

*Together we follow Jesus' footsteps in our living and learning.*

*Article 17: Children have the right to access information*

**21 October 2022**

Dear Families

It has been wonderful to welcome so many of you into school this week for parent consultations. It has been a very busy half term. Please remember to check out the class blogs and our twitter feed so that you can find out about all of the wonderful things happening within school. Thank you on behalf of the Mini Vinnies for all of your food donations this half term.

### **Take One Picture Project**

The children this half term have enjoyed learning about the painting 'A Shipwreck in Stormy Sea' by Claude-Joseph Vernet. This is a project facilitated by the National Gallery for schools to get involved in. The children study one of the gallery's paintings and use the painting as a stimulus for their own pieces of art. The children have refined many new skills such as the 'pinching technique' when using clay. Find out more in the class blogs.



### **Team Challenge Adventure Days**

Year 5 and Year 6 have enjoyed their adventure days this week. These days are part of our character building RSHE curriculum. Well done to all of the children who were blessed by good weather on both days. Mr Smart has enjoyed his first adventure day too! The Year 3 and Year 4 children will experience their days in Spring term 2023.

### **Year 2 Visit to Beamish**

Year 2 had a fantastic trip to Beamish this week where we took part in a Victorian Classroom workshop. The children loved writing on the slates instead of paper and sitting at the Victorian desks to work on their reading and writing. We explored the town and village then compared these to our local area today, discussing the similarities and differences. Luckily, the weather was on our side so we managed to take a ride on an open top bus and tram during our visit. We all had a wonderful day out. Thank you to our volunteers who joined us.



### **Year 3 Visit to Great North Museum**

On Wednesday 12 October, Year 3 visited the Great North Museum to learn more about their current unit, Stone Age to Iron Age. They had lots of fun exploring all the exhibitions and answering questions about the past. They also took part in a Stone Age to Bronze Age workshop where we were able to investigate artefacts from prehistory and determine how they may have been used. Displaying great enthusiasm and behaviour, Year 3 thoroughly enjoyed their visit and made lots of links to our learning in the classroom. Thanks for the volunteers who helped us.

## Lindisfarne Gospels

The children in Year 5 and Year 6 will be visiting the workshops next half term. The staff are looking forward to this amazing experience for the children.



## Welcome breakfast for all parents – Thursday 3 November 8.00am

Our school has been invited by the Diocese to participate in a Faith in Action Award for Year 6 children this year. The children will begin a journey of discovering what it means for faith to be active. They will come to know more about how their faith and relationship with God has an outward and visible effect on them and those around them. Examples of service might include fundraising, engaging in reflection points across the year, taking an active role in Liturgy (eg preparing class liturgies, reading, or serving at Mass), as well as creating prayer cards for those in need.

To launch this award, Year 6 will be hosting a breakfast morning on **Thursday 3 November at 8.00am**. We would like to invite all families across school to come in with their child/ren and enjoy breakfast together (children **must** be accompanied by an adult). We are asking for voluntary cash donations of £1.50 per family which will go towards a charity of Year 6's choice.

## St Charles' Feast Day Mass – Friday 4 November

On 4 November we will be attending Mass at St Charles' Catholic Church at 10am. Thank you to the volunteers who have offered to help walk the children to Church.

## Sport

### Running

Some KS2 children took part in the NSAA Cross Country Primary School Team Competition on 4 October. The boys team came 6<sup>th</sup> overall of 16 schools who participated and one of the team were placed 8<sup>th</sup> individually. Thank you to all of the parent volunteers who attended the event.

### Junior and Mini Great North Run

Well done to all our children who took part in the Mini and Junior Great North Run.

### Football

It has been a busy half term of football fixtures, with the Year 5/6 boys and girls both successfully progressing to the next round of the Bishops Cup and Northern Cross Cup respectively. The children have shown immense teamwork, great spirit and tremendous skill and I have been very proud of them for the sportsmanship they have shown both in victory and defeat. We look forward to the further challenges which await us next half term!

## Safeguarding

Next half term teachers will be delivering the NSPCC materials '**Speak Out Stay Safe**' materials with the children during Antbullying week.

The children will also learn about the **NSPCC underwear rule 'PANTS'**. This is the green cross code for sexual abuse and stands for:

- Privates are private
- Always remember your body belongs to you
- No means no
- Talk about secrets that upset you
- Speak up, someone can help

**If you would like further information, the websites below contain useful information.**

Buddy zone website: [Childline](#) | [Childline](#)

[Support for parents](#) | [NSPCC](#)

**If there is any other information you would like school to provide to help keep your child safe, please do not hesitate to contact us.**

### **Payment for School Meals (ParentPay)**

Please note that your ParentPay account should not be in arrears. Please ensure there are sufficient funds on your account to cover the meals taken. Nursery meals are £2.10 per day and KS2 meals are £2.20 per day (£11 per week). Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 receive Universal Infant Free School meals and no payment is required.

It is always worth checking if you are eligible for Free School Meals by following the link below. This gives an immediate response:

[Apply for free school meals - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

### **School Car Park**

Please remember to use the drop off point when dropping children off in the school car park. Not using the drop off point results in the car parking bays being blocked by vehicles and results in queues of cars which, in turn, results in children being late to school and parents being late for work. Please be mindful of our school parking charter and remember that the Regent Chapel car park can be used if the school car park is full. Thank you for your cooperation.

### **Access to Play Equipment at Start and End of School Day**

Reminder that children and parent/carers should leave school yard immediately at the end of the school day. The play equipment in yard should not be used before or after school. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

### **Food Items Containing Nuts**

Please ensure your child does not bring any food items into school which contain nuts (such as Nutella sandwiches). We have children in school with severe nut allergies.

### **Naming Clothing**

Please ensure you label your child's school belongings as this helps us identify any lost property which can then be returned to its rightful owner. Any belongings found without any names are put into a lost property box which will be available in the school yard at the end of each half term. Any lost property not claimed at the end of each half term will be disposed of responsibly.

### **PTA**

The previous PTA Trustees have decided to step down after 4 years. I would like to thank them for their support over the last few years, particularly during the pandemic. They have helped purchase lots of new books and funded trips out of school.

We do have a new PTA group which had an initial meeting this week. All are welcome and any help will be appreciated. You may be able to help on a regular basis or it may be a one off event you can support.

They are hoping to organise a **Christmas Fayre after school on Friday 16 December**. If you can help they are having a planning meeting after half term.

We are looking forward to planning social events to allow our families get to know each other whilst we raise money for the children.

We are hoping to raise money to purchase resources for OPAL playground.

If you would like to join our PTA, please get in touch with the school office.

## Macmillan Fundraising



Our School Council raised a brilliant £200 recently with their carnival games on Friday 3 October.

## Contact with School via Email

Reminder that our school email address changed in February. Some families are still using the old email, which we no longer have access to. The school email is **office@stcharlesprimary.uk**

## Late Arrivals

If your child arrives to school after the gates are closed at 8.50am, they are recorded as late. **Parents** will need to sign them into school using the sign in app at the school office. The system will ask for the following details:

- Name
- Class
- Reason for Lateness

Please complete this information thoroughly.

*Nealings*

Mrs Nealings  
Head Teacher

Newsletter 2 2022/2023

Tel: 0191 285 2553 / Email: [office@stcharlesprimary.uk](mailto:office@stcharlesprimary.uk) [www.stcharlesprimary.uk](http://www.stcharlesprimary.uk)

Follow us on Twitter: [@StCharlesPrimNE](https://twitter.com/StCharlesPrimNE)

## Forthcoming Diary Dates

October 2022			
Monday	31/10/22	School reopens after half term	School opens at 8.40am
Monday	31/10/22	Commando Joe's Day – children to wear PE uniform	Year 2
November 2022			
Tuesday	1/11/22	Commando Joe's Day – children to wear PE uniform	Year 1
Wednesday	2/11/22	Commando Joe's Day – Mrs Bertenshaw will put details on Tapestry.	Nursery
Thursday	3/11/22	Faith in Action Breakfast – all welcome	8am
Thursday	3/11/22	Commando Joe's Day – children to wear PE uniform	Reception
Friday	4/11/22	St Charles Feast Day / Mission Day.	KS2 morning Mass at St Charles Church
Saturday	5/11/22	Year 4 First Holy Communion – Session 2	3.45 – 4.45pm

			Parish Centre
Monday	7/11/22	Commando Joe's Day – children to wear PE uniform	Year 6
Tuesday	8/11/22	Commando Joe's Day – children to wear PE uniform	Year 5
Wednesday	9/11/22	Commando Joe's Day – children to wear PE uniform	Year 4
Thursday	10/11/22	Commando Joe's Day – children to wear PE uniform	Year 3
Friday	11/11/22	Year 6 Remembrance Liturgical Worship	Year 6 Families welcome to join us at 9.10am in school
Monday	14/11/22	Antibullying week. NSPCC assemblies and workshop across school throughout the week. Speak Out and Stay Safe, NSPCC underwear rule PANTS.	Whole school
Friday	18/11/22	Children in Need day in school – non-uniform day. Small donation welcomed.	Whole school
Tuesday	22/11/22	Trip to Pizza Express. Parent helpers required.	Reception class
Wednesday	23/11/22	Newcastle Cathedral and Laing Art Gallery – Lindisfarne Gospels	Year 5 and Year 6
Friday	25/11/22	Training day – school closed to children	Whole School
Saturday	26/11/22	Year 4 First Holy Communion – Session 3	3.45pm – 4.45pm Parish Centre

Day	Date	December 2022	Class
Friday	9/12/22	Christmas Lunch for the children	Whole school
Friday	9/12/22	Christmas Jumper Day – children should wear their normal uniform. If they choose they can wear a Christmas jumper, decorate a jumper or wear a non-uniform jumper.	Whole school
Monday	12/12/22	KS1 Nativity	9.15am for families for children in Year 1 and Year 2
Tuesday	13/12/22	KS1 Nativity	9.15am for families for children in Year 1 and Year 2
Wednesday	14/12/22	KS2 Carols venue and time TBC	KS2
Wednesday	14/12/22	Early Years Nativity	9.15am Nursery and Reception

			class
<b>Friday</b>	<b>16/12/22</b>	<b>PTA Christmas Fayre</b>	<b>Whole school</b>
Tuesday	20/12/22	<p><b>School Party Day</b> Children can come to school in their party clothes. Ensure they are warm enough and have sensible shoes.</p> <p>Children to bring a small plate of party food, that they will have after their lunch.</p>	Whole school
Thursday	22/12/22	Carols around the Christmas tree in school	Whole school 2.30pm. Parents/carers welcome
Thursday	22/12/22	Last day of term.	School closes at 3.20pm.
Monday	9/01/23	School reopens after Christmas break.	School reopens at 8.40am