Issue: #31 Term: Summer Date: 19th June 2026

# St Catherine's Catholic Primary School

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

## Upcoming dates

Year 1 Stay and Prayer - 23rd June 9.00am

New Nursery Parents Meeting 25th June 1.30pm

Summer Disco - 26th June

Reception Trip to Northumberland Zoo - 1st July

Key Stage 2 Trip to Park - 7th July

Key Stage 1 Trip to Heaton Park 8th July

Transition morning - 10th July

Leavers Mass St Dominic's 10am 15th July

Leavers Assembly - 9am 16th July

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a fantastic sports week the children have had! They enjoyed a truly active and engaging programme, taking part in a wide range of sporting activities led by visiting coaches. It has been wonderful to see so many children trying new skills, building confidence, and showing great determination and enthusiasm throughout the week.

The week was perfectly rounded off with our brilliant Family Fun Day. We began with our ever-competitive Sports Day - the atmosphere was incredible, with parents cheering, encouraging, and celebrating every effort. A huge thank you to Ms Barnes for organising such a successful week and another fantastic Sports Day.

After the morning events, families came together to enjoy a lovely lunch on the field. It was such a heartwarming sight to see our school community sharing time together in such a relaxed and happy setting.

In the afternoon, our annual Summer Fair brought even more excitement! There was a great variety of stalls and games for the children to enjoy, from the ever-popular Tin Can Alley to Hook a Duck, alongside many other fun activities. There really was something for everyone, and it was wonderful to see so many smiling faces.

We would like to extend a huge thank you to all the staff, and parent helpers who worked so hard to make the day run smoothly. A special shout-out also goes to our generous local businesses who supported us by providing prizes.

We hope everyone had a fantastic day. The much-needed funds raised will go towards our new trim trail, which we are very excited about.

Wishing you all a lovely week ahead - only four weeks left of term!

Warmest wishes,

Miss Hoey

## Ten: Ten Parents Newsletter

Parent Newsletter

Reception - 92.8%

Year 1 - 94.7%

Year 2 - 100%

Year 3 - 93%

Year 4 - 97.5%

Year 5 - 93.8%

Year 6 - 96.5%

- Attendance Winners

Year 2

Attendance below 90% has a drastic effect on academic achievement

91-95% is a cause for concern

96-100% is spot on!

We would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the many local businesses and organisations who generously supported our Summer Fair with prizes and experiences. Your kindness and community spirit truly made a difference.

A huge thank you to: **Alnwick Gardens, Tyneside Gymnastics, Adventureland, The Little Dumpling House, Jesmond Gym, Lily Brew Coffee, ClimbAHub, Layla's Kitchen, Al Fahad Restaurant, Boogie Roo's Dance Academy, Amalu Aesthetics, NUFC Academy, Northern Stage, Liosi's Heaton, Mascalzone, Gloss and Goss Nails, Crackers for Cheese, Art-K, Beamish Museum, Fraternity Fitness, Café Filto and Ladybird Pre-School.**

Thanks to your generosity, we were able to offer a fantastic range of prizes, including vouchers, free sessions, discounts, and family experiences - from delicious meals and gym sessions to theatre visits and play days. These prizes added great excitement to the day and were hugely appreciated by our families. Your support helps us to continue creating memorable experiences for our children and contributes towards important projects such as our new trim trail. Thank you for being such an important part of our school community.

What we have been learning

Nursery - It's been a busy couple of weeks in Nursery. We have begun our new topic of oceans. The children have been finding out about different ocean animals and in our phonological awareness sessions we have been practising their syllables, rhymes initial sounds and drawing them. We have also been studying the book 'What the Ladybird Heard at the Seaside' and those naughty men Hefty Hugh and Lanky Len stole our Mermaid and we had to go all round the school to find her, and then they left a big bag of seaweed in the Nursery water area. In maths we have been learning the rules of counting, such as touching each item when you count and saying one number name for each item. In RE we finished off our reconciliation topic and have begun learning about the religion of Islam. We have also been very busy in our indoor and outdoor classroom, we planted our salad outside to watch it grow more and have had a wonderful time exploring the weather with out solar water fountain. On top of all this we took the time to think about refugees and how it must feel to be displaced.

We have a few busy weeks coming up. Our trip to pets corner is on 30th June we would love some parent helpers for that.
We have a bookstart reading meeting at 9:00am on 1st July we would like all parents to join us for this if we can
And our sports day and graduation ceremony is on 8th July at 1:30pm we would love all children and parents to be there.

Reception - Over the past few weeks, Reception have enjoyed a wide range of engaging learning experiences linked to our focus stories, The Rainbow Fish and Rapunzel. The children have continued to develop their reading and writing skills through daily Phonics sessions and literacy activities, where they explored key elements such as character, setting, and storytelling through provision and adventure-based learning opportunities. In maths, the children have been developing their understanding of number and pattern. They explored doubling, repeating patterns, and creating their own pattern rules, before progressing to building and constructing, visualising from different positions, and describing positions. In Understanding the World, we began our new topic, Under the Sea, where the children explored a variety of sea creatures and investigated concepts such as floating and sinking. In RE, we explored how we can sometimes make the wrong choices and how saying sorry can help to make things right again. The children listened to stories from the Bible and reflected on how Jesus teaches us to forgive, show kindness, and care for one another. In PSHE, the children reflected on themes such as God is Love and took part in activities linked to Refugee Week, helping them to think about kindness and respect towards others. The children have also enjoyed music sessions, storytelling, and daily opportunities for outdoor learning and physical development, including the Daily Mile and Sports Day practice. The week ended with an exciting Sports Day and Summer Fayre, which the children thoroughly enjoyed!

Year 1- Over the past two weeks, Year 1 have been very busy with their learning. In English, we have enjoyed reading and exploring the story The Way Back Home and have completed a range of exciting activities linked to the book. In maths, we have been learning about place value to 100, practising counting, ordering and comparing numbers. In RE, we discussed the importance of saying sorry and how forgiveness can help to build positive relationships. In DT, we designed our own crowns, thinking carefully about colours, shapes and decorations. We also had an amazing trip to Newcastle Castle as part of our history learning, where we discovered fascinating facts about the past and explored the castle grounds. In science, we have been investigating forces and friction through practical activities and experiments. Well done, Year 1, for all your hard work and

Year 4 - The children have begun exploring their time topic in maths and have continued developing their writing by creating a balanced argument about whether children under the age of 13 should have access to social media. In science, we have been carrying out exciting experiments to investigate which liquid cleans a penny the most effectively, as well as having great fun making our own lava lamps. In music, the children are really enjoying learning and singing *Blackbird* by The Beatles. In art, they have been showing their creativity by designing their own clay monsters, which they are looking forward to making soon!

Year 6 - Over the last two weeks, Year 6 have been incredibly busy! In English, we have been thoroughly enjoying reading *Thornhill* and using its eerie atmosphere to inspire our own scary suspense stories. The children have been planning some wonderfully mysterious settings and building tension to keep their readers on the edge of their seats.
In maths, we have been working hard on our Build £15 Enterprise Challenge, developing creative business ideas and thinking carefully about budgeting, profit and teamwork. We are all looking forward to showcasing our products at the Summer Fair and hope to see lots of you there supporting the children's fantastic ideas.
In science, we carried out an investigation to explore whether we could see microorganisms and discussed the important role they play in our world. We have also been learning about how to maintain a healthy lifestyle through balanced nutrition, exercise and good hygiene.
In history, we have continued exploring how conflict has changed over time, comparing different periods and considering how warfare, technology and society have evolved throughout history.
Finally, in art, we completed our amazing food sculptures and have now begun our new unit on photography and Pop Art, exploring how artists use colour, composition and repeated images to create striking pieces of artwork.
Well done, Year 6, for another fantastic fortnight of learning!

Our Year 1 children had a fantastic trip to Newcastle Castle, where they took part in an exciting workshop and explored the historic castle grounds. The pupils loved learning about the castle's history, discovering its fascinating features, and stepping back in time through hands-on activities. It was a wonderful opportunity to bring their learning to life and create lasting memories.

Be sure to check out the reel on our Instagram and Facebook pages to see some highlights from our adventure!

Our Reel

## 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:

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