



Durham Road, Spennymoor, DL16 6SL
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St Charles Catholic
Primary School

Head Teacher: Mrs L Thompson BA (Hons), PGCE, NPQH
CEO: M Shorten M.Ed., BA (Hons)
Chair of Directors: M Matthews B.Ed, NPQH



Spring Newsletter 2 *Growing together in Faith*



Adam Bushnell visits School

Thank you to all families who completed our recent parent survey. It is wonderful to read such positive views about our school.



Catholic Education Trust



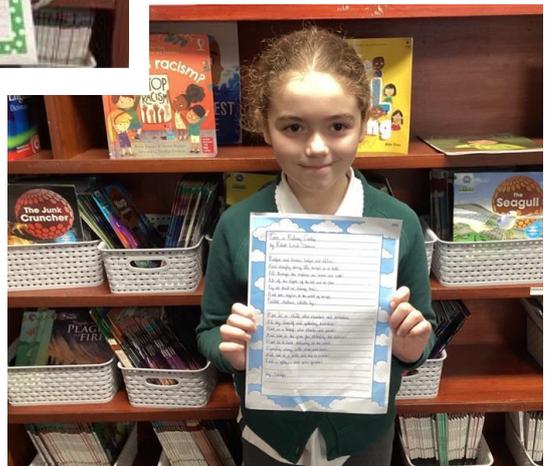
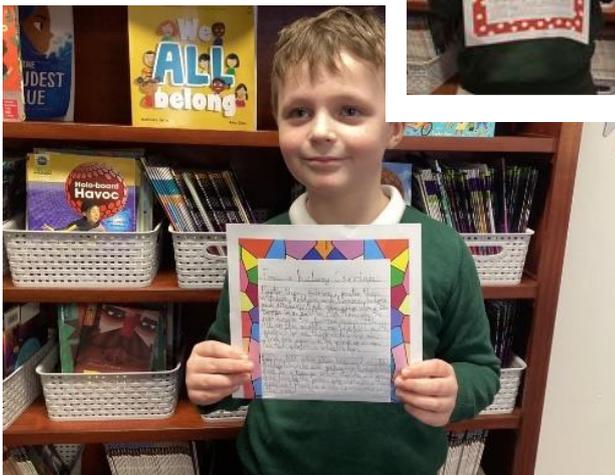
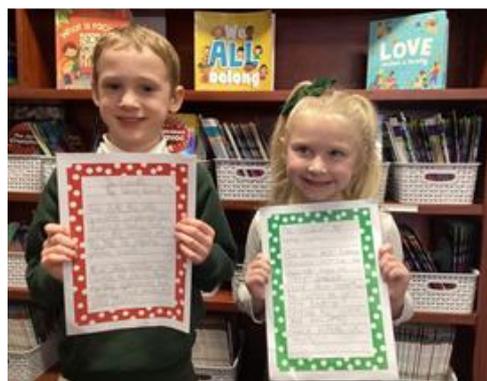
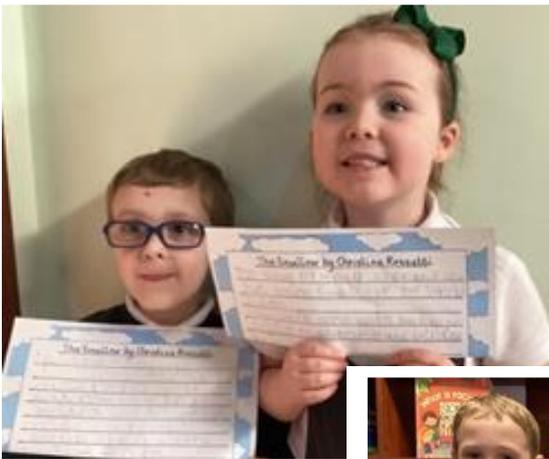
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National Handwriting Day Writing Competition

Mrs Hill set the children from Reception to Year 6 a writing challenge last week. Well done to all children who did their very best writing.
Mrs Thompson and Mrs Hill found it VERY difficult to judge!





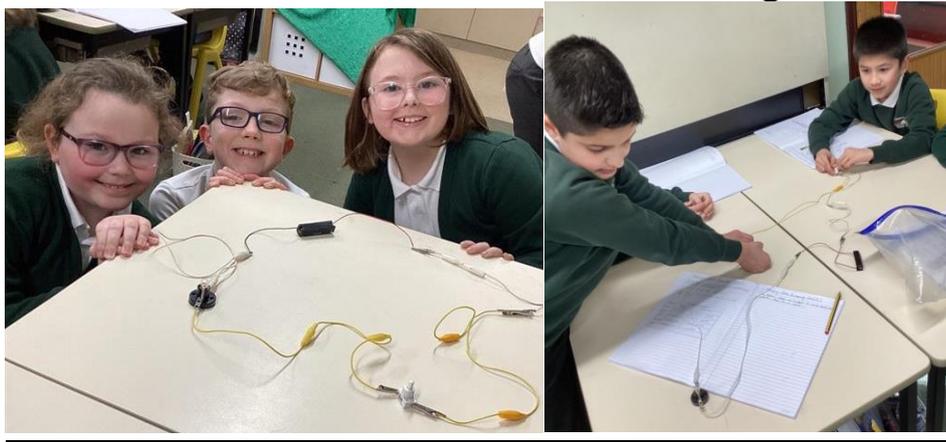
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Exciting Science in Year 4

Year 4 have been learning about electricity and making circuits. They have been using a variety of resources to understand how circuits are made. In this week's lesson, the children were using switches.



Outdoor learning Year 2

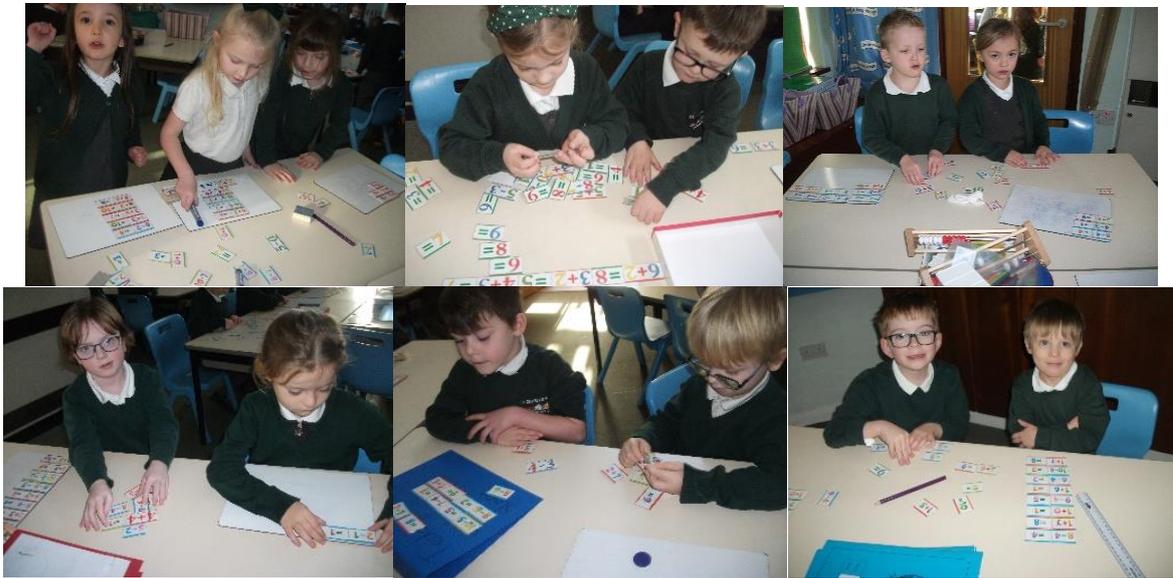
Year 2 had a wonderful time outdoor learning with Mr Dailey. Mr Dailey taught us about recycling and we ripped up paper and mixed it with water, to make paper bricks. We then when hunting for animal tracks in the snow. We think we found some paw prints from a cat!





Year 1 Mathematicians

Year 1 have been working very hard in their Maths this week. They have been exploring addition and subtraction and using resources to help them make the different calculations.



Nursery Snow Fun

In Nursery we have been focusing on fine motor skills, practising threading and playing with peg boards. We have also been learning about snow. We even created our own skis to pretend to ski down a mountain!





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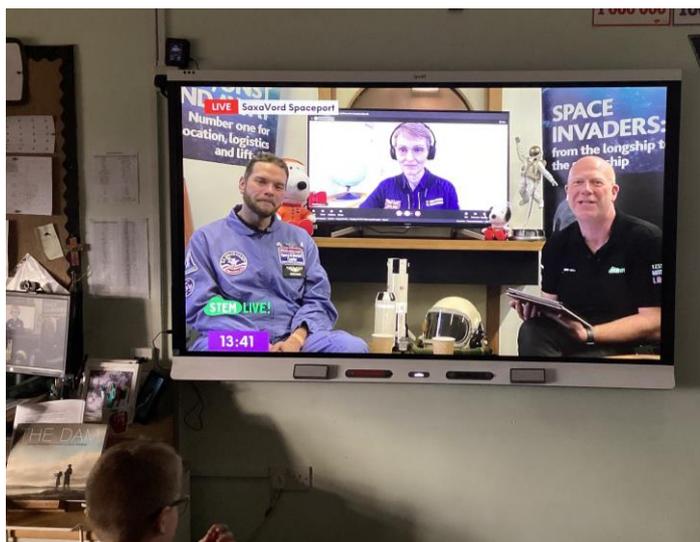
Year 6 design and printing

This half term Year 6 have been exploring printing. Pupils have created their own designs from observational drawings of natural materials, formed their own printing block and are building up their layers of colour each week.



Year 5 and 6 meet an Astronaut!

Year 5 joined Year 6 in taking part in a live Q&A with Helen Sharman, the first British Astronaut. We are looking forward to our follow up live lesson, and exploring even more of what STEM has to offer.





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Little Red Riding Hood Fun in Reception

In Nursery we have been retelling the story of Little Red Riding Hood this week. We have been creating our own deep, dark woods, making food for Grandma and painting pictures of different characters.



Year 3 Learn how to print

Year 3 have also been learning how to print. They spent time creating their own unique designs before using traditional techniques including string to make their final prints.



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CAREER WEEK

27th – 31st March

This year, we are going to have a special careers week at St Charles and we need your help!

The children often talk about their aspirations and share what they would like to do when they are older.

We are looking for parents, family members, friends etc to come into school during our careers week to talk to children about careers.

If you can help or know someone who might want to share information about their profession, please contact the school office to speak to Mrs Thompson.





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Class attendances....

Days off school add up to lost learning!!						
↑ 365 DAYS IN EACH YEAR ↓	190 SCHOOL DAYS EACH ACADEMIC YEAR					
	Which means there are 175 NON school days to spend on family time, visits, holidays, shopping, household jobs and other appointments					
	190 SCHOOL DAYS IN EACH YEAR	10 DAYS ABSENCE 180 SCHOOL DAYS IN EACH YEAR	19 DAYS ABSENCE 171 SCHOOL DAYS IN EACH YEAR	29 DAYS ABSENCE Half a Term missed 161 SCHOOL DAYS IN EACH YEAR	38 DAYS ABSENCE 152 SCHOOL DAYS IN EACH YEAR	47 DAYS ABSENCE 143 SCHOOL DAYS IN EACH YEAR
	100%	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%
	GOOD Best chance of success		WORRYING Less chance of success, harder to make progress and achieve higher grades		SERIOUS CONCERN Huge impact on academic learning, parents may face court action if no justifiable reason for absence	

Week Commencing 23rd January – Well done Year 2 – 97.3%!

Reception	95.4%
Year 1	87.0%
Year 2	97.3%
Year 3	91.3%
Year 4	94.7%
Year 5	93.7%
Year 6	96.5%

Week Commencing 16th January – Well done Year 2 100%!

Reception	92.7%
Year 1	96.7%
Year 2	100%
Year 3	99.3%
Year 4	94.7%
Year 5	96.0%
Year 6	97.1%



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Upcoming events organised by the Friends of St Charles...

Valentine's DISCO

14TH FEBRUARY ♥ £2

Key Stage 1
4:45-5:45pm
(doors open from 4:30)

Key Stage 2
6 - 7pm
(doors open from 5:45)

Tuck shop also available (£2 will be sufficient money to spend)
Keep your tuck shop money safe in a pocket, bag or envelope.
Prizes for best dancer, musical statues and corners!

Annual
PANCAKE FLIP

★ 16th February ★

THIS YEAR WE ARE FUNDING
READING BOOKS, PLAYTIME
SPORTS EQUIPMENT AND CLASS
TRIPS

SPONSOR FORMS WILL BE SENT
OUT SOON

Your child
will have
their
Pancake
Flip sponsor
form in their
bag today.

Do you need help with uniform?

We have lots of new and pre-loved uniform and PE kits available.

We will place it in the school entrance every afternoon next week (commencing 6th February) for you to pop in and collect anything you need!



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Dates for the diary

Week commencing Monday 6th February	Children's Mental Health Week
Tuesday 14th February	Valentines Disco
Thursday 16th February	Pancake Flip (Sponsor forms and more information to come)
School Closes for Half Term Friday 17th February	
School reopens Monday 27th February	
Thursday 2nd March	World Book Day – dress as your favourite character!
Wednesday 8th March	CAFOD A pinch of purple day (wear something purple for CAFOD)
Tuesday 21st March	Parents Evening
w/c27th March	Money and work week



Reminders....

Earrings- lots of children have had their ears pierced. Please make sure they are covered on PE days. If not we will call you and ask you to bring a plaster to school.

Snacks – there have been an increasing number of chocolate bars and crisps brought in as snacks. We are a healthy school please give your children fruit or cereal bars. Any crisps or sugary snacks will be sent home.

School meals to packed lunch – please can you let the office know in advance if your child would like to change from school meals to packed lunch and vice versa as the kitchen require some notice to adjust orders.

Car Parking – Please continue to park on the school grounds! Some of our neighbours have contacted with me with footage of cars across their drives. They have also sent them to the local authority as some footage shows illegal parking.

Reporting absences – It is vital that you call school if your child is going to be absent. Please contact the office before 8:55am providing a reason for your child's absence.

Payments – Please can you ensure any remaining debts from your Scopay account are cleared as soon as possible. If you need a link for Scopay please contact the office. Thank you for contributions towards trips, if you have not added a contribution for your child's trip this will be shown on your Scopay account to be paid before the end of term