



## Weekly Bulletin 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2025

### Headteacher's Message

My thanks go to all those who contributed to our Harvest collection this year. We received notification from Durham Foodbank that the total weight of the donation was enough food to provide over **200 meals** which is great news for families in our community. It also helps to raise children's awareness to the needs of our community and how they can play a part in helping others.

This week, as part of Year 5's work in RE on Hinduism, the children had the opportunity to visit the ISKCON Temple in Newcastle. This was a fantastic chance for them to deepen their understanding of the Hindu faith and explore a special place of worship. They also enjoyed tasting a variety of delicious foods during their visit. Experiences like this help to bring learning to life and enrich the children's understanding of the world around them.

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 the work of our SENCO and how we support children with SEND in school. Mrs Richardson has shared an update below.

Best wishes

Mr Rumbles

### SEND

As Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO) my role is to monitor SEN provision for children who may require additional support in school. I support teachers and liaise with parents, and professionals to support our pupils. The graduated response begins with Quality First Teaching and early identification of needs. Where additional support is required, we follow the graduated approach of assess, plan, do, review: identifying needs, planning targeted support, implementing strategies, and reviewing progress in a continuous cycle.

For information and guidance regarding SEN and support for families, follow the links below and check the school weekly bulletin for various workshops and drop-ins available in the area:

[Special educational needs and disabilities \(SEND\) and our Local Offer - Durham County Council](#)

<https://durhamsendiass.info/>

<https://www.durham.gov.uk/FamilyHubs>

[County Durham and Darlington - Children's speech and language therapy \(cddft.nhs.uk\)](https://cddft.nhs.uk/)

[County Durham and Darlington - Children's Occupational Therapy \(cddft.nhs.uk\)](https://cddft.nhs.uk/)

If you have any concerns about your child, please contact the class teacher. To contact me directly, please email the school office and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

Mrs Richardson

### **Staffing update**

During Miss Newman's absence, we are delighted to welcome back Miss Parker, who will be teaching in Year 1 for the foreseeable future.

### **Diary Dates**

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

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**

- **School Uniform** – Please ensure all clothing is clearly labelled with your child's name

**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**

It's only a couple of weeks now to our **Animal Welfare Day**.

We meet outside church - where there will be refreshments Introduce your favourite animal- by bringing them or a picture and we will craft wobble animals. Dogs welcome ON LEADS. Hamsters, Guinea Pigs in cages etc. We are really looking forward to it and hope to see you. (As cats get v. distressed around dogs- please, no lovely cats on that day, not even in a cage-but do bring pictures.)

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.



# 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](http://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](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)

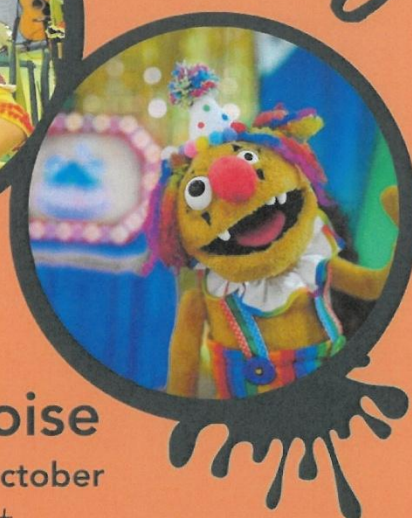
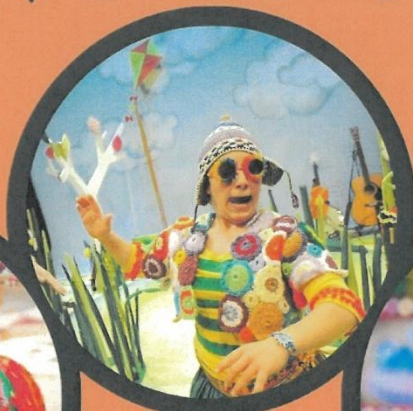
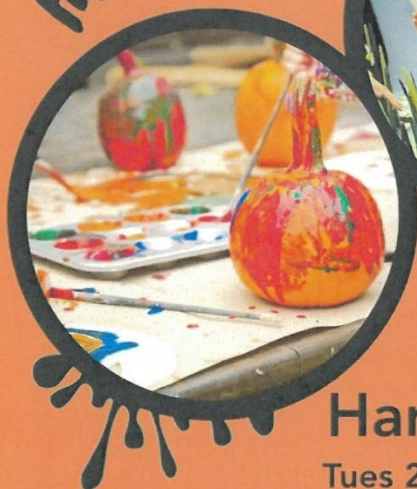
Recordings available for 48 hours (excluding Free Talk)

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  
The Hullabaloo | Darlington | DL1 1SG





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