

St Philip Neri Catholic Primary School

Living and learning together with a joyous heart



Newsletter No 4

Friday 17th October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

We've had a very busy Friday with lots of visitors in school today. The children have made us all extremely proud, welcoming our visitors and taking part with enthusiasm.

Thank you all for your support with our school events.

Enjoy the weekend ahead.

Best wishes

Mrs Sarah Williams

Catholic Life

This morning our Y6 class and our Reception Class joined together for their buddy assembly. It was lovely to see so many of you there and to welcome some of our new families. Our Year 6 and Reception pupils have already become great friends!

Celebration of the Word

Thanks to our Year 5 children for leading a peaceful and reflective Celebration of the Word. Through prayer, scripture, and thoughtful reflection, they helped us all to pause and consider the many gifts we have been given by God. We are grateful for the way they guided us in worship. Well done, Year 5.

Harvest Collection

This year, we will be supporting Feeding Families with our annual harvest collection.

Feeding Families is a charity based in North-East that offers support, hope and security to those experiencing food insecurity. [Home - Feeding Families](#)

The charity has asked if we can support them as they get ready for their Christmas Appeal. Feeding Families deliver thousands of festive food boxes filled with essentials and treats - a message of care and hope for families who might otherwise feel forgotten.

A leaflet has been sent home tonight with a donations list. Please send any donations in by Friday 7th November.

Great Athlete Visit

This week, our school was thrilled to welcome Sean Gaffney, an accomplished sports star, who shared his incredible journey with our pupils. From early challenges to achieving success on the world stage, his story reminded us all of the power of perseverance, hard work, and believing in yourself. The highlight of the visit was a fun, interactive fitness circuit where pupils got active and tried out some skills under Sean's guidance. Laughter, energy, and determination filled the hall as everyone gave their best effort! The children were captivated by his experiences and enjoyed asking thoughtful questions. We are so grateful to Sean Gaffney for inspiring our young learners to never give up!

Admission to Reception Class

The deadline for submitting online applications for Reception for September 2026 is the 15th January 2026.

<https://stphilipneridunston.bwcet.com>

info@spd.bwcet.com

01914604378



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We will be holding an open morning on Wednesday 5th November at 9:30am – 11:00am. If you know anyone who is considering an application for our school, please contact the office to let us know that they are going to be visiting.

Admission to secondary schools

Just a reminder that the deadline for submitting online applications for secondary school places for September 2026 is 31st October.

Friends of St Philip's

Friends of St Philip's are a small group of parents and carers who are passionate about supporting our school community with fundraising events such as the Christmas Fair. They are always looking for new members to support them. Friends of St Philip's are holding a coffee morning on Friday at 9am in school. If you can make it, we'd love to see you. Whether you can spare a little time or a lot of time, your contribution would be very much welcome.

Parking around school

We kindly remind all families that cars should not be parked outside of school. If you are dropping off children, please use parking on Forge Road. Traffic wardens have been monitoring parking and issuing fines.

Safeguarding

Designated persons for safeguarding and child protection are Mrs Sarah Williams, Headteacher, Miss Anthony, Deputy Headteacher, Miss Ormerod, SENDCo and Mr Wright, Y5 Class Teacher. If you need to speak to a designated person, please contact the school office.

Free School Meals

If your circumstances have changed over the summer holidays and you think that you might be eligible to claim for Free School Meals, please apply via the Gateshead Council website [Free school meals - Gateshead Council](#)

Wraparound Care

There are still spaces for our wraparound care group.

This Week's Attendance

W/E 10/10/2025

Y6	96.3%
Y5	92.16%
Y4	91.41%
Y3	90.2%
Y2	97.78%
Y1	100% This week's winner!
YR	95.75%

This Week's Attendance

W/E 17/10/2025

Y6	98.15%
Y5	97.22%
Y4	98.99%
Y3	93.75%
Y2	98.47%
Y1	100% This week's winner
YR	92.56%

Stars of the Week

Every week, teachers pick children to be awarded Star of the Week. This award recognises school values, achievements, effort, or positive behaviour over the course of a week.

Last week's stars were:

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Caleb S	For a fantastic effort in phonics!
Frankee I	For an outstanding effort in phonics and reading.
Robyn T	For a brilliant diary entry with amazing adjectives.
Noah S	For an excellent effort with handwriting.
Summer C	For a superb description of the ocean journey. With excellent fronted adverbials.
Archie T-B	For an excellent hardworking mindset showing progress every day.
Sarah - Jo G	For a super effort in long division.

This week's stars are:

Romeo L	For fantastic Fred talk in phonics.
Brody T	For being an excellent friend and role model.
Ethan S	For amazing ideas in English.
Reuben C	For an excellent attitude to learning and work ethic.
Rina V	For determination in all that she does.
George C	For quality, intentional language with writing emotively.
Frankie M	For being a committed and resilient pupil a great role model!

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Please find below some key dates for the Autumn term. Classes will lead a celebration of the word or assembly every term. Parents and carers are welcome to join us. More information may follow on some the activities listed below.

October

Wednesday 22nd October	Reception Phonics Meeting, 9am in the school hall
Friday 24th October	Friends of St Philip Neri coffee morning, 9am
Friday 24th October	Year 4 Celebration of the Word, 9am in the school hall

Half Term Holiday: Monday 27^h October - Friday 31st October

November

Friday 7th November	Year 3 Celebration of the Word, 9am in the school hall
Monday 10th November	Reception – Y6 Parents Evening from 3.30 pm
Tuesday 11th November	Y1 – Y6 Parents Evening from 3.30 pm
Tuesday 11th November	Year 6 Celebration of the Word, 10:45am in the school hall
Wednesday 12th November	Reception Parents Evening from 3.30 pm
Friday 21st November	Year 2 Celebration of the Word, 9am in the school hall
Friday 28th November	Year 1 Celebration of the Word, 9am in the school hall

December

Monday 8th December	Christmas Fair from 3.30 pm
Wednesday 10th & Thursday 11th	Reception Class and KS1 Nativity, 2pm
Friday 12th December	Year 1 & Year 2 parties
Monday 15th December	Year 3 & Year 4 parties
Tuesday 16th December	Year 5 & Year 6 parties
Wednesday 17th December	Reception class party
Friday 19th December	KS2 carols in church, 1:30pm
Friday 19th December	Last day of term

January

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Tuesday 6th January

First day of new term for pupils

May

Monday, 11th – 14th May

Year 6 SATS week Thursday,

