



## NEWSLETTER: 22nd March 2024

Dear Families

Our OFSTED report was distributed to all families at the beginning of this week. We are very pleased to share that it has been confirmed that we remain a good school.

There are many positive aspects of our lovely school highlighted in the report:

- *Pupils are happy and safe. They are proud to be part of this school community. Staff have high expectations.*
- *The school has introduced an ambitious curriculum throughout all year groups.*
- *Pupils want to do well in their lessons. They try hard and encourage each other.*
- *The reading curriculum is highly effective..... Staff are expert at teaching children to read.*
- *Children in the early years make a positive start in this school. The interactions between them are delightful.*
- *The close partnership with St Joseph's Church provides several opportunities for the school community and parents to join together for spiritual reflection.*

We have received a congratulations letter from Cllr Ted Henderson, Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People's Services and the diocese.

We look forward to working with staff and families to continue to develop our school and we are already on the case to address areas mentioned. We will provide regular updates regarding these.

As well as periodic visits from Ofsted, every school also had a link school improvement partner (SIP). We have Ms Dawn Foster, a head teacher working in Gateshead, who is assigned by BWCET. She visits our school each term to focus on specific aspects of our work. This week, as part of her planned visit with us, Ms Foster enjoyed talking with a group of children from Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6. She could not speak more highly of our wonderful pupils and she reiterated that they able to talk confidently about keeping safe, the very positive relationships which exist in school between pupils themselves, pupils and staff, and behaviour around school. Already, she noted how the children she talked with were able to articulate British Values and what these actually mean for us in school and more widely.

### **The Feast of St Joseph**

Thank you, to Fr Shaun and our pupils for leading the whole school Mass on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March to celebrate the feast of St Joseph's. I am sure St Joseph himself could hear the wonderful singing! Thank you, also, to all family and parishioners who were able to attend the Mass.

### **Transition meeting**

Mrs Meggeson, from St Bede's, will be coming to talk with our Y6 pupils about transition to secondary school next week. I am confident our pupils will make an excellent first impression and I am sure she will be equally complimentary.

## **Lenten Celebrations**

Our Year 1 and Year 2 pupils began our Lenten celebrations with a wonderful Palm Sunday celebration of the word.

Thank you, all involved. It was great to see this gathering so well attended as well as the number of visitors who were able to participate in the lovely activity afterwards.

Thank you, for the kind comments you left:

*"It is always great to see the children do something like this. They're always so happy and confident. A lot of this is because of how supportive and encouraging the staff are, and this attitude has been passed on to the children."*

*"A wonderful celebration of Easter. The children all spoke clearly and it was lovely to see them all taking part. The final hymn was the perfect ending – joyous!"*

The following Lenten celebrations will take place next week:

- Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March Year 3 & Year 4 - Maundy Thursday Liturgy 9:15 am
- Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March Year 5 – Good Friday Liturgy 9:15 am
- Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March Year 6 – Easter Sunday Liturgy 9:15 am

Whilst the families are invited in the morning, we have timetabled the celebrations in the afternoons, too, so that all other year groups can also enjoy and benefit from the messages given.

## **Arbor update**

Mrs Cowan will be providing a very short Arbor update before each gathering (listed above) to support improved communication between school and home.

## **Cafod Big Lent Walk**

We are putting our faith into action this Lent by taking part in the Cafod Big Lent Walk. Next week, during Holy Week, each class will take part in a walk and will collectively cover 200km. We have our own JustGiving page and would welcome donations to this great cause. The money we raise will enable people around the world to fight poverty.

[St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Stanley is fundraising for CAFOD](#)

## **Egg Decorating**

We will be decorating eggs in school on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March. We would be obliged if all children could bring a hard-boiled egg and container (clearly marked with their name) into school on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March. There will be prizes for the best decorated eggs as well as something for everyone for taking part.

## **Hot Drinks**

When coming into school, or church, for gatherings, we respectfully ask that you do not bring any hot drinks into the building. Thank you, for your continued support.

## **Mobile Phones**

Please take some time to check your child's mobile phone. We have been alerted to a Whatsapp group entitled, 'Please share with all your friends', which can take children to inappropriate images. As ever, we ask that you remain vigilant and let us know if you have any further concerns.

## **Karbon Homes**

In March 2023 Karbon Homes bought the Stanley Board School. The Stanley Board School stands at the heart of the community, and it's time for a change. In partnership with Placechangers, they have a new digital platform that residents of Stanley can use to record and share their ideas.

You can access the platform here: <https://stanley.placechangers.co.uk/page>

### **Star of the Week**

The following children have received a Star of the Week certificate this week:



Nursery	Harvey	For showing a keen interest when taking part in our bug hunt as part of our wilderness workshop
Reception	Lewis	For being such a kind friend and making sensible choices in play
Year 1	Harry	For always trying his best to work independently
Year 2	Freddie R	For his excellent participation during lessons.
Year 3	Lucas	For his excellent handwriting and the effort he has put into the new joins we have learned
Year 4	Sophie	For excellent participation in lessons this week
Year 5	Emily M	For an excellent persuasive advert
Year 6	Olivia	For her excellent work in maths lessons on area and perimeter

### **Times Table Rock Star**

This week's 'Rockstar of the Week' is Arjun! Well, done for your amazing multiplication and fantastic studio speed! Children can see all our TTRS winners on our 'Times Table Rockstars' display board in school.

The winners of this week's KS2 tournament are Year 5! This puts them to the top of the TTRS class table with only one week to go!

St Joseph's have climbed up one place to 8th on the TTRS leaderboard for schools in our area. Well done everyone!

### **House Points**

Children can earn house points from all staff during the week.

Congratulations, to St Cuthbert' those who have earned the most house points this week.

### **Attendance**

**This week's attendance is 93.9%.**

**Our target is 97%.**

<b>Nursery</b>	<b>Reception</b>	<b>Year1</b>	<b>Year2</b>	<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Year 5</b>	<b>Year 6</b>
<b>91.4%</b>	<b>93.1%</b>	<b>92.3%</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>98.6%</b>	<b>93.4%</b>	<b>98.6%</b>	<b>93.8%</b>



**Durham's official Parent Carer Forum and a group of parent carer volunteers who work with professionals to influence and improve services to children and young people (0-25 years) with special educational needs and disabilities in County Durham.**

## ABOUT US

We work in partnership with the Local Authority, Health and Social Care services and other groups and organisations to influence and challenge service provision and highlight the issues and needs of the families we represent.

We are a registered CIO with the charity number 1202217.



## WHAT MCT DO

- ✔ 2 Parent Carer Conferences a year
- ✔ Family disability information events
- ✔ Workshops, training & 1:1 surgeries
- ✔ Information Sharing
- ✔ Work with other Parent Carer forums & organisations locally & nationally
- ✔ Attend focus groups including SEND Partnership, SEND Information, Short Breaks, Autism Steering group, Neurodevelopmental Pathway & Team Training.
- ✔ Plus lots more.....

## HOW TO GET INVOLVED

- ✔ Attend one of our parent carer conferences
- ✔ Join our email mailing list (Just email us to join)
- ✔ Follow our social media accounts
- ✔ Attend one of our events
- ✔ Apply to be a volunteer

**STRONGER TOGETHER**

**SHAPING SERVICES TOGETHER FOR FAMILIES OF UNDER 25 YEAR OLDS WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS AND / OR DISABILITIES IN COUNTY DURHAM.**

## CONTACT US

✉ [INFO@MCTDURHAM.CO.UK](mailto:INFO@MCTDURHAM.CO.UK)

<http://WWW.MCTDURHAM.CO.UK>





# HOLIDAY SPORTS COACHING At Catchgate Primary School



## Options Available

1. Multi-sport Activities
2. Football Coaching

## Easter 2024

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> to Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April  
Monday 8<sup>th</sup> to Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April



[www.shapeperformance.co.uk](http://www.shapeperformance.co.uk)

For more information call/text 0771 324 4023 or email [info@shapeperformance.co.uk](mailto:info@shapeperformance.co.uk)

*Free places available for children receiving benefits related free school meals*



# HOLIDAY SPORTS COACHING At Catchgate Primary School



## Option 1 - Multi-sport Activities

Choose this course to play some of the following activities: dodgeball, a water fight (weather dependant), football, Nerf games, bikes and scooters, basketball, cricket, tag rugby, ultimate frisbee, tennis, volleyball, trampolining, climbing/bouldering and ultimate frisbee.

*Inflatables days 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> April.*



## Option 2 - Football Coaching

All the usual stuff you'd expect during a football coaching course: challenges, Coaching, matches & tournaments. Players receive expert coaching to develop their skills and tactical knowledge, as well as helping them develop teamwork, leadership and other important psychological factors.



Courses run from 9:45am till 2:45pm. Courses are suitable for children in Year 1 to Year 7. Day rate is £17 per day per child. Sibling discounts are available, in addition to booking for a full week, Early drop-offs are available from 8:45am and food is available to purchase too. All coaching staff have a recent DBS check and relevant coaching, first aid and child protection/safeguarding qualifications. Many of our staff are degree qualified (dance or coaching science) and a number are trained PE teachers. We are fully insured through Insured4Sport.

Testimonials (check out our Facebook page for many more)

- Stephen (dad of Matthew) – "Great value for money. Children are active in a safe environment with professional staff having fun but also learning lots of skills. Would definitely recommend to others."
- Lisa (mum of Jake) – "My son loved his first week on the multi-sports course that I've just booked him on again! He's only just starting to enjoy sports and games and he came home happy and motivated each day, a little more confident each time, so I can only thank the coaches for that."

**Book a paid place at: <https://campscui.active.com/orgs/ShapePerformance>**

For more information call/text 0771 324 4023 or email [info@shapeperformance.co.uk](mailto:info@shapeperformance.co.uk)

*BOOKING A FREE PLACE - Children eligible for free places should have been sent details by their school, explaining how to book. Contact them or the Durham Council Fun and Food team ([funandfood@durham.gov.uk](mailto:funandfood@durham.gov.uk)) for more details.*