



St Patrick's Catholic Primary School

NEWSLETTER – ISSUE 8 November 7th 2025

Dear Parents, Carers and Parishioners,

Welcome back after our half term break. I hope you all had a good week. The children, as always, have come back and settled well. I can't believe that we are already racing through November and dare I say Christmas is already creeping up on us. Please take time to read the Events Diary as there are lots of things happening over the next seven weeks. We look forward to welcoming you to a number of events. Let's hope for a wonderful term as we move towards Advent and Christmas. As always, please get in touch if you have any concerns or queries. I look forward to meeting you at next week's Parents Evenings. Best wishes.

Mr Rogers

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL

A range of products are still available for pupils to purchase to raise money for serving and ex-serving personnel and their families. Prices are £1 for wrist bands and slap bands and 50p for all other products. Thank you to everyone who has supported so far.



AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Clubs started this week. This term's clubs are:

- Monday – Sports Club
- Tuesday – Boardgames
- Wednesday – Film Club
- Thursday – Choir

DIARY OF EVENTS

Key events for next week :

- 11th November – Year 3/4 Remembrance Celebration of the Word – 9.15am
- 11th November – Parents Evening 3.30pm – 6pm
- 12th November – Parents Evening 3.30pm – 6pm
- 14th November – World Diabetes Day

CHOIR EVENTS

Mrs Griffiths and the School Choir are set for a busy term. They sound fantastic and can't wait to perform. Check out the Events Diary for the many times they will be performing this half term. Good luck to you all.





ST LEONARD'S NEWS

St Leonard's recently had their Catholic School Inspection. The school is incredibly proud of the outcome. Well done.

The link to the full report is:

[143583-St-Leonards-Catholic-School-Durham-Report.pdf](https://www.stleonards-catholic-school-durham.com/143583-St-Leonards-Catholic-School-Durham-Report.pdf)

HOUSE POINTS

Feast Days:	St. Bede	St. Cuthbert	St. Hilda	St. Aidan
25th May 20th March 17th November 31st August				
Weekly total	427	456	385	401
Running total	1955	1984	1982	2055

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

- ★ **Vinnie** **Year R** For fantastic reading in Phonics.
- ★ **Julia** **Year 1 / 2** For working hard to improve her presentation.
- ★ **Lily** **Year 3 / 4** For showing a great attitude this week.
- ★ **Ella** **Year 5 / 6** For excellent understanding of fractions.

Rainbow Rewards

Red	Is for the blood he gave (Be Kind)	Lyla, George, Lily, Anne,
Green	Is for the world he made (Be a steward)	Ella N, Summer, Peaches, Amelie, Evie
Yellow	Is for the light so bright (Be humble)	Max, Mackenzie
Orange	Is strong and full of might (Be courageous)	
Purple	Is for his hour of sorrow (Be compassionate and say sorry)	Bridget,
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.

Use well the gifts that God has given you

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	85.19%
1 / 2	92.59%
3 / 4	93.82%
5 / 6	97.66%
Weekly Overall Attendance: 93.25%	
Yearly Attendance to date: 95.57%	

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.



Use well the gifts that God has given you

Date	Event	Time	Parents Invited
Thursday 6 th November	Coffee Morning – Time to chat	9.15am	Yes
Tuesday 11 th November	Remembrance Day Celebration of the Word Year 3/4	9.15am	Yes
Tuesday 11 th November	Parents Evening	3.40pm – 6.00pm	Yes
Wednesday 12 th November	Parents Evening	3.40pm – 6.00pm	Yes
Friday 14 th November	World Diabetes Day		
Monday 24 th November	YMT Retreat – Year 4 24 th November – 26 th November		
Friday 28 th November	Year 5/6 Class Mass in Church	9.30am	Yes
Thursday 4 th December	Choir Concert for Parents/ Carers	4.00pm	Yes
Friday 5 th December	Year 3/4 Class Mass in Church	9.30am	Yes
Sunday 7 th December	Lighting of Langley Moor Christmas Tree – Choir to perform	4.00pm	Yes
Tuesday 9 th December	Choir to visit Care home	Afternoon	No
Wednesday 10 th December	Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Dinner		No
Thursday 11 th December	EYFS and KS1 Christmas Performance	9.30am	Yes
Thursday 11 th December	Year 1/ 2 Celebration of the Word in Church	11.00am	Yes
Thursday 11 th December	KS2 Christmas Performance	5.00pm	Yes
Friday 12 th December	Pantomime – Sleeping Beauty	Morning	No
Monday 15 th December	Christmas Fair	2.00pm	Yes
Tuesday 16 th December	Christmas Party Day	Afternoon	No
Wednesday 17 th December	Afternoon Tea and Carols for the Parish	2:00pm	No
Thursday 18 th December	Mass and Carols in Church	9.30am	Yes
Friday 19 th December	Break up for Christmas holiday		
Tuesday 6 th January (2026)	Return to school for Spring Term		



Dear Parents and Carers,

Enthusiasm is one of life's most important ingredients. The word 'enthusiasm' comes from the Greek word 'entheos' which means 'God-filled'. Life really is joyful when we are enthusiastic about the right things.

In this Sunday's Gospel, we read how the people had actually lost sight of God by getting caught up in their buying and selling. Jesus' enthusiastic action was a

Wednesday 5th November 2025

protest that things had gone seriously wrong with how they were relating to God; something needed to change.

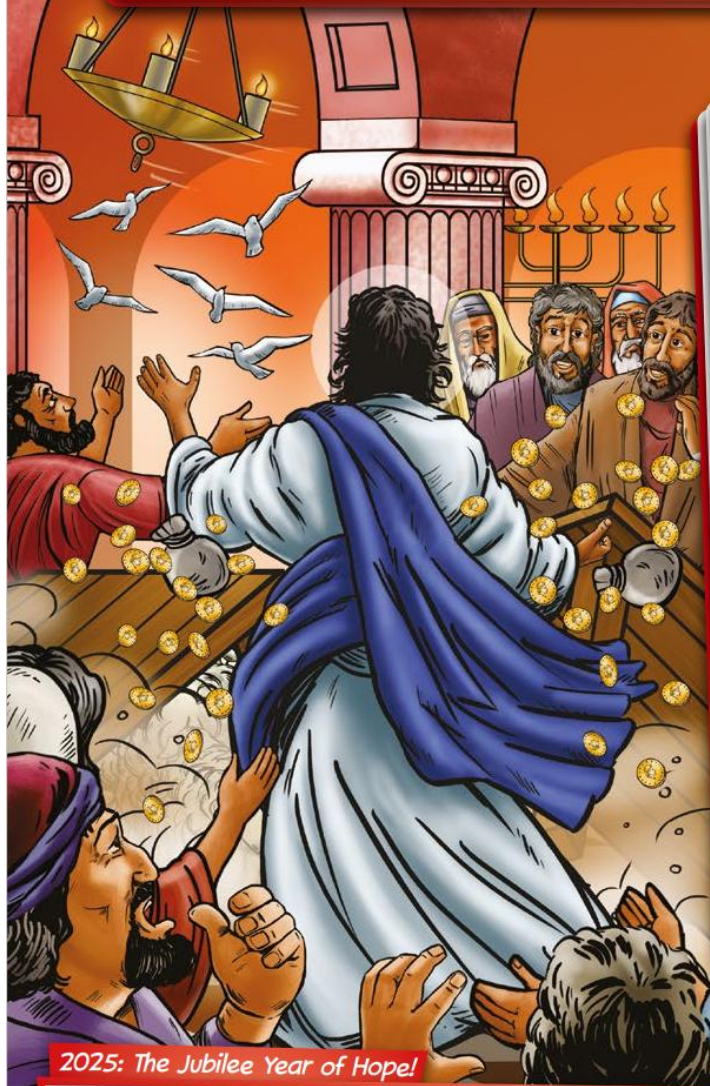
Right here - right now - we can begin or renew our relationship with God and be filled with fresh enthusiasm for life. Enjoy your week together, and help share God's love - with **ENTHUSIASM!**

Dom Henry Wansbrough



A Word from the Saints

"Remember the past with gratitude, live the present with enthusiasm, look forward to the future with confidence." Pope Saint John Paul II



THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH Sunday 9th November 2025



Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple there he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and money changers sitting at their counters. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, "Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market." Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The people in the Temple said to Jesus, "What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?" Jesus answered, "Destroy this Temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The people replied, "It has taken forty-six years to build this Temple: are you going to raise it up in three days?" Now the Temple Jesus was talking about was his own body. And later when he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered what he had told them.

Adapted from John 2:13-22
Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

Learn more about this Sunday's Gospel in your local Parish Church: all are very warmly invited.

2025: The Jubilee Year of Hope!

Having Hope
in our Families

Enthusiasm is an attractive quality. As we become more aware of God's presence in our daily lives, we become happier and more filled with energy and enthusiasm. God wants us to pray: to ask him to fill us with enthusiasm for the right, good and lasting things in life.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators EDUCATING CHILDREN ON SPENDING AND SAVING

Evidence shows that children's spending habits begin to form as early as seven years old. With primary schools in England not required to teach financial literacy, many young people are reaching adulthood without knowing the basics of budgeting. This guide explains how to teach young people about money in a practical way, giving them the understanding to become savvy spenders and savers.

1 PROVIDE POCKET MONEY

Giving children money – even a small amount – can help them learn to make their own budgeting decisions about how to spend or save it. Research shows that youngsters who receive pocket money are more likely to become adults with strong financial skills and significantly less debt.

2 USE A PREPAID CARD

Being able to pay by card is essential these days, with some retailers not accepting cash since the pandemic. Prepaid debit cards are available for children from the age of six, allowing them to get used to spending like they will as adults with no risk of dipping into an overdraft. Learning about money is like learning to swim – you need to get in the pool and have a go!

3 PRACTISE BORROWING

Although official borrowing is only available to over 18s, kids need to understand how debt and interest works before they become adults and are exposed to credit cards or 'buy now, pay later' schemes. For a safe means of teaching them about this, parents could offer them extra pocket money but explain that it needs to be paid back by a certain date, plus an extra couple of pounds as interest.

4 ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATION

Chatting about money and how much things cost will teach children that finance is a part of everyday life and not some "scary adult thing". Parents can involve them in budgeting for the weekly shop, for example, working together to get everything on the list while keeping the total below a certain number. Letting young ones make spending decisions in a safe space can build up their confidence regarding money.

5 DISCUSS THE PRESSURE TO SPEND

Whether it's YouTube ads or a hint of envy at a friend's recent purchase, spending triggers are everywhere. Encourage children to notice how clever shop design (like placing sweets at the checkout) and offers such as '2 for 1' deals entice us to spend more. Challenge them to resist impulse buys by getting them to sleep on it before deciding to spend.

6 TELLING 'NEED' FROM 'WANT'

Learning how to prioritise spending is an important life skill. The difference between life's essentials and "nice to haves" is key to budgeting. If children pester you for treats while shopping, it's the perfect time to say "That's a want. We're getting our needs first." You could show how you budget for food, electricity and so on before buying fun things.

7 ENCOURAGE SAVING

Getting children saving early can set them up with a useful habit for their adult life. Suggest that they set something aside every time they receive money and help them set a target for how much to put away, so they feel motivated to continue. For example, encouraging them to save for a friend's birthday gift can get children much more invested in what they buy.

8 SPARK INTEREST IN INTEREST

Motivate children by telling them about interest; you can describe it as a reward for having money. Explain how everything they put away will grow over time. As an exciting example, explain that 1p doubled every day for a month would amount to approximately £10 million. Some prepaid cards for young people also offer interest; parents and carers could also add a little to supplement what their child saves and show how it works.

9 PAYING FOR CHORES

This is a complex debate with no right or wrong answer. It depends on what works for each individual family. However, it can be one of the best ways to teach children that money needs to be earned and helps to create more mindful spenders. If parents aren't keen on paying for everyday chores, they could ask the children to suggest their own ideas for earning a little extra.

10 PROTECT CHILDREN FROM SCAMS

Scams are a terrifyingly easy way to lose money, and children are generally more likely to be taken in due to a lack of experience with these financial criminals. As a minimum, make sure they're aware of the most common scams they could be exposed to – by text, email and phone. For instance, young people should tell a trusted adult about any unexpected message or call and never give out their personal information.

Meet Our Expert

GoHenry is a prepaid debit card and financial education app with a mission to make every young person smart with money. Co-founder and CEO Louise Hill is a passionate campaigner for better financial literacy among school children and strongly believes that money management is a crucial life skill.

goHenry

#WakeUp
Wednesday

The
National
College