

ST. BEDE'S BUGLE

ISSUE 3: December 2024



A COMMUNITY OF FAITH, LOVE AND RESPECT INSPIRING US TO ACHIEVE.

HEADTEACHER'S WELCOME



ST BEDE'S
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Welcome to our Autumn 2024 edition of St. Bede's Bugle and a huge thanks to Mrs Fairbairn for creating such a beautiful keepsake of the children's journey through this term in school. It is evident throughout the Bugle that St Bede's is a thriving example of our school vision statement: 'a community of faith, love and respect inspiring all to achieve' and so it gives me great pleasure to be able to say thank you to all of those who make this happen.

Firstly, to our wonderful children - I would like to thank you all for your great effort and achievements this term and for making our school such a great place to be and such a special place to work. This term we have had the privilege of celebrating hundreds of house points, pupils of the week, kindness awards and community awards for living out the messages in the Gospel shared each Monday during Celebration of the Word.

We have been so proud to see so many of you step into leadership roles this term: Mini Vinnies, Eco-committee, Choir, Netball, Librarians, Buddies, Prayer Leaders... the list could go on! In doing so, you have been excellent ambassadors for our school - thank you! Equally, it has been so special to see all of your talents and courage enjoyed across our whole community as you have led your families through beautiful acts of collective worship in classes, in your recent Nativity performances and your 'Carols by Candlelight' concert. Well done!

As always, I would like to extend a very special thank you and huge well done to our Nursery children and all of our new starters (including staff) who have joined us this term across school. We are very proud of how well they have settled into school life and we are excited to see them blossom and grow over the coming years with us at St Bede's.

It is important that I thank the staff for the incredible effort, dedication, care and love they pour into our school every day. It's not always obvious to see how hard school staff have to work preparing lessons, marking books, writing reports, nurturing children, supporting families and many, many more daily roles often at the expense of their own families and so it is important that I thank them publicly for their outstanding contribution to St Bede's. I would also like to extend a warm thanks to our school governors who also give so much of their time and energy to support our school - thank you, we appreciate all of your support and commitment!

HEADTEACHER'S WELCOME

To our families – thank you! The support, generosity, involvement and encouragement we have received from you this term has been so appreciated. Attending all events such as Macmillan coffee morning, Harvest, Remembrance; making donations, attending all other school events... The list could go on and on, so thank you! Additionally, we continue to receive wonderful support from amount from Fr Peter, Deacon Stephen, and our parish community. We have been beautifully welcomed to Mass again this year and our Year 4 children have been wonderfully supported by the Catechists.

Of course, I cannot thank our families without also giving a special mention to our fabulous PTA, The Friends of St Bede's ! You continue to give so much and dedicate yourselves to supporting our school and community; Halloween discos, Macmillan coffee morning, Food Bank Bingo and our Christmas market. Your work is very much appreciated by us all. Thank you!

We are grateful for the level of support received from you all. We do know how blessed we are to have our school, thriving, in the heart of such a wonderful community. So, thank you all! Of course, we have had the pleasure and privilege of taking the spiritual journey through Advent together as a school community. We have prepared ourselves for Christmas through whole school prayer, a beautiful school Mass and class worship. We have reflected on Advent as a time of preparing for the birth of Christ, a time for self-reflection, a time for clearing our minds and diaries of busy thoughts and worrying about things that in the greater scheme of things don't really matter.

We hope that as we break for the holidays, we can remember these messages and not allow ourselves to get too caught up in Christmas chaos. Rather, we pray that we can see the value in being kind to ourselves as well as others during this busy time; we pray that we have the strength to take time to be present with our families and friends and so, on behalf of our school Governors and all of the staff, I would like to wish you all a very merry, peaceful and Holy Christmas and a very happy and joyous New Year. Enjoy this precious time together.

Mrs Fallon



FRIENDS OF ST BEDE'S

WHAT A TERM!



What a busy start to the year we have had! We began the year with some fabulous spooky discos. The nights were filled with dancing and games and some fabulous costumes. We have had the pleasure of supporting some wonderful charitable campaigns this half term including the Macmillian coffee morning and the local remembrance service.

We also began our Foodbank Bingo project. Each class was challenged to see if collectively they could bring in 100 items to donate to our local foodbank. The children were given a shopping list of appropriate items and we have been thrilled with the generosity of St Bede's having over 700 items donated in the first week.

In December, we held a Christmas market full of hot chocolate, delicious treats and stalls. It really got us into the Christmas spirit accompanied by carols from the Salvation Army. We also donated some of our funds back to school supporting school in reducing the costs of the pantomime, so all children could attend.



EMAIL: BEDEPTFA@GMAIL.COM

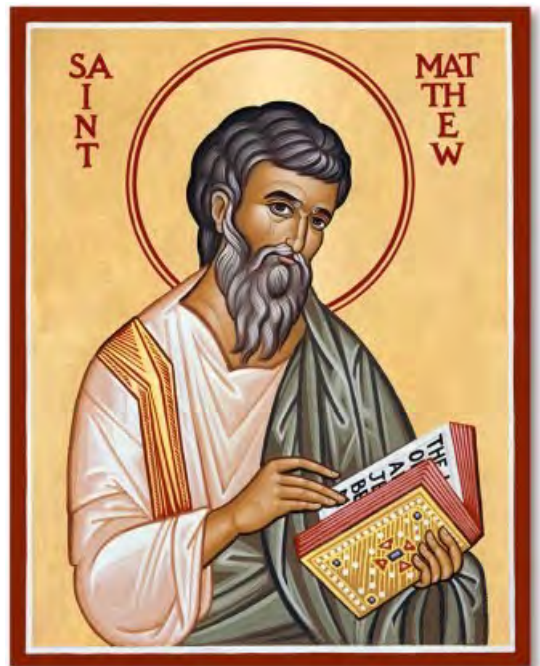


FRIENDS OF ST BEDE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

ST MATTHEW

St. Matthew, one of the twelve apostles, was a pivotal figure in the early Christian church. Originally named Levi, he was a tax collector in Capernaum, a profession often viewed with disdain by the Jewish people due to its association with Roman oppression and corruption. Despite this, Matthew's life took a remarkable turn when he encountered Jesus.

One day, while sitting at his tax booth, Matthew was called by Jesus to follow him. This transformative moment led to Matthew abandoning his lucrative career and



becoming one of the closest disciples of Christ. He witnessed many of Jesus' miracles, teachings, and pivotal events, including the Last Supper.

After the death and resurrection of Jesus, Matthew devoted his life to spreading the teachings of Christianity. He is traditionally credited with authoring the Gospel of Matthew, one of the four accounts of Jesus' life in the New Testament. This gospel is particularly notable for its emphasis on the fulfilment of Old Testament prophecies and its teachings on morality and ethics.

Matthew's missionary work took him to various places, including Ethiopia and possibly Persia, where he preached to diverse communities. His efforts in

spreading Christianity helped lay the foundation for the faith in these regions. Tradition holds that he died a martyr's death, demonstrating great courage in his convictions.

St. Matthew's legacy endures. His life reminds us that change is possible, regardless of our past.



WEEKLY WORSHIP AND PRAYER

Prayer and worship is integral to the ethos of our school and it is important that our children lead their own worship. This term we have seen the first of our classes prepare and lead their own worship for their families. Year 4 began leading a worship in October which supported their peers in understanding how to pray the rosary to



celebrate the month of the rosary. Year 6 have also led us in worship this term preparing us for Advent. The children were respectful, informative and prayerful as they led the school in prayer. We can't wait for our other classes to lead us in prayer later in the year.

Each week within all classes in school, prayer ambassadors are chosen. These children lead their class in prayer multiple times a day and model respectful prayer. Our prayer ambassadors are changed weekly to allow all children in school to have this experience. They help lead a range of prayers including our school prayer, the Lord's Prayer and the Hail Mary. During the month of October these prayer ambassadors helped support their classes in praying the rosary. Harry in Year 2 said *"I loved making my rosary and I could help my friends learn how to use it."*



CATHOLIC LIFE

SUPER SOUP!

On Monday 7th October we invited families into school to help us celebrate Harvest. Our families gathered to hear KS2 and our choir sing some wonderful harvest songs.

Throughout the week the children were involved in helping to create our community soup. We were overwhelmed with plentiful donations and Early Years helped to sort the vegetables. KS1 then washed all of the donations before KS2 peeled and chopped. Our very own Mrs Craik then turned this into a wonderful vegetable soup to be shared with our community. Our hall was beautifully decorated by Miss Craik's floral arrangements and Ms Styles' autumn crafts. It was a real whole school effort and a wonderful afternoon.



THE LIVING SIMPLY AWARD

This year at St Bede's we will be striving to gain the Living Simply award. This award inspired by Pope Francis's message asks us to answer the call for us to care for our common home and stand in solidarity with our sisters and brothers around the world.

This project is a large undertaking and different initiative will be launched throughout the year. This half term Eco Club have begun by looking at our school grounds and trying to create more sustainable areas. They have created their own bird feeders to help ensure our school grounds can be a sustainable home for a range of wildlife. Harrison in Year 4 who is part of Eco Club said *"I enjoyed making the birdfeeders and we can watch them being used at break and lunchtimes"*. Watch out next year to see what other initiatives are a part of this exciting project.

LiveSimply



ADVENT PREPARATIONS

What a busy half term we have had preparing during Advent. On the first day of Advent all of the children came into school to find it transformed into a Christmas paradise. All classes have been working hard on preparing their Nativity celebrations for parents and learning hymns for our Christmas Mass.



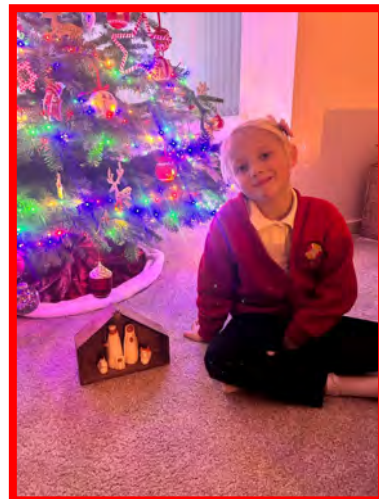
We have also prepared with some other exciting fun activities. Children from Reception to Year 6 went to the Whitley Bay Playhouse to watch the Pantomime. It was a fabulous day filled with jokes and laughs. Oh no it wasn't! Our Nursery children were also surprised by a special Christmas visitor from Seven Stories who read Christmas stories in front of a roaring fire. Our Christmas dinner and jumper day was another roaring success and a special festive visitor came to visit and gave each child a special gift.

During the whole month of Advent, all classes throughout school got to take home our travelling cribs. These special bags were put together to allow families to pray and share the Christmas story together.

Throughout the Advent period we will also be having our usual Christmas party celebrations. It really is the best time of the year!

TRAVELLING CRIBS

Over Advent our children have been taking home a Travelling Crib each night. These beautiful bags were put together by Mrs Hart to help children understand the true meaning of Advent and to help families worship and prepare for the birth of Jesus together. These beautiful worship bags contained a manger scene, candle, a book retelling the Christmas story and another book for the children to record their thoughts and feelings. Children from all year groups have enjoyed engaging in these bags helping to support the children in leading their own worships at home.



CATHOLIC LIFE

MINI VINNIES



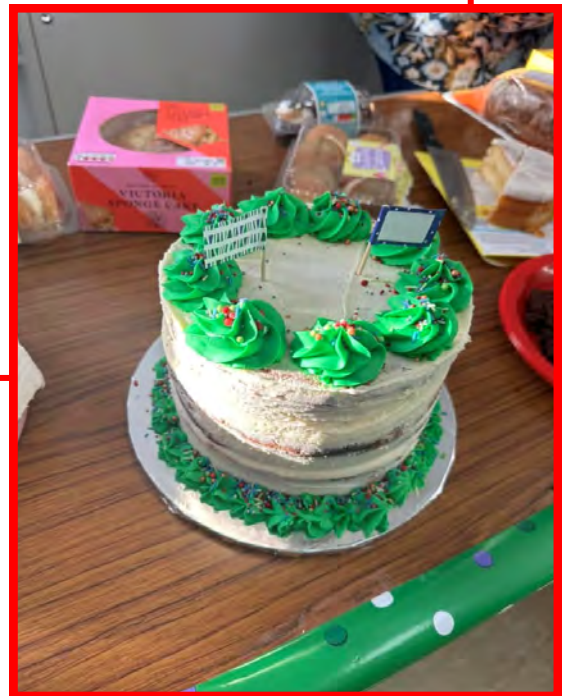
Year 4 have become Mini Vinnie's this half term! The Mini Vinnies are the youngest members of the St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP), an international Christian voluntary organisation dedicated to tackling poverty in all its forms by providing practical assistance to people in need. Year 4 have been given the special task of living out the Mini Vinnie's message of 'See, think, do' to help others in our community. They will be working hard to do this across the school year. Mrs Hart came to do a special ceremony to begin their journey and they all made a pledge as to how we are going to try and help the community both in, and outside of school.



BELONGING, CONNECTION AND COMMUNITY

MACMILLIAN COFFEE MORNING

On Friday 27th September we hosted our first Macmillian Coffee Morning. Many thanks to the Friends of St Bede's who helped set up and run the event we managed to raise over £200 for a great cause. We had so many donations we were able to also offer a 'grab and go' cake sale at the end of the day. We were overwhelmed with all of the donations and it was a great way to bring those in our community together.



BELONGING, CONNECTION AND COMMUNITY

GLASTONBEDE

In the summer term our annual Glastonbede festival took place in our school grounds. Glastonbede which has become a staple of the St Bede's calendar will be celebrating it's 10th anniversary this coming summer! The rain held off for Glastonbede number 9 and for the first time ever our Rocksteady music pupils opened the show with their bands performing the songs they have practised within their sessions. It was amazing to see the confidence exude from the children and see them working together in their bands. We then saw each class perform two songs one inspired by the music of Disney and one free choice. The atmosphere was electric as our school community came together. We cannot wait for Glastonbede 10 coming Summer 2025!!



BELONGING, CONNECTION AND COMMUNITY

REMEMBRANCE



To celebrate those who have given their lives in conflict and for those who serve their country; St Bede's felt very privileged to be asked to join in two local parades. On Sunday 10th November, children, parents and staff gathered together to join in the local march to the Cenotaph to lay a wreath for the fallen. On Monday 11th November

we had a service in school to commemorate why it is important to remember. The children took the lead and performed poignant poems, readings and hymns. Whilst the service took place at school, several children from our school community went along with Mrs Hart to our local war



memorial to lay another wreath in a school service. All of our children were very respectful throughout all services and understood the importance of remembering those who have served their country.

BELONGING, CONNECTION AND COMMUNITY

RECOGNISING CHARITIES



This half term we recognised two important charities. We celebrated Odd Sock Day which

supporting awareness for anti bullying. It celebrates everyone being unique, different and special.

We also celebrated Children In Need with children coming into school wearing their Pudsey ears. We spoke to the children about the key messages of these charities in

assemblies and within their PSHE lessons. It was great to see the children supporting these charities and understanding their important messages.



NURSERY RHYME WEEK

This half term our children in EYFS have taken part in Nursery Rhyme Week. Since its launch in 2013, millions of children have taken part around the world. The week focuses on a rhyme a day ensuring that the children are immersed in a variety of nursery rhymes. This year included Twinkle Twinkle, 5 currant buns and Old McDonald. The children completed a range of exciting activities to fully immerse them in these rhymes including making and eating currant buns and creating sparkling jars made of oil and water to show twinkling stars.



CURRICULUM

NSPCC



This half term some of our children have taken part in the NSPCC's "Speak out. Stay safe. Programme". Speak out. Stay safe. is a programme for children which aims to help children understand abuse in all its forms and to recognise the signs of abuse. Children are taught to speak out if they are worried, either to a safe adult or Childline. The children who accessed this program found it to be informative and powerful. The children had great things to say about the program;

"I liked Buddy and still remember the number you taught us. It's nice knowing that Childline is always here for me if I ever need them."

"It was really good to hear about Childline and to know that I can talk to you about anything. Knowing that Childline is always here for children really helps."

SCIENCE BRILLIANCE

Over the past year, our Science coordinator Miss Inglis has been working hard to help achieve a PSQM (Primary Science Quality Mark) for our school. This special award focuses on improving school self-evaluation of science. This has allowed us to make a positive and lasting impact on science teaching and learning.



WIDER OFFER

ST BEDE'S BOOKWORMS

Here have been some of the Bookworm's favourite recommendations of this half term.

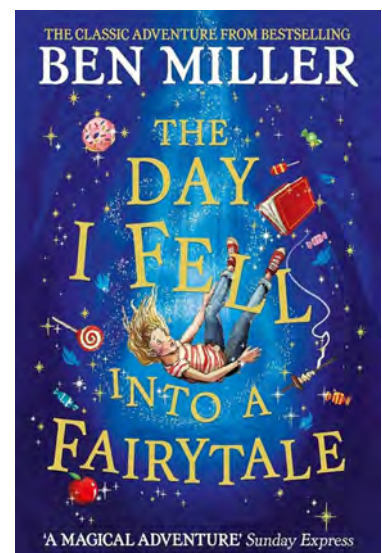


St Bede's Bookworms



Reuben recommends **Brightstorm**. A quest story focusing find out the truth behind their father's mysterious disappearance.

Bea recommends **The Day I Fell Into A Fairytale**. A quest story featuring some iconic fairytale characters and a bickering brother and sister who find each other through the power of imagination.



WIDER OFFER

BOOK FAYRE

Over the course of four nights the St Bede's Bookworms ran a school book fayre. They gathered and sold a range of books at a variety of prices. They were fantastic at helping children decide what books to choose. We had a great turnout and a great range of books sold. Thank you to everyone who supported us. We can now use some of the money raised to buy new books for our school.



WIDER OFFER

HOWTOWN

In October many of our Year 5 and 6 pupils went to Howtown in the Lake District for the week. The week was full of exciting activities including gorge climbing, canoeing, fire building and mountain climbing. The activities tested the children's mental endurance and teamwork skills and all children rose to the challenge. Each achieved so many personal goals throughout the week and made the staff who went with them so proud. Miss Rowley who accompanied the children said *"I feel so lucky to have been able to have this amazing experience alongside the children. The close bonds they made in their teams over the week was a joy to see and each child was an absolute credit to St Bede's."*

They all enjoyed the week immensely and managed to keep their rooms tidy, most of the time!"



WIDER OFFER

TOON TOON!!

Years 3 and 4 were very kindly invited by NUFC to visit St James Park for a tour. The children were buzzing with excitement as they set off to visit the stadium. They arrived and got to see the players changing rooms, the press room and the pitch. It was a super exciting morning for all involved including many of our football mad pupils who I know will be talking about it for a long time.



SPORTS NEWS

NETBALL

Our netball team took part in a very exciting workshop this term. All of the children travelled to Blyth to take part in skills workshops alongside other local schools. All of the children were an asset to the team and worked brilliantly together. Their teamwork, resilience and determination was remarkable. The team will now take a winter break before taking part in weekly training with Miss Dixon so they can move forward and compete in competitions in the future.

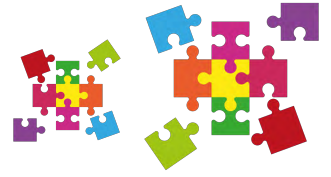


MULTI SKILLS

It has been great to see our multi skills clubs back up and running this term. We are fortunate that our clubs are ran by NUFC skilled coaches. The clubs are always well attended by each key stage and support the children in learning a range of skills which will support them as they come to take part in a variety of team games.

BEDE'S PUZZLE PAGE

CHRISTMAS WORDSEARCH FUN!



J	S	H	E	Y	E	R	E	S	L	P	N	I	L
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MARY
JESUS
STABLE
STAR
CHRISTMAS
PRESENTS
FAMILY
TINSEL
TREE
BIRTH

ADVENT WORD SCRAMBLE!

Can you unscramble the words?

SJEUS

ASTR

YMRA SRPENTE

TNAVDE



As we prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ, we would like to thank you for all of your continued love and support. We thank you so much for the support that makes our school so special.

On behalf of the staff, governors and pupils of St. Bede's we would like to wish you a very happy and holy Christmas holiday.



A COMMUNITY OF FAITH, LOVE AND RESPECT,
INSPIRING US TO ACHIEVE.

St. Bede's Catholic Primary School, Ridge Terrace, Bedlington, NE22 6EQ
01670 822389 | admin@stbedesbedlington.org
www.st-bedes.northumberland.sch.uk