 3 rd October	Prospective Parents Open Evening	9.30am – 10.30am	Yes
Friday 3 rd October	Harvest Festival Year 1/2 Celebration of the Word	3.00pm	Yes
Monday 6 th October	Curriculum Evening	3.30 Headteacher Class 1 & 3 – 3.45pm Class 2 & 4 – 4.15pm	Yes
Wednesday 8 th October	Reception Celebration of the Word	3.00pm	Yes
Friday 10 th October	World Mental Health Day	All day	
Friday 10 th October	Start of Year School Mass	9.30am	Yes
Wednesday 15 th October	Year 5/6 Celebration of the Word	3.00pm	Yes
Friday 24 th October	Halloween Disco	Class 1 & 2 – 3.30pm -4.30pm Class 3 & 4 – 4.30pm – 5.30pm	
Friday 24 th October	School ends for half term		
Monday 3 rd November	School reopens after half term		
w/c Monday 10 th November	Anti-Bullying week		
Tuesday 11 th November	Remembrance Day Year 3/4 Celebration of the Word	9.15am	Yes
Thursday 6 th November	Coffee Morning – Time to Talk	9.15am	Yes
w/c 10 th November	Parents Evenings	3.40pm – 6.00pm	Yes
Friday 14 th November	World Diabetes Day	All day	
Thursday 4 th December	Choir Concert	4pm	Yes
Wednesday 10 th December	Christmas Jumper Day	All day	
Wednesday 10 th December	Christmas Dinner Day	12.00pm	
December	Pantomime – TBC		
Tuesday 16 th December	Christmas Party Day	All day	
Thursday 18 th December	Mass and Carols in Church	9.30am	Yes
Friday 19 th December	End of term	3.25pm	

Use well the gifts that God has given you.



THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH
Sunday 28th September 2025



Jesus said to the Pharisees: "There was a rich man who used to dress in purple and fine linen and feast magnificently every day. And at his gate there lay a poor man called Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to fill himself with the scraps that fell from the rich man's table. Dogs even came and licked his sores. Now the poor man died and was carried away by the angels to the bosom of Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. He looked up from Hades and saw Abraham a long way off with Lazarus in his bosom. So he cried out, 'Father Abraham, pity me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am suffering in this heat.' 'My son,' Abraham replied, 'remember that during your life good things came your way, just as bad things came the way of Lazarus. Now he is being comforted here.'"

Adapted from Luke 16:19-31
The 26th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year C)

**Come and learn more about this Sunday's Gospel
in your local Parish Church and say a prayer for
your family & friends: all are very warmly invited.**

2025: The Jubilee Year of Hope!

Having Hope
in our **Families**

God wants each one of us to share with people who are in need – people around us and people all over the world and, just like Lazarus, to share in God's everlasting happiness now and forever.

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 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