

St Philip Neri Catholic Primary School

Living and learning together with a joyous heart



Newsletter No 16

Friday 1st May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

It's been a busy week in school; made even better by the sunshine and the lovely visitors we've welcomed. The children have enjoyed lots of exciting learning opportunities along the way. Thank you for your support, and we hope you all have a relaxing and enjoyable weekend.

Best wishes

Mrs Sarah Williams

Bishop Stephen to visit St. Philip Neri

Bishop Stephen will be visiting St Philip's on Friday 8th May as part of his ministry to our school community.

Parents are warmly invited to join governors, staff, pupils and governors for tea and coffee in the school hall at 11:00 am, as we come together to celebrate this special visit and our shared faith.

Year 3 History Outreach Day: Ancient Greeks

Our pupils recently took part in an exciting visit focused on the Ancient Greeks. They learned about everyday life in ancient Greece and explored a range of artefacts linked to this fascinating period of history. The children enjoyed examining the objects and discussing what they might have been used for, helping to bring their learning to life.

Year 1 History Outreach Day: Local History

Our year 1 children were visited this week by the History Outreach team from Durham University. They learned all about what life looked like in the recent past. They explored artefacts and tried to work out what they might have been for.

Rockpool School

Nicola from Rockpool School visited our Reception and Year 1 classes this week. The children learned all about creatures they may find in rock pools and carefully handled crabs and starfish. They even had a chance to make their very own sea creature.

Year 3 Orienteering Event at Kingsmeadow School

Our year 3 children had a great time at Kingsmeadow school this week. We participated in a Gateshead SSP orienteering event. We learned how to use a map to navigate our way around a course and we joined in with some team building activities.

Multi-skills Event

Last night, children from our Year 1 and 2 classes took part in a multi skills event alongside children from other schools at St Thomas More. They tried out a range of activities, learning skills for rugby, netball, football and many other sports. They all put in a huge effort and were excellent ambassadors for our school. Well, done!

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Bishop Wilkinson
Catholic Education Trust

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Friends Coffee Invite

Reminder you are invited to the coffee morning at 9.00 am on Friday 15th May. This will be a relaxed opportunity to come together, enjoy a drink and have a chat about plans for our upcoming Summer Fair on 7.7.26.

Friends of St Philips, play an important role in supporting the school by helping us to raise much-needed funds that directly benefit the children.

We hope you can join us and look forward to seeing you there!

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.

Polite Reminder

Please remember that dogs are not permitted on the school grounds or church premises at any time. This is to ensure the safety and comfort of all our pupils, families, and visitors.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Parking around school

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

Wraparound Care

We still have spaces in our wraparound care groups before and after school. Children take part in lots of fun activities and it's a great opportunity for children to make new friends. Places can be booked via Arbor, or you can contact the school office for more information.

Attendance

We're making a big effort with our attendance this week in school - well done everyone!

W/E 24.04.2026

Y6	98.22%
Y5	100% Last week's winner!
Y4	98.99%
Y3	97.92%
Y2	97.78%
Y1	94.15%
YR	90.13%

W/E 01.05.2026

Y6	100% This week's winner!
Y5	97.22%
Y4	93.94%
Y3	96.53%
Y2	95.19%
Y1	100%
YR	98.65%

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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 (24.04.2026) stars are:

Nancy H	For a fantastic effort to form letters correctly in handwriting.
Hanna C	For a fantastic attitude in all lessons.
Tommy D	For excellent attitude to learning and working hard.
Lily W	For always given 100% in learning.
Rina V	For determination and a positive to learning.
Billy C-G	For positive attitude to learning and excellent manners.
Toby T	For having a positive, mature approach to all areas of school life. An excellent role model!

This week's (01.05.2026) stars are:

Betsy G	For a fantastic start to her time at St Philip Neri.
George M	For a fantastic set of instructions on how to catch a beast!
Toby A	For excellence in learning and conduct.
Archie T	For great leadership in team activities.
Carter R	For fantastic maths work calculating decimals and tenths.
Hao Yong B	For excellent work in his St Francis biography.
Daniel C	For writing a lovely 'Canticle of the Sun'.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

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

May

Monday, 11th – Year 6 SATS week

Thursday 14th May

Friday	15th May	Friends Coffee Morning
Thursday	21st May	Y6 Countdown Cricket
Friday	22nd May	Y4 & 4 Gateshead Fun Run

June

Friday	12th June	Summer Fair Donations Day
Friday	12th June	First Holy Communion – 5.30 pm in Church
Tuesday	16th June	Y4 & 4 Centre for Life Visit
Wednesday	17th June	New Reception Parents Mtg 5pm
Friday	19th June	INSET DAY (School closed to children)
Monday	22nd June	Y2 Beamish Visit
Friday	26th June	Gateshead Athletics Festival
Tuesday	30th June	STM & Emmanuel College Y6 Transition Days

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July

Wednesday	1st July	STM & Emmanuel College Y6 Transition Days
Thursday	2nd July	Y5 Trust Celebration of Sport Day
Wednesday	7th July	Summer Fair
Friday	10th July	Sponsored Walk (Whole School)

