

St Bede's Newsletter

Welcome to St Bede's...



Attendance up to 23/05/25

Y1	Y1/2	Y2	Y3	Y3/4	Y4	Y5	Y5/6	Y6
95.74	93.56	97.04	96.64	97.40	94	97.28	94.49	96.81

This week's events...

Wednesday 4th June

- Bikeability Y5
- Building confidence Y6
- Reception 2025 New Starters meeting 3.30pm

Thursday 5th June

- Carmel staff Y6 transition discussion/presentation in school (children only)
- Festival of Choirs at Carmel 5pm

Coming soon...

Monday 9th June

- Phonics screening check week Y1
- Year 5 & 6 first aid workshop

Tuesday 10th June

- UKS2 Primary Athletics @ Eastbourne Sports Complex
- Y3 Class assembly 9.15am

Wednesday 11th June

Bikeability Y5

You can now view our latest curriculum newsletter on our website
<https://stbedesdarlington.bhcet.org.uk/curriculum/subjects/computing>



Our Safeguarding Focus This Week...

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about **THREADS**

Developed by Meta – the company behind Instagram and Facebook – Threads is a clear rival of X (formerly known as Twitter) in that it's a text-based conversation platform with a character limit and the option to include links, photos and short videos. Threads is connected to a user's Instagram account, and their followers and favourite creators are imported to the platform.

AGE RESTRICTION
12+
However, Threads' reliance on an Instagram login effectively makes it 13+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

DIFFERING OPINIONS

So far there has been relatively little negativity on Threads. Meta claims they will encourage friendly, positive engagements, but haven't yet specified how they plan to moderate this. As we have already seen on the likes of Twitter and Facebook, any app where users can talk freely about topics meaningful to them also contains the possibility of offence being caused or hatred being spread.

AIMLESS SCROLLING

Threads doesn't currently have the facility to search for content – only for other users. Someone's feed, therefore, is made up of either threads from people they follow or content that Meta's algorithms have recommended. This could result in users absent-mindedly scrolling for long periods of time through nothing of particular interest, in search of that feeling of connectedness.

STUCK WITH AN ACCOUNT

As Threads is linked to a user's Instagram account, it's comparatively tricky for someone to completely remove their Threads profile without automatically deleting their Instagram as well. Most users of Instagram, having spent considerable time building up a bank of followers and posts, will not want to lose them and could therefore feel pressured into keeping their Threads account active.

OPEN NETWORKING PROTOCOLS

reportedly, Meta's plan is for Threads to be compatible with the ActivityPub feature, which will allow users to connect and share content more easily across different apps. Therefore, if your Threads account is set to 'public', your posts will be accessible from other linked apps when this feature is activated. What's more, people using these compatible apps will be able to interact with Threads users without needing an account of their own.

DATA COLLECTION

In Threads' privacy policy, Meta states that certain data about users will be collected and linked to that person's identity, including details relating to health and fitness, financial information, browsing history, usage data, purchases, location, and contacts. This can paint a very vivid picture of a user's life, and Meta does not explain why it needs all this information.

THE USER IS THE PRODUCT

Threads' tracking of every interaction, engagement and activity can make the platform feel like a sophisticated data-collection tool. There are no adverts at the moment, but – given the sheer volume of information being gathered and Meta's history of selling data for advertising purposes – it may not be long before ads start appearing on young people's Threads feeds.

Advice for Parents & Educators

READ THE SMALL PRINT

Privacy policies for apps are usually long and probably the last thing young people read (if at all) when signing up for a trending new platform. However, we'd advise you to look through Threads' policy and see if you agree with this level of data collection being applied to a child's account. Think critically about why Meta needs all that personal information, where it goes and what could be done with it.

HIDE THE LIKES COUNT

Research has shown that young users often feel anxiety over how many likes they receive for their social media posts – and question whether this reflects their real-world popularity. Through the settings menu, Threads allows users to hide the likes counter on their own posts and others. While posts will no longer display an exact number of likes, they'll still show the names of users who did leave a like.

MAKE USE OF FILTERS

Like Instagram, Threads has an option to hide replies that contain offensive words, phrases or emojis. These are predetermined by Meta, but you can also customise the list with terms that you deem offensive or which you don't think are suitable for children. Furthermore, due to the connection between Instagram and Threads, words that you select to screen out on one will also be hidden on the other.

GO PRIVATE, AND STAY ALERT

Even if a child's Instagram account is already set to private, they'll need to select this option again in Threads. In fact, it's one of the first things the app asks at sign up. Users can also choose who is allowed to mention them by name in comments. As Threads' number of features increases, so will opportunities for potentially harmful content to slip through the net – so keep an eye out for any such material.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing Internet use and setting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA, and Australia.

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2022/jul/18/instagram-app-privacy-user-data-meta-policy> | <https://www.com/2022/06/privacy-concerns-threads-meta/> | <https://about.com/news/2022/07/08/threads-new-app-set-shooting/>

Click here to view our school calendar and make sure you are up to date on upcoming activities and events until the end of the school year

<https://stbedesdarlington.bhcet.org.uk/school-calendar>



SPORT



We'd like to share some of our St. Bede's children's sporting achievements outside of school

Hayden's football team won the under 8's all stars tournament on Saturday.

Freddy came 1st in his gymnastics competition last week.

Aliya took part in the One Tournament National in Sheffield Darlington Locomotives Under 9's girls football team.

Ivy and Martha successfully completed their MMA grading and advanced to the next rank.

SCHOOL SPORTS DAY

FRIDAY 20TH JUNE

Provisional date in case of inclement weather will be Tue 24th June

We look forward to welcoming parents, carers and families onto the school field for sports day. The times for each key stage are below.

EYFS 9.30am-10.30am - KS1 11am-12pm
LKS2 1pm-2pm - UKS2 2pm-3pm



Reminder - no photos or videos please



Congratulations to Miss Moss on the birth of her beautiful baby boy last week. Welcome to our St Bede's family

Mark your Calendar

As we approach the end of another school year there are a few important dates coming up which we want to remind you about

- 20th June** - Sports Day
- 25th June** - Secondary transition days
- 26th - 27th June** - Carmel transition Days
- 1st July** - Y6 Residential
- 4th July** - Colour Run
- 9th July** - Leavers Presentation/Talent show
- 11th July** - Summer Fayre
- 14th July** - Class transition week
- 17th July** - Pride of St. Bedes (pupils only)

Please refer to full calendar for other important dates
<https://stbedesdarlington.bhcet.org.uk/school-calendar>



It is with great pride that we are able to announce that St Bede's has been awarded the GOLD School Games Mark for our commitment and engagement in the school games for 24-25. A special thank you to Miss Armstrong for her INCREDIBLE work behind the scenes to ensure our children get to experience as many opportunities as possible and for ensuring we achieved the Gold Award

P.E. TIMETABLE - SUMMER 2

Day	Morning sessions 9-10, 10-11		Afternoon Sessions 1-2, 2-3		After school club
Monday					
Tuesday	Y2	Nursery	Y4 class swimming 03.06 only Y4s from Y3/4 swimming Y6 swimming (from 10/06)	Y1/2	
Wednesday					
Thursday	Y4	Reception	Y1	Y3/4	Sporting Futures- KS1 Football (no club 12.06- football match)
Friday Celebration Assembly PM	Y3	Y5	Y5/6	Y6	Sporting Futures – KS2 Football (no club 06.06- football match)

Y6 swimming is for children who have received a letter only