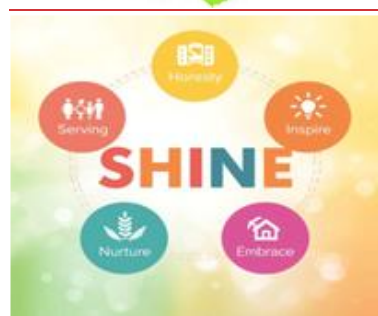




St Catherine's Catholic Primary School

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



Upcoming events

Year 3 trip - 14th
October

PTFA meeting - 16th
Octo 2.45pm

Show Racism the Red
Card - Wear Red Day -
16th October

Year 1 trip - 19th October

Harvest Festival - 22nd
Oct Sports Hall 2.15pm

School Disco - 22nd
October 3.30

End of term - 23rd
October and reopen 2nd
Nov

Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of Week 6, I would like to thank everyone for another wonderful week at St Catherine's.

Our children have enjoyed some fantastic learning opportunities beyond the classroom. Year 4 had an exciting visit to the Great North Museum, where they brought their learning about the Ancient Greeks to life, while Year 2 spent a wonderful day at the Laing Art Gallery, developing their artistic knowledge and appreciation.

A particular highlight of the week was our beautiful Buddy Celebration of the Word led by our Reception and Year 6 children. Through their singing, readings and prayers, they created a truly special and reflective experience for us all. It was especially heartwarming to see our Reception children formally welcomed into the St Catherine's family, surrounded by the care and support of their Year 6 buddies.

Today, we finished the week with our House Group Morning, bringing children of all ages together to celebrate World Mental Health Day. It was lovely to see friendships growing across year groups as the children enjoyed activities focused on kindness, wellbeing and supporting one another.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We are incredibly proud of our children and all they achieve each week. I hope you all enjoy a restful weekend with your families and, fingers crossed, that the rain stays away long enough for everyone to enjoy some time outdoors!

Warm regards, Miss Hoey

Ten Ten Parents
Newsletter
[Parent Newsletter](#)





Star Awards

Our Star Awards been handed out to the children for living out our SHINE values.

SHINE Star of the Week - Olivia Year 6

Letting your Light Shine Frame - John-Henry Year 1

Nursery - Nathan S

Reception - Kethana & Elijah

Year 1 - Nathaniel & Grace

Year 2 - Ahmed & Aayat

Year 3 - Ryan & Alayna

Year 4 - Eunice & Osamaru

Year 5 - Ben & Ruth

Year 6 - Adelaide & Isaac



Reception - 87.3%

Year 1 - 93.9%

Year 2 - 98.4%

Year 3 - 98.2%

Year 4 - 95.2%

Year 5 - 91.5%

Year 6 - 92.1%

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!

Harvest Donations Needed!

A huge thank you to all our families for your generous donations for Harvest. Your kindness and generosity are greatly appreciated. We are still collecting donations as we continue to prepare for our special Harvest Festival, which will take place on Thursday 22nd October at 2pm in the Sports Hall. We look forward to coming together as a school community to celebrate Harvest and give thanks for all that we have, while remembering those who may be less fortunate.

Thank you once again for your continued support and generosity.



What We Have Been Learning Here is a look at the key ideas and skills we have explored together.

Nursery - Nursery have had a very busy two weeks. For National Poetry Week, we enjoyed performing Twinkle Twinkle Little Star and creating lots of sparkly stars. We also began our space topic, exploring rockets, aliens and astronauts in our play areas. In maths, the children learned about collections, comparing groups to find more and fewer. In RE, they explored God's Family (the Church) and talked about their own families. This week, we continued our space topic and enjoyed making rockets from junk modelling materials and fruit. In maths, we explored 3D shapes, building models and using positional language such as on top and next to. In RE, we learned about animals as part of God's creation, made animals from clay and natural materials, and learned about the significance of the cross, including how to make the sign of the cross. We have also been enjoying the Little Links language programme. Each week, we practise communication strategies and develop vocabulary. This week's story was about helping with the washing, and the children loved taking part in a range of washing-themed activities.

Reception - The children have had a very exciting few weeks. In literacy, they enjoyed Room on the Broom, creating their own characters and settings, and learning about Florence Nightingale through labelling activities and thank-you cards. In maths, we explored patterns, mass and capacity, while developing confidence with the numbers 1, 2 and 3. In RE, we celebrated God's Creation by writing thank-you prayers, discussing how to care for the world, and making crosses and Steward Badges. For Science Week, the children designed junk-model rockets and fruit kebab rockets, while also learning about the human body through our doctors' role-play area. To mark World Mental Health Day, we explored emotions and created emotion pizza faces. The children continue to make excellent progress in phonics, recognising and writing initial sounds and beginning to read and build simple CVC words. We were also incredibly proud of the children for leading a beautiful Class Celebration of the Word focused on Fairtrade, making Fairtrade banana bread, and taking part in a special Stay and Pray Worship with their Year 6 buddies. We were also incredibly proud of the children as they led a beautiful Stay and Pray Worship with their Year 6 buddies. It was a very special opportunity for our Reception children to be welcomed into the St Catherine's family and to celebrate the wonderful friendships they are beginning to build with their buddies.

Year 1 - The children have had a very busy and productive week, with our classroom routines now becoming well established. In English, we have been exploring Where the Wild Things Are, developing our vocabulary and writing sentences using words from the story. In maths, we have continued to develop our understanding of addition through a range of practical activities. In science, we have been building rockets and exploring how they work, while in computing we used Sketchpad to create and paint digital portraits. In history, we have been designing toys for the future and discussing how technology has changed and may continue to develop. During PSHE, we have also been learning about online safety and how to stay safe when using technology. Well done, Year 1, on another fantastic week of learning and discovery.

Year 2 - Year 2 have enjoyed lots of lovely learning this term! We finished our unit on Neil Armstrong, discovering lots of fascinating facts about his life and achievements. We then became budding journalists and wrote some fantastic interviews with David Attenborough. In maths, we have been amazing at tackling tricky reasoning questions, stretching our brains and developing our problem-solving skills. In RE, we explored the Christian ceremony of baptism. A big thank you to all the parents who sent in photographs and brought in special items to support our learning! In art, we created beautiful paintings inspired by the wonderful Ukrainian artist Maria Prymachenko. We have had a fantastic time learning, creating and challenging ourselves!

Year 3 - It has been another exciting and busy week in Year 3! In RE, we have been thinking about how we can care for our wonderful world. We explored how we can pray for the problems and corruption in our world and discussed how we can make a difference through simple actions such as recycling, caring for our environment and being kind and compassionate people. In maths, we have been working hard on addition and subtraction using 100s, tens and ones. The children have been developing their methods and explaining their mathematical thinking. In English, we are looking forward to writing our own magazine articles about plastic pollution. We have been exploring how writers can inform and persuade their readers about important issues. Wednesday brought lots of excitement as we had a fantastic Science session! The children designed and made their very own rockets, ready for their journey into space. We had lots of budding astronauts and engineers in Year 3! In history, we have been investigating the similarities and differences between houses in prehistoric times. Our favourite discovery so far has been learning about the impressive Iron Age hill forts and thinking about why people chose to build them. Finally, Friday was our house group Healthy Minds Day. The children enjoyed thinking about ways to look after their mental wellbeing and created wonderful pieces of work to contribute to our thinking trees. Well done, Year 3, for another fantastic week of learning, creativity and teamwork! We are so proud of you!

Year 4 - This week, the children enjoyed a fantastic trip to the Hancock Museum, where they expanded their knowledge of the Ancient Greeks through a range of engaging tasks and workshops. In maths, the children have now moved on to addition and subtraction, developing their confidence with a range of calculation strategies. In English, they have begun planning their Roman diary entries, drawing upon their historical learning to support their writing. In RE, we are continuing our topic of Creation and Covenant, delving deeper into the story of Abraham and his significance within Christianity. As part of Science Week, the children designed and built their own rockets using recyclable materials, demonstrating excellent creativity and teamwork. In art, the children have completed their beautiful paintings inspired by *The Starry Night*, showcasing the skills they have developed throughout the unit. In PE, the children have begun their new fitness topic, focusing on improving their strength, stamina and overall physical well-being. It has been a busy and exciting week, and the children should be very proud of all they have achieved.

Year 5 - The children have had a fantastic few weeks filled with exciting learning! We thoroughly enjoyed our trip to the Discovery Museum, where we took part in a brilliant bridge-building workshop, putting our teamwork, creativity and problem-solving skills to the test. In English, we have been exploring *The Malfeasance* and using ambitious vocabulary and imaginative language to write our own fantastic poems. In maths, we have been developing our confidence in adding and subtracting numbers up to 10,000, using a range of strategies to solve problems. Meanwhile, in art, we have been inspired by the beautiful work of Georgia O'Keeffe, creating our own colourful and detailed paintings. What a busy and creative time we've had in Year 5!

Year 6 - Year 6 have had a busy and exciting few weeks! We thoroughly enjoyed our visit to the Hancock Museum, where the children took part in an evolution workshop and deepened their understanding of Charles Darwin's theory of natural selection and evolution. In English, the children are using their knowledge of adaptations, variation and evolution to write detailed non-chronological reports about Charles Darwin. In maths, we are in the midst of our four operations unit and have been focusing on long division. The children have worked incredibly hard and are making excellent progress with this challenging skill. In history, pupils continue to develop their historical enquiry skills as they compare how crime and punishment have changed over time, making thoughtful comparisons between different periods in history. Well done, Year 6, for your hard work and enthusiasm!

Get Creative This Half Term!

Looking for something fun and creative for your child this half term?

Join art-K Jesmond for hands-on art workshops exploring watercolour, acrylics, clay and more!  

[Book Here](#)

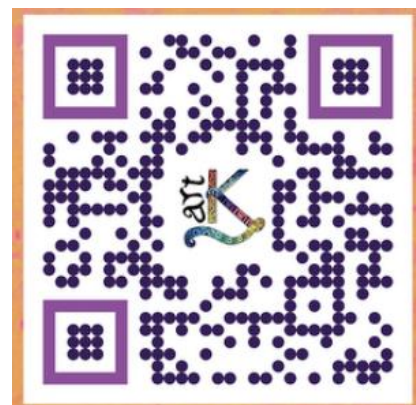
- ✨ Learn new artistic skills
- ✨ Screen-free creative fun
- ✨ Take home your own masterpieces!

 Every weekday during half term

 10am-12pm | 1pm-3pm | Full day 10am-3pm

 Ages 6+

Come along, get creative and make something amazing!  



This week, the children had a brilliant visit to the Hancock Museum to further develop their understanding of the Ancient Greeks. Throughout the day, they completed a booklet filled with exciting activities. They began with an artefact eye-spy challenge, where they had to locate different artefacts around the museum and identify them by name. The children also decoded the Greek alphabet and even wrote their own secret messages. They enjoyed designing and creating their own Greek vases before taking part in a carousel of activities, including rolling a dice to discover artefacts, locating where artefacts had originated from, and exploring how resources and objects have changed from Ancient Greek times to the present day. The trip concluded with an interactive workshop where the children had the opportunity to try on Ancient Greek armour and learn more about life in the past. To top off a wonderful day, we even enjoyed our lunch outside in the sunshine!



A huge thank you to our wonderful Year 6 and Reception children for leading such a beautiful Buddy Celebration of the Word. It was a very special occasion and a lovely opportunity to celebrate the beginning of our new buddy relationships. We were so proud of our Year 6 children as they welcomed our Reception children into the St Catherine's family, showing them kindness, care and friendship. It was wonderful to see our youngest and oldest pupils together, sharing this special moment. A heartfelt thank you also goes to all the parents and carers who joined us and helped to make the celebration so memorable. Your support means so much to our school community. What a beautiful way to welcome our Reception children and celebrate the wonderful friendships that will grow throughout the year. Welcome to St Catherine's, Reception! We are so happy you are part of our family.



To celebrate World Mental Health Day (Saturday 10th October 2026) our children from Year 1 to Year 6 enjoyed coming together in their House Groups for a special afternoon focused on wellbeing and mental health. The children were introduced to this year's theme, "Lived Experiences Heard: Real Voices, Real Change." Together, they explored the importance of listening, sharing our experiences and talking openly about mental health, and how giving people a voice can help to create positive change. Each child created a personal leaf for our new Wellbeing Tree, sharing something meaningful to them and helping to create a beautiful visual reminder of the importance of looking after our mental health and supporting one another. The children also enjoyed taking part in a range of mindfulness activities with their peers, providing opportunities to pause, reflect and focus on their wellbeing.



Year 2 Laing Art Gallery

Year 2 had a fantastic time on our trip to the Laing Art Gallery! We enjoyed exploring the gallery and taking part in lots of fun, creative activities. The children were brilliant throughout the trip, walking sensibly and safely together and showing excellent listening skills. We were so proud of how well they represented our school!

During our visit, we played exciting games, explored different ideas and learned more about sculptures and how they can be created. The children particularly enjoyed getting hands-on with their learning and using their imaginations to bring their own ideas to life. Our favourite activity was making our very own clay sculptures of our bodies! The children carefully moulded and shaped the clay, thinking about the different parts of their bodies and how to represent them in their artwork. Everyone created something unique and wonderful, showing lots of creativity, concentration and enthusiasm.

It was a lovely day full of fun, laughter and learning, and the children thoroughly enjoyed being young artists. We are so proud of their fantastic behaviour, curiosity and creativity throughout the trip!



Space week- What an out-of-this-world Space Week we have had! Our school has been filled with excitement, creativity and fantastic energy as children across all year groups explored the wonders of space. From imaginative creations to exciting space-themed activities, it has been wonderful to see the children embracing the challenge, sharing ideas and letting their creativity soar! A huge thank you to all the families who donated materials and resources to help bring the children's amazing ideas to life. Your support has been greatly appreciated and helped make this week extra special. We have been blown away by the enthusiasm, effort and imagination shown by all the children, who have truly been shining stars throughout the week!

The excitement isn't over just yet! Our Space Week competition winners will be revealed later today, so keep your eyes peeled. A massive well done to everyone who took part and helped make this week such a spectacular success. We are so proud of our budding astronauts, scientists and space explorers!

October is a very special month in our Catholic faith as we take time to remember and honour Mary, our Mother. It has been wonderful to see our pupils embracing this special time of prayer and reflection together. Throughout the month, children have enjoyed gathering at lunchtime for Rosary Club, coming together peacefully to pray and reflect. They have also been making use of our beautiful Mary prayer stations around school, taking moments from their busy days to pause, pray and spend time with Mary. It has been lovely to see our children growing in their prayer lives and discovering different ways to connect with Mary and ask for her prayers and guidance. Mary, Mother of God, pray for us and guide us always.





Susan Jenkins is here to support children and families with anything that might be affecting wellbeing, learning, or attendance.

As our **Family Support Worker**, Susan offers a listening ear and practical help. She can make referrals to services across the city for support with **bereavement, mental health and emotional wellbeing (SEMH), housing issues, family challenges**, and more. She also helps families navigate meetings and access the right support at the right time.

In her role as **Attendance Officer**, Susan monitors attendance throughout the year and works closely with families to promote good attendance and punctuality. This includes:

- **Traffic light letters** sent to all children to highlight attendance levels
- **Persistent absentee letters** for children with ongoing low attendance
- **Punctuality letters** to address frequent lateness

🕒 **Susan is in school on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9am to 3pm,**

📞 **Contact Susan:**

- School Office: **0191 2326803**
- Email: **susan.jenkins@stcatherinesnewcastle.org**

Susan is always happy to help—please don't hesitate to get in touch



ST CATHERINE'S
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Together
in God's
Love* 

WE'VE CHANGED THE ANGLE, **NOT** THE STORY

Together we follow in Jesus' footsteps in our living and learning.

Adapting how we share, in response to evolving safeguarding guidance.



HANDS ON LEARNING

Capturing creativity,
curiosity and learning
without showing faces.



BACKS OF HEADS

We can still share the
moments that matter.



SIDE FACING PHOTOS (WITH PERMISSION)

Only when we have
consent from
parents/carers.
No front facing photos.



SERVICE



HONESTY



INSPIRE



NURTURE



EMBRACE



E-scooters, EAPCs, E-bikes, and Motorcycles

Information for parents & carers

Road safety law is there to protect riders and other road users. In the event of a collision, the physical consequences can be devastating, life-changing and can ultimately result in the loss of life. Make sure that when your children ride on the roads they are doing so legally and safely with protective equipment such as helmets. Visit [THINK! Road safety](#) and [Road safety - Police.uk](#) for more information.

What does the law say?

E-scooters

NOT ROAD LEGAL
for ANYONE to use

It is illegal for ANYONE to ride a private e-scooter on public land – roads, pavements and cycle paths included. In law, they are treated as motor vehicles and, because they have no number plate, often don't have rear lights or signalling ability, **they cannot be used legally in public.**

[Read more here](#) about penalties and offences.

EAPC (electrically-assisted pedal cycle)

ROAD LEGAL
for those aged 14 and over. Helmet use is advised but optional

An EAPC must have pedals meaning that the bike can be used with or without the motor, and the fitted motor must cut off at a top speed of 15.5 mph (the speed of an average pedal cyclist)

[Read more here](#) and [here](#)

Electronically powered motorcycle – “E-bike”

Whether or not these are road legal depends on certain conditions (see below)

To be road legal an E-bike must have:

- A number plate
- Brake lights
- Indicators

An E-bike without these is **NOT ROAD LEGAL.**

Also, the rider is subject to the same licence requirements as those for a moped/scooter/motorcycle (see column to the right), and they must have insurance.

Mopeds, scooters and motorcycles

ROAD LEGAL
for those aged 16 and over with a motorcycle licence. Helmet use is mandatory

A provisional driving licence is required and compulsory basic training (CBT) must be completed. The age limit will depend on the type of motorcycle – [visit this link for details](#)

What's the difference between a moped and a scooter? Basically, it's all about engine size, but [read more about it here](#)

Why are rented e-scooters road-legal?

- Renters must have at least a provisional driving licence which has [category Q or P/M entitlement](#)
- The rental company provides insurance for the rider as part of the rental agreement
- They must be ridden in approved areas and only on the road

Read the following article for tips on how to [protect your motorcycle, moped or scooter from theft](#)