



# 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

### October

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October  
Flu Vaccines

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October  
That History Bloke – History  
workshops: Year 4 & Year 5

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October  
Year 6 visit to the Fire Station  
– Reducing accidents at play

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October  
World Mental Health Day  
KS2 – virtual author visit –  
Hannah Gold

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>  
October  
Robin Wood Residential - Year 6  
& some Year 5 with Mrs  
Devine, Mrs Welsh & Mrs  
MacDonald

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>  
October  
Scholastic Book Fair in school –  
further details to follow

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October  
Year 4 – Fire Safety in the  
home workshop in school

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October  
First aid for children workshop  
– Year 1 Year 2 Year 3 Year 4  
Year 5 Year 6

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October  
School closed for INSET day

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October – Friday  
27<sup>th</sup> October – HALF TERM  
HOLIDAY

## Headteacher message

### Dear parents and carers,

It has been a lovely start to the new school year despite being a bit soggy! The children have settled really well into their new classes and have already produced some fantastic work in their books.

### Curriculum Information Meetings

We have had an excellent turn out to parent curriculum information meetings and we really appreciate you taking the time to attend these so that we can continue to work together to best support your children both in school and at home.

If throughout the year you have any worries or concerns about your child, please make an appointment to come and speak to me. I am always happy to meet with parents so that we can work to resolve any problems quickly.

### Visits and Visitors

Classes have already had an exciting start to the year with a number of visits and visitors to support their learning. Reception class have had the school nurses in to talk about keeping healthy. The NSPCC came to deliver workshops to Years 2, 5 and 6 and the children enjoyed meeting Buddy who reminds them to Speak Out and Stay Safe. Marie Holmes from the Healthy Minds team has worked with classes during their PSHE lessons to teach them about how to cope with worries. Our Year 3 children enjoyed being mini archaeologists during a visit to Durham's Museum of Archaeology where they learned about the Stone-Bronze Age. Our Year 4 and 5 children are looking forward to a visit from 'That History Bloke' this week to support their learning in their current history topics. Year 6 will be visiting the Fire Station next week where they will take part in a number of workshops aimed at reducing accidents at play. If you would like to find out more about any of these visits then please visit the School News section of our website or the class pages. ([School News](#))

Best wishes

Carol Devine

Headteacher



## Flood Update

Sadly, following the heavy rainfall on the day of the Great North Run (10/09/23), we suffered significant flood damage to our EYFS building. Staff worked hard to ensure that we could remain open for our Nursery and Reception children and a temporary classroom has been set up in the school hall until their classroom is ready for use. I would like to say a big thank you to our Nursery and Reception families who have shown great patience and understanding over the past few weeks whilst we work to resolve the problems.



Due to the sheer volume of water that came through the roof, both ceilings and carpets were badly damaged and need to be replaced. Despite managing to get the mess cleared up quickly and the surface of the carpets dried after a few days, we are still unable to use a large part of the Early Years building because the concrete underneath the carpets is still wet and we have been advised that it will be a further 2 – 3 weeks before they will be dry enough to lay a new carpet and to replace skirting boards.

Although it was definitely not the start of the year we had hoped for, especially for our lovely new starters, we have certainly, in true St. Bede's spirit, made the best of a bad situation thanks to my amazing staff who are always so willing to go above and beyond to do the best for the children. I would like to reassure parents that it is very much 'business as usual' and the children are doing the same work that they would be doing if they were in their own classroom. It has been a delight to get to know our new Nursery and Reception children and they have quickly settled into routines and have made themselves at home here at St. Bede's



I am hoping that we will be able to be back to normal after half term, but I will keep you updated with the progress of the work and will inform you as soon as we have a definite date.

## INFORMATION FOR NURSERY PARENTS

Nursery children will be in the hall with the Reception children on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October while maintenance work is carried out in their classroom. On this day, the children will need to be dropped off and picked up from the main school entrance.



## *St. Bede's Breakfast Club*

Please join us at our breakfast club. 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.

### Sporting Success

#### Cross Country Champions!



I am so proud of all of our cross country superstars for such a magnificent performance to become South Tyneside Cross Country Champions last Friday for the second time in a row. What a fantastic achievement! I am full of admiration for the children's dedication and commitment to preparing for the event and for giving it 110% on the day. It is not an easy course to run, so just to finish the course is an achievement in itself, but to be crowned champions is just the icing on the cake! Well done to all of the 41 children who took part – amazing! Thank you also to Mr McVittie for his hard work in getting the children ready for the event and to all of our parent helpers for giving up your time on the day.

#### Basketball – Champion of Champions Regional Runners Up



Huge congratulations to our basketball team who battled hard to become runners up of the Champion of Champions Regional Finals. It was a real privilege to watch the children play with such passion and they were just pipped at the post at the final hurdle. They won 3 of their first 4 games to clinch a place in the overall final against a strong Gosforth Junior Academy side which was played at half time of the Eagles basketball match. The children played with pride which made for a nail biting final and although Gosforth won overall, St. Bede's showed great spirit and never gave up. I am sure the children will have memories from the occasion that will last a lifetime – well done St. Bede's.



## Safety

### Scooters / Bikes

We have a lot of younger children in the yard at pick up and drop off times, so can children please not ride scooters or bikes on the school grounds to avoid any accidents.

### Parking

Just a gentle reminder to please park considerately and safely outside of school.



## **SAFEGUARDING**

If you have any worries / concerns about your children or would like some advice or support, please make an appointment at the office (Tel: 0191 4560108 / email: [tbsinfo@stbedessouthshields.co.uk](mailto:tbsinfo@stbedessouthshields.co.uk)) to speak to any member of our safeguarding team or contact Mrs Devine via email: [cdevine@stbedessouthshields.co.uk](mailto:cdevine@stbedessouthshields.co.uk)

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.



### **Our Safeguarding Children Team**



If you are concerned about a child please talk to us

April 2023

## Safeguarding Team

### Designated Safeguarding Lead

- Mrs Devine (Headteacher)  
[cdevine@stbedessouthshields.co.uk](mailto:cdevine@stbedessouthshields.co.uk)

### Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads

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