



## Head Teacher Message

As we approach the end of the year, I would like to take the opportunity to thank your children for all of their hard work and joy they have brought to our school community. Secondly, I would like to thank the staff team for all their hard work and dedication to providing an excellent education for our children.

It has been a very successful year for our school, and I am proud of what everyone has achieved. There has been so much fun and laughter along the journey too. It has been a pleasure to be part of such a vibrant community. Thank you for all for your generous gifts and thank you messages. They are appreciated, and we are so lucky to have such a supportive community.

Next academic year, I start an Executive Head Teacher role and I will be based at St Alban's Catholic School for half of the week. I am confident that Mrs Binney will continue to lead the school with passion and determination to continue our school improvement journey.

Have a wonderful summer break.  
Mrs Nealings



## Year 6 Shakespeare Rocks!

Year 6 gave an amazing performance of Shakespeare Rocks! The singing, dancing and acting was all amazing. You all are such a talented group of young people. We were extremely proud of you all, well done.

Thank you to Miss Thomas for helping the children.



## Catholic Life

Thank you to Father Michael for leading our end of year Mass in school. It was a lovely celebration and thank you to Miss Thomas and the children for leading it.

We are all saddened to hear the news that Fr O'Connor has died. I last saw him in December; he was asking after everyone and he still had a great fondness for our school. Please keep him in your prayers.

*"Together we follow Jesus in our living and learning"*  
*Ordinary time "People who see you at your best will thank God" Matthew 6:16*



## Mobile phones

Please remember to check your child's mobile device or tablets regularly. If you need any advice regarding online safety, you can find further information at: [Keeping children safe online | NSPCC](#)

You can speak to the safeguarding team in school - Mrs Nealings, Mrs Binney or Miss Thomas for advice also.



## Sports News

Thank you to the sports reporters who have kept us all up to date on events throughout the year. Mrs Mills has passionately led PE and sport in school this year and she has done an amazing job.

Update from Mrs Mills:

We have ended our fantastic year of sport at St Charles' on another high, ending the year with our Olympic themed sports week and super Sports Day.

Olympic Week gave the children the opportunity to try many new skills and improve on ones which they already had. Our week began with a visit from Hoops4Health which allowed children to practise their basketball skills and learn some very impressive new tricks. This was followed with a visit from Catalyst Cheer, which saw all year groups learn some cheer stunts. All the children really enjoyed cheerleading! Finally, we had a fun visit from Rugby Minis for Early Years and Year 1 while the rest of the school turned their hands to archery! Along with the many sporting opportunities, we had delicious sport-themed cakes at lunch and a guess the flag competition. We all had so much fun, and it has definitely got us all in the mood for the upcoming Paris Olympics!

Luckily, the rain held off this week so we could celebrate all our amazing sporting skills during Sports Day. Each session began with our flag processions followed by lots of fun events including the egg and spoon race, football dribble, relays and long jump. Not forgetting, the favourite parents race! The children were not only fantastic at their events but displayed amazing sporting attitudes.

We have taken part in so much sport this year at St Charles', whether it be football tournaments, cross country, Boccia or even trying our hands at new sports like cheerleading and rugby; it has been brilliant to see children face all these challenges head on with enthusiasm and passion. We really can't wait to see what sporting challenges we will face next year!

## Sam Ashcroft Award

We raised over £2700 for North East Immediate Care Charity this term after the sponsored fun run. Thank you to everyone for your support. We have a sporting award in Sam's memory and this year it was awarded to Harriet in Year 6 for her determination and progress in sport.



*"Together we follow Jesus in our living and learning"*

*Ordinary time "People who see you at your best will thank God" Matthew 6:16*





## PTA

Thank you to the PTA for their generous donation of £6730 towards our playground development. The school council have helped design the new playground area. We are hoping for this work to be completed soon.

The PTA have organised many social events over the school year, raising money and bringing the community together. There has been Advent Wreath making, quiz night, cinema nights, discos and Christmas and Summer fayres. We all appreciate the time they give to support our school.

Thank you from all the children and staff team for all your hard work over the year.

## Playground Design

We would like to share the designs for the future playground. Thank you to the children



## Attendance

Thank you for your support with attendance this year. We understand when children are unwell, they should stay at home and recover. Attendance letters we issue have been updated with the legal changes that come into effect on 19 August 2024. We will continue to support families with good attendance, and you can speak to the class teacher, Mrs Bertenshaw or any leader if you need support.

## Extra-curricular Clubs Parent Views

Thank you for sharing your views. We are limited to the offer we can provide as we only have one hall available after school. We have tried to open some of the clubs, where possible, to as many age groups as possible after listening to your views. We hope this helps and if you have any feedback regarding the offer, please let us know. It was lovely to hear so many positive comments.

## Residential Opportunity Parent Views

Thank you for sharing your views. The Year 6 residential to Borrowdale will continue next year and we will continue to offer the Year 4 residential. These trips take a lot of planning and get booked up in advance. Leaders will explore your suggestions next academic year to see if a change is viable and matches our curriculum for 2025-2026.

## Special Educational Needs Parent Views

Thank you so much for all your positive feedback and recognition of the hard work and dedication of the staff team. We will continue to review provision across school alongside professionals and up to date research.

## Diary Dates for Autumn 2024

Autumn dates are on the school website.

# Family hub

Use the QR code to find out about events and local summer activities.



Also: [Postcode Search](#) | [Newcastle Support Directory](#)

## Classics for All Impact Award Winners!

We are delighted that we have won the Classics for all Impact award. We have won £300 and received the recognition for all the staff and children's hard work. Thank you to Miss Thomas who started leading Latin alongside Miss Greatrex.

Laura Hope (Network Co-ordinator for the Northeast) said " *They were the first of the Bishop Bewick Trust Schools to take initiative and get training done, and it was their enthusiasm at a teach-meet across the trust that prompted and encouraged other schools to get their training going. They have adapted some of the Maximum Classics resources to suit their own needs and have introduced Latin to 120 pupils across the whole of Year 3 to Year 6 as an on-timetable language. It is wonderful to hear of their fantastic work, and to see how engaged their pupils are in learning Latin!*"

## School Academic Performance 2023-2024

Once again, thank you to all the children and staff for the strong results across all areas of school. Results are found in the performance section of the school website. It is wonderful to see the impact of our curriculum helping us to prepare children for the next steps on their education journey. Our broad curriculum allows pupils to thrive in all areas whether it be academic, sporting or creative. Well done everyone.

## Staffing for Academic Year 2024 - 2025

Nursery – Miss Salter (Miss Cranney 1 day)  
Reception class - Mrs Bertenshaw 4 days and Miss Salter 1 day  
Year 1 – Miss Cowan  
Year 2 - Miss Shaw  
Year 3 – Miss Young  
Year 4 – Miss Greatrex  
Year 5 – Mrs Mills  
Year 6 - Miss Thomas (Assistant Headteacher), Mrs Binney (Deputy Headteacher)  
Executive Head Teacher - Mrs Nealings

Mrs Hague will be teaching across the school during the Autumn term before she commences maternity leave in November.

## Goodbye

Thank you to Mrs Shuttle for all her hard work and commitment to the children in our school over the last 18 years. We wish her all the best for her retirement and her big birthday coming in the summer holidays!

Good luck to Mr Gray and Miss Warsap for their future beyond our school. They have been a pleasure to work with and we all wish you both the best of luck.