



Weekly Bulletin 17th October 2025

Headteacher's Message

Today, those of you with children in Years 1-6 will receive your child's termly progress report. This report provides you with relevant information in preparation for our parental consultation evenings which will take place either in person or via video calls next week. The report provides a starting point for conversation with your child's class teacher in order to agree the next steps for working together in partnership to continue to support progress in school. Appointments are for 10 minutes so please do support the teachers in keeping to their appointment times. Parents of children in Reception class do not receive a report, but have the opportunity to speak with Mrs Short next week.

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 our School Football Team and Mr Gowan has shared an update on this below.

Best wishes

Mr Rumbles

Y5/6 Football League Winners



A massive congratulations to our Year 5 and 6 football team on an incredibly successful start to the season. Last week, they won the Autumn Football League at Durham Johnson winning five matches and drawing one. Over the 6 games they conceded just one goal. This week the team won the Durham City 'Upper Cup' winning all 4 matches and not conceding a goal.

Thank you to all parents/carers for your support each week, ferrying the children to the games.

Well done to everyone who has represented the team this half term!

Reception Class Parents Evening

The Reception Class Parents Evening will be on a drop-in basis, between 3.00 - 4.30pm on each evening from Monday 20th October to Thursday 23rd October. Mrs Short will be available for all of the sessions, allowing Reception parents/carers to speak to her alongside looking through their children's work. The drop-in sessions will be allocated to a house/colour group for each night in half hourly slots. If you are unable to make your allocated evening (i.e. due to work commitments) please contact the School Office to discuss an alternative time.

Diary Dates

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

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

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 or call 0191 374 4066.

Wild Church

All are welcome to our ANIMAL WELFARE DAY at Wild Church.

This Saturday 18th October at 4.00 p.m.

Dear everyone,

The forecast is fine for our Animal Day., which is great news.

Meet outside church - Come and introduce your favourite animals-either by bringing a picture - or say, dogs on leads, or your hamster/ guinea pig in a cages etc. Sorry, no lovely cats today, not even in a cage-as they get distressed around dogs. We will have refreshment, wobble animal craft, a sort service and mallows at the fire pit.

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 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

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 **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 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 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.

School Vision and 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 The Weekly Bulletins from previous weeks can be found in the parents' section of the website.



November Timetable

All sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long

£24 each or FREE with School Membership

Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Recordings available for 48 hours (excluding Free Talk)

Raising Self Esteem	3 Nov 10am
Decreasing Depression	3 Nov 7pm
Supporting Healthy Sleep	4 Nov 10am
Understanding the Teenage Brain	4 Nov 7pm
Improving Family Communication	10 Nov 10am
Autism - Improving Communication	10 Nov 7pm
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	11 Nov 10am
Supporting A Child with ADHD	11 Nov 7pm
FREE ADHD Kids & Homework	13 Nov 6-7pm
Understanding Anger	17 Nov 10am
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	17 Nov 7pm
Facing Defiance	18 Nov 10am
Anxiety Based School Avoidance	18 Nov 7pm
Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness	24 Nov 10am
Anxiety Explained	24 Nov 7pm

KIDS GO FREE

TO DURHAM V NOTTINGHAM FOREST



- WATCH ELITE FOOTBALL
- MEET THE PLAYERS POST-MATCH
- SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL TEAM

SUNDAY 12 OCTOBER
12PM KICK-OFF
MAIDEN CASTLE, DH1 3SE



SCAN HERE

OR VISIT
[DURHAMWFC.TICKETCO.EVENTS](https://durhamwfc.ticketco.events)

USE THE
PROMO CODE
FREEKIDS



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

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**

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

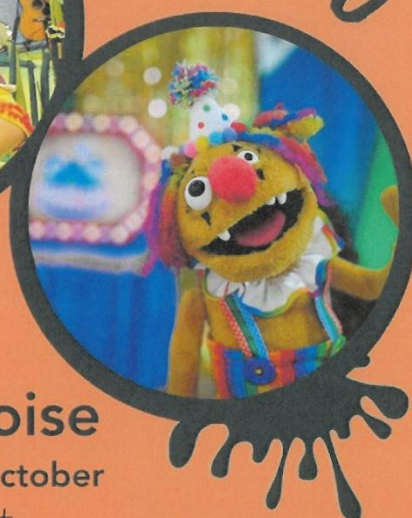
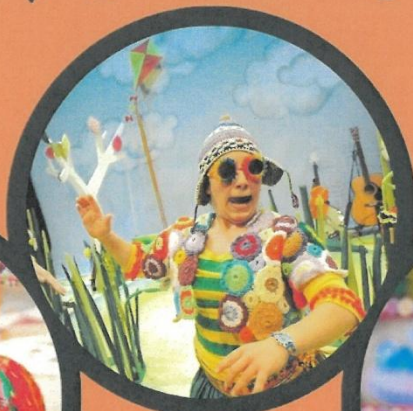
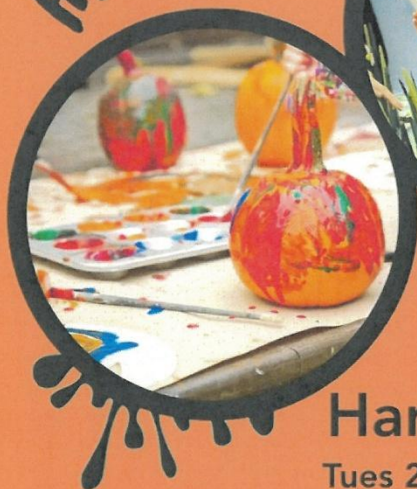
Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk

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
FREE - Raising Self-Esteem	23 Oct 7-8pm
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
The Hullabaloo | Darlington | DL1 1SG



Starting School

**Will your child turn 5 between
1 September 2026 and 31 August 2027?**

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 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 for year 3 in a junior school if you wish your child to attend there.

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

For more information please contact

School Places and Admissions Team

🌐 www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions

☎ 03000 265896

