



ST JAMES CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, HEBBURN

September 2024

Dear Families,

We have had a wonderful start to term and have enjoyed welcoming back all of our children as well as meeting our newest arrivals in our Reception Class. The children are fresh faced, ready to learn and look very smart in their uniform.

MacMillan Cancer Support

Parents and Carers are welcome to come along on Friday 27th September at 2:30pm to enjoy cake and a cuppa in aid of MacMillan. Please bring along a small donation and enjoy a sweet treat for this amazing charity. Cakes will be provided by our wonderful cook Sara. We look forward to seeing everyone.

Autumn Fete

Our Autumn Fete is on Friday 4th October. Children and staff have been busy preparing for all of the stalls and events in order to make sure this is a huge success. Please come along and bring all of the family to enjoy some fun 1:30 – 4pm. We have received lots of generous donations from all of our families for our stalls and prizes, however, we still need so much more. We would still greatly appreciate any contributions of toys, books, bottles, tins or unopened/unused toiletries to sell on our stalls on the day. **We are still in need of volunteers, if you could give your time we would be very grateful.** Please bring in your donations to the school office and let Mrs Hudson or Mrs Gillis know if you are able to volunteer on the day. We will have lots of exciting activities as well as a bouncy castle, candy floss stall and an ice-cream van. Please make sure you have lots of change for the day as this helps with our floats.

To ensure the safety of all of our children we respectfully request that they have an adult family member supervising them at all times. We understand this may not be possible for some families due to working commitments. If this is the case your child will be taken around the fete in a group with a supervising member of staff and must be collected and signed out at usual school time. Class lists will be held at the school office. Children **MUST** be signed out on exit from the building by their adult family member. We know that you will support us to make sure everyone can enjoy the fete whilst being safe and supervised.

Special Friends

Our Reception children have now met their “special friends” in Year 6. This is a way of giving our Year 6 pupils responsibility to welcome our youngest children into the St James’ family. This always creates a real buzz in school and it’s a joy to watch our Year 6 rise to the challenge. Friendships are forged for a lifetime!

Extra-Curricular Clubs

We are well underway with our After School Clubs. Currently in school we have, Sports Club, Little Dribblers, Faith in Action, Mini Vinnies and Arts Award. This is an ever growing list and is proving to be extremely popular in our school community.

Mrs Francesca Heslop
Headteacher
BSc (Hons) P.G.C.E.

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Open Evening

Please join us on Thursday 10th October for our Reception 2025 Open Evening. There will be two separate slots 4-5pm or 5-6pm. There will be a 15-minute presentation during each slot and children are welcome to come along! We look forward to seeing everyone on the evening! No booking required. If you know of anyone with children who will be of school age please signpost them to us at St James'.

Pupil Leadership

We consider everyone to be a leader at St James and we aim to nurture this in our lovely children. During the Autumn term school councillors will be elected. House Captain and Vice Captains will be chosen. Eco warriors and Curriculum Ambassadors will be selected and for the first time ever Head Boy and Head Boy will be appointed.

Uniform

Thank you for following our uniform policy. We know there are still some outstanding uniform orders. We have been in close contact with Emblematic, our uniform provider, who are currently dealing with import issues on certain material. Cardigans and PE kits have been particularly delayed. We understand this is very frustrating and have been assured by Emblematic that they are doing their best to make sure these items are delivered as soon as possible. A reminder that no jewellery is allowed in school this includes smart watches.

Asda Cashpot for Schools - please remember to sign up!

Between 2nd September and 30th November 2024

- Download the Asda Rewards app, register and opt-in to Cashpot for Schools (make sure you have the latest version of the app installed)
- Choose our Primary School – either searching by name or postcode
- Shop instore across Asda and George, or online at Asda.com and start filling your Cashpot as you shop

Asda does the rest, all money raised will be donated to schools to spend on the things they need the most. Remember, anyone can sign up – so start spreading the news and raising funds for our school. **This initiative is on top of the existing Asda Rewards benefits you get as a shopper** – so you won't lose out on any of your own earnings or Cashpot, so everyone is a winner!

Upcoming Educational Visits and Events

- The Year 4 children will be visiting the Segedunum Roman Fort in Wallsend on Monday 21st October as part of our history topic. Please give permission and payment via your ParentPay account.
- Our Year 4 children will be taking part in Level 1 Bikeability on Thursday 3rd October. This will take place within school on the yard. If you haven't already done so please send in your Bikeability form.
- Year 6 will be visiting South Shields Fire Station for a RAP (Reducing Accidents at Play) event on Monday 30th September. If you haven't already done so, please give permission on your ParentPay account.

...We are hoping to organise many more educational visits in all of our classes as the term progresses.

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Headteacher
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One last thing...

We understand that the current financial climate is having a tremendous effect on our school community. If you are struggling, please reach out to us and we will endeavour to support you and your children in any way we can. This can be support with uniform, school meals, trip payments etc.

Kindest regards and best wishes

Francesca Heslop
Headteacher

Diary Dates

- Autumn Discos **KS1 Children (R-Y2)**: Monday 21st October 1:30pm – 3:20pm **KS2 Children (Y3-Y6)**: Tuesday 22nd October 1:30pm – 3:20pm.
- Parents Evenings Monday 14th/Tuesday 15th October (More information to follow)
- Phototronics Individual Photographs - October 2024 (More information to follow)
- Friday 25th October INSET DAY followed by the Half term holiday
- **Deadline for secondary school 2025 applications - Thursday 31 October 2024 at 4:30pm**

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