



## Weekly Bulletin 27<sup>th</sup> June 2025

### Headteacher's Message

Sports Day took place on Monday afternoon and I am grateful to all who helped with the afternoon. The children were able to enjoy a range of sporting activities organised by Mr Gowan and our volunteers.

My thanks also go to our FOSS volunteers for organising refreshments and the school raffle (winners have been notified). This group plays a significant and positive role in the life of our school, and I would like to take a moment to highlight its impact, as well as an important and urgent appeal for new volunteers.

Over the years, FOSS has raised a significant amount of money which has gone directly towards enhancing the experience of all pupils in school. Thanks to their efforts, we have been able to invest in much-needed equipment, fund educational trips and visitors, and enrich our classrooms with additional learning resources. These contributions make a tangible difference to the children and are deeply appreciated by staff and pupils alike.

Just as importantly, it has helped reduce the financial burden on families when it comes to school trips and special experiences.

To give you a few recent examples:

- **Reception – Hardwick Park:** Cost before – £14 → **after FOSS: £4**
- **Year 1 – Hall Hill Farm Trip:** Cost before – £20 → **after FOSS: £6**
- **Year 2 – St Mary's Lighthouse Trip:** Cost before – £20 → **after FOSS: £10**
- **Year 3 – Horrible Histories:** Cost before – £24.50 → **after FOSS: £14.50**
- **Year 4 – Vindolanda Museum:** Cost before – £26 → **after FOSS: £12**
- **Year 5 – Murton Park Museum:** Cost before – £28 → **after FOSS: £15**
- **Year 6 –** FOSS have contributed towards the cost of **Robinwood**, provided support for the **Leavers' Service at Durham Cathedral**, and funded leavers' hoodies for all children.

However, I must stress that FOSS is now at a critical point. The current Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer will be stepping down at the end of this term, and unless we are able to fill these key positions, FOSS will unfortunately not be able to continue in its current form.

The loss of FOSS would mean the loss of many of the "extras" that bring joy, enrichment, and community spirit to our school. We are therefore urgently appealing for new volunteers to come forward to take on these roles. No specialist experience is necessary—willingness to contribute time and energy, and a desire to help make a difference in our school community is all that is required.

If you are interested in finding out more about what the roles involve, or if you would like to discuss how you might be able to help, please do get in touch via the school office or speak to a member of

the current FOSS team. Even if you are unsure, I would encourage you to reach out for an informal conversation.

I would like to extend our sincere thanks to the current team who have given their time and enthusiasm to FOSS in their respective roles. Their contributions have been invaluable and leave a lasting legacy.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Together, we can ensure that FOSS continues to thrive for the benefit of all our children.

Best wishes

Mr Rumbles

Each week I want to include a 'snapshot' of some of the things going on 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 our Y6 children and their 'Grow £5 Project' and an update is shared below.

#### **Y6 – 'Grow £5 Project'**

Year 6 have been busy planning and preparing their products to sell from the Grow £5 Project. Each pupil has had £5 to use to buy and create products to sell and hopefully make a profit! We have arranged for the children to set up their stalls in the school hall during Open Evening for parents, carers and children to purchase.

#### **Parents' Open evening**

On Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> July between 3.30pm and 4.30pm you are invited to look around school, talk with your child's current class teacher and have the opportunity to meet with your child's class teacher for September 2025. We look forward to seeing you then.

The organisation of teaching responsibilities is shared below:

Reception Class – Mrs Short

Y1 – Miss Newman

Y2 – Mrs Armstrong and Miss Smithson

Y3 – Mrs Bewley

Y4 – Mrs Crook

Y5 – Mrs Claydon

Y6 – Mrs Richardson

Mr Gowan will be covering PPA across school and teaching in Y6. Mrs Leonard will continue to teach in Y1 and Y5 for one day a week.

#### **Maths Café**

Over the coming weeks we will be hosting a Maths Café for Year groups 1-6, delivered by Durham's Family Learning Champions for children and parents. The Café uses a range of fun Maths activities and games linked to the skills your child is learning in school, which will help you support with their development and homework. This will be a valuable session which everyone can enjoy, especially when preparing for transition to your child's next year group.

The dates for each year group are as follows:

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July – Y3 Maths Café – 1.15pm-3pm

### **Year 6 Transition Dates**

Belmont - 4<sup>th</sup> July  
Framwellgate - 4<sup>th</sup> July  
Durham Johnston - 4<sup>th</sup> July  
Sedgefield – 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> July  
St Leonards – 5<sup>th</sup> June AM and 4<sup>th</sup> July

### **Diary Dates**

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

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> June - St Mary's Lighthouse Y2  
Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> July - Parents' Open Evening – 3.30pm-4.30pm  
Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July – Y6 Residential to Robin Wood Activity Centre  
Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July - Oriental Museum Y3  
Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> July at 2.45pm – Y6 Leavers' Assembly – Y6 Parents Welcome  
Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July at 10am – Y6 Leavers' Service at St Mary's Y6 Parents Welcome - refreshments served afterwards by St Mary's parishioners  
Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July – School closes for Summer holiday

### **Noticeboard**

- Extra-curricular activities for Autumn term 1 & 2 – You should have received a clubs form, please return to the School office by Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July.
- Guitar lessons – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June and Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July have been CANCELLED. The re-arranged dates are; Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July and Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July.
- Violin lessons – Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> is CANCELLED and will be on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July.
- Wrap-around Care Provision – if you require any details, please contact the School office.
- Sun Cream - As the weather is starting to warm up, please remember to apply a long-lasting sun cream before your child comes to school. Please also provide a named sun-hat.

### **Wild Church – Summer**

#### **SUNDAY 29TH JUNE 2.00pm-4.00 pm**

St. Mary's Church is having a fundraiser in the garden  
Wild Church will be there doing a Drum Circle twice during the afternoon at 2.30 and 3.30 pm

### **Christian Vision and Values**

Our school vision is rooted in Jesus' promise in John 10 v 10, that he has 'come that you may have life - life in all its fullness.' To help us understand and live out this vision we look at certain Christian values which, as a school community, we believe are important.

This half-term, we will explore the value of service and worship will be led by Mr Rumbles, Mrs Matthews, Fr. Peter, Fr. Bill and our Key Stage Two pupils. We will be thinking about the ways in which we are able to serve one another.

*Further information on this half term's Christian value:*

Properly understood, Christian Service is a revolutionary concept. The notion of service calls us to lay selfish things aside for the needs of others. It is also an important value in all relationships.

Jesus said that he 'came not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.' The story of Jesus washing the feet of his disciples at the Last Supper is well known—this is where he takes on the role of the lowest servant rather than that of the master. Jesus tells us clearly the meaning of this action: *'Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done.'*

Serving God, means serving others.

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

*Some things to think about:*

- How are we encouraged to "find" our gifts and to use them for the good of the school and wider community?
- How do you show gratitude for those who serve / help you?

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.

# SUMMER HOLIDAY CLUB 2025

Including 'PAY WHAT  
YOU WANT' Charity  
week 21st-25<sup>th</sup> July

Supporting

**Cystic  
Fibrosis Trust**

**dadlg**



Also a FREE club for  
benefit related Free  
School Meals Families

**FUN & FOOD**

Holiday activities with healthy food  
Fundraising for the Department for Education



**Simply Sport**

Come and Join our popular as-ever holiday activity club in Durham City.

**Running for over 20 years**

**EVERY DAY OF THE 6 WEEKS SUMMER HOLIDAYS  
OPEN 8:45AM - 4PM**

**BOOK AT [WWW.SIMPLYSPORTLTD.CO.UK](http://WWW.SIMPLYSPORTLTD.CO.UK)**

**BASED AT NEW FERENS PARK NEXT TO INFINITE AIR DH1 1GG**



**LEGO**



**MULTISPORTS**



**FOOTBALL**



**GOLF**



**Do you have a teddy bear or a  
soft toy that needs a new home ?**

There is going to be a Teddy Bear Tombola at the St Mary's Church Fundraiser on Sunday 29th June and we need teddy bears and soft toys for lucky people to win .

If you have one that we can have ( it doesn't need to be new) please can you bring it into school the week before, for us to collect .

Please come along to on the Sunday afternoon for fun and games at the event .





# Durham Autism Hubs

For parents / carers of children who are awaiting a referral to the neurodevelopmental diagnostic team, on the diagnostic pathway or post diagnosis of autism.

Children must be living in Durham.

**We have the following dates available:**

Stanley Family Hub  
Clifford Road, DH9 0AB

07/08  
04/09  
02/10  
06/11  
04/12

Willington Family Hub  
Chapel Street, DL15 0EQ

14/08  
11/09  
09/10  
13/11  
11/12

north east  
**autism** society



## Supporting your autistic child workshop

The workshop will cover:

- worries and action planning
- common misconceptions
- differences in autistic children
- practical strategies to use in everyday life

These sessions will run 10-12 and must be pre-booked.

## One to one appointments

These appointments are for families that have questions or would like to discuss any issues in confidence.

These appointments are available between 9-10am and 1-3pm and must be pre-booked.



**To book please contact Rebecca Weatherstone on  
0191 410 9974 or [rebecca.weatherstone@ne-as.org.uk](mailto:rebecca.weatherstone@ne-as.org.uk)**



# July Timetable

All sessions delivered live online via zoom £24 each 90 minutes long  
Book online at [facefamilyadvice.co.uk](https://facefamilyadvice.co.uk) Recordings available for 48 hours

Understanding Anger	1 July 10am
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	1 July 7pm
Introduction to OCD	7 July 10am
What is ACT?	7 July 7pm
Cannabis & Ketamine Awareness	8 July 10am
Anxiety Explained	8 July 7pm
Raising Self-Esteem	14 July 10am
Supporting Healthy Sleep	14 July 7pm
Decreasing Depression	15 July 10am
Understanding the Teenage Brain	15 July 7pm
Supporting a Child with ADHD	21 July 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	21 July 7pm
Autism Improving Communication	22 July 10am
Improving Family Communication	22 July 7pm
Facing Defiance	28 July 10am





# JULY 2025 Newsletter

FACE delivers online support via zoom for parents across the UK  
Talks are 90 minutes long, £24 each or FREE with a school membership code  
Book Online at [facefamilyadvice.co.uk](http://facefamilyadvice.co.uk) on the PARENTS page



Schools can purchase a  
**FACE School Annual Membership**  
which means **ALL parents** and **ALL staff**  
get unlimited **FREE access** to **ALL** 16 parent talks

Thursday  
31<sup>st</sup> July  
19:00 - 20:00  
**FREE**



## Supporting Healthy Screen Use

Screens are here to stay.  
Identifying the issues and step by step guide  
to reduce the negative impact.

Monday  
21<sup>st</sup> July  
10:00 - 11:30  
£24  
recording available



**Supporting a Child with ADHD**  
Challenging the stereotypes and giving  
practical interventions. Clear explanation of  
the condition in all its forms and extremely  
useful advice.

Monday  
28<sup>th</sup> July  
10:00 - 11:30  
£24  
recording available



## Facing Defiance

Specific strategy to help parents manage  
defiant and challenging behaviour,  
especially aimed at ADHD, ODD and PDA  
conditions, 5 to 12 years old.

Tuesday  
29<sup>th</sup> July  
10:00 - 11:30  
£24  
recording available



## Anxiety Based School Avoidance

Understanding and supporting children  
who are anxious about school.  
Steps you can take to help them back  
into the classroom.

[facefamilyadvice.co.uk](http://facefamilyadvice.co.uk)

[info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk](mailto:info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk)



## Understanding Why Children Might Be Anxious About School

**Tuesday 6th May 2025, 9.30 am—11.30 am**

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.

### Anxiety (Two groups)

**Tuesday 3rd June 2025, 9.30 am—11.30 am—Over 11 years**

**Tuesday 10th June 2025, 9.30 am—11.30 am— 5-11 years**

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.

### Emotional Wellbeing

**Wednesday 9th July 2025, 1.30 pm—3.30 pm**

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

Please book a place using the link or QR code directly below:

[CAMHS Training Booking Form - Parents Carers](#)



To visit our Trust website, for further information, please scan the QR code at the bottom of this page. 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 run on Microsoft Teams.

**NHS**  
Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys  
NHS Foundation Trust



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



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



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



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





## Understanding Behaviour Development in Children and Young People

**Tuesday 15th July 2025, 9.30 am—11.30 am**

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.

Please book a place using the link or QR code directly below:

[CAMHS Training Booking Form - Parents Carers](#)



To visit our Trust website, for further information, please scan the QR code at the bottom of this page. 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 run on Microsoft Teams. If you have any additional needs, please email [tevv.county Durhamcamhstraining@nhs.net](mailto:tevv.county Durhamcamhstraining@nhs.net)

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Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys  
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Tel: 0300 0051213