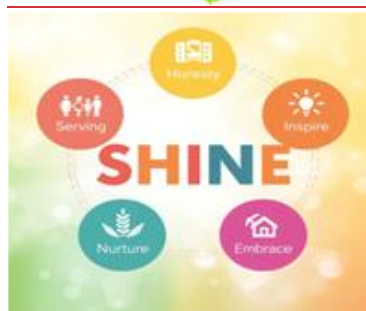




St Catherine's Catholic Primary School

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



Upcoming events

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

Book Fair 4th-10th
November

Parents evening 4th
November and 10th
November

Take One Picture - Art
Gallery Showcase - 6th
November Sports Hall
2,45

SAVE THE DATE -
Christmas Fair 4th

Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of the longest half term of the year, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on what a wonderful and successful few weeks it has been at St Catherine's.

The children have embraced so many exciting learning opportunities, both in and beyond the classroom. We have enhanced our curriculum through a wide range of educational visits, with every year group enjoying a school outing that has enriched their learning experiences.

Throughout the half term, we have also celebrated a number of themed events including Black History Month, Show Racism the Red Card Day and World Mental Health Day, helping our children to develop their understanding of the wider world and our school values.

We have been delighted to welcome so many parents and families into school for a range of events, including our RWI Parent Meetings, Buddy Celebration of the Word, Harvest Festival, Macmillan Breakfast Morning, SEND Coffee Morning and Sponsored Walk. Thank you to everyone who attended and supported these events. Your involvement plays such an important part in our school community.

We ended the half term with two fantastic events. Our Harvest Festival was a wonderful celebration, with the children singing their hearts out and showcasing their talents beautifully. This was followed by our Spooky Disco, which was great fun for everyone involved. Thank you to all the staff, volunteers and families who helped make these events such a success.

I would also like to express my sincere thanks to all of the staff at St Catherine's. They have worked incredibly hard throughout this busy half term to support the children in their learning and to organise the many trips, themed days and enrichment opportunities that make our school such a special place.

I hope you all enjoy a well-deserved, restful and enjoyable half term break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back when we reopen at 8:40am on Monday 2nd November.

Thank you for your continued support.
Miss Hoey



Star Awards

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

SHINE Star of the Week - Jagteswar Year 4
Letting your Light Shine Frame - Ryan Year 3

Reception - Beau & Jeremiah

Year 1 - Noah & Abigail

Year 2 - Karam & Nuriya

Year 3 - Harley & Alayna

Year 4 - Salvador & Aliyah

Year 5 - Etta & Joanna

Year 6 - Kosi & Kevin

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



Reception - 82.7%

Year 1 - 97%

Year 2 - 100%

Year 3 - 96.4%

Year 4 - 95.5%

Year 5 - 99.1%

Year 6 - 94.6%

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

On Thursday, we were delighted to welcome so many families and friends to our annual Harvest Festival, where we shared songs, prayers and reflections celebrating the gifts of the harvest. The children performed beautifully and showed great confidence, making us all incredibly proud. Thank you to everyone who attended and helped make the celebration such a special occasion. We would also like to thank everyone who has generously donated goods over the past couple of weeks. The donations have been greatly appreciated by St Vincent de Paul Newcastle and The People's Kitchen, two organisations that work tirelessly to support people across Newcastle. Your kindness and generosity will make a real difference to those in need, and we are extremely grateful for your support.





What We Have Been Learning



Here is a look at the key ideas and skills we have explored together. 

Nursery - It's been another two busy weeks in Nursery. We were fascinated by the planetarium in school, particularly Miss Hoey's excellent adventure through space and time. We read the book 'Whatever Next' to stimulate conversations about going into space. We have also really enjoyed reading 'Christopher Pumpkin' the children loved that they could make fun pumpkins as well as scary ones. They have also thoroughly enjoyed playing with pumpkins and describing them indoors and out. The children carried on using the Little Links strategies to develop their vocabulary for emotions, describing words, action words positional language and negative language. In maths we have been learning to count by using songs and rhymes the children have been using their fingers to show numbers one, two and three, this is something you can practise with them at home, whilst talking about numbers. In RE we have finished off our Creation and Covenant topic and we were amazed by how much the children could remember about the topic. The children have worked really hard over this half term and we are so proud of all the progress they have made, it is rare to have a class settle so quickly and delightful to see so many happy faces who are fully engaged with all the activities we have on offer. Enjoy the half term and get some much needed rest!

Reception - In Literacy, we enjoyed reading Funnybones and creating our own characters, settings and stories through Drawing Club. We also produced autumn artwork and added labels to our work. In Maths, we explored one more and one less, the composition of 1, 2 and 3, subitising to 3 and capacity. In Understanding the World, we learned about parts of the body, explored the work of Black artists and investigated autumn through walks and collage-making. In PSHE, we discussed friendship, keeping our teeth healthy and treating others with kindness. In RE, we explored caring for ourselves and the world, revisited Creation and Covenant, and began learning about Prophecy and Promise. We enjoyed learning autumn songs in Music and performing at the Harvest Festival. The children have worked hard in Phonics, learning new sounds and developing their early writing skills. We are incredibly proud of how well they have settled into school and the fantastic start they have made to their learning journey.

Year 1 - It has been another fantastic week in Year 1, full of learning, exploration and positive experiences! In Maths, we have been developing our understanding of addition and subtraction, practising our skills and building confidence when solving calculations. In English, we have been exploring instruction writing, learning about the features of instructions and how to write them in the correct order. In RE, we revisited our previous learning about promises. This gave us the opportunity to recall what we already know and prepare to build on this knowledge as we continue our learning in Year 1. We have also introduced daily Dough Disco sessions to help strengthen the children's fine motor skills. These fun activities help to develop the hand and finger muscles needed for writing and other classroom tasks. One of the highlights of our week was our visit to Seven Stories! The children had a wonderful time exploring the different floors and discovering a variety of books. It was lovely to see their enthusiasm and curiosity as they explored the world of stories. We are incredibly proud of the children for their fantastic behaviour throughout the week. They represented Year 1 beautifully, showing great enthusiasm, curiosity and positive attitudes towards their learning. Well done, Year 1, for another brilliant week! We look forward to building on all the wonderful learning we have done.

Year 2 - What a fantastic term we have had in Year 2! This week, we have been busy writing our own version of Shine and Write and creating a funny poem titled I Am , which we have proudly displayed in our classroom. We also began our new RE unit on Prophet and Prophecy, reflecting on how much we learnt in Year 1 and thinking about what we hope to discover in the coming weeks. In maths, we continued to build our confidence with the tricky challenge of adding and subtracting across tens, and the children have embraced this learning brilliantly. In history and science, we consolidated our knowledge through quizzes and hexagon activities, encouraging the children to share their ideas and make connections between their learning. Well done, Year 2, for all your hard work this term! Moving up from Year 1 has brought new challenges, with learning becoming more demanding, but the children have approached these with such positivity, determination and enthusiasm. They have made Miss Lamb proud every single day and should feel incredibly proud of themselves, too. Have a wonderful half-term break, and I look forward to seeing you all in November!

Year 3 - We have had a busy and exciting couple of weeks filled with learning, creativity and celebration! In English, the children have written their own magazine articles about plastic pollution, using rhetorical questions to engage their readers and quirky, alliterative headings to grab their attention. In Science, we explored how our muscles work by watching a chicken wing dissection, helping us to understand the important roles of our biceps and triceps. The children have thoroughly enjoyed their drumming sessions and proudly celebrated Show Racism the Red Card by creating their own hats and contributing to a fantastic collaborative Year 3 poster. We also enjoyed an exciting trip to the Hancock Museum, where we deepened our understanding of life from the Stone Age to the Iron Age. During our walk, we reflected on Catholic Social Teaching and took a moment to thank God for the beauty of the sky above us and the changing day and night that allows us time to work, rest and sleep. Finally, we have been looking forward to celebrating our Harvest Festival, giving us a wonderful opportunity to reflect on gratitude, generosity, and the importance of caring for others. Well done, Year 3, for another fantastic fortnight of learning and discovery!

Year 4 - We have had an exciting and productive week. In English, the children completed their poems based on I Rise, showcasing their creativity and excellent writing skills. In Maths, we are finishing our addition and subtraction unit, with the children demonstrating increasing confidence in their calculations. We have also started our new RE branch, Prophecy and Promise. In PE, the children have continued to focus on fitness activities.

Year 5 - What a fantastic first half term we have had! The children have settled into their new routines and have thrown themselves into so many exciting learning opportunities. This week, we have been busy practising our Harvest Festival song, putting lots of enthusiasm into getting ready for our performance! We have also been bringing our Science and History units to a close, showing off everything we have learnt about materials and the Anglo-Saxons. To top it all off, we have been getting creative and producing our final artistic masterpieces inspired by the beautiful work of Georgia O'Keeffe. It has been a busy, fun-filled half term, and we are incredibly proud of all the children and their hard work. We hope everyone has a wonderful, well-deserved half-term break!

Year 6 - It has been a busy and exciting few weeks in Year 6, with lots of opportunities to learn, reflect and develop together. As part of Black History Month, the children took part in a Show Racism the Red Card workshop and enjoyed finding out more about local hero Shaka Hislop. We also marked World Mental Health Day, thinking carefully about the different things we can do to look after our mental health and wellbeing. Our RISE sessions with Molly have complemented this brilliantly, helping the children develop useful strategies to understand and regulate their emotions. There has been plenty to celebrate in the classroom too! In English, Year 6 have explored a range of poetry and investigated the features that make poems effective, before getting creative and writing their own using figurative language and rhythm. The children have also reached the end of two fascinating units, exploring evolution in Science and investigating how crime and punishment has changed over time in History. We have been really impressed with the enthusiasm and thoughtful contributions the children have brought to their learning. Well done for working so hard Year 6 and enjoy your well-deserved break!

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

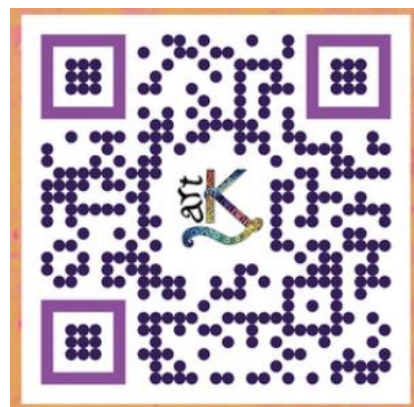
- ✦ Learn new artistic skills
- ✦ Screen-free creative fun
- ✦ Take home your own masterpieces!

 Every weekday during half term

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

 Ages 6+

Come along, get creative and make something amazing!  



get a
**free Kellogg's®
breakfast
every school
holiday***



Free Breakfasts at Morrisons This Half Term

To help support families over the October half-term holiday, Morrisons Cafés are offering free breakfasts through their partnership with Kellogg's Breakfast Clubs.

From 12th October to 1st November, both children and adults can enjoy a free breakfast at any Morrisons Café nationwide. Families can choose from popular cereals, including Corn Flakes or Rice Krispies, served with dairy or non-dairy milk, along with a free piece of fruit.

This is a fantastic initiative to help ease the cost of the holidays while ensuring families can start their day with a healthy breakfast. For more information, please visit your local Morrisons Café.

Show Racism the Red Card

On Friday 16th October, the whole school celebrated Show Racism the Red Card Day. Children came to school wearing red and took part in PSHE activities focused on kindness, respect and inclusion. The whole school also participated in an assembly about respecting one another, and Year 5 and Year 6 also took part in workshops exploring stereotypes and the importance of treating everyone fairly. We were proud of the children's thoughtful discussions and engagement throughout the day.



At St Catherine's, we celebrated Black History Month by shining a light on the unsung heroes in our community – everyday people who make or made a difference but are often overlooked. We joined the great big assembly as a school and children shared how their parents make a difference in Newcastle.

Our children explored one inspiring individual in their individual classes, with five more to discover on our display wall by Friday. Our Early Years children took inspiration from Newcastle-based artists to make their own colourful versions.

We discovered 5 parts about them, who they were, their early life, their occupation and impact they had in the world. Let's say their name and honour them:

Yr 2 - Olympic athlete John Edward London

Yr 3 - Dr Irene Ighodaro

Yr 4 - Youth worker Amrit Crawford

Yr 5 - First hairdresser Maria Nakimuli

Yr 6 - Footballer and founder of show racism the red card Shaka Hislop.



Year 3 Great North Museum Hancock

Year 3 had a wonderful visit to the Hancock Museum, where we explored fascinating artefacts from the Stone Age to the Iron Age. The children were intrigued by a beautiful tapestry artwork that showed how different areas of soil can reveal clues about the past, including beakers and burial sites.

Armed with their booklets, the children carefully searched for artefacts, discovered interesting facts and learned more about how people lived during each period of history. To finish our visit, everyone had the opportunity to design their own vase, inspired by the vessels used to store dried food.

As always, Year 3 were shining stars! Their excellent behaviour, curiosity and enthusiasm made us incredibly proud. Well done, everyone!



Year 4 Trip to Great North Museum Hancock

Year 4 enjoyed a memorable visit to the Hancock Museum as part of our Ancient Greeks topic. The visit brought their learning to life and helped deepen their understanding of this fascinating period in history. Additionally, the children took part in a special ballet session delivered by the Royal Ballet School, where they explored different movements and had a fantastic time learning through dance.



Our fantastic Spooky Disco was a great success and enjoyed by all. A huge thank you to the parents, carers and staff who gave their time to help organise and run the event. These occasions simply would not be possible without your support and commitment.

The funds raised will make a valuable contribution towards school trips and help us continue to build our fund for a new adventure playground for the children. Thank you for your generosity and for supporting our school community.

Arbor App Notifications

A reminder to all parents and carers to ensure that notifications are switched on for the Arbor app.

We use Arbor as our main method of communication and send important information, reminders, updates and emergency messages through the app. We are able to see whether messages have been read, and we are aware that some families may be missing communications because notifications have been turned off.

Please take a few moments to check your settings and make sure Arbor notifications are enabled on your device so that you do not miss any important school information.

Thank you for your support in helping us maintain effective communication between home and school.



Arbor



KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) OCTOBER HALF TERM 2026

moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free



ANGUS STEAKHOUSE

Kids under 8 eat FREE daily, 12pm to 5pm

ASDA

Kids eat for £1 daily, with no adult spend

ASK ITALIAN

Kids Eat Free October 9th - 31st via Perks App

BANANA TREE

Kids eat free this october with an adult

BELLA ITALIA

Children eat for £1 with any adult main

BILLS

Kids Eat Free Monday 26th - Friday 30th October

BREWDOG

Kids eat free this Oct with **KIDS EAT FREE** bookings

CAFE ROUGE

Kids Eat FREE 12-4pm every day of the week

CHIQUITO

Kids eat FREE during all school holidays

COCONUT TREE

Kids eat free Sun 18th Oct - Sun 1st Nov 2026

DOBBIES GARDEN CENTRES

Kids eat for £1 with an adult breakfast or lunch

FARMHOUSE INNS

2 Kids eat free during the October Half Term

FLAMING GRILL

1 Kid eats free weekdays this October half term

FRANKIE & BENNY'S

Kids eat FREE during school holidays

FUTURE INNS

Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal

GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS

Kids under 10 eat FREE all day, every day

HARVESTER

Kids eat for £1 until November 1st 2026 via App

HUNGRY HORSE

2 Kids eat for £1 this October Half Term

IKEA

Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

LAS IGUANAS

Kids eat FREE with 'My Las Iguanas' App

MARCO PIERRE WHITE

Kids under 12 Eat FREE daily with an adult spend

MARSTON PUBS

kids eat for £1 during the october half term

MORRISONS

Kids Eat FREE all day, every day with a £5 spend

PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM

Kids eat FREE with every £4 spend all day

PREMIER INN

2 kids eat for free with 1 adult breakfast

PRETO

Kids up to age 10 eat free with 1 paying adult

PUREZZA

Kids under 10 get free pizza with every adult meal

SA BRAINS PUBS

Kids eat for £1 on Wednesdays

SIZZLING PUBS

Kids eat for £1, Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm

TESCO

Kids Eat free weekdays with an adult purchase

TGI FRIDAYS

Kids Eat Free with any adult meal (Via App)

THE REAL GREEK

Kids under 12 eat FREE Sundays with £10 spend

TOBY CARVERY

Kids eat for £1 until November 1st 2026 via App

TRAVELODGE

2 kids eat for free with 1 adult breakfast

TURTLE BAY

Kids eat free with a £15 adult spend via app

VILLAGE HOTELS

Kids eat free via the village app

YO! SUSHI

Kids eat free all day (weekdays) in school holidays

ZIZZI

Kids eat free weekdays in school holidays

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