



# APRIL 2016 NEWSLETTER

28.04.2016.

**All children and young people have a right to a primary education...Young people should be encouraged to reach the highest level of education they are capable of. (Article 28, United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child)**

Welcome to our April newsletter. Please make a note of the diary dates, as there are a lot of them this term!! There will be more to come soon too!

Congratulations to our Year 6 pupils for working so hard for their SATs tests. We are keeping them all in our prayers.

We'd like to welcome our new school crossing patrol officer – I'm sure you'll agree that it is a relief that she is there at last.

## Parish Priest

As you may be aware, Fr. Gary has now left our parish & retired. We would like to thank him for all of his support to our school over the years he has been with us and we wish him all the very best in his retirement & lots of prayers.

We would like to welcome Fr. Ian Jackson who is becoming the parish priest from mid May. He is already the parish priest for St. Mary's & I am sure he will be very welcome both in our parish & school.

## Parent Shelters

We received a grant from the 'walk to school' charity, Living Streets, to build the parent waiting shelters. I know from your feedback that you are pleased with this. I'd like to thank Living Streets for this grant.

## Class 3 Student Teacher

In Class 2, Miss Geradine, is on her final teaching placement and will be teaching some of the timetable in this class.

We welcome her and wish her luck

## New Website

Our school website has changed and is now on a new 'platform'. This is kept as up to date as possible, particularly with school dates. Please give us any feedback as to how we could improve this for you, or if there is any information that you would like on there that is not currently on it.



## New Tests for Year 2 and Year 6

As you are aware, Year 2 & Year 6 pupils will be sitting new tests based on the more difficult national curriculum this term. Attached to this letter is the Government leaflet that explains these tests. You will be aware from the national press that Year 2 will not be sitting a Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling test due to the test being published on the Govt. website by error.

**THIS NEWSLETTER IS AVAILABLE IN LARGE PRINT FORMAT-**

**PLEASE CONTACT SCHOOL OFFICE IF NEEDED**

### School Dinners

#### Dinner Money Rise from September 2016

Just to inform you that the cost of a school dinner from September will rise to £2 per day. Please send dinner money in on a Monday morning, in an envelope clearly marked with their name, thank you! Children in Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 will continue to receive their dinner for free.



### Wheatley Hill Village Fundraising – The Last Shift

I'd like to congratulate our Mini Vinnies for organising so well the non uniform day & bake sale last term to raise money towards this village project. They raised an amazing £204.73. Thank you to all who took part.

### School Chaplain Reminder

We do have a school chaplain who comes into school on a Wednesday morning once a fortnight.

She sets up a quiet prayer room each Wednesday morning in the small library in the hall with our Mini Vinnies children. Children, staff and parents are very welcome to go into this for a couple of minutes of quiet prayer. There is also a book of prayers in there for you to write the name of anyone you would like us to pray for in school.

The Mini Vinnies children do make prayer cards for people in the prayer book who need praying for, and other activities.

### Summer Sun!

Just in case a summer does arrive, can I please remind you to protect your child from the sun? On sunny days all children should have sun cream put onto them before they come to school and should have a sun hat with them, with their name clearly marked inside the hat.

Unfortunately, school staff are unable to put sun cream onto the children. However, you can send cream in with your child for them to put on themselves.

### Uniform

Can I please remind you that school uniform must be worn at all times – this includes school trousers – tracksuit/jogging bottoms are not permitted as a substitute. Black school shoes are part of

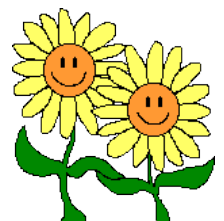
this.

Nail varnish is not permitted.

Could all uniform have your child's name in it, please.

**PLEASE SEE ATTACHED SHEET  
FOR OUR DIARY DATES,  
THANK YOU!!**

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### Dates for the Diary (so far!)

\_(these are also on our school website - [www.st-godrics.durham.sch.uk](http://www.st-godrics.durham.sch.uk) )

- 2<sup>nd</sup> May** - **Bank Holiday Monday – school closed.**
- 9th-12th May - SATS Week
- 10<sup>th</sup> May - Year 3 tennis tournament
- 23<sup>rd</sup> May - Year 6 leavers photos taking place
- 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> May - Year 6 residential trip to the Lake District
- 27<sup>th</sup> May** - **BREAK UP FOR HALF TERM HOLIDAY**
- 6<sup>th</sup> June - Back to school
  - Class 3, 4 & 5 trip to St. Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle
- 10<sup>th</sup> June - School Photographs
- 14th June - Year5/6 Athletics Tournament
- 15<sup>th</sup> June - Year 6 St. Bede's transition visit
- 20<sup>th</sup> June - Year 6 Shotton Hall Academy transition visit
- 22<sup>nd</sup> June - Year 6 St. Bede's transition visit
- 23<sup>rd</sup> June - Year 3/4 Athletics Tournament
- 24th June** - **SCHOOL CLOSED**
  - Year 6 Shotton Hall Academy transition visit
- 28<sup>th</sup> June - Year 5 visit to St. Bede's
- 1<sup>st</sup> July - Class 1 & 2 at Sage Gateshead for the 'Big Sing'
- 4<sup>th</sup> & 5th July - Wellfield Year 6 pupils' induction days
- 5<sup>th</sup> July - Sports Day – time to be confirmed
- 8th July - Y6 Catholic Schools cluster mass at St. Bede's
  - 1.30pm – Sports Day
- 13<sup>th</sup> July - Class 3, 4 & 5 at Sage Gateshead for the 'Big Sing'
- 14<sup>th</sup> July - Class 3 educational visit to Broom House Farm
- 15th July - Reports go out to parents
- 20<sup>th</sup> July - **BREAK UP FOR SUMMER HOLIDAYS**

**TUESDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER – SCHOOL RETURNS**