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Head Teacher: Sheena Sinclair

Deputy Head(s): Rachel Miller

BHCET CEO: Stuart McGhee

BHCET Chair of Directors: Yvonne Coates

24th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well.

The first few weeks of our new school year have been really positive, and the children are now settled into their new classes and new routines. As always, we are so grateful to you, our parents, carers and extended family members, for your support and partnership. Our 'Meet the Teacher' event was a wonderful occasion to welcome families into school, thank you for joining us if you were able to.

There are several dates which will be useful for you to make a note of, as, moving forward, the weeks get even busier! Further details will be shared nearer the time, so for the moment it's just an opportunity to give you a bit of advance notice.

School Mass - Wednesday 1st October at 9.15am

Mass will be celebrated in school with Fr Adrian, our school staff and children from Y2-Y6. The celebration of Mass in an important part of our Catholic mission and is an opportunity to ask for God's blessings on this school year. Please come along and join us, even if your child is not in one of these year groups. It is always joyful to see our children lead parts of the Mass and hear them sing. Refreshments will be served afterwards. You are all warmly welcome.

CAFOD 'Brighten up the Harvest' Day and collection for Billingham Food Bank – Friday 3rd October

Our Mini Vinnies will shortly be writing to you, to share details of this special day in school.

Celebration of the Word

Each term there will be an opportunity for you to join your children in prayer. Please come along if you can. Celebration of the Word is not a play or a show, rather a simple, unrehearsed opportunity to engage with God's Word and allow the message of scripture to shape our lives. The children and staff will lead the celebration, and you are warmly invited to join us. These events take place in the hall, so please come to the main entrance shortly before the start time. If extended family would like to join, they are more than welcome.

Year 3 and Year 4 at 2.45pm - Friday 3rd October

Reception Class at 2.30pm - Tuesday 21st October

During this event our Reception children will be presented with a special welcome gift to support their Journey of Faith. Refreshments will be served afterwards for families and children in Reception.

Year 1 and Year 2 at 2.45pm - Thursday 6th November

Year 5 and 6 at 9.15am - Thursday 20th November

Friends of St Paul's (FOSP) Autumn Disco – Thursday 9th October

Further details to follow from FOSP. This event is for Reception - Y2 pupils (3.15-4.15pm) and Y3 - Y6 pupils (4.30-5.30pm)



Pre-loved uniform shop – Thursday 9th October and Thursday 16th October from 3pm – 5.30pm

We have an extensive supply of pre-loved uniform in excellent condition. Although families are very generous in their donations of uniform, we are not finding that there is much demand from families to source uniform from the pre-loved shop. This has resulted in the accumulation of uniform which is taking up a lot of space. With the start of our new school build in October/November we will need to reduce our stock as we will not have the space to store it in school whilst the conversion of the childcare building takes place.

Therefore, we will hold two more pre-loved uniform events on the dates above and will then begin to reduce our stock to ensure that we have a smaller supply we can store. As always, if you require uniform at any other time, please just let us know.

PLEASE ENSURE THAT ALL ITEMS OF CLOTHING, ESPECIALLY JUMPERS, CARDIGANS AND SWEATSHIRTS, ARE LABELLED WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME.

Professional Development (PD) Day - Friday 24th October

Children are not in school

Half Term - Monday 27th October - Friday 31st October

Monday 3rd November - Children return to school wearing winter uniform (Reception to Y6):

shirt/blouse and tie (not a polo shirt), grey (not red) cardigan, jumper or sweatshirt, grey trousers, shorts, skirt or pinafore. Plain tights or socks (grey, black, white). Please keep hair accessories practical and minimalistic. Please remember that jewellery, other than a watch, should not be worn. No nail varnish please. Thank you.

Nasal Flu Spray - Monday 3rd November

The immunisation team will be in school, information to consent will follow shortly.

<u>Parents' Evenings – Tuesday 4th November and Wednesday 12th November – 3.50-6pm (Nursery – Y5)</u> <u>Parents Evenings – Monday 24th and Thursday 27th November – 3.50-6pm (Y6)</u>

You will receive a letter providing details of how to book an appointment so that you can discuss your child's progress with their class teacher.

Individual and Family Photos – Friday 14th November

The Photographer will be in school to take photos. There is no obligation to purchase. This is for Nursery and school children only. Further details to follow.

FOSP Christmas Fair - Wednesday 3rd December 3.15-5.30pm

Further details from FOSP to follow

Christmas Events, Nativities and Advent Services:

Tuesday 2nd December (afternoon) - Year 3 and Year 4 'Snappy Christmas' with Tees Valley Music Service – details to follow

Monday 8th December at 1.30pm - Nursery and Reception Nativity

Tuesday 9th December at 9.30am - Nursery and Reception Nativity

Wednesday 10th December at 1.30pm - Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity

Thursday 11th December at 9.30am - Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity

Date to be confirmed at 6pm in Holy Rosary Church – Year 5 and Year 6 Carol Service – Everybody welcome Monday 15th December – Year 1-6 visit to pantomime (Jack and the Beanstalk – Princess Alexandra Auditorium) Early Years Christmas fun day

Christmas Holidays:

Monday 22nd December 2025 – Friday 2nd January 2026

Monday 5th January – PD Day - children are not in school

Tuesday 6th January – school re-opens for the Spring Term



Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. As always, if you wish to discuss anything further, then please contact me at school.

Yours sincerely

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Sheena Sinclair

Head Teacher

