



Newsletter- September 2021

A warm welcome back! We hope you have managed to spend some quality time together with your families over the summer we have thoroughly enjoyed having the children back in school and settling in to our first week together. We are thankful that this term we have been able to return to school in a much more 'normal' way, and whilst our risk assessments still remain in place, we no longer have bubbles within school. This means that as our school year unfolds, we look forward to being able to return to assemblies, Masses and liturgies and look forward to inviting parents back into school.

This term we welcome Mr Hubbard our new Year 5 teacher and Miss Croxford who will be working with our older children in school. They are excited to get to know you all in the coming weeks and months.

We also welcome all our new children and their families to the school.

'Statements to Live By'

As we begin our new school year, we will continue to focus on our 'Statements to live by' and which contribute to our daily Catholic life in school. The statements are shared during collective worship every Monday and children focus on this theme throughout the week in their class worship sessions.

Statements to live by for September

- We are all special.
- I can say one good thing about myself.
- I can say how I feel.
- I can laugh and have fun

Statements to live by for October

- I know what to do if I see anyone being hurt.
- I understand that rights match responsibility.
- I try to stand up for myself and others without hurting others

Covid 19 Update

The Department for Education provided updated guidance in July 2021, setting out the following information relevant for schools:



The removal of key restrictions means:

- there is no requirement for 'bubbles' within schools
- there is no requirement for staggered starts or ends to the school day
- we can resume whole school assemblies/collective worship
- face coverings for staff are not needed in communal areas

From August 16th:

- under 18s do not need to self-isolate if they have been in 'close contact' with a positive COVID case, meaning pupils do not need to be sent home if a classmate/staff member tests positive
- schools do not need to do track and trace

We would like to assure you that in school we will:

- continue the system of both hand hygiene and 'catch it, bin it, kill it'
- continue a cleaning regime in classrooms of at least twice per day
- continue providing ventilated classrooms
- provide remote education for those isolating

We would like to remind all Parents/Carers that where children present with symptoms of Covid 19, a **PCR test** should be arranged for them.

Breakfast and Tea Time Club

Breakfast / Tea Time Club

Our Breakfast and Tea Time clubs began on **Monday 6th September**. This provision must be booked via the online booking form that will be sent out each Monday from the school office. If you wish your child to attend Breakfast or Tea-time club please complete the form by a Wednesday each week. Two Payment Items have been set-up in ParentPay, one for provision up to 4:30pm (£3) and another Payment Item until 5:30pm (£6). Attendance will be recorded on ParentPay at the end of each week. Please ensure payment is made to access this provision.

Our new Tea time club will run each day in two blocks.

After school until 4.30pm	Cost of £3 per child
4.30-5.30pm	Additional £3 per child

Tea-time club will be run by school staff, and pupils will be provided with a light-bite/snack. We are very excited about this new provision!

Drop off and pick up times

Below is a reminder of the drop off and pick up times for children in school. These times will also apply to the Reception children once they have completed their transition sessions into school over the next few weeks.

If you have a child in Reception or KS1 who has a sibling in KS2, you are more than welcome to collect both children at the later time of 3.30pm.

Year group	Class	Children can enter school from..	The school day will finish at...	Drop Off/Pick up point
EYFS	Reception	8.30am	3.05pm	Reception door – garden area
KS1	Year 1	8.30am	3.05pm	Year 1 door – school yard
	Year 2	8.30am	3.05pm	Veranda door
KS2	Year 3	8.30am	3.30pm	Y6 Class door on the yard
	Year 4	8.30am	3.30pm	Main School Reception (door near Mrs Armstrong's office)
	Year 5	8.30am	3.30pm	Veranda Door
	Year 6	8.30am	3.30pm	Year 6 class door on yard

Uniform

We are always very proud of how smart our children look in their uniform and whenever we take the children out of school they are complemented on their smart appearance.

Please help us to keep our uniform standards high by making sure that your child wears the correct full school uniform, including black shoes and no trainers.

Contact Details

It is so important that we have up to date contact information for each child in school. We must have at least 2 contact phone numbers (more if possible) per child, and we ask that where a change of address or phone number occurs you inform school immediately.

Having this up to date information is very important in keeping everyone in our school safe.

PE kit



Pupils should bring their school PE kit with them to school, in their school PE bag and this will now stay in school. The reason for this is whilst children will have set PE days, we will make the most of additional opportunities to get our children dressed for PE and be active.

Jewellery

For safety reasons children must not wear any jewellery for school apart from a small wrist watch if they wish. Please ensure that all earrings are removed.

Outdoor Learning

We are excited to be offering outdoor learning sessions again this year to enhance our curriculum offer. These will take place on a Monday during the school day and children in all year groups will rotate to access this provision each term.

On Monday 13th September the outdoor learning sessions will begin with our Year 1, Year 2, Year 5 and Year 6 children.

When taking part in these sessions we ask that KS2 children please bring in with them clothing, that you don't mind getting dirty and will keep them warm. Our KS1 children can come to school wearing their outdoor learning clothes when taking part in outdoor learning however we ask that you send in with them their uniform in a labelled bag so that they can get changed afterwards.

As we move through the Autumn Term and get more and more winter weather, it would be useful if your child could wear wellies or old shoes during their outdoor learning lessons.



Sponsored Fun

Over the past few years, as a fundraising event, we have organised a Fun Run in school for the children. This has become a much loved event and something our children really look forward to. For this reason we have planned a fun run for a couple of weeks' time— **Friday 1st October**. This will be a sponsored event and any proceeds raised will go back into school funds to organise activities for the children. Each child in school will receive a sponsor form which will come home in their book bags. We would appreciate any sponsorship for this event, no matter how big or small the amount, every penny helps. A payment item will be set up on ParentPay to enable you to pay your sponsor donations.

We really can't wait for the children to enjoy this fun activity



Applying for a Reception place for September 2022

Will your child turn 5 between 1 September 2022 and 31 August 2023?

If so, you need to complete an application online to apply for your school place from September 2022. To do this visit www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions where you can access a useful guide to help with your application. If you are unable to apply online, paper application forms are available on request. You still need to apply for a place even if your child has a sibling already at the school.

Macmillan Coffee Event for children in school

On Friday the 17th of September we will be providing the children with cakes and juice in school in order to host and celebrate our own Macmillan coffee event. Whilst we would love to be able to invite parents and the community to join us for this event we are not able to at present. If anyone would like to make a donation to the Macmillan Coffee morning you can do this via Parent Pay, any donations, no matter how big or small, will be gratefully received and sent to this fantastic charity.

Important Dates

Macmillan Coffee Event for children in school	Friday 17 th September
Year 6 Parents' Meeting Robinwood	Wednesday 22 nd September 5pm
Meet and greet the teacher KS2	Monday 27 th September 3.45pm and 5pm
Meet and greet the teacher KS1	Wednesday 29 th September 4pm and 5pm
Fun Run	Friday 1 st October
School Closes for half-term	Thursday 21st October
Training Day	Friday 22nd October
School re-opens after half term	Monday 1st November