



St Catherine's Catholic Primary School

'Let your light shine and set the world on fire'

Upcoming dates

Year 2 Stay and Pray -
Monday 18th May 2.40pm

Reception - Pets
corner- Wednesday 20th
May

Glee Club Performance -
Thursday 21st May 6.00pm

Cultural Diversity Day
Friday 22nd May

Inset Day (school closed
to pupils) - 1st June

School Photographs -
Tuesday 2nd June

Year 4 - Thursday
4th June- Live Tales.

Year 2 - Friday 5th June -
Laing Art Gallery

Year 4 - Tuesday
9th June- Life Path Holy
Trinity Church.



Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to believe that we are already in week 4 of the Summer Term - time is flying! The children have continued to work incredibly hard, and I would like to give a special mention to our Year 6 pupils, who have shown great determination and resilience while completing their SATs this week. We are very proud of them all.

We would like to say a huge well done to all our Year 6 children for their incredible hard work and determination during SATs week!

They approached each day with focus, resilience, and a positive attitude, showing just how much they have grown throughout their time in primary school. We are so proud of the effort they put into their revision and the way they supported one another—truly demonstrating our school values.

SATs are an important milestone, but what has stood out the most is the confidence, maturity, and perseverance shown by every single pupil. These qualities will serve them well as they move on to the next stage of their education.

A big thank you also goes to our staff and families for their continued support in helping the children feel calm, prepared, and encouraged. Now it's time for Year 6 to enjoy the remainder of their final term—well done, you've earned it!

Have a wonderful weekend. We have lots of exciting events planned for next term, so please keep an eye out for further information.

Warmest wishes,

Miss Hoey
Headteacher

Ten: Ten Parents
Newsletter

[Parent Newsletter](#)



ATTENDANCE MATTERS



Reception - 99.2% Reception - Year 1, Year 2 & Year 5

Year 1 - 92.6% Year 1 - Year 2

Year 2 - 100% - Attendance Winners

Year 3 - 99% Year 3 - Attendance below 90% has a drastic effect on academic achievement

Year 4 - 97.5% Year 4 -

Year 5 - 96.3% Year 5 - 91-95% is a cause for concern

Year 6 - 96.8% Year 6 -



SHINE Assembly

Our Star awards been handed out to the children for living out our SHINE Values.

SHINE Star of the Week - Sahasya Year 5

Letting your Light Shine Frame - Maeve Year 2

Nursery - Isla & Zuzanna

Reception - Anfal & Ruqaiyah

Year 1 - Aria & Lynn

Year 2 - Drave & Harley

Year 3 - Aliyah & Jacky

Year 4 - Caroline & Hiba

Year 5 - Sienna & Valentina D

Year 6 - The Whole Class

Sport Day 2026 - Reception - Year 6

Sports Day will take place on Friday 19th June, starting at 10am. Children should come to school wearing the colours of their house group.

Parents and families are warmly invited to attend from 8:50am. Teas and coffees will be available before the events begin. The family picnic will follow where families can bring a picnic to enjoy with their children on the school field.



BID ON A WEEKEND AT FyneFest 2026 for 2 adults!

We're auctioning off tickets worth approx. £280 to this incredible 3-day festival in the stunning Scottish Highlands (29-31 May 2026)!

-  Live music
-  Amazing food & drink
-  Beautiful Highland setting



All proceeds go directly to supporting our school and creating fantastic opportunities for our pupils. Place your bid and don't miss your chance to enjoy an unforgettable festival weekend – all while supporting a great cause!

Our Learning

Nursery - It's been another busy two weeks in Nursery. We have continued learning about our topic of People Who Help Us by finding out about doctors, nurses and vets. The children have had a great time dressing up as vets and doctors and diagnosing what is wrong with each other. We have also done some amazing mark making pieces to go alongside this.

In maths we have been busy finding out about patterns. The children have practised copying and continuing repeating ab patterns, made their own repeating ab patterns and have even started finding errors in repeating ab patterns.

In RE we have been learning about Pentecost and the Holy Spirit and the children loved seeing how the wind moved to help explain this concept.

This term we have been focussing a lot on our fine-motor development. The children have really enjoyed partaking in daily dough disco and scribble while you wiggle sessions, and we are seeing the benefits of this as they write their names in the mornings.

Reception - In literacy, we have explored the texts Superworm and Jack and the Beanstalk, using them as inspiration to write simple sentences and phrases. In maths, we have been learning about shapes, including rotating and manipulating them, copying 2D shape pictures, and composing and decomposing shapes. The children have also been exploring addition and subtraction through engaging number songs and rhymes. We have thoroughly enjoyed developing our gross motor skills in our outdoor provision area, as well as during our weekly PE sessions with our NUFC coach, where we have been building our fundamental movement skills. In RE, we have continued to deepen our understanding of our Pentecost topic. The children have explored the story of the coming of the Holy Spirit and discussed how we celebrate the Good News of Jesus. They have also proudly led their own class Celebrations of the Words, choosing themes centred on Our Mother Mary and Pentecost. In PSHE, we have continued to learn about how to take care of our bodies. We were introduced to Pantosaurus and learned that our bodies belong to us, and that it is important to tell a trusted adult if we feel upset or worried. During our Understanding the World sessions, we have continued exploring our topic of Growing Things. The children have learned about the parts of a plant and have enjoyed investigating a range of different minibeasts.

Year 1 - Year 1 have had a busy and exciting week! In English, they have been writing a recount about recent events and practising their sentence writing skills. In maths, the children have been learning about fractions, including recognising halves and quarters. In DT, the children have been designing and making their own cars using wheels and axles, and they enjoyed testing how well their vehicles could move. In RE, the class have been learning about Pentecost and why it is an important event for Christians. In science, Year 1 explored different types of trees and learnt how to identify them by looking at their leaves, bark, and shape.

Year 2 - Year 2 have had a very busy and exciting last few weeks full of creativity, learning and lots of laughter! In English, we completed our story Milo Imagines the World. The children used their wonderful imaginations to create brand new endings for the story. Milo travelled to amazing places such as Disneyland, the North Pole and even outer space! It was fantastic to see how creative the children could be and how confidently they shared their imaginative ideas. In maths, we finished our topic on fractions and the children worked incredibly hard to understand halves, quarters and thirds. We are now moving onto learning about time where we have started reading clocks and talking about days, months and telling the time to the hour and half past. Our art lessons have been lots of fun. We created collages inspired by the artists Picasso and Braque. The children took funny photographs of themselves and combined them with pictures of their friends to create unique and imaginative pieces of artwork. We had so much fun looking at the finished creations and they certainly made us all laugh! In science, we completed the final part of our topic. The children have thoroughly enjoyed exploring and learning more about the world around them. They have shown great curiosity, asked thoughtful questions and loved investigating different ideas together. We have also started our new reading text, Stardust, which is about a young girl who wants to become a star. Through the story, we have been discussing how everyone can let their own light shine and celebrate what makes them special. The children are already really enjoying this story and have been making thoughtful connections to the themes within it. As always, we have continued to read lots of wonderful books over the past two weeks, helping us to grow our vocabulary, imagination and love of reading even further. Year 2 should be very proud of all the hard work, enthusiasm and positivity they have shown in all areas of their learning!



Year 3 - Year 3 have had a wonderfully busy and creative half term, diving into a wide range of exciting learning across the curriculum. In English, the children have been exploring Singapore as the focus for their non-chronological report writing. They've been researching fascinating facts, organising information into clear sections, and working hard to use formal language and technical vocabulary. Their confidence in structuring non-fiction writing is growing, as are their skills. In maths, we've been learning all about time - reading analogue clocks, understanding a digital clock, and solving real-life time problems. This is always a tricky unit, but the children have shown brilliant resilience and are becoming much more accurate and independent. Our RE lessons have encouraged thoughtful discussion about the power of energy and the Holy Spirit, and the unique gifts each of us brings to the world. The children have reflected beautifully on how they can use their strengths to help others and make positive choices. In science, we've been investigating light and dark, exploring how shadows are formed and why their size changes. The class have also learned important sun-safety messages as we move into the brighter months. Art has been wonderfully hands-on, with the children creating 3D clay sculptures inspired firstly by Mexico, and then by the places we live in and the environments that shape us. PE has been full of energy and progress: the class have developed impressive skill and accuracy in badminton with NUFC coach Evie, and they've had great fun improving their skipping with Mrs Banks - lots of smiles and lots of progress. We're also very excited for our upcoming trip to Newcastle Castle after half term, which will deepen and enrich our new History topic on the Tudors. Once again thank you for all your support through regular reading, supporting your child's homework expectations and supporting the school.

Year 4 - It has been a busy and exciting time in class! In maths, the children have been working really hard on their understanding of decimals and are beginning to make great links between decimals and fractions. In English, they have completed their biographies on Thomas Edison and have impressed us with their research and writing skills. Our science lessons have been full of curiosity as the children explored how animals are classified and even had a go at creating their own classification keys. In history, we travelled back in time to learn about the end of World War One and discussed how it is remembered today, with some thoughtful conversations along the way. In PE, the children have been very active, enjoying Gaelic football as well as practising their skills in net and wall games, particularly tennis. It has been wonderful to see their enthusiasm and teamwork grow!

Year 5 - In English, Year 5 have been developing their discussion and persuasive skills by exploring the question of whether zoos should be banned. Pupils considered a range of viewpoints, using evidence and reasoning to support their ideas. They demonstrated thoughtful contributions, empathy for different perspectives and growing confidence in expressing their opinions clearly. In maths, we have been exploring shape and coordinates. Pupils have been identifying and describing different shapes, as well as plotting and interpreting coordinates. They have shown increasing confidence in using mathematical vocabulary and applying their knowledge to solve problems. Our history lessons have focused on comparing the achievements of early British civilisations with those of the early Islamic civilisation. Pupils explored key developments in areas such as technology, society and culture, making thoughtful comparisons and considering the impact these civilisations have had on the modern world. Well done, Year 5, for your excellent effort, positive attitudes and enthusiasm for learning this week. Your curiosity and commitment continue to impress us - keep up the fantastic work!

Year 6- Over the past two weeks, Year 6 have been absolutely fantastic, and I honestly could not be prouder of them – especially during SATs week. The children have shown such maturity, resilience and determination all week and have approached every test with calmness, positivity and confidence. They have supported one another beautifully, kept smiling and truly given their all, which is all we could ever ask for. They should be incredibly proud of themselves because they have been amazing.

Alongside SATs, we have still enjoyed lots of exciting learning across the curriculum. In science, we have been exploring light, mirrors and shadows, investigating how light travels and how shadows are formed and changed. In art, we have been looking at sculptures inspired by food as we prepare to create our own delicious clay sculptures – the creativity already shown has been brilliant! In PE, the children have continued developing their skills in Gaelic football as well as enjoying swimming sessions, and in PSHE we have focused on how to stay safe online and make sensible choices when using technology.

To celebrate all of their hard work during SATs week, we also enjoyed a lovely trip to Sambuca's followed by an afternoon at the park, which the children thoroughly deserved. It has been such a special couple of weeks in Year 6 and the children have been an absolute credit to themselves and their families.

Getting ready for Reception Class

If your child is moving on to Reception class next year, whether you are staying with us at St Catherine's or moving on else where it is important that you read the government's publication on school readiness, you can access a link to this here.

[Brest Start in Life - Preparing for School](#)

[Starting Reception](#)



🎉 Save the Date - Family Fun Day! 🎉

We are excited to invite all our families to our Annual Family Fun Day on Friday 19th June - a full day of fun, laughter and community spirit!

The day will kick off with Sports Day, followed by a family picnic on the field. In the afternoon, the fun continues with our Summer Fun activities for children and families to enjoy together.

★ Why your support matters ★

This year, our Family Fun Day is also a fundraising event to help us raise money for a brand-new Adventure Playground for our children. Every helping hand, activity run and smile shared brings us one step closer to making this exciting dream a reality!

👥 We need your help! 👥

This fantastic day simply wouldn't be possible without the support of our families. If you are able to help out at any of the activities, please let Mrs Bank or the school office know - your support would be truly appreciated.

We can't wait to celebrate an action-packed, joy-filled day with you all!



Stay Connected: Keep Your Contact Details Up to Date

Keeping your contact details accurate and up to date is more important than ever. Whether it's a change of address or a new telephone number, letting us know promptly helps ensure we can provide you with the best possible service and support.

Why It Matters

1. Timely Communication

Up-to-date contact information ensures you receive important updates, letters, reminders, and notifications without delay. Missing a message could mean missing key appointments, deadlines, or important opportunities.

2. Safety and Wellbeing

In some situations, we may need to contact you quickly. Having the correct telephone number on record ensures we can reach you in case of urgent matters.

3. Avoid Missed Services

Incorrect details can lead to missed appointments, delayed services, or disruptions to the support you receive. Keeping your information accurate helps everything run smoothly.

4. Reduced Delays and Errors

Outdated information can cause administrative delays and miscommunication. Keeping your records current helps us work more efficiently and serve you better.

What You Should Update

Please remember to inform us if you change any of the following:

- Home address
- Mobile or landline number
- Email address (if applicable)
- Emergency contact details

When Should You Update Us?

- As soon as you move home
- When you change your phone number or provider
- If your contact preferences change
- Following any significant life changes

How to Update Your Details

Updating your information is simple:

- Contact our office directly
- Speak to a member of staff
- Use our online portal (if available)

Final Reminder

Keeping your contact details current helps us stay connected with you, ensuring you receive the right information at the right time. It's a quick update that makes a big difference.

Cultural Diversity Day - Thursday 22nd May

We are excited to celebrate the diversity of our school community on Thursday 22nd May.

Children are invited to come to school wearing traditional clothing or an outfit representing their culture. We also welcome contributions of food from your culture to share. Please ensure all items are clearly labelled with ingredients and are nut-free.

Thank you for helping us celebrate our wonderful community.



Great North Museum Visit

Year 5 had a fantastic time during their visit to the Great North Museum, where they fully embraced their role as history detectives for the day. Pupils explored a wide range of fascinating exhibits, carefully observing artefacts and asking thoughtful questions to deepen their understanding of the past. They enjoyed uncovering clues, making connections to their classroom learning and discussing their ideas with curiosity and enthusiasm.

Throughout the visit, pupils demonstrated excellent teamwork and engagement, working together to investigate different historical objects and consider what they could tell us about past civilisations. It was wonderful to see them so excited about history, eagerly sharing their discoveries and insights.

The trip provided a valuable opportunity to bring their learning to life, particularly linking to their studies of early civilisations. Their behaviour was exemplary, and they represented the school brilliantly. Overall, it was a highly enjoyable and memorable experience that has inspired even greater interest in history back in the classroom.

Our parish churches

St Dominic's Catholic Church, New Bridge Street, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE1 2TE

Mass times: Saturday 5.30pm Sunday 10.00am

Holy Name Jesmond, 7 North Jesmond Avenue Jesmond Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 3JX

Mass Times: Saturday 4.00pm Sunday 10.00am



Contact Information

Should you have any questions, please contact:

School Office: Mrs Johnson & Mrs Roberts 0191 232 6803

office@stcatherinesnewcastle.org

Safeguarding Lead: Miss Hoey 0191 232 6803

office@stcatherinesnewcastle.org

Parent Support Advisor: Susan Jenkins 07506221429

SENCO: Alys Hadow sendco@stcatherinesnewcastle.org