



NEWSLETTER: 12th July 2024

Dear Families,

Year Group Celebrations

Thank you, for all those who have been able to join our Year Group Celebrations. This week we finished with EYFS, firstly with our Reception children, and then our Nursery pupils. What an absolute joy to see our classes present their highlights of the past year – so much learning and fun to share (from inside and outside the classroom). Thank you, to the wonderful EYFS staff of St Josephs' who have helped children become confident, happy learners already!

Year 6 Leavers' Celebration

We all had a fantastic time last night, celebrating our amazing Year 6 pupils. It was great to be joined by such a large audience of family and friends and it was wonderful to hear the 'story' of each child – their gifts, their talents and how their personalities have developed over the years.

Mr Haveron your focus on each pupil was filled with kindness, warmth and a great sense of humour. Speaking on behalf of everyone there – it was brilliant.

Thank you, Mr Haveron and Miss Glendenning, for giving our pupils such an enjoyable final year. Thanks, also, to all staff who have helped guide and nurture this great group of pupils throughout their time at St Joseph's.

Thank you, to Barry, Paula, Wendy and Adam for your contribution to the evening and for presenting awards.

BWCET Celebration Of Sport

Our Year 5 pupils will be spending the day at Gateshead Stadium on Monday with all other schools in BWCET for our first trust-wide Celebration of Sport. It will be a day to remember.

School Building Work

As we have already made you aware, there is extensive building work planned over the summer holidays and we are getting school ready next week.

Children will still be working although rooms may be different. School dinners will be packed lunch only.

We looked forward to a lovely final week together before the beginning of our summer holiday.

School will close on Friday 19th July. Year 6 parents and carers can gather in the school yard from 2.30 and we will have a final (smiling with perhaps a few tears) farewell from all of us in school.

***To all you football fans – enjoy the match.
Come on England! Let's hope it really is coming home!***

Star of the Week

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



	Child's name	Reason
Nursery	Olivia	For being a good friend to others in Nursery.
Reception	Emily	For showing such a keen interest in her learning and answering questions with confidence.
Year 1	Reid	For always being the most polite, hard-working member of class.
Year 2	Brooke	For always following the St Joseph's Way and being a wonderful role model.
Year 3	Molly	For her hard work and positive attitude in all subjects.
Year 4	Ella C	For always having a positive attitude to her learning and for being a fantastic role model to others.
Year 5	Jack	For excellent answers with our class reader.
Year 6	Nico	For being such a fantastic role model.

Times Table Rock Star

This week's 'Rockstar of the Week' is Cade! Well done for your amazing multiplication and fantastic studio speed! He has received our new TTRS guitars to display in his class this week to remind him and his peers of how amazing he is at his tables. Children can see all our TTRS winners on our 'Times Table Rockstars' display board in school.

A huge congratulations to Year 4 who have won the Summer KS2 TTRS Tournament! They have amassed over 3000 points, a fantastic effort! Their reward is a free time afternoon next week to celebrate their success.

Football Trials

Thank you to all those children in Years 3, 4 and 5 who attended football trials over the past month. Due to the weather, we have missed a few of these sessions so we will not be selecting a team until September. We will have a football trial in the first 2 weeks of term. Information about this will follow in September.

House Points

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

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

Attendance

This week's attendance is 95%

Our target is 97%.

Nursery	Reception	Year1	Year2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
90.5%	95.7%	91.2%	95.9%	95.2%	99%	94.8%	95.5%

Please note Fixed Penalty Notice changes from September 2024



Fixed Penalty Notices for irregular attendance at school **Important information for parents**

1 Overview

Penalty notices are issued as an alternative to prosecution where parents have failed to ensure their child attends school regularly. They can be used in cases where absence has not been authorised by a head teacher.

The notices are used to prevent the need for court action, for example, when support has not been engaged with or is not appropriate (for example, leave of absence during term time). **Changes from September 2024 are shown below.**

2 Leave

Head Teachers are unable to grant leave of absence during term time unless there are **exceptional circumstances**.

Generally, a need or desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure and recreation **would not** constitute an exceptional circumstance.

3 Absence

A Fixed Penalty Notice may be issued if there are **5 days / 10 sessions** of absence in a period of **10 school weeks** (where absence has not been authorised).

A notice may be issued where the 5-day level of absence has not been reached, for example, if there are several periods of leave.

4 Amount

Within a 3-year period:

The first penalty notice is **£160** if paid within 28 days, reduced to **£80** if paid within 21 days.

A second penalty notice is **£160** to be paid within 28 days.

A third penalty notice cannot be issued. **Legal action** may result (for example, prosecution).

For further information please see Durham County Council website page on school attendance or email AIT@durham.gov.uk

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

TIKTOK

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

TikTok is a video-sharing social media app which lets people create, view and download looping 15-second clips. Typically, these are videos of users lip-syncing and dancing to popular songs or soundbites (often for comic purposes), enhanced with filters, effects and text. Designed with young people in mind, TikTok skyrocketed in popularity in 2019 and has featured near the top of download charts ever since. It now has around a billion users worldwide.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Most videos appearing on a child's feed are light-hearted and amusing. However, some clips have been reported for featuring drug and alcohol abuse, themes of suicide and self-harm, or young teens writing in a sexually suggestive way. The sheer volume of uploads is impossible to moderate entirely – and since TikTok jump's introduction in mid-2021, users can view mini-party content outside the app.

18

CENSORED

EXPLICIT SONGS

TikTok primarily revolves around videos of users lip-syncing and dancing to music. Inevitably, some featured songs will contain explicit or suggestive lyrics. Given the app's young user-base, there is a risk that children may view older users' videos and then be inclined to imitate any explicit language or suggestive actions.

W&A*

TIKTOK FAME

The app has created its own celebrities. Charli D'Amelio and 12 too x, for example, were catapulted to fame by exposure on TikTok – leading to many more teens attempting to go viral and become 'TikTok famous'. While most aspiring stars hoping to be 'the next big thing' will find it difficult, setbacks may in turn prompt them to go to even more drastic lengths to get noticed.



HAZARDOUS VISIBILITY

Connecting with others is central to TikTok, including commenting on and reacting to users' videos, following their profile and downloading their content. The majority of these interactions are harmless, but – because of its abundance of teen users – TikTok has experienced problems with predators contacting young people.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

Like all social media, TikTok is designed to be addictive. It can be hugely entertaining – but that also makes it hard to put down. As well as the punchy nature of the short video format, the app's ability to keep users intrigued about what's coming next means it's easy for a 5-minute visit to turn into a 45-minute stay.

IN-APP SPENDING

There's an in-app option to purchase 'TikTok coins', which are then converted into digital rewards for sending to content creators that a user likes. Prices range from 1p to an eye-watering £88 bundle. TikTok is also connected with Inlayr, which offers users to buy products through the app.

Advice for Parents & Carers

TALK ABOUT ONLINE CONTENT

Assuming your child is above TikTok's age limit, talk to them about what they've viewed on the app. Ask their opinion on what's appropriate and what isn't. Explain why they shouldn't give out personal details or upload videos which reveal information like their school or home address. In the long run, teaching them to think critically about what they see on TikTok could help them to become social-media savvy.

MAINTAIN PRIVACY SETTINGS

The default setting for all under-18s accounts is 'private'. Keeping it that way is the safest solution. It means only users who your child approves can watch their videos. The 'Duet' (which lets users splice clips from other people's videos into their own) and 'Duet' (where you build on another user's content by recording your own video alongside their original) features are how only accessible to over-18s. This might clash with your child's ambitions of social media stardom, but it will fortify their account against predators.

LEARN ABOUT REPORTING AND BLOCKING

With the correct privacy settings applied, TikTok is a relatively safe space. However, in case something does slip through, make sure your child knows how to recognise and report inappropriate content and get them to come to you about anything upsetting that they've seen. TikTok offers users to report anyone breaching its guidelines, while you can also block individual users through their profile.

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

'Family Pairing' lets parents and carers link their own TikTok account to their child's. Through your mobile, you can control your child's safety settings remotely – including limiting screen time, managing their ability to exchange messages (and with whom) and blocking a lot of age-inappropriate content. TikTok's Safety Centre also provides resources for parents and carers to support online safety among families. These resources can be found on their website.

USE RESTRICTED MODE

In the app's 'Digital Wellbeing' section, you can limit out inappropriate content (especially content creators or hashtags, for instance) using 'Restricted Mode'. This can then be locked with a PIN. You should note, though, that the algorithm moderating content isn't totally dependable – so it's wise to stay aware of what your child is watching.

MODERATE SCREEN TIME

As entertaining as TikTok is, you can help your child to manage their time on it in the 'Digital Wellbeing' section. Under 'Screen Time Management', you can limit the daily permitted time on the app (in increments ranging from 40 minutes to two hours). This preference can also be locked behind a PIN. That way, your child can get their regular dose of TikTok without wasting the whole day.

PACT House



CAFE • COMMUNITY HUB • MEETING SPACE

Community Meal

WEDNESDAYS

From 4:30pm @PACT House

Check our Facebook page @Pacthousestanley
each day for whats available

**There is no charge for our meal,
donation welcome of any kind**



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Council