



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 16th October 2026

Faith

In this week's Gospel (Matthew 22:15-21), Jesus reminds us to give to God what belongs to God. While we all have responsibilities in our daily lives, we are called to remember that our greatest commitment is to God. By showing kindness, respect, and using our gifts to serve others, we reflect God's image and help build a caring school community.

House Awards

Hilda Student of the Week: **Emily M (8H2)**
Hilda Highest Credits: **Isabel W (9H2)**
Hilda Attendance Hero: **Jorja B (7H1)**

Oswald Student of the Week: **Maya H (7O1) and Lucas S (10O1)**
Oswald Highest Credits: **Keaton H-S (8O1)**
Oswald Attendance Hero: **Rose S (7O2)**

Columba Student of the Week: **Savannah M (7C1)**
Columba Highest Credits: **Dante D (7C1)**
Columba Attendance Hero: **Oliver D (9C1)**



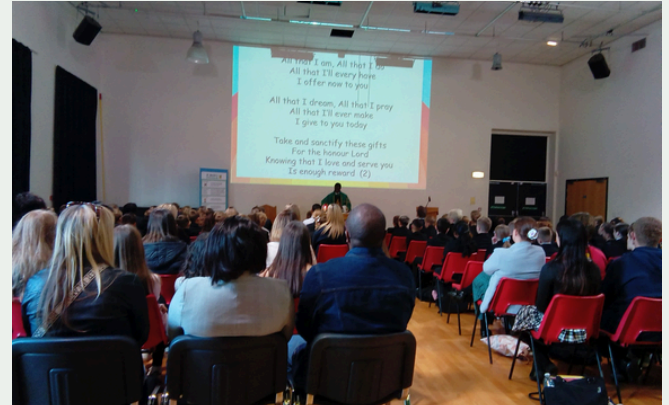
RESPONSIBILITY – DETERMINATION – CITIZENSHIP – RESPECT

Year 7/12 Welcome Mass

This week, we gathered together as a school community to celebrate a special Welcome Mass for our Year 7 and Year 12 students, led by Fr Charles.

It was a wonderful opportunity to welcome our newest students as they begin their journey with us and to recognise our Year 12 students as they take on their important role as senior members of our school community.

We look forward to a year filled with faith, learning, friendship, and success for all.



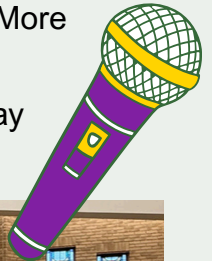
Bede's Voices

A few members of Bede's Voices were privileged to attend and participate in a workshop led by The Sixteen- a professional, world class choral group at St Mary's Cathedral, Middlesbrough. It was a real joy to hear a varied choral repertoire perform by the group and students even had the opportunity to sing two pieces alongside choir which was awesome.

Ariadne said - A unique afternoon of meeting professional singers and getting work with musicians.

Sam said I enjoyed the new pieces - Let me walk in peace by Will Todd and Melanie DeMore Blessed be.

Rose said I loved hearing the Sixteen performing pieces from 16th century to modern day composers.



Year 11 and their families take part in Revision Carousel

In its second year, our Revision Carousel has continued to be extremely popular with pupils and parents/carers alike, exploring some of the most impactful and relevant revision strategies for each subject. Carousel sessions covered revision timetables, flash cards, past papers and many more key areas - feedback has been extremely positive, and we look forward to holding similar events in the future. Thank you to all those parents/carers who attended - working together will allow pupils to achieve the grades they want, need and deserve for their next steps!



RESPONSIBILITY – DETERMINATION – CITIZENSHIP – RESPECT

Staying Well This Autumn: Supporting Your Child's Health and Attendance

As the autumn weather arrives and the days become cooler, it is common for coughs, colds and seasonal illnesses to increase. We know that children learn best when they are healthy, happy and able to attend school regularly. There are many simple steps families can take to help keep children well throughout the autumn and winter months.

Healthy Habits Make a Big Difference

Encourage your child to:

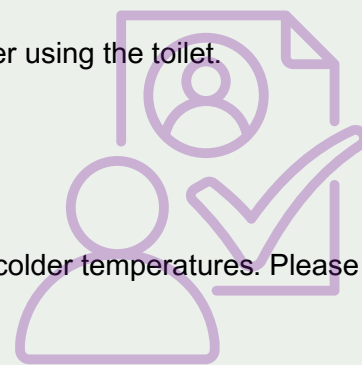
Wash their hands regularly with soap and water, especially before eating and after using the toilet.

Catch coughs and sneezes in a tissue and dispose of it straight away.

Get plenty of sleep each night to help their body fight off infections.

Eat a balanced diet with lots of fruit and vegetables.

Drink plenty of water throughout the day.



Dress for the Weather

Autumn weather can be unpredictable, with chilly mornings, wet afternoons and colder temperatures. Please ensure your child:

Brings a suitable waterproof coat to school.

Wears the correct school uniform, including any approved outdoor clothing.

Has appropriate footwear for wet weather.

Being prepared for the elements helps children stay comfortable and ready to learn.

Keep Active

Even when the weather turns colder, regular physical activity remains important. Exercise supports physical health, mental wellbeing and immune function. Encourage your child to spend time outdoors, participate in sports and stay active whenever possible.

Flu Vaccinations

Children may be offered a flu vaccination through the school-age immunisation programme. The flu vaccine helps protect against seasonal influenza and reduces the risk of spreading the virus to vulnerable family members and friends.

When Should My Child Stay at Home?

If your child is unwell, please follow NHS guidance regarding school attendance. Children should remain at home if they have:

A high temperature (fever).

Vomiting or diarrhoea.

Other contagious illnesses where exclusion is recommended.

Many common coughs, colds and mild illnesses do not require children to stay off school if they are otherwise well enough to attend.

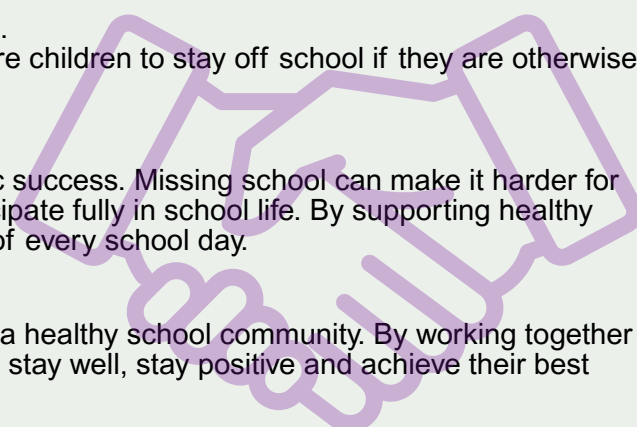
The Importance of Good Attendance

Regular attendance is one of the biggest factors in academic success. Missing school can make it harder for children to keep up with learning, build friendships and participate fully in school life. By supporting healthy routines at home, you are helping your child make the most of every school day.

Working Together

Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain a healthy school community. By working together and encouraging healthy habits, we can help all our students stay well, stay positive and achieve their best throughout the autumn term.

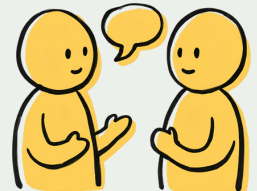
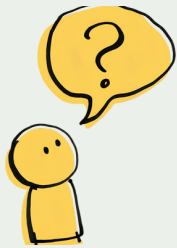
Let's make this a healthy and successful autumn for everyone!



RESPONSIBILITY – DETERMINATION – CITIZENSHIP – RESPECT

Celebrating Columba House Student Leadership

A huge congratulations to our newly appointed Columba House Captains: Elise P, Ava H, Lola M and Jokubas K! The standard of applications this year was absolutely brilliant, and every student who put themselves forward should be incredibly proud. Our House Captains will play an important role in representing Columba House, promoting our House values, supporting and encouraging fellow students, and helping to lead House events and activities throughout the year.



We would also like to congratulate our successful Columba Student Council Representatives: Jacob M, Ava R, Polly S, Macie D, Ruth C and Mercy S. As Student Council representatives, they will be a voice for their fellow students, sharing ideas and views, helping to bring about positive changes, and ensuring that students have a say in school life.



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English Excellence

Each week, we recognise students who have gone above and beyond in their English lessons. Whether through outstanding classwork, excellent effort, thoughtful contributions, or remarkable progress, these students have truly shone. Congratulations to this week's English Stars!

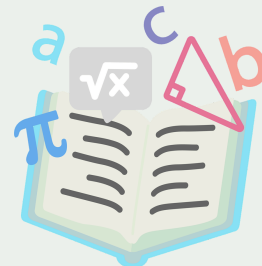
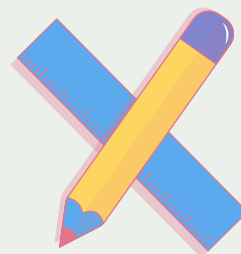
Miss Barkley- **Lilly P (11SHO)**
Mr Johnson- **Leo W (10O1)**
Miss Hamilton- **Macie D (8C2)**
Mrs Wild- **Isla S (9H2)**
Mrs Dolan- **Esmee W (8H1)**
Mrs Cook- **Success E (10O3)**
Miss Milburn- **Robyn S (9H2)**



Maths Wall of Legends

We are very proud to unveil this week's Maths Legends who have appeared on the Wall of Legends this week and will be named on our permanent Roll of Honour from next September. They meet the St. Bede's Standard in their books, demonstrate respect and determination in lessons and are role models for other pupils. Well done - keep it up! An exceptional week for pupils in the House of St. Hilda - the wall is red this week!

Mr Fowler- **Bailey B (9H1)**
Miss Houghton- **Sebastian T (10H1)**
Mrs Keniry- **Chiko W (9H1)**
Miss Scott- **Lyra L (7H1)**
Mr Taylor- **Oscar S (10O3)**
Dr Treanor- **Phoebe R (8H1)**

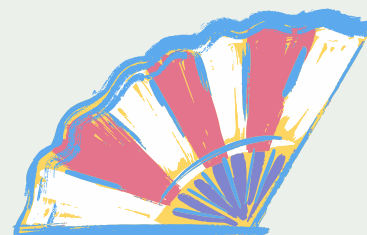


Spanish Stars

We are delighted to announce this week's Expertos de Español! These students have stood out to their teachers in Spanish lessons this week through their hard work, enthusiasm, and commitment to learning. ¡Enhorabuena!

Señorita García- Charlie D (9H1)- Amazing progress in Spanish and excellent writing in her last assessment. Amazing work in lessons and outstanding knowledge in Spanish lessons.

Señorita Atkinson- Annabelle T (8H2)- Excellent engagement and attitude for learning in lessons and an outstanding extended piece of writing about her favourite celebrity in her Spanish assessment.



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Musicians of the Week

We are delighted to celebrate our Musicians of the Week, who have demonstrated outstanding commitment, enthusiasm and progress in their music lessons and musical activities. Whether through excellent performance, dedication to practice or a positive attitude, these students have truly earned recognition for their efforts. Well done to all of our talented musicians!

Mr Robinson:

Year 7- **Lucy G (7H1)** excellent leadership of percussion group for key task performance.

Year 8 - **Sophie T (8C2)** creative melody composition

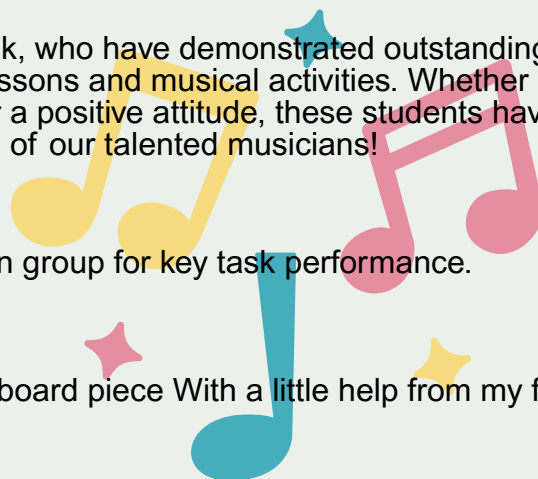
Year 9 - **Isabel W (9H2)** persistence in rehearsal of keyboard piece 'With a little help from my friends'

Mr Teasdale:

Year 7- **Zack L (7O1)** for his fantastic engagement in music lessons, being a great leader for his group on the Djembe drums

Year 8- **Jacob M (8C1)** fantastic compositional work on his 8 - Bar melody. Made a really complex piece of music.

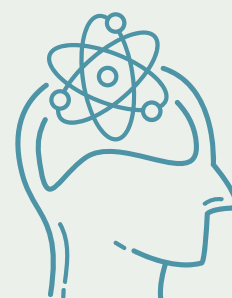
Year 9- **Brody G (9H1)** Amazing start for learning the piece 'With a little help from my friends' by the Beatles.



Lab coat Legends

In science we want to award and celebrate the excellent effort put in by our different students. Working hard in science lessons builds problem-solving skills, encourages curiosity, and helps students understand the world around them. It shows determination by often involving analysing complex problems, predicting outcomes and conducting Experiments.

Mr Day- **Lucy B (10C1)**
Mr Moss- **Moses (13CH1)**
Mr Gooch- **Grace S (10O3)**
Mrs Hayward- **Charlie T (11LHA)**
Mrs Lord- **Darrell H (9O1)**
Mr Bowyer- **Myla W (8C2)**
Miss Armstrong- **Kyla O (10H2)**



Humanities Students of the week

The following students have been recognised this week by their Geography and History teachers as working really hard and producing excellent work in their lessons. Well Done.

History Heroes:

Miss Jackson- **Isabelle H (11JMI)**
Mr Johnson- **Grace S (10O3)**
Ms Laverick- **Dolcy L (9H2)**

Map Masters:

Miss Scott- **Iyla A (10C1)**
Mr Harper- **Gabriella S (8H1)**
Mrs Martin- **Lucy K (11JMI)**



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England U16 Call-Up for Katie

We are delighted to share that Year 11 student Katie has been selected for the England Women's U16 squad for their International Fixture Camp in Kansas City, USA, from 22nd-31st October 2026.

During the camp, Katie and her England teammates will face the USA in two international fixtures, providing another fantastic opportunity to represent her country.

This call-up follows an outstanding season with Sunderland U21s, where Katie has scored five goals and, at just 15 years old, has been offered a Professional Game Academy (PGA) contract. Having already earned three England caps, she continues to go from strength to strength.

Katie's dedication, talent and determination are an inspiration, and everyone at St Bede's is incredibly proud of her achievements. We wish her and the England squad every success in the USA and will be cheering them on all the way.

Congratulations, Katie!



Taking to the Skies

On 1 October 2026, Ayomiposi had the exciting opportunity to take part in an Air Experience Flying event with 1932 (Blackhall) Squadron Air Training Corps.

The flying experience formed part of the educational opportunities offered through the Air Training Corps, allowing participants to develop their knowledge of aviation while gaining first-hand experience of flight.

Ayomiposi thoroughly enjoyed the day and had a fantastic time taking to the skies. We are delighted to share these photographs and celebrate this memorable achievement. Well done, Ayomiposi, on making the most of this unique opportunity!



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Homework Importance

Completing homework is important because it helps students reinforce what they have learned in class, deepen their understanding of subjects, and prepare for assessments and GCSE examinations. It also develops essential life skills such as time management, organisation, independence, and responsibility. Regular completion of homework can boost confidence, improve academic achievement, and establish positive study habits that support future success.

Last week, 12% of students failed to complete at least one piece of homework. As all students are set homework each evening, it is important that they develop a consistent routine for completing and submitting work on time. Students who persistently fail to complete homework will be required to attend supported lunchtime homework sessions, where staff will provide guidance and assistance to help them meet expectations and make progress in their learning.



Trust Parent and Pupil Surveys

We are pleased to let you know that our Trust Parent and Pupil Surveys are now live.

The feedback gathered through these surveys plays a vital role in helping us understand the experiences of our pupils and families, celebrate our strengths, and identify areas where we can continue to improve. The information collected will also contribute to the Trust's Pupil Opportunities Index, helping to shape future developments and opportunities across our schools.

We encourage all parents and carers to complete the Parent Survey and to support their child in completing the Pupil Survey. The more responses we receive, the more representative and valuable the feedback will be.

The surveys will remain open throughout the academic year, with results reviewed and reported on a termly basis.



Parent Survey

Parent Survey



Pupil Survey

Pupil Survey



RESPONSIBILITY – DETERMINATION – CITIZENSHIP – RESPECT

Career of the Week: Software Developer

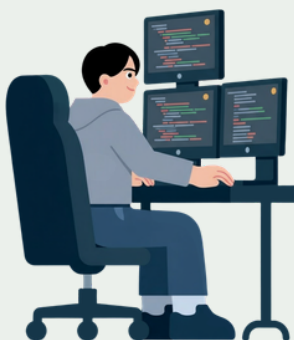
Could you create the technology of tomorrow?

Software Developers design, build and improve the software that powers our everyday lives. They may create apps, websites, computer games, business systems or specialist software used by businesses and organisations around the world. It is a career that combines technical knowledge with creativity, innovation and problem-solving skills.

As technology continues to develop, Software Developers are in high demand across a wide range of industries, including healthcare, finance, manufacturing, retail and the creative sector. Whether developing the next popular app or creating software that helps businesses operate more efficiently, Software Developers play a vital role in shaping the future.

Key Skills

- Problem-solving
- Logical thinking
- Creativity
- Communication
- Teamwork
- Attention to detail



Useful Subjects

Computer Science • Maths • Design & Technology • English

How Could I Get There?

GCSEs

A Levels, T Levels, College Courses or Apprenticeships

University or Higher/Degree Apprenticeship

Software Developer



Did You Know?

You don't need to leave the North East to pursue a career in technology. The region has a growing digital sector with many organisations employing Software Developers and offering exciting opportunities for future talent.

This Week's Careers Challenge

- Can you find three North East organisations that employ Software Developers?
- Research a digital or software apprenticeship.
- Which programming languages are most commonly requested by employers?

To find out more, search "Software Developer" on Unifrog.



RESPONSIBILITY – DETERMINATION – CITIZENSHIP – RESPECT

Harvest Collection

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to all parents and families for your generous donations to our Harvest Collection. Your kindness and support have made a real difference and will help those in our local community who are facing difficult times.

The overwhelming response reflects the caring and compassionate spirit of our school community. Thank you for helping us put our faith into action and for supporting those most in need. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

HARVEST 2026 COLLECTION

COLLECTION POINT

SHOPPING LIST MOST NEEDED

TINNED FRUIT

COFFEE

TINNED POTATOES

LONG-LIFE FRUIT JUICE

JAM/PRESERVES

RICE PUDDING/CUSTARD

TOILETRIES

CARRIER BAGS/BAGS FOR LIFE

DONATE NOW

THIS SEASON, GIVE
THANKS BY GIVING BACK.

DONATE AN ITEM OR TWO
FROM OUR SHOPPING LIST
MOST NEEDED ITEMS TO
SUPPORT PEOPLE FACING
HARDSHIP.



HARVEST SHOPPING LIST

TINNED FRUIT

COFFEE

TINNED POTATOES

LONG-LIFE FRUIT JUICE

JAM/PRESERVES

RICE PUDDING/CUSTARD

TOILETRIES

CARRIER BAGS/BAGS FOR LIFE





FRIDAY TUCK SHOP IS BACK!

♡ TREAT YOURSELF AND SUPPORT A GREAT CAUSE! ♡

SWEET BAGS ONLY 50p!

NEXT TUCK SHOP
★ **Friday 23rd October** ★

Then running on the **LAST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH**

Available in the Heart Space:
✓ First Break ✓ Second Break

SUPPORT OUR NURTURE GARDEN PROJECT

Every bag of sweets sold helps us raise funds for our exciting Nurture Garden Project.

Your support will help create a beautiful outdoor space where students can:

- Learn
- Grow
- Relax
- Thrive

BUY A TREAT
SUPPORT THE GARDEN
MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Don't Forget Your 50p!

REMEMBER: **Small Change = Big Impact!**

🌈 Friday Tuck Shop 🪙 50p per sweet bag 📍 First & Second Break



Key Dates

- Friday 23rd October- Break up for half term, 3.15pm finish
- Monday 26th October - Friday 30th October- Iceland Trip
- Monday 2nd November- Return to school on a Week A Timetable
- Monday 16th November- Year 10 Parents Evening (More information to follow)
- Monday 7th December- Year 11 Parents Evening (More information to follow)
- Thursday 10th December- Christmas Concert 6pm
- Friday 18th December- Break up for Christmas Holidays, 12.30pm finish

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

Designated safeguarding leads:



Mr A. Logan
Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Mrs F. Cessford
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Miss K. McDonagh
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Mr N. Watts
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead

Home and School Links

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Website: 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

