

CHADWICK CHATS

SHARING OUR NEWS WITH OUR COMMUNITIES

Issue No.4 | 2026



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Nominate a stand out staff member

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A Pupil's perspective on the school/sixth form transition

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Looking to the future

Join us in celebrating the power of education to transform lives and shape futures. Welcome to this issue of Chadwick Chats Magazine – your window into our wonderful schools and communities.



Better Schools



Better Communities



Better Futures in Christ



Welcome to this, the fourth edition of Chadwick Chats magazine and a warm welcome to Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School, Horden, who joined our Trust on 1 January 2026.

As we begin this new calendar year, I want to take a moment to reflect on how far our Trust has come and to look ahead with optimism and purpose.

In the year ahead, our focus remains clear: to strengthen the quality of teaching and learning, invest in our staff, and deepen the partnerships that make our Trust community so special.

Together, with the support of our parents, carers, and local partners, we will continue to inspire ambition, nurture wellbeing, and help every pupil to become the best version of themselves.

Thank you for your continued support. We hope this magazine provides you with an insight into our schools, and we welcome opportunities to work collaboratively for the benefit of our pupils, their families and their communities.

If you are interested in working with us, or have any feedback, do get in touch enquiries@bccet.org.uk.

Best wishes

Brendan Tapping OBE
Chief Executive Officer



Better Schools



Better Communities



Better Futures in Christ

Cover photo: St. Matthew's Catholic Primary School, Jarrow.



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4

 Total Pupils

10,933

 Total Staff

1,350

 Governance roles

225

NB: This publication is primarily available digitally, a small supply of print copies are available in our schools and parishes (printed on recycled materials). If you would like to sign up to our mailing list to receive a copy digitally please go to www.bccet.org.uk/news



New Beginnings: Starting the Year with Faith and Hope

A new year is a time for fresh starts, a chance to reflect, reset, and renew our hearts and minds. Many of us make resolutions about health, work, or relationships, but what about our spiritual life? Nurturing our faith can bring peace, purpose, and strength for the year ahead.

One way to begin is by reconnecting with God through prayer or Scripture. Another powerful step is returning to Mass - or even going for the first time. The Eucharist is at the heart of our Catholic faith, a place where we encounter Christ and draw strength for life's journey. Mass is not just a ritual; it's an invitation to community, hope, and grace.

If you've been away, know that the Church welcomes you with open arms. If you've never been before, consider this your invitation to experience something life-giving and transformative. Start the year by making space for God, because every new beginning is stronger when it begins with Him. *"Behold, I make all things new."* (Revelation 21:5) May this year be a time of renewal for you and your family.

Inspections Roundup

Routine Ofsted inspections were paused in September and October, however Catholic Schools Inspectorate inspections continued. We are so proud of our staff, pupils and governors, for the welcome given to the CSI teams. The following schools have received their inspection reports in the Autumn term:



St. Oswald's Catholic Primary, South Shields, was rated Outstanding in their CSI Inspection. *"Creative staff provide a wide variety of enrichment opportunities, enabling pupils to reflect on the mission of the school and its role in the wider community. Staff create warm relationships with pupils and are committed to creating a joyful living place to be, where everyone is valued."*



Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Primary, Peterlee received an overall Good rating from the CSI, with an Outstanding rating for Catholic life and mission. *"Pupils are very proud to belong to this school. Staff fully embrace the school's mission and are exemplary role models."*



St. James Catholic Primary, Hebburn received an overall Good rating from the CSI, with an Outstanding rating for Catholic life and mission. *"A key strength of St. James' Catholic Primary School is the high level of pastoral care referenced and acknowledged by all stakeholders."*



St. Bede's Catholic Primary, Jarrow, was rated Good by the CSI. *"Pupils know that their uniqueness is celebrated and they recognise that they are valued. They are therefore confident and extremely proud members of the community."*



CHADWICK CELEBRATION AWARDS 2026



2025 Inspirational Award Winner
Mr Johnson, Librarian
St. Joseph's Catholic Academy, Hebburn

NOMINATE A STANDOUT STAFF MEMBER TODAY!

Our Trust is proud to celebrate the dedication of our staff, and our annual awards, now in their fifth year, are one of the key ways we recognise their dedication and hard work. With fourteen award categories, staff across the Trust nominate colleagues who make a real difference each day. The most special award, however, is the Inspirational Staff Award, because nominations are made by our pupils.

If your child feels that a member of staff - this could be a member of teaching staff or a teaching assistant, or a member of staff from our support teams e.g. office, kitchen, caretaking, who has made their school experience truly exceptional, we'd love you to support them by making a nomination. Together, we can celebrate those who help us achieve our mission: Better Schools, Better Communities, Better Futures in Christ.

Younger pupils may need support to write their nominations. Entries should be between 50 and 200 words, and you can use the link below to access the nomination form, which includes the award category criteria which should be referenced in the nomination.

Nominations close on Friday 20 March 2026.

Finalists will be announced in May, and the winner will be crowned at our Awards event in July.

FULLY FUNDED

A HUGE THANK YOU to our sponsors who allow us to fully fund this event, this wonderful celebration would not be possible without them.



PUPIL FORM

St. Aidan's Groundbreaking

In September we had the formal ground breaking ceremony for the £42m redevelopment of **St. Aidan's Catholic Academy, Sunderland** which we are working on with the Department for Education and their contractor Bowmer and Kirkland Limited.

The project will deliver two new three-storey buildings, including modern classrooms, sports and sixth form facilities, outdoor learning areas and upgraded sports pitches. The scheme will provide state-of-the-art facilities for 1,100 students and staff, supporting excellence in education for years to come. Follow us on [social media](#) to keep up to date with developments.



St. Patrick's planning progresses

In November plans were officially submitted for the building of a brand-new school for **St. Patrick's Catholic Primary, Sunderland** - part of the Department for Education's Schools Rebuilding Programme.

The development aims to create a welcoming, future-focused environment that continues St. Patrick's 130-year tradition at the heart of the Ryhope community.

The new school is planned to open in Summer 2027, and we'll keep families updated as plans progress. For more information on this development please visit Sunderland City Council's planning portal ref: 25/02698/PS4.



School Rebuilding programme update

A further four of our schools are also part of the Department for Education's school rebuilding programme - **St. Aloysius Catholic Infants, Hebburn, St. James Catholic Primary, Hebburn, St. John Bosco Catholic Primary, Sunderland** and **St. Mary's Catholic Primary, Sunderland**. These are all currently at the early stages and are going through options appraisal of designs. We will keep you updated of progress on these exciting developments.



School celebrates platinum anniversary

Congratulations to St. Joseph's Catholic Primary, Blackhall who proudly celebrate 70 years this year. Their first celebration event in September included a special Mass led by the children, joyful songs and a walk down memory lane with a timeline of school history. A time capsule was also buried, capturing life at St. Joseph's today - a gift for the future!



Working in partnership for the benefit of all pupils

Our Trust is excited to be working with HMC (Headteacher's Conference) and E-ACT Multi-Academy Trust, on a bold, sector-wide initiative to improve the life chances of every child in the UK and help 100% of Children to Thrive.

We believe partnerships in education should benefit every child – regardless of background, school type, or postcode. We are working in partnership to develop Moonshot, a project with three pillars for transformational change:

- **Reading for Life** - every child leaves school with reading at or above their chronological reading age.
- **100 Things Before You Leave School** - A curated list of cultural, sporting, and career experiences, giving every child access to a broad range of enrichment opportunities and enhancing school engagement and attendance.
- **Pathways to the Future** - Every key stage 5 student receives high-quality careers and higher education guidance. Including mentoring, support, and opportunities to collaborate with universities and employers.

It's hoped that following a pilot, this may be rolled out nationally. We are immensely proud to be involved in this exciting project, and we will keep you updated of progress.



Little Stars Nursery Opens at St. Gregory's

Last term, **St. Gregory's Primary, South Shields**, celebrated the grand opening of Little Stars Nursery with a ribbon-cutting by Brendan Tapping, CEO of our Trust, and Headteacher Emma Shaughnessy.

The new 26-place nursery was created over the summer in partnership with Vest Construction, transforming a former classroom into a vibrant Early Years space. Mrs. Shaughnessy said the nursery has long been a dream for the school and thanked the Trust, governors and staff for helping make it a reality.

To find out more visit - st-gregorys.co.uk/nursery/



Nursery named to honour fishing roots

St. James Catholic Primary, Hebburn held a school-wide competition to name its new 15-place nursery, which opened in January 2026.

Headteacher Francesca Heslop said, "With children at the heart of all we do, it felt right that they choose the name. We asked for suggestions linked to our patron saint, St. James."

"We received so many creative ideas that choosing was difficult, but as four children suggested the same name, we selected Little Shells, a symbol associated with St James and his travels to Spain."

The winning pupils were Lewis and Eleanor (Year 3) and Charlie and Eva (Year 4), who were rewarded with extra playtime and chocolate chip cookies. Find out more about Little Shells at stjameshebburn.co.uk/nursery.

NURSERY PLACES

APPLY NOW

Did you know we have nursery provision at 15 of our primary schools?



We are delighted to have received planning permission for refurbishment work to provide a nursery at **St. Mary's Catholic Primary, Wingate**. We are awaiting planning approval for refurbishment to provide a nursery at **St. Godric's Catholic Primary, Thornley**. and are procuring services for the same work at **Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary, Shotton**. We aim to have all these nurseries open for September 2026.

Currently fifteen of our primary schools offer nursery provision, to find a nursery near you, visit bccet.org.uk/our-schools

Give your child the best possible start – discover a BCCET nursery today.

Footballing success across our Trust

Two talented young footballers have earned national recognition this term, showcasing the outstanding sporting pathways available across our schools.

In September, Roman, a Year 11 student at St. Joseph's Catholic Academy, Hebburn, celebrated his first international appearance for England's Young Lions in a thrilling 7–5 victory over Germany in Duisburg. Playing as goalkeeper, he helped secure the win and described the experience as a dream come true, *"It meant a lot to me and my family... even better to beat Germany on their own ground."*

Roman is part of St. Joseph's elite football academy run in partnership with Fast Feet, and currently holds a scholarship with Newcastle United, featuring for their U17s and in the squad for the U19s Champions League campaign.



Meanwhile, in November Katie, a Year 10 pupil at St. Bede's Catholic School and Byron Sixth Form, Peterlee, and a member of the St. Bede's Elite Football Academy, run in partnership with Fast Feet, was selected for the England Women's Under-15s week long football camp at St. George's Park. She took part in training, workshops, and played in international fixtures against Iceland (2, 1 win), Turkey (4, 1 win) and Germany (2, 1 loss). Katie said the camp was, *"The most amazing week of her life."*

Well done to Katie and Roman who embody the Trust's commitment to being the best version of yourselves.

Currently across our two schools with elite football academies we have over 30 pupils who are on elite pathways or trials for academies. To find out more about our elite football academies visit : st-bedes.org/curriculum/elite-football-academy, or stjosephs.uk.net/our-curriculum/elite-football-academy.

St Aidan's & St. Anthony's Catholic Sixth Form, Sunderland



We have a strong heritage of providing first rate education. We offer A- Levels and vocational qualifications.

aaasixthform.com

St Bede's School & Byron Sixth Form College, Peterlee



We offer A-Level and BTEC courses in a caring, supportive Sixth Form where every student is known and valued.

st-bedes.org

St. Joseph's Catholic Academy Sixth Form, Hebburn



Our sixth form is a caring community where every student is known and supported to reach their full potential. We offer A Level and vocational courses.

stjosephs.uk.net/sixth-form

St. Wilfrid's R.C. College Sixth Form, South Shields



We are committed to inspire and develop all students on their journey through faith, learning and support. We offer a mix of traditional and vocational qualifications.

st-wilfrids.org/sixth-form



St. James' Catholic Primary



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary, Blackhall

As part of our pledge for our Trust to be more sustainable we are delighted that four of our schools have already achieved the award – well done Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary, Shotton, SS Peter & Paul Catholic Primary, South Shields, St. James Catholic Primary, Hebburn and St. Joseph's Catholic Primary, Blackhall.

The award is granted by CAFOD (Catholic Agency for Overseas Development) and encourages communities, including schools, to get involved and live more simply for the benefit of everyone.

Bishop Stephen, Bishop of the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle, is Chair of CAFOD, and we are proud that all our schools are working towards these awards which celebrate faith-inspired actions. Schools commit to a range of activities to demonstrate how they are living simply, sustainably with creation, and in solidarity with people living in poverty.

Schools have involved themselves in a wide-range of activities including; reducing waste in school, organising preloved uniform shops, building bug houses, fundraising for CAFOD's World Gifts, making Live Simply pledges, saving energy and living more sustainably.



SS Peter and Paul Catholic Primary



Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary

Live Simply supports Pope Francis's call to action in his encyclical *Laudato Si'*, which focuses on protecting the environment. The *Laudato Si'* Action Platform was launched to inspire and encourage the global Catholic Church to reflect on their part in the care of God's creation and love of their neighbour, over a seven-year journey.

Live Simply has been officially recognised as a wonderful way for parishes to be part of a *Laudato Si'* journey, schools and communities, can be part of this Global Catholic journey of ecological conversion being promoted by Pope Francis and the Vatican.

CAFOD
Catholic Agency for
Overseas Development



Each issue we give our pupils the opportunity to speak about something that is important to them. This issue we talked to Neyo, aged 16, from **St. Wilfrid's RC College, South Shields**, about his transition from school to sixth form.

What year are you in and what are you studying? I am in Year 12 studying A-Levels in English Literature, French, and History. I also intend to complete an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) titled 'Can the reign of Henry I be considered a golden age?' which is allowing me to combine my passion for history and explore a time period of history that is outside of my A level curriculum.

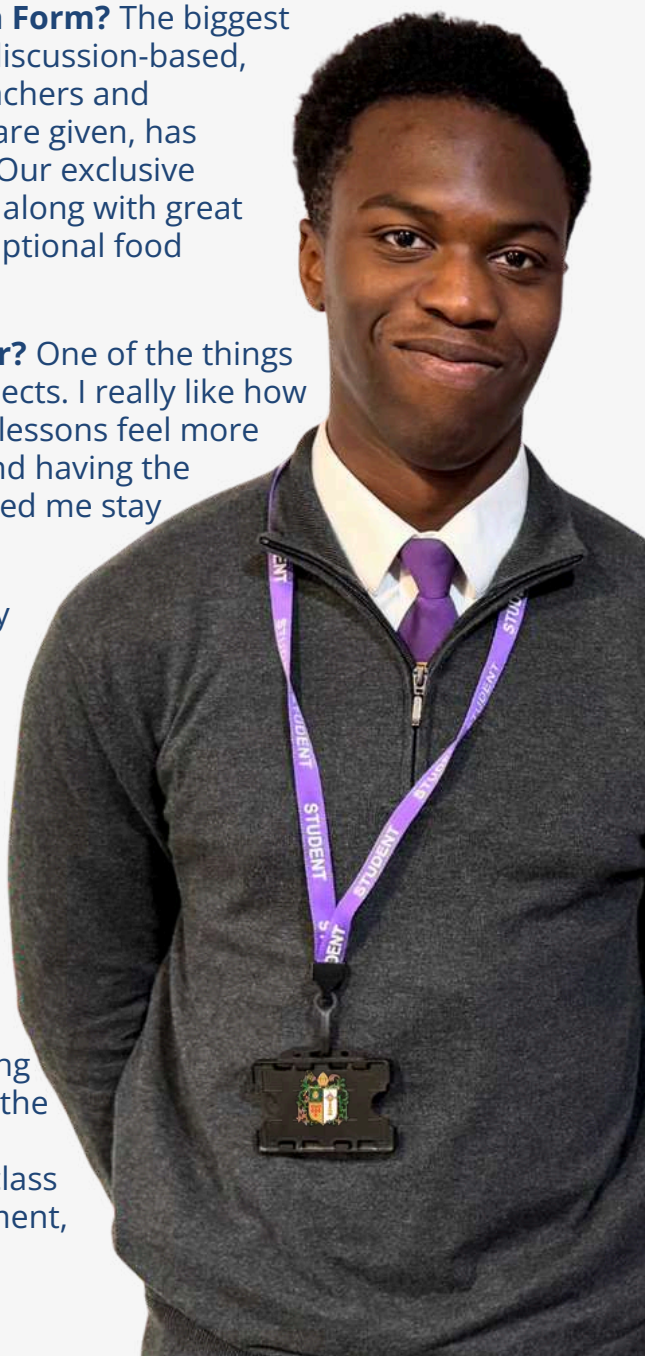
What made you decide on St. Wilfrid's Sixth Form College? One of the main reasons I chose St. Wilfrid's over other sixth forms was the high quality and familiarity of the teaching. During Year 11, I realised I had all the support I needed to achieve my top grades. Although we have only been in Sixth Form a short time, the guidance I have received has made the transition to A Levels much smoother. Previous Year 13's praised the ambition St. Wilfrid's instils in every student. I have been impressed by the calibre of external speakers, university and company visits, and enrichment opportunities like STEM Smart, HE+, and the Pelican Program, which have exceeded my expectations.

What are the main differences between school and Sixth Form? The biggest difference so far is the nature of A-Level lessons, which are discussion-based, encouraging engagement and building relationships with teachers and classmates. Outside lessons, the greater independence you are given, has improved my organisation skills and sense of responsibility. Our exclusive Sixth Form centre provides a productive study environment, along with great food and coffee from our barista and café facilities, and exceptional food served by our Queen, Leanne.

What have you enjoyed most about the experience so far? One of the things I have enjoyed most is how much deeper we go into the subjects. I really like how we're encouraged to discuss ideas in class because it makes lessons feel more like proper conversations rather than just being taught at, and having the freedom to study only the subjects I enjoy the most has helped me stay motivated and feel more in control of my education.

What are your aspirations for the future? I intend to apply to study History at Durham, Cambridge, Lancaster, York and one US university (so I can play college tennis). History is my greatest passion and after my degree I hope to pursue a master's and PhD specialising in some aspect of British Medieval history. I know this might change, and I am excited to see the opportunities that arise throughout our enrichment and personal development time that might inspire my career path. I have also looked at careers and I am drawn to careers in public services like policy analysis.

Would you recommend St. Wilfrid's Sixth Form? I would highly recommend St. Wilfrid's Sixth Form for anyone pursuing post-16 education. The induction and supportive staff made the transition smooth, and the college fosters success both academically and personally. With excellent teaching, small class sizes, enriching opportunities, and strong personal development, you leave more confident, capable, and ready for the future.



A confident start in every phase

As the Autumn term closes and we begin the Spring term, we reflect on our pupils' journey so far, this academic year.

Many of our pupils have stepped in to a new phase of education - beginning their educational journeys in primary, moving into secondary, or entering sixth form. Our Trust celebrates how they are not just arriving but are already beginning to write their own story and contribute to a growing legacy of excellence.

From Early Years, through primary school, and onward to secondary and beyond, Bishop Chadwick Catholic Education Trust ensures that each child's entry into a new phase is supported, welcomed, and purposeful.

Primary beginnings: Reception classes are rooted in curiosity and nurture, establishing confidence, early literacy and numeracy, creative play, and emotional wellbeing.

Starting Nursery or Reception is an exciting step and at **St. Joseph's Catholic Primary, Blackhall**, we make sure every child feels happy, safe, and ready to learn. Louise Coxon, EYFS Lead, said, "We work closely with families, nurseries, and childminders to understand each child's needs and interests, helping them settle in with confidence. Visits, stay-and-play sessions, and friendly chats with staff help children and parents feel part of our welcoming community.

"Our Early Years spaces inspire curiosity and wellbeing through a balance of play and structured learning. Every child is valued, supported, and encouraged to grow. We believe a positive start builds the foundation for lifelong learning - rooted in respect, friendship, excellence, and care."



Transition to Secondary: For pupils moving from Key Stage 2 to Key Stage 3, trust-wide induction programmes, pastoral support, and academic bridging ensure no one is left to find their way alone.

St. Aidan's Catholic Academy have introduced a welcoming assembly for new Year 7 pupils on their first day. This focuses on their ethos that everyone should leave a positive legacy for future generations, inspired by the All-Blacks' philosophy that everyone plays an equal role in shaping that legacy. No one is too important to "Sweep the Shed". This joyful celebration unites all stakeholders to welcome them as the next custodians of the St. Aidan's 'jersey.'



“In this special assembly, pupils learn about our school’s history and the importance of belonging to their new community.

Each child receives their blazer from their form tutor – symbolising belonging and pride - a proud rite of passage that marks the beginning of their journey at St. Aidan’s, where their actions and conduct must uphold the highest standards.

Pupils leave the assembly with a deep sense of pride, knowing they are part of a community to which they will forever belong.” Andrew Morris, Assistant Headteacher, **St. Aidan’s Catholic Academy.**

Sixth Form and Post-16: Our sixth form provisions are not just about advanced study, they are about students finding their path, making choices, and stepping into leadership, community engagement, and future aspiration.

All of our sixth forms are deeply committed to ensuring that every student feels confident and prepared as they move into Key Stage 5.

“Our transition begins early, with subject showcases and taster days that help students explore options and experience sixth form life. Summer bridging work eases the academic shift from GCSEs to A-levels.

Orientation and tours help new students feel at home in our inclusive Catholic community. Each student has a one to one meeting with a sixth form leader to tailor support. They can also use Unifrog (the universal destinations platform) to align subject choices with future goals, considering and comparing all opportunities.

From first interest to the start of Year 12, students are guided and supported every step of the journey.” Kate Forster, Head of Sixth Form, **St. Wilfrid’s RC College.**



These early steps are not just milestones - they are the chapters in which young people begin to author their own narrative: who they will become, what they will achieve, how they will serve their community, what legacy they will leave.

Transition as Transformation - pupils begin writing their own legacy

Transition is more than movement from one phase to the next; it is transformation. Pupils at all our Trust schools:

- Are encouraged to see themselves as architects of their future, not passive recipients.
- Are offered opportunities for voice, leadership, service -whether that is in school council, community projects, enrichment clubs, or faith and spiritual life.

Are recognised for the unique gifts they bring, our vision “Excellence for Everyone through learning, respect and partnership” reinforces this and our mutual respect, shared responsibility, and legacies to build.

Exceptionality in Provision — Excellence for everyone

At the heart of our Trust is our commitment to exceptional provision, from Early Years to the ambitions of our sixth form students. Our schools continue to make significant progress, with pupils achieving highly, making strong improvements, and moving on confidently to their next stage of learning and life.



Across our Trust primary schools **75% of schools surpassed national results for Reading, Writing, and Maths (RWM)** combined, up from 67% in 2024. And in our Trust secondary schools **73% of GCSE grades were between 9 and 4**, compared with the national average of 64.9%.

This culture of excellence is matched by a wealth of experiences that extend far beyond the classroom. From creative and cultural opportunities to outdoor learning, sporting achievement, community engagement, and enrichment activities, pupils are given the chance to develop a rich set of skills, talents, and values.

Together, these opportunities ensure that every child, whatever their age or starting point, receives an education that nurtures academic success while also shaping confident, resilient, and compassionate individuals.

Looking to the future

At our Trust we know that getting better never stops, we are committed to:

- further strengthening transitions so that each pupil's start in a new phase is seamless, supportive, and ambitious.
- ensuring that provision remains exceptional and inclusive - no child left behind.
- nurturing environments in which pupils begin crafting their narrative early: academically, spiritually, socially; and
- continuing to foster a Trust identity that celebrates both the shared mission and the unique character of each school.

We are already piloting new initiatives to support the continued growth of our curriculum offer. We have several new projects in progress, including two focused on Maths, one working with Northumbria University on their Stepping Stones project (funded by EEF) and the other, Winning With Numbers (funded by NECA).

Metacognition has the potential to significantly improve pupil outcomes in maths that is why we are working with Stepping Stones. A 10-week whole class intervention to promote problem solving and reasoning. Currently we are working with three targeted year groups Y2, Y6 and Y11. It Supports pupils to plan, monitor and evaluate their learning, increasing independence and resilience when faced with challenging tasks. This is currently being piloted in fifteen of our primary schools and all five of our secondary schools.



Winning With Numbers aims to build pupils' number fluency and confidence, much like phonics supports literacy. Maths leaders in the pilot schools are working closely with Winning With Numbers consultants to deliver the programme, which is being trialled in six primary and five secondary schools. We look forward to seeing the project's progress and positive outcomes.

"We are witnessing more than just good beginnings – we see pupils stepping into their journey with confidence, purpose, and hope. Our aim is to help every individual fulfil their God-given potential. At the heart of our Trust is a commitment to excellence for everyone, built on learning, respect, and partnership. It is heart-warming to see pupils embracing each stage of their educational journey, striving to become the best version of themselves." Brendan Tapping, CEO Bishop Chadwick Catholic Education Trust

Our schools are always getting involved in a wide-range of activities from sporting achievements to charitable endeavours. Over the next two pages are a round-up of just a few of our media headlines from the Autumn term ...

THE SHIELDS Gazette

Education

Students achieve prestigious Level 3 qualification in sports leadership



Successful sports leader's Jack Burgess, Stacey Law, Adam Doreley, Sebba Samuels, Marlon Brown, Ryan Mead, Aneisha Harley-Ryan and Abbey Thompson.

Year 13 students at St Wilfrid's RC College, part of the Bishop Chadwick Catholic Education Trust, are celebrating the outstanding success in achieving Level 3 Qualification in Sports Leadership – a nationally recognised award that reflects excellence in teamwork, communication and leadership.

The Sports Leadership Level 3 qualification enables successful learners to plan, deliver and evaluate purposeful, inclusive and enjoyable sport or physical activity sessions. It aligns with professional standards for sport and physical activity leadership, giving students valuable skills for future careers in sport, education or employment.

Sunderland Echo

Education

Choir sing their hearts out to raise money for Sunderland primary school

A local choir have taken part in a singing marathon to raise nearly £700 to boost the music curriculum at St Patrick's Catholic Primary School.

The Pyhpo Choir, which meets weekly at St Paul's Church, took part in the four-hour singathon to raise funds for the school, which is part of Bishop Chadwick Catholic Education Trust.



Members of the choir present the cheque to the school's Headteacher, Mrs. Jane Ward.

Executive headteacher Jane Ward said: "We extend our huge thanks to Pyhpo Choir who sang their hearts out and raised an amazing £670 which they have very kindly donated to our school. We are so grateful and will use this money towards the cost of enhancing our music curriculum."

Hartlepool Mail

Business

Nissan welcomes first apprentices from its new Skills Academy

The first students from the new Nissan Skills Academy have officially begun apprenticeships at the Sunderland Plant after successfully completing a two-year programme that bridges the gap between the classroom and shop floor.

The group of 12 students studied the Level Two Engineering programme at Sunderland College's City Campus, with technical manufacturing skills tuition from the college and Nissan teaching teams.



The three apprentices who have graduated from the Nissan Skills Academy and will now begin working on the manufacturing plant. © Nissan Sunderland

The students all successfully attained the qualification, with five now beginning apprenticeships at Nissan.

THE SHIELDS Gazette

Football

Hebburn students' England call up



Roman, who is head of House Mark team.

Roman is a student on St Joseph's elite football training programme in partnership with Fast Feet. Students are given specialist training for young athletes, focusing on long-term player development, alongside their academic studies. Professional standard coaching aims to enhance their chance of a career in football.

Roman is in Year 11 at St Joseph's Catholic Academy, which is part of Bishop Chadwick Catholic Education Trust. He was delighted to receive his first international call up, alongside other Young Lions from clubs across the English and French leagues.

The match took place at Duisburg on 9 September. Despite Germany taking the lead early in the game, Roman held his own as goalkeeper in what ended up being a 5-1 win to England's Young Lions.

Sunderland Echo

Education

North East CTEC 'will boost our young people's chances' and plug skills gap

A North-east Multi-Academy Trust (MAT) is proud to be a partner and beneficiary of the region's newly announced Construction Technical Excellence Colleges (CTECs).



HICSA

HICSA is the first dedicated construction college of its kind in the region and Bishop Chadwick Catholic Education Trust – which has 25 primary schools and five secondaries including four sixth form provisions across Sunderland, East Durham and South Tyneside – is one of its key partners. At the end of 2024, Education Partnership North East (EPNE) and Northumbria University announced a partnership centred on the HICSA, the new £20m state-of-the-art facility. HICSA will cater for students from age 14, to adulthood, offering training pathways designed to attract under-represented groups into the housing and construction sectors. Students will be offered the opportunity to study a specialised construction qualification alongside GCSEs giving young

THE SHIELDS Gazette

Education

St Wilfrid's RC College student honoured at prestigious national awards



Luke Hedley, a Year 9 pupil

St Wilfrid's RC College, which is part of Bishop Chadwick Catholic Education Trust, is incredibly proud to announce that Luke Hedley, a Year 9 pupil, has been recognised at the prestigious British Citizen Youth Awards (BCYA), held at the Palace of Westminster on Thursday, October 30.

Luke's remarkable journey began in January 2025, when he used his Christmas and pocket money to buy a 3D printer. Inspired by his father, a volunteer ranger, he began designing and producing 3D-printed safety vehicles to support the #BeaAdventureSmart campaign and Northumberland National Park Mountain Rescue Team. Over six months, Luke produced 740 vehicles, raising

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THE SHIELDS Gazette

Education

New headteacher joins St Joseph's Catholic Primary in Jarrow



Headteacher Anthony Kennedy with pupils of St Joseph's in Jarrow

"St Joseph's is a fantastic school and it has so much outdoor space and we want the children to enjoy that. I appreciate the value of play. We have the space so it would be a real advantage to develop a great outdoor space. I also want to make international links, as it gives children such great opportunities, different perspectives and experiences."

"I like to be out and about in school to meet parents and families. Mr Craig was here for over 10 years, and you can see how much he means to the community. If I don't have to be at my desk I try to get around the classrooms and see the children. It's all about building relationships with the whole school community."

Sunderland Echo

Education

It's an honour – Schoolgirl Katie called up to represent England Under 15s lionesses

"It's an honour to represent my country" – the words of Peterlee schoolgirl Katie Bowick after being called up to represent England Women's Under-15s football team.

Katie, who attends St. Bede's Catholic School and Byron Sixth Form, will today (November 20) link up with the rest of the squad at St George's Park, England's National Football Centre.



Katie Bowick, who attends St. Bede's Catholic School and Byron Sixth Form, will today link up with the rest of the squad at St George's Park, England's National Football Centre.

He said: "Katie has shown fantastic attitude and determination from an early age. She is a joy to work with, and this call-up is fully deserved."

Anthony Logan, Deputy Headteacher at St. Bede's, added: "All at St. Bede's Catholic School and Byron Sixth Form extend their congratulations to Katie and wish her every success in her new role."

THE SHIELDS Gazette

Education

South Tyneside school wins competition in celebration of culture



Pupils of St James' Catholic Primary School, Hebburn

"A huge thank you to Ashleigh and Claire from Lingetot South Tyneside who delivered an amazing experience to the children."

"Thank you to all of our families for their support and a special thank you to one of our Reception families for preparing a sensational sweet treat. Babooska Buns! case!"

"This event was a wonderful opportunity for the children to broaden their horizons, celebrate cultural diversity, and, of course, have lots of fun along the way!"

Sunderland Echo

Public Notices

Major step forward for plans to rebuild and move primary school in less than two years



Proposed site for new replacement St Patrick's Catholic Primary School in Ryburn. J. Duggan/STPDS

It is understood that the development is part of the Government's School Rebuilding Programme £1 and will see a new replacement school for St Patrick's Catholic Primary School, which is currently based nearby at Smith Street.

The proposed site for the new school sits adjacent to Stockton Road, Halifax Place and Smith Street South and is surrounded by houses, as well as sitting adjacent to Beechbrook Park.

Hartlepool Mail

Education

Could you become a teacher? Teach First BCCET SCITT applications are now open



Teach First BCCET SCITT

"Because I was already volunteering with a BCCET school, it felt natural to do my teacher training with the Trust. I'm feeling very nervous and excited. My first impressions of the programme have been brilliant; it is so well organised. Even though I knew the teachers at the school, I didn't know many other people at the Trust, but everybody has been lovely."

When 22-year-old Bobbi Bowman decided she wanted to train as a teacher, she knew exactly which school she wanted to learn her vocation – the very primary school she herself attended as a child.

"I wanted to become a teacher because I wanted to inspire other people the same way I was when I was at school," explains Bobbi, a graduate from Durham

THE SHIELDS Gazette

Education

Students shine as young leaders at the Little Sticks Festival North East



St Wilfrid's Sports Leaders - Jackie Stephenson, Matthew King, Kevin Foster, Grace Moulds, Felix Cusack, Sam Traynor, Robert Davis, Maken Hickey, Alfie Davis, Oly Carr, and Grace Todd - pictured with their Little Sticks team

Students from St Wilfrid's RC College, part of the Bishop Chadwick Catholic Education Trust, played a key role in the success of the Little Sticks Festival North-East, held in October at the Beacon of Light in Sunderland.

Jordan Stephenson, Head of Impact and Culture at Playsticks GC, also praised the St Wilfrid's team. "A huge thank you to the young leaders from St Wilfrid's who co-delivered activities at our Little Sticks festival. They represented their school outstandingly and received huge praise from teachers and children. The leaders from St Wilfrid's were such an asset to us and we can't thank the school enough."



Don't forget you can keep up-to-date with all the news across our Trust by visiting our website: bccet.org.uk/news

Train to teach in a school near you

Our annual teacher training programme in partnership with Teach First began again in September – this year we have 16 trainees across our schools. If you or a friend or family member are interested in a career in teaching you can [find out more here](#).

- 100% of last year's trainees secured teaching roles
- Qualify in less than 12 months
- Previous trainees praised our course organisation and support
- Train to retain – thirty schools in our Trust (primary & secondary)
- Schools across East Durham, South Tyneside and Sunderland
- 1-2-1 support from experienced mentors
- Get hands on experience and high-quality training



Meet some of our trainee teachers ...

Please click on the link below each image to view a short film on YouTube..



▶ [Meet Sam](#)



▶ [Meet Bobbi](#)



▶ [Meet Chloe](#)



▶ [Meet Alex](#)



▶ [Meet Daria](#)

What it's like to work for our Trust....

We think our Trust is a great place to work, or volunteer, but don't take our word for it - you can hear from some of our staff and governors by visiting our website:

bccet.org.uk/job-vacancies/headshots

To find out about all our latest vacancies, including governance roles, visit:

bccet.org.uk/job-vacancies

And if you are interested in becoming a governor, and would like to know more about what is involved take a look at - [The Role of a school governor](#)



Lesley Parkin



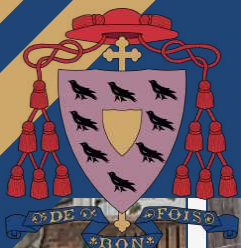
Nicola Laverick



Karen Shek



Anthony Kennedy



BISHOP CHADWICK CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST



Our family of schools....

English Martyrs' Catholic Primary School
 Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School
 Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Primary School
 Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School
 SS Peter and Paul Catholic Primary School
 St. Aidan's & St. Anthony's Catholic Sixth Form
 St. Aidan's Catholic Academy
 St. Aloysius Catholic Federation
 St. Anthony's Girls' Catholic Academy
 St. Bede's Catholic Primary School, Jarrow)
 St. Bede's Catholic Primary School, South Shields
 St. Bede's Catholic School and Byron Sixth Form
 St. Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School, Sunderland
 St. Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School, Seaham)
 St. Godric's Catholic Primary School
 St. Gregory's Catholic Primary School

St. James Catholic Primary School
 St. John Bosco Catholic Primary School
 St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Blackhall)
 St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School , Jarrow
 St. Joseph's Catholic Academy, Hebburn)
 St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Sunderland
 St. Leonard's Catholic Primary School
 St. Mary Magdalen's Catholic Primary School
 St. Mary's Catholic Primary School, Jarrow
 St. Mary's Catholic Primary School, Sunderland
 St. Mary's Catholic Primary School, Wingate
 St. Matthew's Catholic Primary School
 St. Oswald's Catholic Primary School
 St. Patrick's Catholic Primary School
 St. Wilfrid's RC College

Bishop Chadwick Catholic Education Trust

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