

St Pius Spotlight

'To renew all things in Christ'

13th July 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you all for your support this year! We have had a wonderful time, achieved so much and made so many memories.

We are very proud of our Year 6 pupils and those other pupils moving on from us.

Thank you for your continued support and have a wonderful Summer Holidays!
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 3 who won this week.
Week beginning: Monday 13th July 2026



Class 1 – 97.5%

Class 2 – 90%

Class 3 – 98.82%

Class 4 – 98.62%



Our overall school attendance this week was 96.13%. Our attendance target is 96%.



In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus teaches that listening to God and spending time with Him should be at the heart of all we do.

"Make time for God first—His words are more valuable than anything else."



Class 4 Trip to Robinwood

Class 4 had a fantastic three-day residential trip to Robinwood, where they challenged themselves, developed teamwork skills and made memories that will last a lifetime. During their stay, the children took part in a wide range of exciting activities, including Quest escape rooms, climbing, the crate challenge, caving, trapeze, The Giant Swing, the blindfolded Night Live, canoeing, team games, the zip wire, challenge course, mountain and crag team. They showed great courage, resilience and determination throughout the trip, supporting one another every step of the way. We are incredibly proud of how well they represented our school. Well done.

Class 4!



=ADVENTURE=

Sports Day and Summer Raffle

We had a wonderful Sports Day filled with enthusiasm, determination and great team spirit from all of our pupils. It was fantastic to see everyone taking part and supporting one another throughout the day. We would also like to thank all families and friends who supported our Summer Raffle. The raffle was a great success, and we are very grateful for your generosity and continued support of our school community.





Football Success !!!



Congratulations to Thomas and Filip, whose football team, Consett Lisbon, enjoyed an outstanding season. The team achieved double promotion from their league and were also crowned Spring Cup winners.

As an additional achievement, Thomas was presented with the Players' Player of the Year Award at the team's recent presentation evening, recognising the respect and appreciation of his teammates for his performances throughout the season. Well done to Thomas, Filip and the whole Consett Lisbon team on their fantastic success!



Water Safety

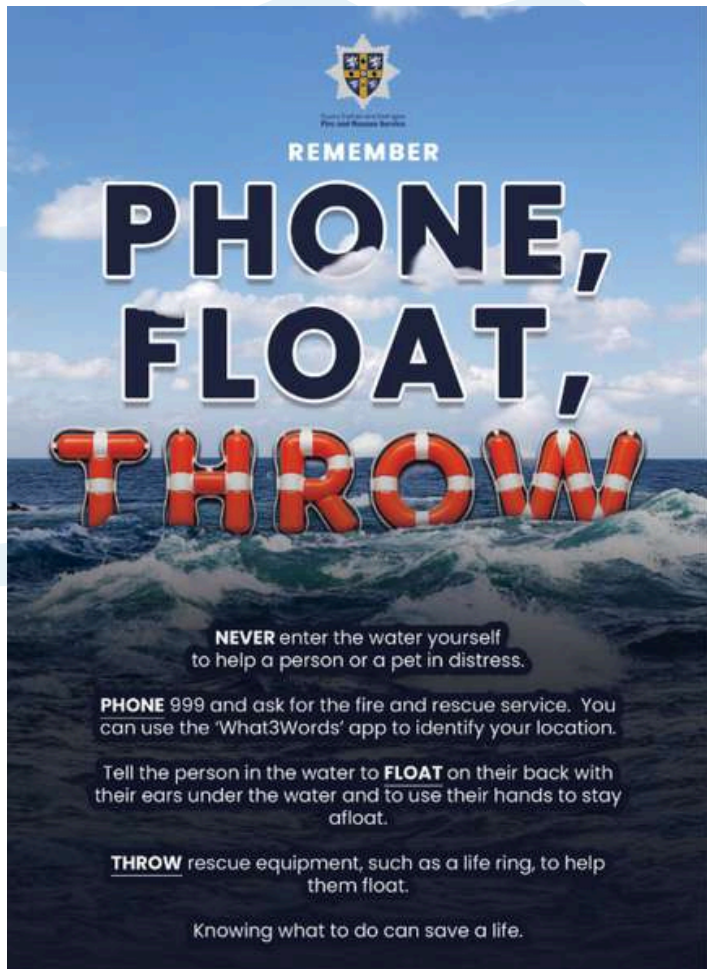
As the summer holidays approach, it is important that children understand how to stay safe around water.

Learning simple water safety rules can help prevent accidents and save lives.

We encourage all families to discuss water safety and remind children to make safe choices whenever they are near water.

Water Safety Checklist

- Always swim with an adult nearby.
- Never swim alone.
- Follow lifeguards' instructions and safety signs.
- Stay within designated swimming areas.
- Wear a life jacket when appropriate.
- Avoid swimming in unfamiliar water.
- Know how to call for help in an emergency.
- Stay safe, have fun, and enjoy the water responsibly this summer!



WATER SMART, WATER SAFE.

Local Transport Deals & Discounts

Swap the stress of driving to scenic spots and use

The NEW
Durham Explorer
bus services

Enjoy up to **25% discount off key attractions** when you travel by bus!

Bus fares start from just £2.50, and kids go free.

Explore County Durham by bus every Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holiday from 23rd May - 31st Aug 2026.



durham.gov.uk/DurhamExplorer

NE North East Combined Authority | North East Mayor

this is durham

Durham County Council

travelnortheast.uk/kids

Between 18 July - 31 August 2026

Back again this summer

kids go free!

B BUSES

Up to three kids aged 11 and under travel free when accompanied by a customer with a valid adult ticket.*

*The full terms and conditions please visit: travelnortheast.uk/kids. Proof of identity may need to be required.

North East Mayoral Strategic Authority | Kim McGuinness North East Mayor

Special Offers for Durham Explorer Tourist Buses

Ushaw	25% discount on day passes.
Beamish Museum	25% discount on a standard individual admission charge.
Locomotion	10% discount for any visitor in the cafe with a valid ticket showing they have travelled to Locomotion by bus that day. Discount would not be transferrable and cannot be combined with any other discount/concession.
Raby Castle	10% discount on admission tickets which includes Raby Castle, Deer Park and Gardens and The Plotters' Forest. 2 for 1 museum entry.
The Bowes Museum	
High Force Waterfall	10% discount.
The Auckland Project	20% Bishop's Key discount offer.
Crook Hall Gardens	25% off admission.

Visitors can also get discounts in the above venues if travelling by regular buses (except for High Force Waterfall as that's not confirmed yet).

Some venues also provide the same discount if visitors travelled by train/bike/car-free (check the website here for details: <https://www.northeast-ca.gov.uk/daysoutbybus>)

Visitors need to retain their ticket/proof of travel and buy tickets on the site to be eligible for the discounts.



What's on in the community..

CREATIVE KITCHEN

COOKING CAMPS

MINI BAKERS

- 5-11 years.
- Thursday's 23rd, 30th July. 6th and 13th August. 10-2pm
- Create delicious bakes, decorate sweet treats and wow us with your showstopper creations!

Food Explorers

- 8-12 years
- Tuesday's 21st and 28th July. 4th and 11th August 10-2pm
- Travel the world through food as you cook exciting recipes and discover new flavours.

Teen Takeover

- 11- 16 years
- Friday 24th July
- 10.00-1.30pm
- Take over the kitchen with real recipes, new skills and confidence to cook like a pro!

THOSE WHO HAVE A FUN AND FOOD TICKET CAN BOOK USING THE QR CODE OR LINK PROVIDED BY SCHOOL. WE HAVE LIMITED PAID FOR PLACES AVAILABLE VISIT WWW.CREATIVE-KITCHEN.CO.UK FOR MORE INFO

✉ info@creative-kitchen.co.uk
 🌐 www.creative-kitchen.co.uk
 ☎ 07970575509

FUN & FOOD

Partners in partnership with Durham County Council

Creative Kitchen Summer Holiday Activities

Creative Kitchen is once again partnering with Durham County Council's Fun & Food Programme to offer a range of FREE holiday cooking activities for eligible children this summer. Sessions include Mini Bakers, Food Explorers and Teen Takeover, giving children the opportunity to learn new cooking skills, try delicious recipes and have lots of fun.

Funded places can be booked through the Fun & Food portal by searching for Creative Kitchen. A limited number of paid places are also available for families not eligible for funded spaces via www.creative-kitchen.co.uk.

Family sessions for 18mOnths- 7 yrs

Teddy Bar Bakers
Wednesday 22nd July, 10.00-11.30PM
Ages 18 months -5years.

Moana inspired Cupcakes & Crafts
Wednesday 29th July, 10.00-11.30AM
Ages 18 months - 7 Years

Royal Bakers: Princess Cupcakes & Crafts Workshop
Saturday 1st August, 10.00-11.30AM
Ages 18 months-7 Years

Little Builders: Construction Cookies & Crafts Workshop
Wednesday 5th August, 10-11.30AM
Ages 18 months- 7 Years

Fairy Bakers: Toadstool Cupcakes & Crafts
Wednesday 5th August, 1.00-2.30PM
Ages 3-7 Years

Dino Cooking & Crafts
Saturday 8th August, 10-11.30AM
Ages 18 months - 7 Years.

Pokemon Cooking & Crafty Fun
Saturday 15th August 10.00-11.30AM
Ages 18 months- 7 years.

Little Chef- drop off sessions (5-11 yrs)

Mini Bakers
Thursday's 23rd, 30th July. 6th and 13th August, 10-2PM
Ages 5-8 years

Football cooking and crafty fun.
Wednesday 29th July, 1.00-2.30PM
Ages 5-11 years.

Pokemon Cooking & Crafty Fun
Wednesday 10th August 10.00-11.30AM
Ages 5-11 years.

Fashion Cupcakes & Crafts
Friday 7th August, 10.00-11.30AM
Ages 5-11 years

Rainbow cupcakes and crafts
Saturday 8th August , 1.00-2.30PM
Ages 5-11 years

Junior Chef 8-12 years

Food Explorers
Tuesday's 21st and 28th July. 4th and 11th August.
Ages 8-12 Years 10-2PM

Jellycat inspired cupcakes
Wednesday 22nd July, 1.00-2.30PM
Ages 8-12 Years

Wonka Workshop
Wednesday 10th August 1.00-2.30PM
Ages 8-12 years.

Pre/Teen Teens

Teen Takeover
Friday 24th July, 10-1.30pm
Ages 11-16 Years.

Teen Cook Club
Friday 7th August 4.30-6.30pm
Ages 11-16 Years.

CREATIVE KITCHEN

🌐 www.creative-kitchen.co.uk
 ✉ info@creative-kitchen.co.uk

📍 Creative kitchen HQ
1 Gibson Street
Consett, DH8 5LB

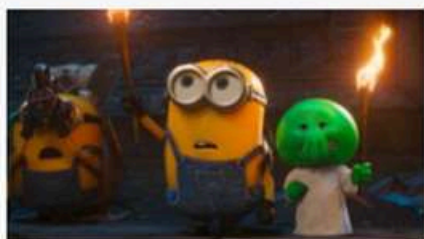


Empire Consett



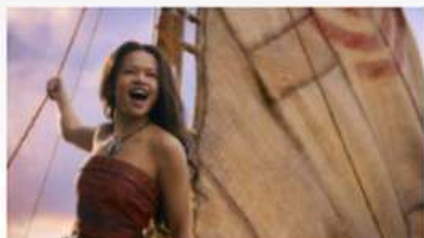
Toy Story 5

Friday 17 July to Thursday 30 July



Minions & Monsters

Friday 31 July to Thursday 6 August



Moana

Friday 7 August to Thursday 13 August



Book online: empireconsett.co.uk

Empire Box Office: 03000 262 400

 Tickets: £5 per person or 5 tickets for £20 



BROCKWELL COURT CARE HOME

SUMMER FAIR

FREE
ENTRY

Saturday 1st August 2026
2pm onwards

Brockwell Court Care Home, 9 Cobden
Street, Consett, DH86AH

- Local Business Stalls
- Indoor Bouncy Castle & Face Painter
- 'The Ultimate Whippy' Ice Cream Van
- Hot Dogs and Burgers
- Fire Brigade and Police*
- The Biking Vikings
- Garden Games
- Raffle
- Tombola

AND lots more!

*subject to availability



School lunch information....

The Menu for the first week back after the holidays (from 2nd September) will be Week 2...

Menu Week 2

APRIL 21st - MAY 18th - JUNE 9th & 30th - AUGUST 31st - SEPTEMBER 30th - OCTOBER 12th

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Pizza Margherita with potato wedges or Chicken goujons with wedges Sweetcorn & Garden peas School cake	Hot dogs* & tortilla chips or Mild chicken korma with rice & naan bread Carrots & Green beans Belgian waffle	Chicken dinner with roasties & Yorkshire pudding or Cheese & tomato panini Mixed vegetables & Garden peas Muffin	Beef lasagne with garlic bread or Pasta meatballs* with garlic bread Sweetcorn & Broccoli Shortbread biscuit	Battered fish & chips or Quorn nuggets & chips Baked beans & Garden peas Ice cream pot

Garden Kitchen

*vegetarian alternative available

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 WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST - PRIMARY SCHOOL THREE WEEK MENU CYCLE FOR SPRING/SUMMER 2024

Mud Kitchen Donations Needed

We are looking for donations of old kitchen items for our Mud Kitchen. If you have any unwanted plastic plates, bowls, jugs, utensils, old pots and pans, or other child-safe kitchen equipment, we would be very grateful to receive them.

Please ensure all items are clean and free from sharp edges.

Thank you for your support!

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

DEALING WITH TRAUMATIC & CHALLENGING EVENTS

Children and young people may face a wide range of traumatic or challenging events – from bereavement and illness to bullying, family breakdowns, or witnessing violence. These experiences can affect their mental health, behaviour, relationships, and academic progress. With the right support from trusted adults, children can begin to feel safe, rebuild resilience, and develop healthy coping strategies. This guide offers practical and empathetic ways to provide support and promote positive outcomes.

1 A PREDICTABLE ENVIRONMENT

Children who have experienced trauma often feel unsafe or uncertain. Creating routines, setting clear expectations, and maintaining consistency can help restore a sense of security. This structure offers reassurance and helps children feel more in control of their surroundings.

2 USE LANGUAGE THAT MATCHES THEIR AGE

Speak clearly and sensitively, choosing words that are appropriate for the child's age. Avoid overwhelming them with too much information at once. Offer gentle, honest explanations and focus on reassurance, especially when talking about difficult or sensitive subjects.

3 TRAUMA AND THE BODY

Mention briefly that trauma can show up in physical ways, such as changes in sleep, appetite, concentration, or as physical aches and pains. Consider this before labelling behaviour as 'difficult' or 'lazy'. Some children may become withdrawn, while others may be more outwardly challenging. Highlight that there's no 'one size' children respond.

4 AVOID RETELLING OR RELIVING TRAUMA

Children sometimes get teased to explain or repeat their experience multiple times. Finding a balance of when to listen and when to gently redirect can help to avoid unnecessary re-traumatisation. Acknowledge, but don't probe for detail unless safeguarding procedures require it.

5 AVOID DISMISSING OR MINIMISING FEELINGS

Seemingly well-meaning comments like "It's not that bad" or "You're okay" may shut down children's emotional expression and are often not helpful. Instead, acknowledge what they're feeling, even if it seems small, validating a child's emotions helps them feel seen and encourages open communication in future.

6 UNDERSTAND HOW THEY'RE FEELING

Many children don't have the words to express their emotions, especially during distress. Supporting them to name what they're feeling – such as angry, scared or sad – builds emotional literacy. Tools like emotion charts, drawing, or storytelling can help externalise feelings in a safe, manageable way.

7 BE AWARE OF YOUR OWN RESPONSES

Children pick up on adult emotions and reactions, often mirroring them. Staying calm, even in challenging situations, helps children feel more secure. Practising your own self-regulation is an important way to model healthy stress management and encourages children to do the same.

8 SEEK PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT

While many children benefit from everyday emotional support, some will need more specialised help. If symptoms persist, worsen, or disrupt their daily life, consult with school safeguarding leads, a GP, or a mental health professional. Early intervention can prevent long-term difficulties and support healthy recovery.

9 MAINTAIN CONNECTION

Isolation can worsen the impact of trauma. Encourage involvement in group activities, praise their efforts, and ensure they feel like a valued part of the school or family community. Meaningful connection with trusted adults and peers builds resilience and a sense of belonging.

10 BE PATIENT – HEALING TAKES TIME

There's no quick fix for emotional recovery. Children may have good days and setbacks, and progress may not always be visible or linear. Your ongoing support, patience, and presence can help them move forward at their own pace, knowing they are not alone.

Meet Our Expert

This guide has been written by Anna Botaman. Anna is passionate about placing prevention at the heart of every school by integrating mental wellbeing within the curriculum, school culture, and systems. She has been a member of the advisory group for the Department for Education, advising them on their mental health green paper.



The National College

Dates for Your Diary

01.09.26 – INSET day, school closed

02.09.26 – Autumn term begins

07.09.26 – Meet the teacher evening 3.30 – 4pm

02.10.26 – Reception and Y6 buddies' liturgy 9.10am

16.10.26 – Class 3 assembly 9.10am

26.10.26–30.10.26 – Half Term

02.11.26 – Halloween disco 3.30–4.30pm

02.11.26–06.11.26 – Bikeability week for Class 4

09.11.26 and 10.11.26 – Parents' evenings

11.11.26 – 10.30am Remembrance Day Service in School

20.11.26 – Class 2 Assembly 9.10am

23.11.26 and 30.11.26 – SEND review meetings – appointments will be sent out closer to the time

03.12.26 – Christmas Fayre 2.30pm

10.12.26 – EYFS and KS1 Christmas Show PM

11.12.26 – KS2 Christmas Show PM

15.12.26 – Pantomime Trip 10am

16.12.26 – EYFS and KS1 Christmas party PM

Dates for Your Diary Continued ...

17.12.26 – KS2 Christmas party PM

18.12.26 – Christmas Raffle 1.30pm – children may leave after the raffle

21.12.26 – 01.01.27 – Christmas Holidays

04.01.27 – INSET day, school closed

08.01.27 – Class 4 Celebration of the Word (The Epiphany – 9.10am)

22.01.27 – Class 1 and 2 Celebration of the Word (Baptism of the Lord – 9.10am)

10.02.27 – Ash Wednesday Service in school – Time TBC

11.02.27 – Valentine's Day Disco 3.30pm

15.02.27 – 19.02.27 – Half Term

01.03.27 and 02.03.27 – Parents' evenings

04.03.27 – World Book Day

05.03.27 – Class 3 Celebration of the Word (Lent) 9.10am

15.03.27 and 22.03.27 – SEND review meetings – appointments will be sent out closer to the time

22.03.27 – Palm Sunday procession 2.45pm – all welcome

24.03.27 – Maundy Thursday and Good Friday Celebration of the Word 9.10am – all welcome

25.03.27 – Easter Raffle 1.30pm

26.03.27 – 04.04.27 – Easter Holidays

23.04.27 – Class 4 Assembly 9.10am

07.05.27 – Class 3 Assembly 9.10am

Dates for Your Diary Continued ...

10.05.27 – KS2 SATs week

14.05.27 – Pentecost procession 2.45pm – all welcome

21.05.27 – Class 2 Assembly 9.10am

28.05.27 – Class 1 Assembly 9.10am

31.05.27 – 04.06.27 – Half term

10.06.27 – Summer Fayre 2.30pm

25.06.27 – Sports' Day 1.30pm

28.06.27 and 05.07.27 – SEND review meetings – appointments will be sent out closer to the time

09.07.27 – Year 6 Leavers' Mass 10am

13.07.27 – Year 6 Beach Trip – all day

15.07.27 – Year 6 Leavers' performance 4pm

16.07.27 – Summer Raffle 1.30pm

19.07.27 – 21.07.27 – INSET days, school closed

22.07.27 – 03.09.27 – Summer Holidays

06.09.27 – INSET day, school closed

07.09.27 – 2027/28 academic year begins.

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.