

St Bede's Catholic Primary School

With Christ at our side to guide us, we shine in all that we do.

Upcoming dates

Nursery **Reception** Year 1
Year 2 Year 3 Year 4 Year 5
Year 6 **Infants Juniors**

September

Monday 4th September INSET
day. School closed to pupils

Tuesday 5th September
School open – start of autumn
term

Friday 8th September
Emma Lewell-Buck MP to visit
school

Wednesday 13th September
Mike McGrother – assembly –
Walks for Joy

Thursday 14th September
Mass to celebrate start of new
school year at St.Bede's Church
10.00am – all welcome.

Tuesday 19th September
**Y5 – Hoops4Health Healthy
Living Roadshow**

Friday 22nd September
Year 1 & Year 2 – Coffee
afternoon / workshop – Everyone
worries for parents & children
from 2.15pm

Monday 25th September
**Year 3 – visit to Museum of
Archaeology in Durham for
prehistory event**

Friday 29th September
**District Cross Country
Championships – KS2 Cross
Country Team**

**NSPCC assemblies &
workshops**
An NSPCC assembly will be
held for all pupils this term

Headteacher message

Dear parents and carers

A warm welcome back to school everybody – I hope you have all had a lovely summer break and have enjoyed spending quality time with your family and friends.

And so here we are ... within the blink of an eye we find ourselves at the start of another new school year. I love this time of year as we come together once more as a school family ready to face the challenges ahead together with renewed energy, optimism and hope. It was an absolute joy to see all of the children return to school on Tuesday morning and I am looking forward to catching up on with them all over the coming days. I know all of my staff are enjoying getting to know their new classes and there is a real buzz around the place which is wonderful. Staff have worked hard over the summer to make sure their new classrooms are ready to welcome the children back to school. The children have made a really settled start and there are lots of smiles and happy laughter around school.

What should I do if my child is feeling anxious about coming back to school?

Coming back to school in September can be difficult for some children who may feel a bit anxious returning after the holidays to a new class; if this is the case, please speak to me and I will make sure your child gets the support they need to ensure a happy and confident start to their new class.

New families

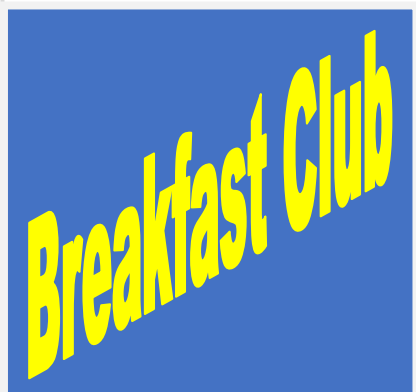
I would like to give a special welcome to any new families who are joining our St. Bede's family this year. We are a small school with a big heart and we are looking forward to getting to know you and your children over the coming weeks as they begin their learning journey with us. I am sure your children will be very happy at St.Bede's and I know everyone will make you feel welcome.

BCCET Walks



Join us as we Walk for Joy

Please see information on website for further details. We would love you to join us.



St. Bede's Breakfast Club

St. Bede's now offers a breakfast club before school and we would love to welcome new children.

Details

Time: 7.45am – 8.45am

Cost: £5 per session

Booking: Sessions can be booked via Parent Pay

Contact Mrs Griffiths or Mrs Hill for further information about our breakfast club.



School Uniform

Thank you for sending the children back to school looking so smart and wearing the correct uniform – it may seem a small thing, but it really does help to maintain high standards of behaviour and helps the children to aspire to be the best they can be.

I know it can be difficult sometimes, so we greatly appreciate your support in ensuring that the children wear the correct uniform (including PE kit) to school throughout the year.

Our uniform is purposefully simple and cost effective to ensure that the children look smart and feel comfortable while in school. We want the children to feel a sense of belonging and to feel proud to be part of St. Bede's and our uniform helps us to achieve this. Branded items have been kept to a minimum to help to make our uniform affordable as we appreciate the financial burden school uniform has on parents.



Uniform Donations

We are happy to accept donations of school uniform, school coats, PE kit, trainers / shoes that are in good condition so we can recycle them which is also helping to look after our environment.




Help with uniform

We know that buying uniforms can be really expensive. If you need some support with this, please speak to us and we will see what we can do to help.

Jewellery

Please may I remind parents that, in line with school policy, jewellery (including earrings) is not allowed.



SAFEGUARDING

Just a reminder that you can access our safeguarding policies on the school website in the Key Information section. ([Safeguarding Policies](#)) If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact one of our safeguarding leads in school to share your concern.

Safeguarding Team

Designated Safeguarding Lead

- Mrs Devine (Headteacher)

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads

- Mrs Welsh (Family Support Worker)
- Mrs Mackley (Deputy Headteacher / SENDCO)
- Mr McVittie (Senior Leader)

Wednesday 6th September, 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

NSPCC's *Speak out. Stay safe.* programme

I am pleased to inform you that we are participating in the **NSPCC's *Speak out. Stay safe. Programme*** this term. *Speak out. Stay safe.* is a programme for children aged 5-11 which aims to help children understand abuse in all its forms and to recognise the signs of abuse. Children are taught to speak out if they are worried, either to a safe adult or Childline.

This child friendly programme is aligned with the curriculum and consists of age appropriate virtual assemblies and supporting classroom based activities which we have reviewed, alongside NSPCC volunteer led face to face workshops for children aged 6-7 and 9-11. The content is delivered in an engaging and interactive way with the help of the NSPCC mascot Buddy. If you would like to know more about the *Speak out. Stay safe.* programme visit www.nspcc.org.uk/speakout.

Feedback survey for pupils aged 7-11

The NSPCC would like to gather feedback from pupils aged between 7-11 about the *Speak out. Stay safe.* programme to gauge their learning. **This will be voluntary and children can still take part in the programme if they don't take part in the survey.**

- All survey questions are multiple choice and focussed on the programme.
- The survey is anonymous and confidential. However, if in the process of completing the survey, a teacher becomes concerned for a pupil's welfare (e.g., through something a pupil says) we will follow our school's safeguarding procedures.
- If you **do not** want your child to take part in the **survey**, sign the slip below and return it to your child's class teacher.
- If you have agreed that your child can take part in the survey but your child changes their mind on the day, that is also okay.

Additional NSPCC resources for families to help keep children safe

The NSPCC have shared some important information below on wider NSPCC resources and support to help keep children safe.

<p>Parent/Carer support</p> <p>Take a look at information, support, advice and activities from NSPCC for parent and carers.</p> <p>www.nspcc.org.uk/parents</p>	<p>Activities to extend learning at home</p> <p>Take part in games and activities at home to help children learn about speaking out and staying safe.</p> <p>www.nspcc.org.uk/activities</p>
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<p>Online Safety Hub</p> <p>For information on a range of different online safety topics including gaming, social media, sharing images, parental controls and more.</p> <p>www.nspcc.org.uk/onlinesafety</p>	<p>Childline – under 12's</p> <p>Childline have an accessible website with advice, support, games and activities. Children can change the language, enlarge text and also listen to the content.</p> <p>www.childline.org.uk/buddy (5-7)</p> <p>www.childline.org.uk/kids (7-11)</p>
<p>Talk PANTS with your children</p> <p>Talk PANTS is a simple conversation to help keep children safe from sexual abuse. From P through to S, each letter of PANTS provides simple but important messages. Download the free resources at www.nspcc.org.uk/pants.</p>	

I hope you find this information about the NSPCC and the *Speak out. Stay safe.* programme helpful. Please do contact me if you have any further questions.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Carol Devine
Headteacher

Parent/carers SURVEY withdrawal form for children aged 7-11 only

I do not consent to (Name of pupil) _____ participating in the completion of the NSPCC Pupil Survey following the delivery of the ***Speak out. Stay safe.*** Programme.

Signed (Parent/Carer) : _____ **Date:** _____