



Headteacher message

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back to the new school year everyone. I hope this letter finds you well and that you and your family have had a restful and enjoyable summer break. It was a real joy to see all of the children returning to school last week and I am delighted with how well they have all settled into their new classes. There is a happy and positive atmosphere throughout school which is wonderful.

New beginnings

The start of a new school year is always a special time – a chance for the children to reconnect with their friends, meet new teachers, and engage in fresh learning experiences. Our teachers and staff have been working hard to prepare for the upcoming year, and we are eager to see all of our students thrive academically, socially and emotionally. If you have any concerns about how your child is settling into their new class, then please do not hesitate to get in touch with me so we can work together to support them.

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.

Mr Charlton

I would also like to extend a warm welcome to our new deputy headteacher – Mr Charlton. He has settled into the school very quickly and I am impressed at how quickly he is getting to know everyone. I know he is going to be a great addition to the St. Bede's team. Mr Charlton will be out on the yard with me on a morning, so please take the time to introduce yourself to him as I know he would love to meet you all.

Uniform Expectations

I would like to remind everyone of our uniform expectations to ensure that our students present themselves smartly and feel part of our school community:

- **Boys:**
 - Grey sweatshirt
 - Blue polo shirt
 - Grey trousers
 - Black shoes
- **Girls:**
 - Grey sweatshirt / cardigan
 - Blue polo shirt

- Grey skirt / trousers
- Black shoes

For PE, all students should have a plain white T-shirt, blue shorts, and suitable footwear. In colder weather children can wear plain navy / black jogging bottoms.

No Jewellery Please

Just a reminder that our uniform policy states that children are not allowed to wear any jewellery other than a wristwatch to school – this includes earrings. It would be greatly appreciated if you could ensure that the children follow this rule. The same rules apply when the children move up to their secondary schools, so it is important that they get used to these school rules from an early age.

Year Group Curriculum Meetings

Staff are looking forward to meeting you all at the year group curriculum meetings planned for the next couple of weeks. It would be great if you could attend as staff will give an overview of what to expect for the term ahead and how you can best support the children with their learning. The children (and any siblings they have in school) will be looked after in school by staff during these meetings, so please come into school via the main entrance and staff will direct you to the correct classroom.

Term Dates

Here are the dates for the Autumn term. As always, if there are any changes or additions, we will let you know in plenty of time.

Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
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September	Monday 16 th September	3.20pm – 4.00pm	Year 2 - Curriculum information meeting for parents
		3.20pm – 4.00pm	Year 3 - Curriculum information meeting for parents
	Tuesday 17 th September	9.30am – 11.30am	Year 5 Library visit to The Word
		3.15pm	Reception – Curriculum information meeting for parents
	Wednesday 18 th September	3.20pm – 4.00pm	Year 1 - Curriculum information meeting for parents
	Thursday 19 th September	3.20pm – 4.00pm	Year 6 - Curriculum information meeting for parents
	Tuesday 24 th September	9.30am – 11.30am	Year 4 Library visit to The Word
		1.00pm – 3.00pm	Y5 Hoops 4 Health Roadshow – Newcastle Eagles (basketball)
		3.20pm – 4.00pm	Year 4 - Curriculum information meeting for parents
	Wednesday 25 th September	3.20pm – 4.00pm	Year 5 - Curriculum information meeting for parents

	Thursday 26 th September	pm	District Cross Country Championship
October	Tuesday 1 st October	9.30am – 11.30am	Year 3 Library visit to The Word
	Wednesday 2 nd October	am	Year 6 – RAP (reducing accidents at play) workshop at South Shields Firestation
	Thursday 3 rd October	1.00pm – 3.00pm	School nursing team – Flu Nasal Spray
		9.00am - 3.00pm	Year 4 visitor - That History Bloke – The Greeks
		9.00am – 3.00pm	Year 3 visitor from Durham University – Stone – Iron Age workshop
	Tuesday 8 th October	9.30am – 11.30am	Year 1 Library visit to The Word
	Thursday 10 th October	10.00am	Mass of Thanksgiving (venue TBC)
	Monday 14 th October – Wednesday 16 th October		Year 5/6 Residential – Robin Wood Activity Centre
	Tuesday 15 th October	9.30am – 11.30am	Year 2 Library Visit to The Word
	w/b 21 st October		Year 4 assessment week
		9.30am – 11.30am	Reception - Library Visit to The Word
	Thursday 24 th October		Children break up for half term at 3.15pm
Friday 25 th October		INSET day	
Monday 28th October – Friday 1st November HALF TERM BREAK			
	w/b 4 th November		School Assessment Week
November	Tuesday 5 th November	10.00am	Mass for All Saints (venue TBC)
	Wednesday 6 th – Friday 8 th November		Year 4 – Youth Village Retreat
	Thursday 7 th November	9.00am	Year 6 - Celebration of the Word (Families are warmly invited to attend.)
	Tuesday 12 th November	9.30am – 11.30am	Year 5 Library Visit to The Word
	Thursday 14 th November	9.00am	Year 4 Celebration of the Word (Families are warmly invited to attend.)
	Tuesday 19 th November	9.30am – 11.30am	Year 4 Library Visit to The Word
	Thursday 21 st November	10.00am	Whole School Mass (Venue TBC)
	Monday 25 th November – Friday 29 th November	-	Year 5 Bikeability
	Tuesday 26 th November	9.30am – 11.30am	Year 3 Library visit to The Word
	Thursday 28 th November	am	Year 4 – Home Fire Safety Assembly
De	Tuesday 3 rd December	9.30am – 11.30am	Year 2 Library Visit to The Word

		1.00pm – 5.30pm	Parents' Afternoon
	Wednesday 4 th December	1.00pm – 5.30pm	Parents' Afternoon
	Tuesday 10 th December	TBC	Year 4 Bikeability
	Tuesday 10 th December	9.30am – 11.30am	Year 1 Library Visit to The Word
	Thursday 12 th December	9.00am	Year 5 - Celebration of the Word (Families are warmly invited to attend.)
	Thursday 19 th December	2.00pm	Junior Carol Concert (venue TBC)
	Friday 20 th December	1.15pm	Break up for Christmas holidays at 1.15pm

Pupils return to school on Monday 6th January 2025

Next Steps

To stay informed and engaged with school activities, please:

- Check our school website regularly for updates and announcements.
<https://stbedessouthshields.co.uk/>
- Ensure your contact information is up to date with the school office.
- Join us for the upcoming curriculum information meetings to find out how you can best support your child this year.

Working in Partnership

We strongly believe in working in partnership with parents and carers to ensure the best possible outcomes for our students. Your involvement and support are crucial, and we encourage you to engage with us regularly.

If you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are here to help and support you and your child throughout the school year.

School office: 0191 456 0108 or email at info@stbedessouthshields.co.uk

Safeguarding

Our safeguarding team in school are:

Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Carol Devine – Headteacher

cdevine@stbedessouthshield.co.uk

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads

Mr Paul Charlton – Deputy Headteacher / SENDCO

Mr Brian McVittie – Senior Leader

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.

We look forward to a fantastic school year ahead, full of learning, growth, and success for all our students.

With warmest wishes,

Carol Devine
Headteacher



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

Dear Lord,

May this year be one of joy, connection, and growth. Help us to encourage one another, seek understanding, and work together with kindness and respect.

Amen