



## **Weekly Bulletin 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023**

### **Headteacher's Message**

We have enjoyed a busy week in school and term is well under way. Children have begun to take part in our extra-curricular activities and our Y6 class has enjoyed an educational visit to Eden Camp to further enrich their History curriculum. Those Year 6 pupils who wish to do so are preparing their presentations for election to this year's School Council positions of Secretary and Chairperson. We have been discussing Democracy with the children and voting will take place next week. This is one of the many ways in which the pupils are able to exercise leadership and responsibility within school. The School Council are elected pupils by their classmates. The School Council comprises two pupils from every class, one girl and one boy, from Reception to Year 6. We commend all who are standing for election for their enthusiasm in contributing to school life.

We look forward to celebrating Harvest in the coming weeks and I draw your attention to the information below regarding our collection for the Durham Foodbank.

Each week I want to include a 'snapshot' of some of the things that the children are doing in school. For example, news from our ECO team, Worship group, V.I.P. (Very International People) and SNAG (School Nutrition Action Group). This week our focus is on PE in school and an update from Mr Gowan is shared below.

Best wishes

Mr Rumbles

### **PE**

At the start of a new academic year I would like to share with you what we have been doing so far this year in PE and Sport in school:

We are pleased to provide the children with a variety of extra-curricular clubs, either before or after school, which have started up again this week. We will continue to review these and offer further opportunities as the year progresses. This week has seen the return of competitive football with our Year5/6 team taking part in 2 cup competitions. Although not progressing to the final, there were promising signs for the season ahead and our first league competition starts next week. In the next few weeks we will see the start of our Inter school competition. Sport leaders from Year 5 and 6 are currently receiving training to do this and then will help deliver inter-house competitions for children across school. Over the next term some of our classes have been entered into festivals including Golf, Gymnastics, Cross Country and Indoor Athletics.

### **Harvest Festival**

This harvest we are collecting food items for 'Durham Foodbank.' We hope that you and your child/children would like to help support our 2023 Harvest Appeal in liaison with Durham Christian Partnership.

The Foodbank provides short term emergency food to people in crisis locally. Food is given as an intervention strategy which allows professionals to put longer term measures in place. We want to support our local Foodbank in helping those less fortunate, in particular families and children.

If you wish to contribute, please send donations of **non-perishable food** (see list) on **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October** with your child and this will be collected from their class.

### **A TYPICAL FOOD PARCEL INCLUDES:**

Breakfast cereals - Soup - Pasta

Rice - Pasta sauce - Tinned bean

Tinned meat - Tinned vegetables - Tinned fruit

Tea or coffee - Sugar - Biscuits

Snacks

For further information regarding Durham Foodbank you may visit: <https://durham.foodbank.org.uk/>

### **Parent Governor Vacancy**

There is a vacancy for a Parent Governor. All parents other than those employed at the school for more than 500 hours per year or who are elected members of the Local Authority (LA) are eligible to stand for election. This includes any person who is not the natural parent but has parental responsibility for or who has care of a pupil registered at the school (Education Act 1996, Section 576)

If you are interested in becoming a Governor please contact school for a nomination form. The completed and duly signed nomination form should be returned to school by Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October. Where the number of nominations is equal to, or fewer than, the places available no ballot will be necessary. Should a ballot be required each parent will be sent a link posted on the school website for the duration of the poll, and all parents will have an opportunity to vote using the website voting form.

When the process has been finalised school will inform the parent body via our weekly bulletin and website. School and Governor Support Service will write formally to all nominees confirming the outcome of the ballot.

### **School Uniform**

The school uniform is:

**Grey skirt, pinafore or trousers**

**White polo shirt**

**Navy sweatshirt / cardigan**

**Sensible, black school shoes**

In warmer weather children may wear a blue and white school dress or grey shorts.

For **PE Days** children require:

**House colour t-shirt and jumper, shorts (black or navy), jogging bottoms and/or leggings (black or navy) and appropriate trainers**

Polo shirts, sweatshirts, cardigans, fleeces, shower-proof jackets, rainproof jackets, house t-shirts & sweatshirts, and book bags with the school logo can be ordered through school. Please contact the school office if you have any questions.

**Diary Dates**

For a full list of school holiday dates please see the school website.

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September – Y6 Modern Foreign Languages Day at Durham High School for Girls

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September – Y5 Trip to Iskcon Temple

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October – Y4 Trip to Bethany Centre

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October – Harvest Festival **assembly held in school at 9:05am**, Parent/carers welcome

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October – School closes for Autumn half term holiday

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November – School re-opens after half term holiday

January – Robinwood Residential Y6

**Noticeboard**

- **DATA COLLECTION** - Please inform the school office if there are any changes to personal contact details - for example addresses, phone numbers or emergency contacts.
- **Packed Lunch-** If your child is wishing to change to *Packed Lunches* please inform the school office with one week's notice.
- **PHOTOGRAPHIC CONSENT** - Consent is required every school year and will last for the duration of that school year unless consent is withdrawn. Please can you complete the Photographic Consent forms for your child and return to the School office.
- **MUSIC LESSONS** - Brass and Violin lessons start next week - Week commencing Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September. Guitar lessons start WC Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September. If your child plays a music instrument please ensure they have their instrument on the day of their lesson:
  - BRASS – Monday
  - GUITAR – Monday
  - VIOLIN – Friday

**Medical**

- A reminder that we are only able to administer prescribed medications at school once parents have completed the required consent form. All medication must be delivered to and collected from the office by an adult.
- Packed Lunch Children – please ensure your child's packed lunch is **NUT FREE** as we have children in the school who have an allergy to nuts.

**WILD CHURCH IS BACK!**

We welcome everyone back to Wild Church this Autumn, the full programme is being finalised this week, but put the next session in your diary if you can. See you then.

**SAT 23<sup>TH</sup> SEPT 4.00 pm Outside St. Mary's: The Gaia - Creationtide**

Activities: making impact craters, the inflatable solar system, marshmallows and fire pit, planet prayer station, planet quiz and a short service. Foodbank donations welcome.

## **Starting School - Will your child turn 5 between 1 September 2024 and 31 August 2025?**

Applications open 5 September 2023 and close midnight 15 January 2024.

If so, you need to complete an application online to tell us which school you would like your child to attend from September 2024.

Visit [www.durham.gov.uk/primaryschoolplaces](http://www.durham.gov.uk/primaryschoolplaces) where you can access a useful guide to help with your application. The easiest way to apply is online, if you are unable to apply online, paper application forms are available on request.

You still need to apply even if your child attends the nursery unit attached to the school, or already has a sibling at the school. You will also need to apply for a place in Year 3 in a junior school for an older child.

For more information please contact School Places and Admissions Team

[www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

Tel: 03000 265896

## **YEAR 6 PARENTS - Application for a Secondary School Place – September 2024**

As you will be aware, your child is due to transfer to secondary school in September next year. The application process will be open on 5 September 2023. You will need to read the School Admissions online guidance for parents which is located on the School Admissions web page. This contains essential information that will help you in making your child's application. The guidance is available on our website [www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions) You must only complete one application and this must be to the Local Authority to which you pay your council tax (i.e. Home Local Authority).

If you live in County Durham, you need to complete an application to tell us which school you want your child to attend. You should list up to 3 school preferences and applying for just 1 school Does Not improve your chances of gaining a place at that school. You can apply for any school/academy in County Durham or in another Local Authority area.

Please apply on-line at [www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions) When you apply on-line you will receive an acknowledgement and you will be offered a school place for your child by email on 1 March 2024. Please save your log-in details as you may need these at a later date.

Please note that school places are allocated according to specific criteria which are different depending upon which school you apply for your child to attend. One criterion is "nearest school". If you wish to know your nearest school, please contact us.

If your child's offer of a school place is for an oversubscribed school (i.e. where there are more applications for a school than places available) we will offer your child a school place based on the child's/parent's address. We may request information on the child's/parent's address when we offer a school place and the onus will be on you to prove your address if asked.

If you do not wish to apply on-line, you can contact the School Admissions Team by email or telephone to request a form. Email: [schooladmissions@durham.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissions@durham.gov.uk) or telephone

03000 265 896. Your application must be received by us at the address below by the closing date. We strongly advise you to return the application form to us by "Royal Mail Signed for™" or "Royal Mail Special Delivery Guaranteed". If you complete a paper application form you will receive a letter to inform you of the school place offered to your child on the 1 March 2024.

Please note for both on-line applications and paper application forms, you will be required to read the disclaimer and sign/tick the box to agree that the information you provide on the application form is complete and correct otherwise the offer of a school place will be withdrawn.

The closing date for receipt for on-line/paper application forms is 31 October 2023.

Yours sincerely DCC School Places and Admissions Team.

### **Christian Values**

We are exploring the value of endurance this half term and worship will be led by Mr Rumbles, Fr. Peter, Mrs Matthews, Fr. Bill and our Key Stage Two pupils.

*Further information on the value of endurance:*

Endurance - is recognition that life is sometimes difficult and painful, and that it is important not to give up in the face of adversity.

Jesus endured rejection, abuse and the cross, and his followers are warned that they may well have to share that pain as persecution took hold. Discipleship is depicted as 'taking up the cross daily' and following in Jesus' footsteps (Luke 9:23).

We would like our children to continue their reflection and experience at home.

*Some things to think about:*

- How do we give pupils a better appreciation of the difficult situations that many people in the world have to endure and of the courage and resilience they show in the face of them?
- How do you help pupils understand that some things are worth working for even though they do not bring immediate results? How do we develop patience?
- What encourages and inspires you to persevere through difficult times in life?

If you would like to receive a copy of the Weekly Bulletin by e-mail please e-mail the school. [Shincliffe@durhamlearning.net](mailto:Shincliffe@durhamlearning.net) The Weekly Bulletins from previous weeks can be found in the parents' section of the website.

# OCTOBER HALF-TERM HOLIDAY CLUBS



Become a  
Holiday Club  
Member and  
recieve  
reduced rates!



SimplySport



**MULTISPORTS  
CLUB**



**FOOTBALL CLUB**



**LEGO CLUB  
CLUB**

WEEK 1 Monday 23rd October - Friday 27th October (Catholic & Sunderland Schools)

WEEK 2 Monday 30th October - Friday 3rd November (Durham Schools)

**FROM ONLY £12 A DAY**

**OPEN 9AM - 4PM**

**BOOK AT [WWW.SIMPLYSPORTLTD.CO.UK](http://WWW.SIMPLYSPORTLTD.CO.UK)  
BASED AT NEW FERENS PARK NEXT TO  
INFINITE AIR DH1 1GG**



Parent Carer (of children and young people aged 0-25yrs)

# TRAINING & information Sessions



## Understanding Why Children Might Be Anxious About School

This is an awareness session to increase understanding of why children might be anxious about school, identify potential triggers and look at available support and strategies. This session is suitable for parents/carers of all school aged children but may be of limited value to parents of children with more complex needs

**Tuesday 26th September—09:30-11:30**

**Anxiety (Two groups)** this session looks at what anxiety is, what the triggers might be, how to identify it and how we can support our children and young people.

**Tuesday 10th October 09:30-11:30—Over 11 years**

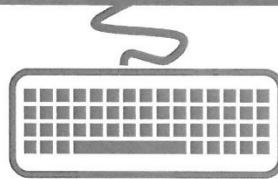
**Tuesday 24th October 09:30-11:30 — 5-11 years**

**Emotional Wellbeing** This session will focus on emotional wellbeing, what is it and how can we improve it for ourselves and our children.

**Tuesday 14th November 09:30-11:30**

To book places please email [tewv.countydurhamcamhstraining@nhs.net](mailto:tewv.countydurhamcamhstraining@nhs.net) or scan the QR code below to access the Trust website for further details. Please state which sessions (and dates) you'd like to attend. The sessions are aimed at parents of school aged children but parents of younger/older children are very welcome. The sessions will be led by a CAMHS trainer and will run on Microsoft TEAMS. If you have any additional needs, please mention this in the booking email.

  
Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys  
NHS Foundation Trust



[www.mcdurham.co.uk](http://www.mcdurham.co.uk)



[www.durhamsendiass.info](http://www.durhamsendiass.info)  
0191 5873541



[www.rollercoasterfamilysupport.co.uk](http://www.rollercoasterfamilysupport.co.uk)  
Tel: 07377213952



Together for Better  
Darlington Parent Carer Forum

[www.darlingtonpcf.co.uk](http://www.darlingtonpcf.co.uk)



Durham County  
carers support

[www.dccarers.org](http://www.dccarers.org)  
Tel: 0300 0051213



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# TRAINING & information Sessions



**Child to Parent Violence and Aggression** We will consider models of aggression in children and young people and identify key influencing factors. We will look to apply these models of aggression and consider them within the family / parent context and explore how aggression can become a pattern in households.

**Wednesday 6th December 1:30pm-3:30pm**

**NEW SESSION—Understanding Sleep** This workshop will provide an understanding of sleep cycles and importance of good sleep hygiene and routine. We will look at why sleep problems may occur for young people, possible causes and look at strategies to help your child develop good sleep habits.

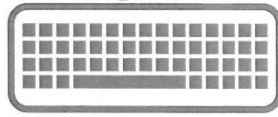
**Wednesday 11th October 1:30pm-3:00pm**

**NEW SESSION—Understanding Behaviour Development in Children and Young People** This session will look at behavioural norms in the developing child and how adult behaviour influences this. We will look at the challenges parents and carers may face and how they can support their children and young people to develop resilience and manage risk as they grow to adulthood and independence

**Tuesday 17th October 1:30pm-3:45pm**

To book places please email [teww.countydurhamcamhstraining@nhs.net](mailto:teww.countydurhamcamhstraining@nhs.net) or scan the QR code below to access the Trust website for further details. Please state which sessions (and dates) you'd like to attend. The sessions are aimed at parents of school aged children but parents of younger/older children are very welcome. The sessions will be led by a CAMHS trainer and will run on Microsoft TEAMS. If you have any additional needs, please mention this in the booking email.

**NHS**  
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[www.darlingtonpcf.co.uk](http://www.darlingtonpcf.co.uk)



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