



# Bishop Hogarth

## Catholic Education Trust

### Newsletter



**WINTER 2022**



# WINTER 2022

## WELCOME

Dear parents/carers,

Welcome to the latest Bishop Hogarth Catholic Education Trust newsletter. Advent is a time of preparation, a time when we look forward to the feast of Christmas and the coming of Christ into our lives.

In my first term as CEO, it has been a wonderful few months working with our fantastic Headteachers and central team, and I am certainly looking forward to what the future holds for our Trust.

As a Trust of 35 schools, we are now at full capacity. We are at the stage of developing our systems to recognise all the good work going on in our schools and how best we can share the successes so that we all work together, in the spirit of the common good, to ensure all 12,000 children benefit. In that way our drive for excellence in education, pastoral and spiritual development continues.

We are pleased to see the extensive hard work has been recognised by Ofsted in inspections this term - these are exciting times with so much to look forward to.

As you read through the newsletter we hope you will enjoy finding out about the start of re-building projects and what our successful family of schools have been up to over the past few months.



**Mr Mike Shorten, MA (Ed) NLE**  
Chief Executive Officer of BHCET



## CPD DAY

October 21st saw all Trust staff invited to join in a Trust-wide PD Day. The day was built around supporting those with additional needs in the everyday. All 35 schools attended one of our secondary school sites and speakers were shared between the five schools to give input during the morning, either in person or virtually. Stuart Myers' 'The World at Your Feet' gave a 'first foot' insight into how supportive and adaptive teaching allowed him to succeed in his school and career. Simon Marshall spoke passionately about vulnerable groups of children and how their experience in school should always help, not hinder them in later life. Rachel Hargreaves told of her work and successes with children with SEND across the area and gave practical advice on supporting children with SEND in the classroom.

In the afternoon, the Trust SENDCO Leads for Primary and Secondary, Alex Glover and Lucy Kreczak, facilitated sessions that would tailor the learning from the morning to individual schools. Recognising that children in our schools are individual and need careful adaptations to allow full access to the curriculum, schools were able to discuss and plan bespoke strategies of support. This work will be collated by the SENDCO Leads and shared with all SENDCOs at their next network meetings - sharing the great work and ideas with all our schools.

Feedback from the day was overwhelmingly positive. Schools were able to consider their provision for children with additional needs and how they might improve or consolidate it using the learning from the day.



After attending the day, schools that are relatively new to the Trust said that they felt very much part of a bigger family and community working together for the success of all our children.



## AGENDA

<i>'High ambition for all learners'</i>	
<b>8:30 - 8:45</b>	Refreshments on arrival
<b>8:45 - 9:00</b>	Whole Trust Liturgy led by <b>Andrew Gardner</b> (Head of Catholic Life) and Opening address by <b>Mike Shorten</b> , CEO
<b>Session 1</b>	<b>Inspiration and Aspiration</b>
<b>9:00</b>	<b>Stuart Myers</b> (Keynote speech and Q&A)
<b>9:45</b>	<b>Simon Marshall</b> (Keynote speech and Q&A)
<b>10:30</b>	Break and Refreshments
<b>Session 2</b>	<b>Strategies and Expectations</b>
<b>11:00</b>	<b>Rachel Hargreaves</b> (Regional Lead North for Whole School SEND)
<b>13:00</b>	Lunch (Provided)
<b>Session 3</b>	<b>Moving Forward together with SEND</b>
<b>13:45</b>	The afternoon session will allow a phase specific focus to address actions that will lead to the high-quality teaching of SEND pupils
<b>15:30</b>	Finish

## AGENDA

Carmel College	St John's	English Martyrs	OLSB	St Michael's
All secondary Maths staff	All secondary Humanities staff	All secondary Creative Arts, Music, Technology and PE staff	All secondary English and MFL staff	All secondary Science staff
All secondary ICT/Computer Science teachers	All secondary RE staff	All secondary KSS specialists		All secondary vocational and Business Studies staff
Holy Family	St Joseph's (Coundon)	St Joseph's (Hartlepool)	St Gregory's	St Joseph's (Billingham)
St Teresa's (Darlington)	St Joseph's (N.Aycliffe)	St Teresa's (Hartlepool)	St Patrick's	St John the Evangelist
St Bede's (Darlington)	St Cuthbert's (Crook)	St Cuthbert's (Hartlepool)	St Bede's (Stockton)	St Paul's
St Augustine's	Blessed John Duckett	St Bega's	St Cuthbert's (Stockton)	Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary
St William's	Our Lady and St Thomas	Sacred Heart		St Joseph's (Norton)
St Mary's (B.Castle)	St Chad's	St John Vianney		
	St Mary's (N.Aycliffe)			
	St Charles'			
	St Wilfrid's			



*'Christ at the centre, Children at the heart'*



# School Spotlight

## ST CUTHBERT'S (CROOK)



### Royal Shakespeare Company

Tuesday 4th October was a very exciting day at St. Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School in Crook, because, as a Royal Shakespeare Company Associate School, we hosted the RSC's 'First Encounters' production of 'Twelfth Night'.

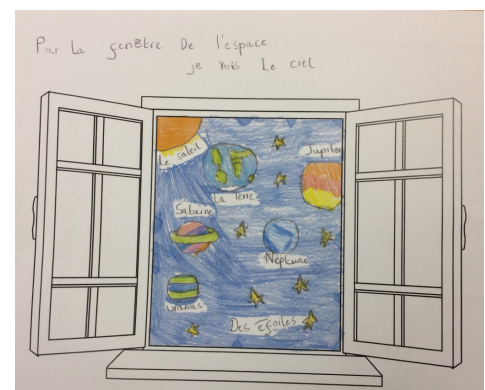
The RSC's First Encounters productions are created to give 7-13 year olds a fantastic first experience of Shakespeare, whilst also being brilliant introductions for anyone new to Shakespeare's work.

During the afternoon, the children of KS2 were delighted by the performance, with plenty of suspense, laughter and engagement seen and heard throughout. In the evening, we welcomed children's families, friends, members of the parish and members of our 'County Durham/Crook' Shakespeare cluster. People who had never seen a Shakespeare performance before were surprised at how enjoyable and accessible a play written 400 years ago can be, and how, even if the language can be difficult at times, the facial expressions and body language of the performers can tell us so much!

A highlight of hosting the production was the fact that the RSC invited ten of our Class 5 children to perform in the first scene, alongside the RSC actors, as shipwrecked sailors. They worked with an RSC director to help them understand and rehearse the scene prior to performance day. Everyone was very impressed with how well they learned their lines, the confidence with which they delivered them and their ability to embody their characters so believably. Well done! The children are looking forward to the Shakespeare projects which we have planned for later in the year in collaboration with the RSC, as part of their Associate Schools Programme, such as the '37 Plays' project (to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's First Folio being published) and the Regional Playmaking Festival in June.

### European Day of Languages

To celebrate 'European Day of Languages', KS2 children from St. Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School in Crook entered a regional competition run by the 'Association for Language Learning – North East'. The children imagined a view out of their window, drawing it and labelling it in a language of their choice. It was so impressive to see the variety of languages that the children included in their work, including French, Spanish, German, Ukrainian, Italian and Polish! It was a wonderful day of celebrating languages together. Sofia, from Class 3, has been awarded a Commendation certificate from the judges for her entry! Sofia drew a view of space from a spaceship window, including 'le soleil' (the sun), 'la Terre' (the Earth) and 'les étoiles' (the stars), as well as some of the planets in our solar system – "Par la fenêtre de l'espace, je vois le ciel." Congratulations Sofia for your well-deserved award!



# Secondaries & Sixth Forms

## CARMEL COLLEGE

### Town Champions

Team Carmel are Town Champions! On a very cold day, the College took 74 runners to the Town X-Country at Wyvern. After some outstanding individual and team performances, Team Carmel were crowned Town Champions, finishing over 180 points clear of 2nd place.

Well done to all who participated!

### Sunshine Sign

Seventeen Year 13 students have completed a 6-week British Sign Language Course ran by external company Sunshine Sign. Over the course, students learnt various topics in sign including weather, family and food. The course has taught students a valuable transferrable life skill which will be great for students to put on their UCAS applications and CVs.

### Macmillan Coffee Morning

Carmel hosted a fantastic Macmillan Coffee morning on Friday 30th September. Huge thanks to Jemima in Year 12 and Mrs Frank who organised the whole event. Jemima took charge and made sure everything went smoothly; real student leadership! It was great to see parents, parishioners and friends of Carmel coming together and raising money for a good cause. All together we raised £700! Thank you to everyone who baked and donated!

### St Mary's RC Cathedral

On Monday 3rd October, Carmel College took thirty-two Year 8 students to St Mary's RC Cathedral in Middlesbrough to venerate the relics of St Bernadette. The students were very reverent and were delighted to have this special opportunity to participate in the UK tour of the relics. Students participated in a special Mass celebrated by the Bishop of Middlesbrough, with two students from Carmel leading the offertory procession.

### Blessing of the Christmas Tree

To begin advent, we gathered around the Christmas Tree in our Atrium for a service of the Blessing of our Christmas Tree. It was wonderful to have our choir leading us in Christmas Carols and for so many students to gather around the tree to participate in this annual event. To further the advent celebrations, our SVP students visited the lovely residents of Nightingale Hall in Richmond. Our students sang beautifully and delivered Christmas cards and presents to all the residents. We look forward to attending more care homes during the festive period.





# Secondaries & Sixth Forms

## THE ENGLISH MARTYRS



### Be Kind

Students lead the way to support each other with a message of 'Be Kind'.

Students from The English Martyrs Catholic School and Sixth Form College, Hartlepool, have become anti-bullying ambassadors, receiving the Diana Award for young people who work to improve the lives of others, offering peer-to-peer support to any child who may feel they have issues at school or with friends outside of school.

Head teacher Sara Crawshaw said: *"Our school virtues include compassion and justice. We want all students to feel that they have someone to talk to when they have any difficulties. We have a strong PSHE programme and assemblies to share these values and to sign post help when a student may need extra support."*

The school has joined the Anti-Bullying Association, to reinforce how important it is to 'Be Kind'. This partnership has seen staff and students undertake specialist training, including a recent session with former footballer Martin Gray on how to tackle racism. We are also part of the Anna Freud Programme to support Positive Mental Health.

Assistant Head Teacher Glenn McIntock has led on student well-being. He has coordinated the training of over 40 Anti-Bullying Ambassadors and programme of activities to create a culture that challenges bullying.

Mr McIntock said *"It is wonderful to see so many students involved in supporting each other and working with professional organisations to gain accreditation for their great work. These young people are fantastic role models, and we are very proud of them."*

### Share Your Story

On Friday 18th November, the BBC Education team visited EMS and held sessions with Year 7-9 students linking to their 100 years anniversary and their 'Share Your Story' campaign where BBC Storytellers which include relatable and inspiring BBC staff and well-known BBC stars from TV, Radio, Sport and News share stories of their personal journeys, setbacks and successes. Students were fantastic throughout and really engaged with the presenters.



### A Level Geography Field Work

In November, A Level geography students visited both physical and urban environments this week to carry out their field work research. We had a really successful week collecting quality data. Students then analyse their data to write their individual NEA projects, which are worth 20% of their A Level.





# Secondaries & Sixth Forms

## ST JOHN'S

### Prison Me No Way

Earlier this term, our Year 9 and 10 students each had a day's experience with the charity 'Prison Me No Way', focused on making positive choices, staying safe and avoiding crime. Students got to step inside a prison cell and hear from a current prisoner about the stark realities of life in prison, as well as learning about ways to be safe in today's society. It was a fantastic experience and one we're sure our students will remember.



### Rugby World Cup Fan Village

Some of our students were lucky enough to travel to the Rugby World Cup Fan Village in Newcastle ahead of England's opening game back in October. Students met current players from the wheelchair squad, former legends of the men and women teams and were even provided with some coaching tips from former World Cup winner Jason Robinson. Students were even featured and interviewed on national news! As a school, we recently received a grant for new strips and equipment as part of a Rugby World Cup project putting funding into grassroots Rugby, as modelled here by our Year 11 team.



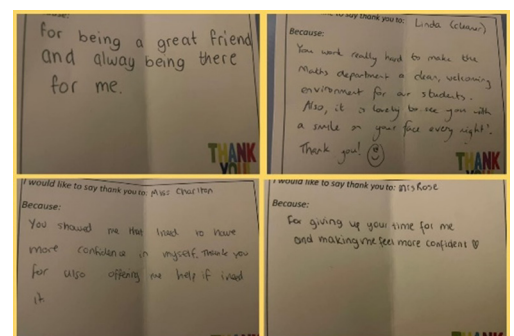
### He Knows She Knows

Back in October we welcomed the performance duo 'He Knows She Knows' into school to perform and discuss issues around mental health and body image. Our students were encouraged to get involved in the performance to increase their endorphins and then listened to a talk on ways to manage our mental health, build resilience and the importance of being kind to ourselves.



### Thankful Thursday

This term we launched a new initiative within school, Thankful Thursday, to encourage us all to take the time to be grateful for those around us. A Thankful Box was placed in the Chapel for students and staff to post thank you notes into to show their appreciation to another student or member of staff. Note cards were then delivered to staff and students each Thursday morning. The initiative was a huge success and really helped to brighten people's day.



### Aushwitz Project

At the beginning of November, four of our Year 12 students travelled to Poland to visit the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum and the town of Oswiecim as part of the Lessons from Auschwitz project. It was an emotional and eye-opening day that ended with a candlelit reflection. Students then followed the visit by speaking to a Holocaust survivor. We look forward to the students sharing their experiences with the school in their Next Steps project.



# Secondaries & Sixth Forms

## ST MICHAEL'S

### St Michael's is rated 'Good'

At the beginning of the academic year, St Michael's were visited by Ofsted. We are proud to announce that St Michael's achieved Good in all areas. The inspection was rigorous and forensic, but we are pleased that staff and students were given the opportunity to show the excellent work that they do.

### OFSTED QUOTE

*"St Michael's Catholic Academy is a caring and welcoming school. The religious ethos is evident throughout the school. Leaders seek to develop pupils in the school virtues, such as respect and compassion. Pupils are polite and courteous."*

*"Pupils are well behaved around the school. Lessons are calm and orderly. This creates a positive environment in the school."*

### St Michael's Day

To celebrate the Feast of St Michael, the academy held liturgical prayer where staff and students reflected on their memories of being part of the St Michael's community. A cake sale was held that raised money for families in need of support. The computer science department held an E-Sports competition. There were football matches on the field: Year 10 vs Year 11 and Year 8 vs Year 9 that were watched by the entire school.

### Bishop Robert's Visit

As part of his Parish Tour, Bishop Robert visited St Michael's and led Mass to a selection of our students, staff, and representatives from feeder primary schools. The Mass was held on the Feast of All Saints.

### Mental Health Workshops

St Michael's welcomes TikTok group 'He knows She Knows' to deliver mental health workshops to all year groups. The performance centred on themes of resilience, confidence, and self-esteem.

### The Care Home Legends

Thornaby Pavilion was the setting for a unique sporting occasion, as residents from 4 different care homes proved age is just a number when they tackled a number of different sporting events at the Care Homes Legends event. The pilot event, which was organised by Tees Active, Stockton Councils Transformation Team and the care homes, were fortunate to have the invaluable assistance from the Year 11 pupils from St Michaels Catholic Academy in Billingham and the Funky4Life warm up was led by Leanne Oxley from Stockton's Active Lives Team.





# Secondaries & Sixth Forms

## OUR LADY & ST BEDE

### Macmillan Coffee Morning

We hosted the annual Macmillan Coffee Morning earlier this term. A huge thank you to all our pupils and staff that provided and bought cakes. We raised a total of £572 for an amazing cause!



### Personal Development Day

In October we hosted our first of three Personal Development days. The theme of the day was "Everyone Welcome, Everyone Equal". We welcomed Middlesbrough Women's Street Watch and PC Eric who discussed important issues with the students. Pupils also spent time throughout the day reflecting on topics such as bullying, Black History Month and positive communication skills.





*Wishing you a  
Happy and Holy Christmas*



*From the Staff and Students of  
Bishop Hogarth Catholic Education Trust*

# Primaries

## BLESSED JOHN DUCKETT

### Fantastic Forests

As part of our 'Fantastic Forests' topic the whole school went on an educational visit to Hamsterley Forest. At the forest, KS2 children learnt about the different layers of the forest and built dens. EYFS and KS1 hunted for dragons, made potions and built dens. The children had a great time and can't wait to return!

### Djembe Drums

Children from Years 1 - 6 have been learning to play the djembe drums. They have thoroughly enjoyed their sessions with Mr Henderson.



## HOLY FAMILY

### Dementia Friendly School

Holy Family have been working to become a Dementia Friendly School.

Pupils in Year 4, 5 and 6 have trained to become 'Dementia Friends' and have a programme of events planned where they will visit local sheltered housing, care homes and dementia friendly events.

Dementia Friendly Communities is part of an initiative with the Alzheimer's Society and aims to spread understanding of the condition affecting many elderly members of the community.

Year 6 will be Carol singing prior to Christmas and in the New Year the Holy Family dementia friends have activities planned such as a bingo afternoon and a spring crafting together session.





# Primaries

## OUR LADY OF THE MOST HOLY ROSARY

### Service of Remembrance

On Saturday 12th November Year 5 and 6 pupils from Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Catholic Academy attended a children's Service of Remembrance at The Moline Cross in Norton. During the service, the children were given the opportunity to march with veterans, lay a poppy and pay their respects to those who have lost their lives in conflicts past and present. They performed the song 'A Wish for Peace' during the service, praying for peace throughout the world and putting the words of Matthew's gospel, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God" into action.

At the end of the service each child was presented with a gift from a veteran and the children had the opportunity to chat with veterans as well as the Mayor of Stockton. A wonderful day was had by all, and we are sure that this is an experience that the children will not forget. The children have further created their own display to the fallen.



## OUR LADY & ST THOMAS

### School Council

OLST School Council has been very active in the local community of Willington planting bulbs in the town centre. They were part of a wider Willington Town Council project to improve the environment for local people. We cannot wait to see Willington in bloom in the Springtime.

### Young Achiever Award

We are very proud of Hannah in Year 3 who has been announced as the winner of a local Young Achiever Award for her bravery. Hannah has been raising awareness of children who have bladder and bowel problems through a special teddy bear that has a stoma bag like her. Hannah has had many surgeries over the years and has recently had surgery for a stoma bag. She is raising awareness in our school and is a very special little girl. We intend to raise money for the special charity that gifts children like Hannah the teddy bears.

### Mini Vinnie's

Our Mini Vinnie's have been putting their faith into action by delivering 100 welcome cards to the Refugee and Asylum Seeker SVP Centre in Newcastle. They made the journey as reporters to find out where their food donations went and to interview the volunteers running the centre. Our children were able to spread joy and put their faith into action. Well done all.

### Anti-bullying week

Our youngest children during Anti-bullying week wearing their odd socks. They found out all about why being different from each other is important and something to celebrate. They were able to identify what made them special and unique and how important it is to always be kind to everyone even if they are very different to you.





# Primaries

## SACRED HEART

### Hartlepool Schools FA Premier League

Some of our boys' football team won the Hartlepool Schools FA Premier League. This was the second round of the tournament after we had been placed in the top league within the town. We won 5 and drew 2 of the games, not conceding a goal.



### Year 6 Residential Trip

In September, Year 6 went on their residential trip to St John's in the Vale. All had a fabulous time taking part in a number of different activities including canoeing and gorge walking.



### Remembrance Day Service

Our Year 5 children led a Remembrance Day Service at which our new parish priest, Canon Paul Douthwaite, celebrated.



### Nursery Rhyme Week

Our Nursery children were involved in a nursery rhyme week and came dressed as their favourite nursery rhyme.



### Christ the King and Youth Sunday

The school led the singing at the weekend mass, in St Joseph's Church, to celebrate Christ the King and Youth Sunday.



## ST AUGUSTINE'S

### Be Spirited - Journey Through Advent

During the first week of Advent, children prepared themselves for the coming of Jesus at Christmas with a "Journey through Advent". The school community joined us as we journeyed through the stations, listening to the scripture stories, reflecting and praying in different and creative ways. Children in Year 6 supported and guided the younger children in KS1, showing great leadership and acting with such respect and reverence.



# Primaries

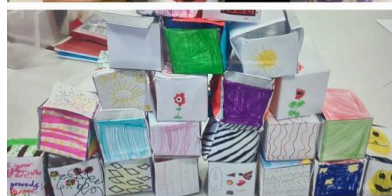
## ST BEDE'S (DARLINGTON)

### Anti-Bullying Week

Year 4 took part in the BBC live lessons for anti-bullying week. They have made kindness boxes to give a special message to someone special. They also found out how to 'reach out' if they are concerned about bullying.

### Remembrance Day

Year 3 & 4 pupils created some beautiful artwork to mark Remembrance Day.



## ST BEDE'S (STOCKTON)

### Remembrance Day

Children from St Bede's gathered to observe a 2 minute silence for Remembrance Day. Children were very respectful and also supported a Remembrance Day display by making some gorgeous poppies.

Miss Roberts shared some special artefacts from her Grandfather who fought in World War II.

### Coast to Coast

Well done to Mr Holmes, our Site Manager, for completing the Coast to Coast walk and raising £2000 for Young Lives vs Cancer. An amazing achievement!





# Primaries

## ST BEGA'S

### Remembrance Day

Some of our Remembrance Day artwork, by our pupils, is on display at the Heugh Battery Museum!

Heugh Battery Museum said: *"The pupils of St Bega's Catholic Primary School have given us the fabulous artwork that they produced for Remembrance Day. Doesn't it look great in Poppy Tea Rooms?"*

### Year 5 Dodgeball Team

A huge congratulations and well done to our Year 5 Dodgeball team, who came 2nd in the tournament at English Martyrs School, and are through to the finals!



## ST CHAD'S

### Lindisfarne Pilgrimage

We were thrilled to be asked to be part of the Lindisfarne Pilgrimage taking place. Class 4 (Year 5/6) joined the pilgrims and walked from Low Etherley to Escomb. The children passed on the flag and staff to children at Escomb school for the next leg on the journey.

All of the children in school got to see the replica of St. Cuthbert's coffin and a facsimile of the Lindisfarne Gospels. They all listened intently as the pilgrims told them the story of St. Cuthbert and the monks. They were also fascinated by the different pages and images in the Gospels.





# Primaries

## ST CHARLES'

### Bishop Robert visits St Charles'

In October, the staff and pupils of St Charles' Primary School welcomed Bishop Robert to their school for the first time. He was joined by Fr Anthony from St Charles' church as he celebrated mass and blessed the school's new prayer garden. Mass was prepared by staff and led by the Mini Vinnies. The children read and sang the hymns beautifully as Bishop Robert celebrated the Feast of Edward the Confessor.



The sun was shining as Bishop Robert enjoyed a stroll around the very special prayer garden. The children explained that the garden is a space to be still and reflect. It has different areas including special seating for prayer, a learning space, and even a vegetable patch. It has been a mammoth project that could not have come to fruition without the fantastic support and help from parishioners, local businesses, parents, grandparents, school staff and pupils.



### Visit to the Houses of Parliament

Earlier this term, Year 5 visited London including a very special trip to the Houses of Parliament. It was a new experience for many of the children as they had never visited the capital or been on a train journey. When they arrived, they enjoyed walking through the bustling city admiring the futuristic buildings before they had a photo stop at Buckingham Palace.



The children were given special access to the Houses of Parliament. It was a very special and historic day as Liz Truss resigned as Prime minister just as they arrived, the girls and boys were in awe of the amount of news cameras interviewing different MPs.



As part of the visit, they had access to the public viewing galleries of both houses where they observed live debates including an interesting discussion about climate change. They also visited the education centre to explore how people in the past and today have helped to shape the laws that are made by the UK Parliament. They examined principles of fairness and equality through an interactive voting activity. It was a unique experience for the children and very inspirational as some of them would like to work in Parliament when they grow up!

# Primaries

## ST CUTHBERT'S (HARTLEPOOL)

### Remembrance Sunday

Children from St Cuthbert's joined with the community at Stranton Cemetery on Saturday 12th November 2022 to commemorate Remembrance Sunday events across the UK. Children also planted poppies on the war graves that mark the fallen from our community. The choir sang during the service led by Mrs Wilson and Miss Grylls.



## ST CUTHBERT'S (STOCKTON)



### Remembrance Day

To commemorate Remembrance Day, children in school were involved in a range of events and activities. St Cuthbert's children joined the community choir to learn and perform a medley of wartime songs at the newly refurbished Globe theatre and some of our children participated in the Remembrance Service at Stockton's Cenotaph.

### School Visits

Earlier this term, KS1 children visited Preston Park to enrich their learning on their history topic, 'Toys through Time'. They explored the museum, attended a 'Traditional Toys' workshop and completed a nature trail around the park. The children had a fantastic day and learned lots about toys from the past.

### Football Tournament

KS2 children had the opportunity to participate in the Stockton School Sports Partnership football tournament where they were able to live out the Trust virtues of resilience, respect and self-belief. St Cuthbert's finished in fourth place and the children thoroughly enjoyed the experience.





# Primaries

## ST GREGORYS

### Brighten Up for CAFOD 2022

St Gregory's raised £167 for CAFOD's annual harvest appeal. The children wore their brightest clothes for the day and remembered those less fortunate than them.



## ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST

### Stockton Sports Partnership Tag Rugby Tournament

The boys' and the girls' teams were fabulous at the Stockton Sports Partnership Tag Rugby tournament. Our players showed excellent resilience and sportsmanship with each other; they were a credit to their families and our school. The girls came third overall and got a medal; the boys came fourth overall which is fantastic! Well done to them all!

### Faith in Action

Our Year 6 Faith in Action group have been busy wrapping and putting together shoeboxes. Thank you for your very kind donations. The students have really enjoyed completing this act of service. To quote one of our Year 6 children, *'I just feel like a really good person now'*.



# Primaries

## ST JOHN VIANNEY



### Gallery Opening

During this autumn term, we have welcomed parents, carers and parishioners back into school in numbers we have not seen since the end of 2019, before the pandemic began. Parents of our youngest children in Daycare have been able to visit the rooms and areas where their children play during the day. We had up to fifty attending Friday's Liturgical prayer led by children. And, once more, parents have attended in-person parent consultations to talk about their child's learning with teachers. It is beginning to feel normal again to see parents and other visitors around school.

Some things have changed though: some parents prefer to use online meetings with teachers as it fits better with their work and family life; parents have not returned to the playground to collect children, as our children have told us they feel safer when the playground is 'their' space; and, the electronic bells are no longer needed to keep lessons (and breaks) on time.

One thing was a bit different: we wanted a way to welcome all of our parents back to share their children learning, so for one night only, we hosted a 'Gallery Opening' showcasing the drawings, painting and sculptures created by all the children from Years 1 to 6. The Art on show ranged from: drawings of platonic solids; one-point perspectives and sculptures on the theme of 'our classroom'; primitive art, including totems of 'our family'; group portraits, with some interesting photoshopped images; two-point perspectives of local (and not so local) street scenes and sculpted 'street furniture'; as well as, sports art 'in motion'. The children thoroughly enjoyed exhibiting their work and sharing their learning with their families. It was a lovely evening, as parents looked for the next Tracey Emin and Damien Hirst and quite possibly rather than an Xbox quite a few children will be receiving pencil and paints this year from Santa.

## ST JOSEPH'S (BILLINGHAM)

### Wear it Pink Day

During this half term, St Joseph's Catholic Primary School have been focusing on helping those less fortunate than ourselves. The children donated a huge amount of food stuffs for the food bank so that our local community can be supported. They also thoroughly enjoyed dressing up in pink for 'Wear it Pink Day'. This raised an impressive amount of money for cancer charities, specifically breast cancer. The children did a lot of work around how, by supporting others, we are truly living our motto and 'Walking in the Light of Christ'.





# Primaries

## ST JOSEPH'S (COUNDON)

### Police and NHS

A great opportunity to learn about future careers in the Police and NHS following this visit from Steve, Kate and Gill. We learned so much of the varied jobs in both services and what we need to learn at school to prepare us! Plus it was great fun to sit in the van and manage the siren! Keira the German Shepherd search dog showed us her skills too. Thank you for our Police and NHS workers!



## ST JOSEPH'S (HARTLEPOOL)

### Sporting Events

The children at St. Joseph's have taken part in a number of sporting events this half term ranging from team and den building, football and cross country. Three boys qualified to represent the school in the Tees Valley Cross Country event at Middlesbrough. They showed great sportsmanship as they competed in fast paced races.

### Year of...

The school has decided to create its own Year of... This year and the theme taken from the school mission statement is 'A Global Family; Building God's Kingdom.' The aim is to celebrate the uniqueness of the cultural aspect of the school, build on the values of our country and expose the children to life, culture, careers and opportunities within this country and beyond.

Following a launch in school, The Year 5/6 children continued this theme starting closer to home when we remembered, as part of our remembrance liturgy those in the local community who died during WW1. Their wreath was laid on Remembrance Sunday by two sailors of HMS Dauntless. One of the sailors then came into school to talk about his experience of Remembrance Sunday, this year and the previous year at the Cenotaph in London, his life as a sailor and careers in the military. The children asked some very challenging questions.

### Christmas across the world

As the end of term approaches Year 3/4 continue the theme by looking at how Christmas is celebrated across the world and particularly the families of our school.



# Primaries

## ST JOSEPH'S (NEWTON AYCLIFFE)

### Newton Aycliffe PCOS

Thank you to Newton Aycliffe PCOS Team for coming to our school to speak to our Year 5 and Year 6 children about Crime and Consequences, Internet Safety, Bullying and Antisocial Behaviour. The carousel has been really useful to raise awareness to our children on what this is and how they can keep themselves safe. The children have asked lots of questions and know what a fabulous job our police do to keep us safe within the community. The children have really enjoyed getting involved in the workshop and St. Joseph's would like to thank Newton Aycliffe PCOS for a great and informative event provided to our children.



## ST JOSEPH'S (NORTON)

### Pupils at St. Joseph's Catholic Academy, Norton awarded a coveted Eco-Schools Green Flag

St Joseph's pupil eco group the 'Stewards of Creation' have earned an international accreditation, recognising their amazing work in making their school more environmentally friendly and raising eco-awareness in fellow pupils. Eco-Schools is an international education programme that prompts young people to explore sustainability and climate change and take action.

Pupils at St. Joseph's conducted an environmental review, assessing how eco-friendly their school is. They reviewed everything from the school's recycling practices, to energy usage, to how environmental themes are covered in classrooms. Building on their findings, the pupils planned a year of activities that would up their green-credentials.

The group connected their work to 3 Eco-Schools topics: Biodiversity, Marine & School Grounds. First, each member of the Stewards of Creation took responsibility for a section of our school environmental review. They spoke to their classes to see which areas we scored well in, and which needed improvement. From this we identified three areas which we thought we could work on over the course of the academic year and created an action plan.

Activities included: For Biodiversity we planted 80 trees in Allison Trainer Park, we built bird and bat boxes which were then placed in trees on the school grounds. We also build bug hotels and hedgehog houses. For Marine, we placed a ban on glitter and taught any lessons about marine environments or marine life in science and geography. For the School Grounds, we have planted an Oak Tree as part of the Queen's Jubilee Celebrations, installed a clothing recycling bank, sewed wildflower seeds and installed bird feeders as well as the bug, bird and bat houses.

Our school Eco-coordinator, explained: *"I am so proud of how hard the children have worked to achieve our targets for this academic year. They have been super ambassadors for our school when they have been working in the community and with Stockton Borough Council. Adults from other organisations have commented on their exceptional behaviour and commitment to developing sustainability in our school and local environment. They are a credit to us all."*

Myanna, a Year 4 steward said: *"I have enjoyed being a Steward of Creation. Planting trees in Allison Trainer Park, was my favourite task. I think that this will really make a difference to our local area, and I learned lots too. Building the bird boxes was fun and I found out that 'Northwest is the best' so that the wildlife have just the right amount of sun and warmth."*

Eco-Schools England Manager, Adam Flint, said: *"Earning an Eco-Schools Green Flag Award takes passion, commitment and a desire to make a difference. Pupils should be proud of their great work. They're an inspiration and it makes us feel heartened and positive about the future of our planet."*

Our Green Flag is due to be displayed on our new flagpole, in the school grounds, so that our community can see that St. Joseph's are most certainly flying the flag for a greener future.





# Primaries

## ST MARY'S (BARNARD CASTLE)

### Black History Exhibition

Thank you to everybody who came along to our Black History Exhibition in school. It was a lovely way to share the work we do across our creative curriculum, not just in the month of October dedicated to Black History but to all significant heroes, locally, nationally and historically. The exhibition was a celebration of work from nursery to Year 6, linking to our whole school topic this term; Aspire and Inspire. It was a creative way to share the work with parents and our wider community and it was wonderful to see parents, children with their siblings and also governors at the exhibition. Well done everybody.



## ST MARY'S (NEWTON AYCLIFFE)

### Newton Aycliffe Police Christmas Tree Decorating Competition

The school took part in the Newton Aycliffe Police Christmas tree decorating competition. The tree had to be decorated to reflect the theme of Unity and Inclusion. Whilst we didn't win we were awarded a Certificate of Commendation.

### Christmas Extravanga

Our Mini Police helping to promote the town Christmas Extravanga and sell raffle tickets for the Community Spirit and Newton Aycliffe Police appeal. Half the money raised through ticket sales by each school is gifted back to the school. St Mary's set a target of selling 1000 tickets so we could raise £500 for outdoor play and learning equipment. So far, we have sold in excess of 1100 tickets. The students also did a bucket collection and raised £280 towards buying equipment for outdoor play and learning in school.





# Primaries

## ST PATRICK'S

### Y5 Wild Camp

Our Y5 children completed an overnight camp Thursday/Friday which included a walk from Claybank to the Lordstones via the Wainstones. They then camped in the woods after erecting their own tents.

A memorable experience for all involved.

### Football

On Saturday, our football team played in a football final at Victoria Park, home of Hartlepool United. After a tense game where it finished 1-1 the children were unfortunate to lose on the lottery that was penalties. They all handled the disappoint superbly and we are all extremely proud of them.



## ST PAUL'S

### Thrive Approach

St Paul's are very proud to have adopted the Thrive Approach into our school day.

We recognise the need for staff and children to be encouraged and supported to look after their mental health and well-being. We now have a school offer of support which outlines the provision in place to ensure that our whole school community is able to thrive.

Mrs Peacock, Deputy Head and SENDCo has recently achieved a Level 4 certificate in Mental Health Aware Leadership (RQF) (Education) and is our licenced Thrive Practitioner.

To support the Thrive Approach we are also a Forest School and offer this as part of our enriched curriculum offer as well as extended school provision. This has a great impact on our children's mental health and well-being and is a fantastic way to embed our Trust Virtues.





# Primaries

## ST TERESA'S (DARLINGTON) **seven stories** National Centre for Children's Books

### Seven Stories

St Teresa's are delighted to be working in partnership with Seven Stories in Newcastle. Our Reading Squad embraced their Christmas spirit early this year, they met author Lauren Childs and all received a signed copy of her new Christmas Story 'Think like an Elf'. The story is the inspiration behind the Fenwick Christmas Window display. Class 7 have embarked on a 10-week creative voyage exploring the book 'Journey to the Sea'. They travelled to the Newcastle City Library, here they were able to explore some of the archive that Seven Stories hold, they were fascinated to enter a very chilly room where original artwork and books are stored! Another visit to Seven Stories enabled the children travel to Brazil! They were immersed in a market near to the Amazon! Books are certainly brought alive at St Teresa's!



## ST TERESA'S (HARTLEPOOL)

### Remembrance Day

We held a Remembrance Day service in school and one pupil played the Last Post for us and other children wore their brownie, scout and guides uniforms and one child was so proud to wear his cadet's uniform. The children worked to create a beautiful remembrance feature in our peace garden.

### Giving Tree

Our Mini Vinnies are collecting gifts for children around Hartlepool with a Giving Tree. We have been amazed by the generosity and kindness of our parents and staff and we have had to replenish the tree with gift tags several times.

### Anti Bullying Week

We celebrated anti bullying week in school where we agreed to 'reach out' to each other and put an end to bullying. The children enjoyed an odd socks day recognising that it's good to be different and we all have our own differences.





# Primaries

## ST WILFRID'S

### 50 years on Murphy Crescent

In October St Wilfrid's celebrated 50 years on Murphy Crescent. Our school building was built in 1972 and the school community moved from the centre of town where it had been for many years. So on 12th October, St Wilfrid's feast day. We had an open afternoon for families and staff past and present. Everyone enjoyed looking at old photos and catching up with old friends

### Spanish Gallery

We've also taken part in some great art activities. Years 5 and 6 went to the Spanish Gallery to see the art work, in particular the Dali then produced a light installation that was displayed in the market place.

### John and Dorothy Cornish

Year 2 were lucky enough to meet John and Dorothy Cornish as part of their art topic on the artist Norman Cornish who lived locally. John Cornish told lots of stories about his late Father, Norman and the children enjoyed looking at many more of Norman's paintings.



## ST WILLIAM'S

### Go Well football league

St William's Key Stage 2 Football Team have been competing in the Go Well football league against other local teams. In the final week of the competition we managed to turn our 2nd place into 1st after scoring an amazing 12 goals over our last two games. A fantastic achievement for all involved!









# Bishop Hogarth

## Catholic Education Trust

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