



# St. Bede's Catholic School and Byron Sixth Form College

*'Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world ablaze'*

## Newsletter: Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2026

### Faith

In this Sunday's Gospel (Matthew 13:24-43), Jesus tells us that the kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, tiny, almost unnoticed, yet capable of becoming something strong and life-giving. He also reminds us that wheat and weeds grow together, and that God is patient with us as we learn, grow, and make mistakes. As we reach the end of the school year, this Gospel invites us to look back and recognise the "mustard seeds" planted in our community: small acts of kindness, moments of courage, new friendships, fresh starts, and quiet perseverance. Not every day has been perfect, but God sees the good growing in us even when we don't. The year may be ending, but the growth continues. Over the summer, may we carry forward the seeds of faith, hope, and compassion that have taken root here. And when we return, may we keep building God's kingdom, one small act at a time.



## RESPONSIBILITY – DETERMINATION – CITIZENSHIP – RESPECT

### Race For Life Success

Congratulations to Lucy Baker, Lucy Pennick, Tianna Taylor and Grace Scott, who took part in the Race for Life Mud Run on Saturday 27th in aid of Cancer Research UK.

The students showed fantastic determination, resilience and community spirit, raising an impressive £540 for this worthwhile cause. Their efforts will help support vital cancer research and make a real difference to the lives of those affected by cancer.

We are incredibly proud of their achievement and commitment to helping others. Well done girls!



### St Bede's Celebrates England Star Katie

Everyone at St Bede's is incredibly proud of Katie following her fantastic achievement of representing England Under-15s.

In November, Katie made her England debut and earned three international caps against Turkey, Iceland and Germany—an incredible milestone and a testament to the dedication, commitment and hard work she has shown over many years.

To recognise this outstanding achievement, Katie was presented with a framed England shirt, commemorating a moment that she, her family and our school can be immensely proud of.

Katie's success is a reflection of the countless hours she has spent developing her game, her determination to keep improving, and the positive attitude she brings every day. She is a wonderful role model for younger students, proving that with passion, resilience and hard work, dreams really can become reality.

Congratulations, Katie, on this fantastic achievement. We are all incredibly proud of you and can't wait to see what the future holds as your football journey continues.



### Golden Performance for Isabel

Isabel Wood, along with her fellow gymnasts, proudly represented Seaham Gymnastics Club at a gymnastics competition held in Newton Aycliffe on 27 June.

Isabel achieved an outstanding result, placing 1st in her age category for both her floor routine and vault. This is a fantastic accomplishment and a testament to her hard work, dedication, and perseverance.

We are incredibly proud of her commitment, courage, and determination to take part and perform so well. Well done, Isabel!





## RESPONSIBILITY – DETERMINATION – CITIZENSHIP – RESPECT

### Year 11 Prom at Ramside Hall

Our Year 11 Prom at Ramside Hall was a truly memorable evening and the perfect way to celebrate the end of an important chapter in our students' lives.

Students arrived in style, dressed in their finest outfits and ready to enjoy a fantastic night with friends and staff.

We would like to thank all the staff who helped organise the event and made the evening such a success. Most importantly, we congratulate our Year 11 students for their hard work, resilience, and achievements throughout their school journey. We wish them every success in the future and hope they look back on their prom night at Ramside Hall with fond memories for years to come.

Good luck, Year 11 – your next adventure awaits!







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## RESPONSIBILITY – DETERMINATION – CITIZENSHIP – RESPECT

### Daniel Stevens: Sporting Leadership

We are proud to recognise Daniel Stevens for his contribution to school sport this year. Daniel has been a fantastic help in organising sporting events in our primary schools and at St Bede's, showing responsibility, commitment and leadership throughout. He has represented our school community brilliantly and should be very proud of his achievements.

### Cricket Commitment

Congratulations to Elliot Mitchell and Ollie Crawford for their dedication to cricket with Dawdon Cricket Club this year. Their hard work, teamwork and enthusiasm have been excellent examples of community sport. We are especially pleased to celebrate Elliot's community spirit, captured in a recent photograph shared by his mam. Well done to both students on their excellent commitment and achievements.



### Work Experience at Nissan

We are proud of Mathew Robson, who recently completed a work experience placement at Nissan Sunderland. During his time there, he shadowed maintenance engineers, gained hands-on experience repairing a robot, and learned about engineering careers within the factory.

The experience has strengthened Mathew's ambition to pursue a career in maintenance engineering and hopefully join Nissan's apprenticeship programme in the future.



### Sponsored Work Success

This week, Years 7, 8 and 9 laced up their trainers and completed the St Bede's Sponsored Walk and Run — a brilliant display of teamwork, resilience and school spirit. Each year group took on the challenge on different days, turning the route into a lively mix of laughter, encouragement and determination.

Students described the walk as "fun", "surprisingly relaxing", and even "the best part of the week", proving that a long walk can bring out the very best in our young people. Staff were equally impressed, noting how supportive students were of one another and how proudly they represented the school.

Congratulations to all our walkers and runners — you've made this week something special.

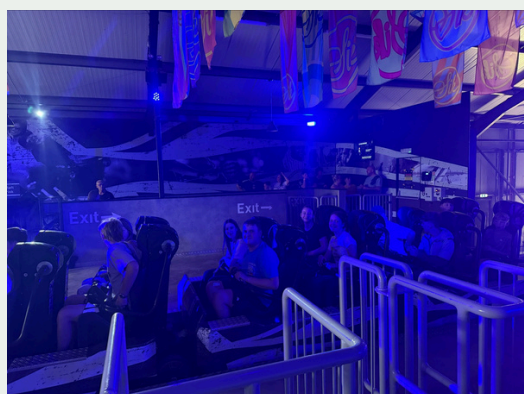




## RESPONSIBILITY – DETERMINATION – CITIZENSHIP – RESPECT

### Flamingo Land Trip

Our reward trip to Flamingo Land was a huge success and a wonderful way to celebrate the hard work, commitment and achievements of our students. The day would not have been possible without the excellent support of our staff, whose enthusiasm and dedication helped ensure that everything ran smoothly. Most importantly, our students were an absolute credit to St Bede's, demonstrating impeccable behaviour throughout the day and receiving praise wherever they went. Despite the unexpected challenge of one of the buses being delayed back to school, the students affected showed remarkable patience, resilience and maturity, never complaining and maintaining a positive attitude throughout. It was fantastic to see everyone enjoying themselves and making lasting memories. Every student who attended did us proud, and we very much hope to return next year for another unforgettable day!





## RESPONSIBILITY – DETERMINATION – CITIZENSHIP – RESPECT

### Sports Day 2026: A Celebration of Team Spirit and Standout Performances

St Bede's Sports Day brought sunshine, determination, and the kind of joyful competitiveness that makes our house system feel alive. Students from Hilda, Columba, and Oswald filled the field with energy from the first race to the final relay, cheering each other on with the unmistakable warmth of our school community.

After a full day of sprints, long jumps, throws, and team events, the points were tallied — and the results could not have been closer.

#### Final Standings

- Hilda – 1st Place — 237 points

A day of consistency, teamwork, and standout individual performances secured Hilda the top spot. Their spirit never dipped, and their final relay win sealed the victory.

- Columba – 2nd Place — 233 points

Just four points behind, Columba delivered some of the strongest track results of the day. Their determination kept the competition thrilling right to the final whistle.

- Oswald – 3rd Place — 179 points

Oswald brought heart, humour, and resilience to every event. Their teamwork in the field events was a highlight, and their sportsmanship shone throughout.

Sports Day wasn't just about medals — it was about celebrating effort, encouraging one another, and enjoying a shared moment of school pride. Whether students were racing, officiating, or cheering from the sidelines, every contribution made the day special.







## RESPONSIBILITY – DETERMINATION – CITIZENSHIP – RESPECT







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### Year 10 End of Year Rewards Assembly

Prior to Year 10 beginning their Work Experience placements, we took the opportunity to celebrate the fantastic achievements, commitment, and progress they have shown throughout the year.

During our Year 10 End of Year Rewards Assembly, students were recognised for a wide range of accomplishments. Subject Awards were presented to students who have demonstrated outstanding effort, achievement, and dedication within their individual subjects.

Attendance Awards were also given to those students whose commitment to attending school regularly has supported their success and set an excellent example to others.

We were also delighted to present our ABLAZE Awards, recognising students who have consistently embodied our school values through their attitude, resilience, determination, and contribution to school life.

A particular highlight of the assembly was the presentation of three exclusive Purple Prom Tickets. These tickets were awarded to three students across the three houses who have demonstrated exceptional behaviour, commitment, and conduct throughout the year, guaranteeing them some of the very first places at next year's Year 11 Prom.

The assembly was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the many successes within the year group before students embark on their work experience placements. We are incredibly proud of Year 10 and look forward to hearing about their experiences and achievements when they return.

Well done to all of our award winners and best of luck to Year 10 on their Work Experience placements!





## RESPONSIBILITY – DETERMINATION – CITIZENSHIP – RESPECT

### Leisure Centre Trip

Our Year 7, 8 and 9 students recently enjoyed a fantastic trip to the leisure centre, where they took part in a range of activities, including swimming and bowling. The day was filled with fun, laughter and lots of smiles as students spent time with their friends and enjoyed trying different activities. It was a wonderful way to celebrate the end of the school year and recognise all of the hard work and achievements of our students. A great day was had by all!



### PE Kit Update

Thank you to all students, parents and carers for a fantastic year. As we look ahead to next academic year, our PE kit can be purchased through Total Sport North East using the link below:

<https://totalsport.co.uk/collections/st-bedes>

Students entering Years 8, 9, 10 and 11 are welcome to purchase the new PE kit. However, existing students may continue to wear their current St Bede's PE kit if they prefer.

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to another successful year of physical education at St Bede's.



**Monday 20th July 2026**

**10am - 12pm**

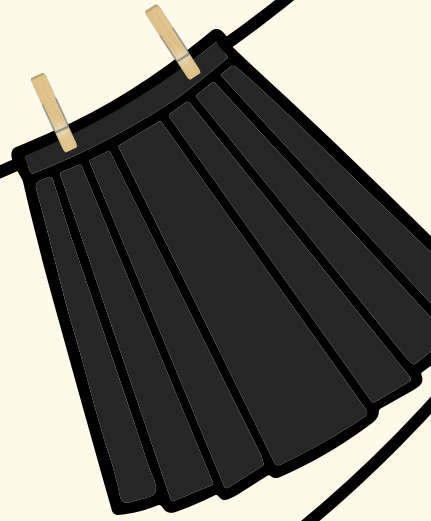
**Please enter via Main Reception**

**St Bede's**

**Swap**

**Shop**

**Pick up quality pre-loved school uniform for free. A way to save money, reduce waste, and give uniform a second life.**







## Key Dates

### September return dates:

- Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September - INSET DAY (school closed to pupils)
- Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September - Year 7, 11 & 12 students return
- Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September - Year 8, 9, 10 & 13 students return

## Safeguarding

### Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

#### Designated safeguarding leads:



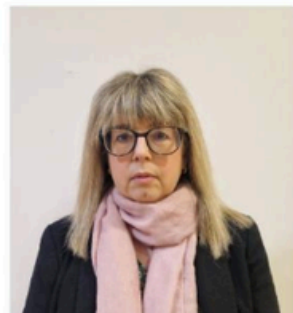
**Mr Logan**  
Designated  
Safeguarding Lead



**Mrs Cessford**  
Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead



**Mrs Robinson**  
Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead



**Mrs Ord**  
Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead

## Home and School Links

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**Website:** [www.st-bedes.org](http://www.st-bedes.org)  
**Facebook:** [StBedesandByron](https://www.facebook.com/StBedesandByron)

**Our Parish:** Our Lady of the Rosary in Peterlee and Horden  
**Our Diocese:** Hexham & Newcastle

