

St Pius Spotlight

'To renew all things in Christ'



02.04.2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

I have been reflecting a lot this week, as it is now one year since I joined St Pius! It has been such an amazing year, and I feel so privileged to be able to work with our amazing children and serve you and our community. I wanted to take the time to thank you all for your support this year – our school community has gone from strength to strength and I am delighted to be able to share the news with you that we have now begun the consultation process to open a Nursery in September 2026! I have emailed the full details to all parents, guardians and stakeholders. Copies of the letter are also available on request from the school office.

Thank you so much for allowing me to be a part of such an amazing school, I really do feel so lucky!

Have a very happy and holy Easter,

Miss Hudson

Attendance

During celebration assembly on Friday, we have been celebrating whole class attendance and each week the class with the highest attendance will receive our Anna the Attendance Cat to live in their class all week!

Well done to Class 1 who won this week.

Week beginning: Monday 30th March 2026



Class 1 – 100%

Class 2 – 98.81%

Class 3 – 97.06%

Class 4 – 98.28%



Our overall school attendance this week was 96.01%. Our attendance target is 96%.

THANK YOU

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A huge thank you to the 'Friends of St Pius' for all their help organising another successful end of term raffle. Well done!



☆☆ If you would like to join the Friends of St Pius to help with their future fundraising endeavours please pop into the school office for more information. ☆☆

A reminder that if you have want your child to be celebrated in our newsletter for any achievements or successes they achieve outside of school please email the school secure email address. ☆☆



In this Sunday's Gospel, John tells us of the discovery of the empty tomb, revealing that Jesus had risen, filling the disciples with awe, belief and the first spark of Easter Joy.



"They saw and believed"

RWI PHONICS – PARENT VISITS

Following on from last weeks newsletter – a reminder that over the coming weeks parents are invited into school to take part in a Phonics (RWI lesson) alongside their child. This session will give you a clearer understanding as to how we teach reading in school and enable you to best support your child at home

As the children are all taught in different groups you will receive a letter stating your own personal date and time.

THERE WILL ALSO BE A PHONICS
INFORMATION EVENING FOR ALL PARENTS
OF CHILDREN IN YEAR 1 ON
28TH APRIL at 4.00 – 4.30.

This meeting will contain VERY important information about the upcoming statutory Phonics Screening Check that is taking place in early June.



Holy Week and Easter Services in Pontop Partnership



Thursday 2nd April Mass of the Lord's Supper

St. Mary's, Blackhill 7.00pm

St. Patrick's, Consett 7.00pm



Good Friday 3rd April

12 noon Churches Together Service

Outside Wetherspoons Consett

Celebration of the Passion of the Lord

Our Lady & St. Joseph, Brooms, 12.30pm

St. Mary's, Blackhill 3.00pm

St. Patrick's, Consett, 3.00pm

St. Pius X, Moorside 3.00pm

Our Lady of the Rosary, Shotley Bridge 3.00pm



Saturday 4th April Holy Saturday Easter Vigil

St. Mary's, Blackhill 7.00pm

St. Patrick's, Consett 7.00pm



Easter Sunday 5th April

St. Patrick's, Consett 9.15am

Our Lady of the Rosary, Shotley Bridge 9.15am

St. Pius, Moorside 11.15am

Our Lady & St. Joseph, Brooms 11.15am



When we return our Menu is Week 1...

Menu Week 1
 APRIL 20th – MAY 11th – JUNE 1st & 22nd – JULY 12th – SEPTEMBER 14th – OCTOBER 5th

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Pizza Margherita with potato wedges or Chinese chicken curry with rice Sweetcorn & Garden peas	Chicken bites with crispy potatoes or Macaroni cheese with garlic bread Carrots & Green beans	Sausage, mash & Yorkshire pudding or Quorn sausage, mash & Yorkshire pudding Mixed vegetables & Garden peas	Chicken pasta bake with garlic bread or Cheese & tomato panini Sweetcorn & Broccoli	Fish fingers & chips or Quorn nuggets & chips Baked beans & Garden peas
Chocolate brownie	Iced sponge cake	Flapjack	Muffin	Ice cream pot

FOR ALLERGENS AND NUTRITIONAL INFORMATION SCAN THE QR CODE

Plain pasta, basil and tomato sauce, sandwiches, jacket potatoes and a variety of fillings are available daily as an alternative to our main courses. We also offer a salad & fruit bar to accompany your child's meal. Yoghurts, cheese and crackers are also available daily, as an alternative dessert option, cold drinks also supplied.

PLEASE GET IN TOUCH VIA THE SCHOOL OFFICE IF YOUR CHILD HAS AN ALLERGY OR SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENT. YOUR CATERING TEAM WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO DISCUSS HOW WE CAN PROVIDE TAILORED MENUS TO CATER FOR YOUR CHILD'S NEEDS.

Bishop Wilkison Catholic Education Trust - PRIMARY SCHOOL, THREE GREENS, NEW MENU CYCLE FOR SPRING/SUMMER 2024



A HUGE thank you to Mrs Kennedy and Miss Orr for our delicious Easter Dinner. I think the smiles say it all!



EASTER EGGS AND BONNETS

Take a look at some of the amazing creations that were entered into the St Pius Easter Egg and Bonnet competition.

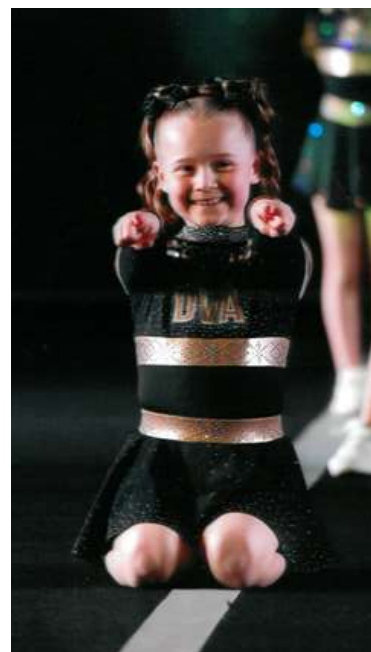
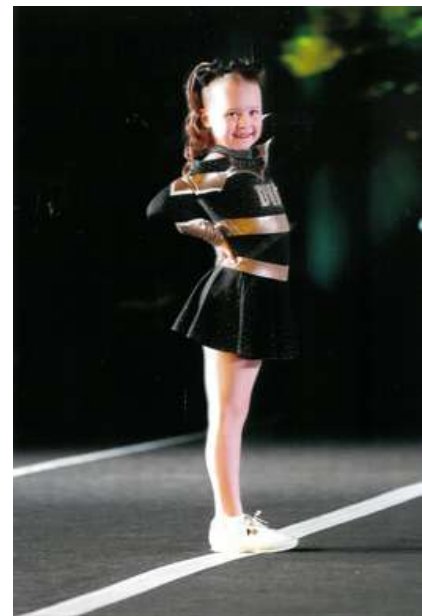
I'm sure you'll agree that they are 'egg'straordinary!



CHEERLEADING SUCCESS

Three of our talented students competed at Revolution Rise, a cheerleading competition, last weekend in Newcastle. Well done to Daisy (Class 4), Poppy (Class 4) and Sienna (Class 2). Poppy and Daisy were placed as 'excellent' and their team came first.

Sienna's team also scored as 'excellent' and she has been asked to join the Under 8 team alongside her own current team. A huge well done girls – we are very proud of you all!



Dance Success

Well done to Afiya (Class 2) who was awarded some trophies for her amazing dancing. Well done!



Mini Police

Class 4 have had visits from the police over the last 3 weeks – they have learnt about the different vehicles that the police use, who to contact in an emergency and the risks of anti-social behaviour in the community. They finished the last session by dressing up in 'real' police uniform.



EASTER HOLIDAYS FUN AND FOOD EVENTS



Be a good egg this Easter



We're thrilled to see so many children and young people excited about our Fun & Food programme!

But here's the challenge: some parents are booking spaces, and children aren't showing up.



Please keep our amazing programme available to as many families as possible

When a child misses their session, a funded space is wasted and another eligible child misses out on fun activities and a nutritious meal.



Only book sessions that your child can attend

Please cancel if you can't make it so another child can attend. Providers have been asked not to accept future bookings from families who repeatedly miss sessions without explanation.



Thank you, we really appreciate your egg-stra support



This ticket entitles your child to access free Easter Fun & Food holiday activities

Department for Education
FUN & FOOD

To book your child's free place visit <https://events.durham.gov.uk/funandfood>

Booking system goes live 16 March 2026 at 12 noon
Scan the QR code to access the booking system

Durham County Council



BOOK FAIR

Join us for our Book Fair during the week 22nd – 28th April

3 books for the price of 2

Buy 2 books and get the 3rd (the cheapest) free!

The Book fair will be open to parents each night after school on the above dates

SCHOLASTIC TRAVELLING BOOKS

Every book you buy earns **FREE BOOKS** for our school!

COME TO OUR BOOK FAIR

AND FIND YOUR NEXT FAVOURITE READ!

3 BOOKS FOR THE PRICE OF 2

DOG MAN
BIG JIM BELIEVES
DAVE PILKEY

DIARY of a Wimpy Kid
PARTYPOOPER

POKÉMON
MEGA EVOLUTION HANDBOOK

Capbara Kingdom
Cara
Emma Terry

The Scarecrows' Wedding
JILL DONKERSON-ALLSOP/PIE

TOM GATES
PESKY PETS PARTIES
GAIL PITCHER

GO ALL IN.
National Year of Reading 2026

DATE: 22 – 28 April TIME: After School

LOCATION: St Pius School

Scan to pay securely online!

What you need to know about...

MUSIC STREAMING APPS & SITES



Get all our guides, tips & advice on our website



Bring this to you by
National Online Safety
www.nationalonlinesafety.com

Read the App

Search Artists

What are they? 'Music Streaming Apps & Sites'

Music streaming apps allow people to listen to music on their own devices. People usually access millions of songs and artists from around the world. Popular music streaming apps and sites include Spotify, SoundCloud, Apple Music, Amazon Prime, and Deezer. Music streaming allows artists to get their music to a global audience in a much easier and cheaper way. This enables them to release their talent which would have been very hard to do many years back.

Know the Risks

Explicit content

Explicit content is content that is explicit, including profanity, violence, drug use, and sexual activity. Explicit content may be found in songs or lyrics, but it may also be found in the song's title, lyrics, or album art. It is available to a large audience and is often found on music streaming services.

Adult themed podcasts

Podcasts are audio recordings that can be downloaded to a smartphone or tablet. Some podcasts are adult-themed and may contain explicit content, including profanity, violence, and sexual activity. It is important to be aware of the content of the podcasts you are listening to.

Chatting to strangers

Some music apps, like YouTube, allow users to chat with other users and to post comments. Some users may use these features to harass or bully other users. It is important to be aware of the risks of chatting to strangers online.

Safety Tips

Use child friendly apps

Many music streaming apps are made just for children. For example, the Spotify Kids app gives the parents a lot of control over what the children listen to and allows them to family-friendly and fun for children to use.



Turn off explicit content

Most of the music streaming apps allow you to turn off explicit content. This means that you can listen to music without hearing explicit content. It is important to be aware of the risks of explicit content and to turn it off when you are listening to music.

Implement privacy controls

Check the privacy settings of your child's app. Some music streaming apps allow you to share your location with other users. It is important to be aware of the risks of sharing your location and to turn off location sharing when you are using the app.



Offering Support

Explore apps yourself

It is a good idea to explore music streaming apps yourself. This means that you can see what the apps are like and what they offer. It is important to be aware of the risks of using music streaming apps and to explore them yourself.

Regularly check-in

It is important to regularly check in with your child about their music streaming app use. This means that you can see what they are listening to and what they are doing. It is important to be aware of the risks of using music streaming apps and to check in with your child regularly.

Our Expert Parven Kaur



Parven Kaur is a social media expert and digital media consultant who is passionate about protecting rights. Her focus is on parents and children in the social media arena and she is the founder of Safe4Kids, a web resource that helps parents and children thrive in a digital world.



Dates for Your Diary

EASTER HOLIDAYS 03.04.26—19.04.26

20.04.26: Summer Term begins

21.04.26: Class 3 PE trip – am only – please wear PE kits

23.04.26: Class 3 PE trip – pm only – please wear PE kits

24.04.26: Class 2 Celebration of the Word 2.45pm (followed by Coffee and chat)

28.04.26: Phonics Screening Check Parent Information Evening 4pm

29.04.26: Class 3 Assembly 9am

04.05.26: BANK HOLIDAY – SCHOOL CLOSED

06.05.26: Class 4 Assembly 9am

08.05.26: Non-uniform day—bring a bottle

11.05.26–14.05.26: KS2 SATs

15.05.26: Mary Day – a celebration of Mary led by Class 1 at 2.45pm, all are welcome

15.05.26: Class 2 PE Trip PM

20.05.26: Class 2 PE Trip PM

22.05.26: Pentecost Procession 2.45pm

22.05.26: Non-uniform day crafts, chocolates, toys

HALF TERM 23.05.26—31.05.26

04.06.26: Class 4 PE Trip all day

05.06.26: Class 4 Celebration of the Word 2.45pm (followed by Coffee and chat)

08.06.26: Phonics Screening Check week

10.06.26: Class 1 Assembly

12.06.26: Non-uniform day—bring a bottle

19.06.26: Class 3 Celebration of the Word 2.45pm (followed by Coffee and chat)

23.06.26: Y6 YMT festival at Emmaus village – all day

24.06.26: Class 2 Assembly

25.06.26: St Bede's Uniform evening for Y6 parents

26.06.26: Non-uniform day—crafts, chocolates, toys

29.06.26: Reception class PE Trip PM

01.07.26–02.07.26: St Bede's Transition days for Year 6

02.07.26: Transition day in school

03.07.26: Non-uniform day—£1 contribution

06.07.26: Y6 Leavers performance dress rehearsal for the rest of the school

07.07.26: Y6 Leavers performance 4pm

08.07.26: Y6 class party trip

09.07.26: Summer Fayre 2.30pm onwards

10.07.26: Sports Day – parents invited from 1.30pm onwards

13.07.26–15.07.26: Robinwood residential for Class 4

16.07.26: School Raffle Draw 2pm

17.07.26: Y6 Leavers mass at St Pius X Church 10am

Please note that new dates have been added in red to make them clear. If there are changes to dates we will endeavour to inform you in good time.

Monday 20th July – Monday 31st August – Summer Holidays 2026