



## **Weekly Bulletin 12<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

### **Headteacher's Message**

This week we enjoyed the KS1 Christmas performance, 'Lights of the World'. The children delivered their lines perfectly, sang with great enthusiasm and helped us reflect on the significance of light around the world at Christmas time and I thank everyone for their attendance at this event. Next week we look forward to the KS2 Christmas Singalong on Monday afternoon as well as the children's Christmas parties and our Carol Service on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 9.00am.

We are delighted to be able to announce that the Christmas Jumper Day, along with contributions from the Brownies and children donating their pocket money have raised £1000. Thank you to the School Council for organising this. All money raised will be given to a boy in our school called Benny who is unwell and needs to raise money for special treatment. If you would like to know more about his story you can click on the following link:

[Benny's campaign](#)

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, Global Champions and SNAG (School Nutrition Action Group). This week we held our Christmas Fair and an update is shared below.

Best wishes

Mr Rumbles

### **Christmas Fair Update**

It was wonderful to see so many of you at the Christmas fair on Monday. The hall was very busy with stalls and crafts as well as some wonderful face painting by the teachers. Thank you for the donations of bottles, cakes and Christmas Gongs. All money raised will be used to enrich the learning experience of pupils in school.

### **Christmas Arrangements**

#### **Christmas Nativity Performances and KS2 Sing-a-long**

The Singalong for KS2 will be on **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December beginning at 2:45pm**. Parents are invited to come and join KS2 in singing a variety of carols and Christmas songs.

#### **Christmas Parties**

*Week beginning 15th December*

The children are invited to come to school wearing their party clothes on the day of their party. Please ensure that they still have sensible shoes and a warm coat. The children will have party games and fun activities.

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December AM – Y1 and Y2 Party  
Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December PM – Y3 and Y4 Party

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December AM – Reception Party  
Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December PM – Y5 and Y6 Party

### **International Christmas and Craft Week**

*Week beginning 15th December*

This year, we will be focusing on the different countries from around the world that are represented in our school community. Each class will be taking part in a range of activities to help learn about the Christmas traditions of their chosen country.

### **Christmas Cards**

We know that the children enjoy sharing cards with one another. We request, therefore, that all cards are brought into school between Monday 1<sup>st</sup> and Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December. They will then be distributed by our Year 6 children. Alternatively, there will also be an opportunity for children to post a message to the rest of the school on our eco-friendly Christmas trees located in the hall and at the School Office.

### **Christmas Carol Service**

Y6 Worship Group will be leading our Christmas Service, helping us to reflect on the Joy and Peace of Christmas. The service will begin at 9am on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December in school followed by refreshments afterwards.

### **Diary Dates**

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

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

### **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.

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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

### **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 compassion this half term and worship will be led by Mr Rumbles, Fr. Peter, Mrs Matthews, Fr. Bill and our Key Stage Two pupils.

#### *More information on this half term's value:*

Compassion' and 'sympathy' have much in common and both are stronger in meaning than simply 'feeling sorry for' someone. The words have their roots in the idea of 'suffering with' someone, putting yourself in someone else's shoes and experiencing what they experience. This leads to a desire to act, to do something. It is not about 'doing good' from a position of strength or 'remembering those less fortunate than ourselves'. Compassion requires an act of imagination and humility to share in the lives of others.

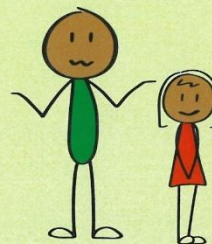
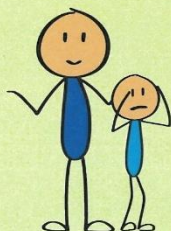
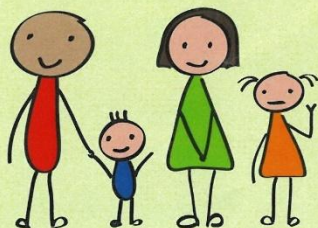
In the Gospels we find many stories of Jesus showing compassion to the sick and the downtrodden of society. Christians believe that their attitudes and actions must reflect the kindness, mercy and compassion of Jesus and the love of God for everyone. In the school community this means showing kindness and respect to each other. It is related to the way in which new people are welcomed into the school family and nurtured and supported. It is reflected in the ways in which members of the community support each other through difficult times, such as bereavement. Christians would say that God Himself is the perfect example of community—the three persons of the Trinity are bound together in the ultimate closeness which makes them one. In a church school the idea of community will always be a strong one—schools share a common life and common goals—we aim to nurture and sustain all our members.

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

Some things to think about:

- In what ways do we encourage members of the school community to show kindness and respect to one another?
- How do we foster links with charities for those in need?
- How are new members of the school community nurtured and supported?
- How does the school help, and encourage pupils to understand and empathise with members of their community who have suffered traumatic experiences, e.g. bereavement?

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



# Being a Parent of an Autistic Child

**Do you have a child who is autistic or who is on the pathway?**

- Term time only
- Support programme for Durham parents, led by Durham parents

**Our FREE course helps to support you and your autistic child**

**Try out a new way of doing things**

**10 week course for 2.5 hours a week**

**Managing feelings and behaviour**

**Sensory processing differences**

**Coping with change**

**Take time out for yourself**

**Meet other parents**

**Being a Parent of an Autistic child**

**All families are different and all autistic children are different**

**Get practical support**



For more information [EPEC@durham.gov.uk](mailto:EPEC@durham.gov.uk)



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PARENTS  
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COMMUNITIES







# CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY ACTIVITY CLUB

Fun-filled holiday clubs for every child!

- ✓ A mix of sports & activities every day
- 🏆 Sports & games – delivered by our experienced team
- 🎨 Arts & crafts, Lego & board games
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**BALLERZ**

**BALLERZ CHRISTMAS FOOTBALL CAMPS**



**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
December  
3v3  
Tournament



**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
December  
Christmas  
Jumper Day



**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
January  
Show off your  
new boots & Kit  
day

**@ NEW FERENS  
PARK STADIUM,  
DH1 1GG**

**8:30am - 4:00PM**





**BOOK YOUR PLACE VIA QR CODE**

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# Merry Christmas!



## December Timetable

All sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long

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

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

Recordings available for 48 hours (excluding Free Talk)

Decreasing Depression	1 DEC 10am
Raising Self Esteem	1 DEC 7pm
Understanding the Teenage Brain	2 DEC 10am
Supporting Healthy Sleep	2 DEC 7pm
Autism - Improving Communication	8 DEC 10am
Improving Family Communication	8 DEC 7pm
Supporting A Child with ADHD	9 DEC 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	9 DEC 7pm
Anxiety Based School Avoidance	15 DEC 10am
Understanding Anger	15 DEC 7pm
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	16 DEC 10am
Facing Defiance	16 DEC 7pm



## November Timetable

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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
<b>FREE ADHD Kids &amp; Homework</b>	<b>13 Nov 6-7pm</b>
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





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