



St Mary's



Growing together in the friendship of faith

Newsletter - 29th September 2023

un día increíble



Thank you for supporting our Spanish Day on Tuesday - the children had a fantastic day and enjoyed the activities linked to Spanish culture and language in class and the delicious feast served by the kitchen at dinner time! Key stage 2 children are thoroughly enjoying their Spanish lessons and are doing incredibly well, considering they have only just started learning the language.

We also had some amazing and imaginative Spanish themed outfits around school - well done to everyone for their enthusiasm and engagement with the day. ¡hurra!

Gracias

After school clubs

We are currently looking at how we can improve our after school provision without passing on a financial cost to parents. Our School Councillors are finding out what sorts of activities our children would be interested in taking part in at after school clubs and we will hopefully have a clear plan in place ready for the second half of the autumn term. If you have any ideas, please let us know.

Upcoming Events



5th Oct - free school lunch for every child day - see p3 (Trust celebration day)

6th Oct - coffee morning in the school hall 9am - 10am

10th Oct - Open Evening for parents, call in and have a look in your child's classroom, look at books...

11th Oct - Reception parent-teacher meetings

13th Oct - Harvest Festival and Welcome for new Reception children-2:30pm in the school hall



Application for Year 7 and Reception places for September 2024

A reminder that applications for **Year 7** places closes at midnight on **31st October 2023**.

Apply online at: <https://durham.gov.uk/secondaryschoolplaces>

For information from St Bede's open evening, please visit:

<https://www.stbedes.durham.sch.uk/information-evening-powerpoints>

Applications for places in **Reception** class next year close on **15th January 2024**:

<https://durham.gov.uk/primaryschoolplaces>



Celebration of The Word

Starting after half term, we will be inviting parents into school each week, on a Thursday morning, to join us for prayer and worship. Once a half-term, each class will lead the whole school in worship and parents of children in that class will be invited to stay after drop off to take part. This will give you a wonderful insight into one of the many ways that we pray together as a school community and you will witness first hand how respectful and reverent our children are. Please join us if you are able to, if you can't make it on the day of your child's class, please feel free to come along to any other session.

Themes of the worship will link to the Church's liturgical calendar and our school values.

Class 5 will start us off on 2nd November

Class 4 - 9th November

Class 3 - 16th November

Class 2 - 23rd November

Class 1 - 29th November



Recent awards!



Headteacher awards for this week and last week:

Class 1

Bryleigh C and Crystal D

Class 2

Ella P and Harper-Rose M

Class 3

Brionie P and Ollie H-G

Class 4

All of Class 4 and Imogen L

Class 5

Scarlett R and Macey J

Attendance award:

Winning class:

Class 1 - 100%

Our whole school this year to date is only 93.9% which is well below the national average - please support good attendance as poor attendance affects your child's progress and our school.



Golden Welly Awards!

For excellence at playtimes - creativity, sharing, kindness, sportsmanship, imagination...

- Georgia G and Georgie W for helping others at lunchtime
- Sampson O for beautiful manners and excellent behaviour

well done

Thank you for being such wonderful role models - well done!

On Thursday 5th October, we are taking part in a BWCET Primary School celebration at our school.

ALL children will be provided with a nutritional lunch FREE OF CHARGE.

The MENU on the day will include a selection of the following:

- Pizza
- Sausage Roll Bites
- Chicken or Quorn Nuggets
- Potato Wedges & Dips
- Selection of Sandwiches & Wraps
- Vegetable Sticks & Humous
- Scrumptious Salad Bar
- Fresh Fruit
- Ice Cream Pots



To make the day extra special and to celebrate “Heroes and Superheroes” the dining area will be decorated, and all children will be given an activity puzzle to do.

We will also be holding a free raffle and every child who has a school lunch will be given the chance to win some wonderful prizes, including:

Amazon vouchers, Smyths Toys vouchers, Toys and other super-prizes, including an iPad and £50 vouchers.

It will also be the opportunity for children to find out how delicious our school meals are - perfect for winter days!

We hope this will be a wonderful day for our school and Trust family and we encourage all children to take part.



Appeal from Reception class

We are currently developing our outdoor area and are looking for items that we can use to create an exciting water area for children to explore which will enhance their learning.

If you have any of the following that you no longer need or leftovers from home improvement projects, please send them into school:

- Large metal kitchen utensils - spoons, spatulas, potato mashers
- Metal or plastic buckets, dishes, bowls, pots and pans, teapots, sieves, colanders, jugs, funnels
- Guttering, tubing, corrugated plastic,
- Trellis or decking
- Tarpaulins, plastic sheeting
- Large water containers, water butts, water bottles from large dispensers
- Plastic gardening pots



Any other items that you think might be useful - we would welcome any donations - large or small!