



## Weekly Bulletin 26<sup>th</sup> September 2025

### Headteacher's Message

Today we enjoyed an uplifting Harvest Service led by our Year 6 pupils and Father Peter. We extend our grateful thanks to you all for the many gifts received for the work of the Durham Foodbank. They speak of the generosity of our school to those in need in our community. If you still wish to contribute, please send donations of **non-perishable food** (see list below) by **Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September** with your child and this will be collected from their class.

We are continuing to closely monitor punctuality each morning and I draw your attention to the information below. Please make every effort to ensure that your child is on time for school so that they are ready to begin learning promptly.

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 Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) and Mrs Bewley has shared an update below.

Best wishes

Mr Rumbles

### Modern Foreign Languages

At Shincliffe we teach French from Reception to Year 6. Our aim is to foster pupils' curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world whilst laying the foundations for future language learning. Our curriculum focuses on practical communication and is delivered in a fun and engaging way. In KS1, we do this through songs, games and storytelling. In KS2, we provide opportunities for the children to develop their ability to understand and respond to spoken and written language, speak with increasing confidence and fluency and write at varying length, for different purposes and audiences.

To enhance and enrich the teaching of French we are currently running an after-school French club for children in KS1. The club enables the children to build on their learning, develop their self-confidence and enhance their social and communication skills by interacting with children from other classes.

As well as this, our Year 6 children attended an event organised by Durham High School today to celebrate European Day of Languages. As part of the experience the children enjoyed visiting a 'French Market Place', buying items such as une gomme (a rubber), un stylo (a pen) and un crayon (a pencil). It was a fantastic opportunity to put skills learned in lessons into practice.

Mrs Bewley

## **Punctuality**

We continue to monitor punctuality daily. We request that all parents ensure that their children arrive promptly for the beginning of the school day. This not only means that pupils are present and ready for teaching at the beginning of the morning session but also teaches pupils the importance of meeting deadlines and showing respect for others who may be impacted by poor time-keeping. In cases of persistent lateness, the services of the Education Welfare Officer will be enlisted to support families in meeting their obligation to ensure that their children attend school on time.

## **Diary Dates**

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

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> September – Y5 Trip to Iskcon Temple  
Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October – Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October - Y1 to Y6 Parents' Consultation Evening  
Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October to Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October – Reception Parents' Consultation Evening  
Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October – Y6 & Y4 Trip to Gurdwara Siri Guru Singh Sabha.  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October – School closes for Autumn half term holiday  
Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November – School re-opens after half term holiday  
Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November – Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November - SEND Parents' Consultation Evening  
Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November - Remembrance Service – 9.05am at School – all welcome  
Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November – Y1 Trip to Beamish  
Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November – Y3 Trip to Iskcon Temple  
Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November – Y4 Trip to Great North Museum  
Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November – Y5 Class Assembly – 9.05am  
Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November - Advent Eucharist – 9.05am – all welcome  
Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December – Y3 Trip to Great North Museum  
Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December – Reception Nativity - 9.10am  
Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December – KS1 Christmas Performance – 9.05am  
Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Lunch  
Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December – KS2 Christmas Singalong – 2.45pm  
Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Community Worship – 9.05am  
Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2026 – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2026 – Y6 Trip to Robinwood  
Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – Y5 Murton Park Trip  
Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March – Y2 Trip to Shildon Science Museum  
Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March – Reception visit from Zoolab  
Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May-Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2026 – KS2 SATs  
Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2026 - Sports Day – 1.15pm onwards  
Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2026 – France Residential for Y5/6

## **Noticeboard**

**Packed Lunch-** In order to ensure that packed lunches are suitably healthy and meet the guidelines set by Durham County Council, parents are reminded that they should not contain any of the following:

- Fizzy / sugary drinks in cartons, bottles or cans
- Chocolate-coated products / sweets / confectionary
- Chocolate spread as a filling for sandwiches
- Chewing gum
- Sugared / toffee and salted popcorn

Please also remember that we aim to be a nut-free school and your support in keeping all children safe is appreciated.

**Secondary School Open evenings are taking place this term.** Visit each school's website for more information.

**Free Chorister Experience** - On Saturday 11th October children in Year 2-6 have the incredible opportunity to attend a free Chorister Experience at Durham Cathedral from 12:30pm-6:15pm. This includes hearing the current Choristers sing, making music together, having a tour of the Cathedral, doing crafts together and most excitingly playing the organ! Parents /guardians are welcome and children are asked to wear their school uniform. To apply for a place, please contact [music@durhamcathedral.co.uk](mailto:music@durhamcathedral.co.uk) or call 0191 374 4066.

### **Wild Church**

4.00 p.m. Saturday 18th October ANIMAL WELFARE DAY: Wild Church Meet outside church - service 4.15 prompt today. Introduce your favourite animal-by bringing a picture, wobble animal craft. Dogs welcome ON LEADS only. Hamsters, Guinea Pigs in cages etc. (Cats get v. distressed around dogs- so sorry but please, no lovely cats today, not even in a cage.)

10.00 pm Sat 1st November ST. MARY'S CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAYRE: Church Hall

5.00 pm – 7.00 FRI 28th Nov. CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL:

Sat 20th Dec 5.30 pm CAROLS AROUND THE TREE with NATIVITY: Shincliffe Green  
(In church if the weather is poor) Afterwards: Mince pies in the Church Hall

### **Starting School - Will your child turn 5 between 1 September 2026 and 31 August 2027?**

Applications open 1 September 2025 and close midnight 15 January 2026.

If so, you need to complete an application online to tell us which school you would like your child to attend from September 2026.

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 2026**

As you will be aware, your child is due to transfer to secondary school in September next year. **The application process will open on 1 September 2025.** 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 receive an email on 2 March 2026 containing a link to obtain your offer of a school place from the Document Download Portal. **Please save your log-in details.**

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 2 March 2026.

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 2025.**

Yours sincerely,

School Places and Admissions Team.

### **Christian 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.

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.

## Diwali Celebration at the Oriental Museum, Saturday 18 October, 6.00 – 8.00pm



**Join us for a spectacular Diwali celebration open to all.**

There will be traditional prayers to the goddess Lakshmi, delicious vegetarian snacks to try and arts and craft activities.

Families can also hear Indian musical and dance performances and a retelling of the classic tale of Prince Rama and Princess Sita.

**Tickets are £3 for adults and children. Advance booking is essential.** Book your tickets with [Eventbrite](#).

If you need any further information on parking or access information please visit our [website](#) or contact [oriental.museum@durham.ac.uk](mailto:oriental.museum@durham.ac.uk)

We hope you can join us.

### **October Half Term Fun at the Oriental Museum**

If you are looking for some half term fun this October, then check out our **FREE** programme of family activities. This half term you can help make a fantasy film poster and decorate your own glass jar to take home, inspired by a beautiful Korean jar on display.

Activities are generally suitable for families with children aged 5 – 11 years.

For further information, visit our [website](#).



# DURHAM SPEED COACHING

MAIDEN CASTLE

## 'SPEED WINS GAMES'

### WE FOCUS ON:

- Explosive power
- Agility
- Change of direction
- Speed & Endurance
- Technique & mechanics

For footballers, netballers,  
rugby players & more

The  
*Extra Yard*

**FREE TASTER  
SESSION  
-BOOK NOW**

**GROUP SESSION AGE 7-12**

**Wednesday 5pm**

**GROUP SESSION OVER 12'S**

**Wednesday 6pm**





# HARVEST 2025 COLLECTION

## COLLECTION POINT

### SHOPPING LIST MOST NEEDED

TINNED POTATOES

BISCUITS

TINNED TOMATOES

LONG-LIFE FRUIT JUICE

TOILETRIES

CARRIER BAGS/BAGS FOR LIFE

### DONATE NOW

THIS SEASON, GIVE THANKS BY  
GIVING BACK.

DONATE AN ITEM OR TWO FROM  
THE LIST TO SUPPORT PEOPLE  
FACING HARDSHIP OR YOU CAN  
ALSO CONTRIBUTE FUNDS TO HELP  
NOURISH THOSE IN NEED.





Are you struggling with a defiant child?



## Facing Defiance

A six part online course for parents that you can complete in your own time.  
A step by step guide through a specific strategy aimed to support parents of children aged between 5 to 12 who are displaying very challenging behaviour, including children with ADHD, ODD and PDA.

go to **[facefamilyadvice.co.uk](https://facefamilyadvice.co.uk)**

Book online £48

on the **Online Parenting Courses** page





## October Timetable

All sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long

**£24 each or FREE with School Membership**

Book online at [facefamilyadvice.co.uk](https://facefamilyadvice.co.uk)

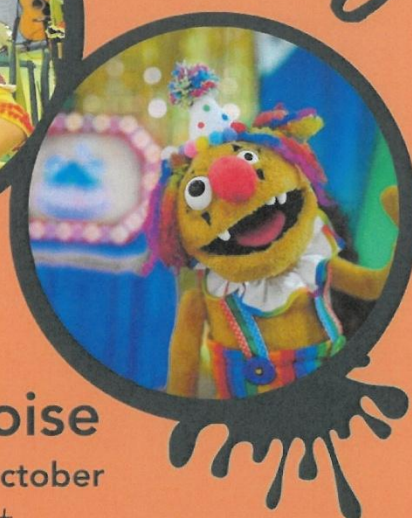
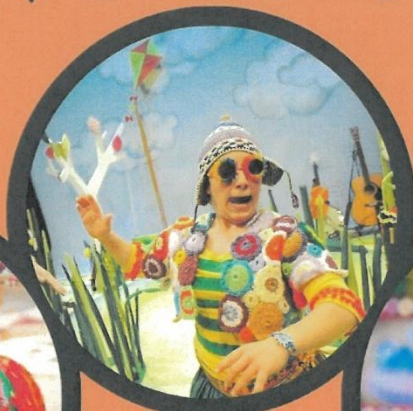
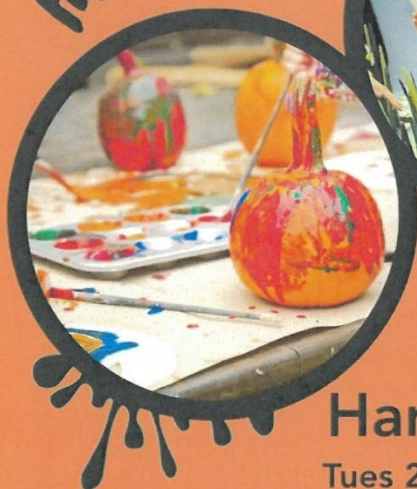
Recordings available for 48 hours (excluding Free Talk)

Understanding The Teenage Brain	6 Oct 10am
Supporting Healthy Sleep	6 Oct 7pm
Supporting A Child With ADHD	13 Oct 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	13 Oct 7pm
Autism Improving Communication	14 Oct 10am
Improving Family Communication	14 Oct 7pm
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	20 Oct 10am
Facing Defiance	20 Oct 7pm
Anxiety Based School Avoidance	21 Oct 10am
Understanding Anger	21 Oct 7pm
<b>FREE - Raising Self-Esteem</b>	<b>23 Oct 7-8pm</b>
Anxiety Explained	27 Oct 10am
Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness	27 Oct 7pm
What Is ACT?	28 Oct 10am
Introduction To OCD	28 Oct 7pm





# HALF TERM @ THE HULLABALOO



SEE

## Hare & Tortoise

Tues 28 & Weds 29 October

Show for ages 3+

Join us for the greatest race on earth!

## Monster Circus

Friday 31 October

For ages 7-11 & their families  
Immersive puppetry workshop,  
come and make your own  
monster puppet!



## Mini Monsters



Friday 31 October

For ages 5-7 and their families  
Come and make your own mini  
monster puppet and bring it to  
life with Georgia!

## Pumpkin Party

**SOLD OUT**

Thursday 30 October

For ages 2+

Decorate your own spooky  
pumpkin or squash!



BOX OFFICE: 01325 405 405  
[theatrehullabaloo.org.uk](http://theatrehullabaloo.org.uk)  
The Hullabaloo | Darlington | DL1 1SG





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