ST. BEDE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Front Street, Sacriston, Durham, DH7 6AB. Tel: 0191 3710272 Email: stbs@stbs.bwcet.com

Mrs S Clarke Headteacher



15th September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

We have had a very busy week in school, it has been lovely to see everyone settling into routines and making a positive start to the new term.

School Council & House Captains

We are very proud of all of the children who took the time to write speeches and even make posters to explain why they should be elected to our School Council. It was a very close decision in many classes, but our new Councillors were presented with their badges in our celebration assembly this morning, which they are wearing with pride. I look forward to our first meeting together!

Special mention must also go to the children in Year 6 who took the time this morning to explain why they should be House Captains. They had clearly thought about the qualities of the saints that represent each house – St. Cuthbert, St. Hild and St. Aidan – and I can tell you that they are all determined to be the winning team at Sport's Day this year! Congratulations to those elected.

Whole School Welcome Mass

Our first Mass of the year as a whole School and Parish community is at 9:30am in St. Bede's Church. All are welcome.

End of the day

Can we politely ask that parents stand to the side of the yards and especially away from the steps between the two yards as teachers are dismissing their classes so that children can be dismissed as efficiently as possible. Children will only be allowed to go to their parent or carer once the teacher has seen who they are going to as a part of our safeguarding procedures. If children are waiting for their siblings, including those under school age, they must remain with whoever has collected them and should not be running around the yard or playing on the play equipment. If there is any change to the usual person collecting your child (ren) please can you inform the school office as soon as possible. Please do not be offended if we ask them to wait while we check if this is correct, as again this is part of our safeguarding procedures.

Meet the teacher

We would also like to invite you to an informal meet the teacher session on Tuesday 26th September from 3:30-4:00pm. This is 'drop-in' and an opportunity for you to see your child(rens) classroom and ask any questions you may have at the start of term.

Jewellery and Earrings

Earrings should be removed on the days that your child has PE for health and safety reasons. If they cannot be removed, they should be covered with tape or plasters at home before coming to school. A reminder that Freeman's Quay states that earrings **MUST NOT** be worn for swimming lessons.

Accelerated Reader

We appreciate your patience while we updated the Accelerated Reader system. The website had updated over the summer and all of the pupil details needed to be reset. Many thanks to Mrs Maitland for carrying out this

'Shine Brightly for all with Christ as Our Guide...'

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mammoth task! If your child has any problems accessing any of our online learning systems (Seesaw,TTRS/Numbots/Math.co.uk), please contact the school office.

School Uniform

Please can we remind parents to label **ALL** sweatshirts and cardigans to ensure that they can be returned to their rightful owners. It is also a good opportunity for you to reinforce how important it is for your child to take care of their own belongings and respect others property. With the changeable nature of the weather, it is also really important that all children come to school with a coat!

First Holy Communion

Please see the following message from the Parish Bulletin:

First Sacraments: Parents of children in year 4 and upwards, if they wish their child to prepare for First Sacraments and are willing to make the essential commitment, are invited to take a letter and fill in the application form placing it in the box at the back of church. There is a meeting for catechists for the programme on Thursday 21st September at 7:00pm in the presbytery. Any new volunteers are most welcome.

If you would like any further information, please contact the Parish secretary Will Hannigan at the Parish office. durhamstbede.stcuthbert@gmail.com

Attendance

Attendance continues to be a priority in school, and we appreciate children will, at times, be sick. Please could we remind parents that if your child is off school for any reason you will need to let the school office know on the first day of sickness and for any other reason in advance. This can be done by ringing school on 0191 3710272 and leaving a message before 8:30 am or speaking to staff after 8:30 am or contacting us through our WEDUC app. Please not that if you do not inform school, the office will contact you as part of our safeguarding procedures and a welfare visit may be carried out if we do not have contact.

Across school this week our attendance has been as follows:

Whole school attendance: 97.98%

	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
11 th to 15 th	100%	97.3%	100%	98.33%	95.33%	94%	100%
September							

Parental details

If any details (such as mobile numbers or email addresses) have changed, please can you ensure you update the School Office as soon as possible. It is vital that we hold the correct information to contact you.

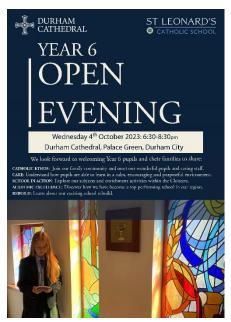
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Y6 Open Evening



We are delighted to draw your attention to the Y6 Open Evening on Wednesday 4th October from 6:30-8:30pm which this year will be held at Durham Cathedral. We very much want to support Mr Hammill and all of his staff during this particularly difficult time for the school.

Visits to the school during the day can also be arranged for parents in Year 5 and Year 6. Please contact St. Leonards via their website for further information.

Best wishes as always, Mrs Holtham

Acting Headteacher