

# St Benet's RC Primary School

Ouston, Chester-le-Street, Durham, DH2 1QX

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## Upcoming Events

**April 23** - St George's Day- to celebrate the feast day of our nation's saint, we are having a non-uniform day and children can come to school wearing red, white and/or blue

**April 25** - Year 1 Mass, 9.15am

**April 27** - Year 5's Collective Worship (Y5 Classroom), 9.00am

**April 27** - 'Melanoma Me' parents workshop- come along and join us for a workshop that aims to raise awareness about melanoma. 9.15am, school hall

**April 27** - 'Walking for Water' Day- information to follow after Easter

**April 27** - All Stars Cricket Roadshow (Years 1-3), in school (**NEW EVENT**)

**April 30** - Sacrament of Reconciliation for Y4 children, 6pm at St Joseph's Church (**NEW EVENT**)

**May 2** - People of the Parish Mass, 9.15am (TBC)

**May 2** - Friends of St Benet's Meeting, 3:30pm - please come along and join the fun. It's summer fayre time!

**May 4** - Play in a Day for Year 5. Parents are welcome to come along and watch the performance at 2:45pm.

**May 7** - School Closed for May Day

Dear Parents, Carers and Governors,

Welcome back to the bright and cheerful Summer term. I hope you all had a wonderful Easter break with lots of chocolate and family time!



## Father Duffy Retiring

We found out early this week that sadly, Father Duffy shall be retiring as parish priest sometime within the next two weeks. As a serving priest for 55 years and a parish priest at St Joseph's for approximately 30 years, he will be a huge miss to our community. There will be a special Mass for Father lead by the children of St Benet's sometime in the near future. As of yet, we do not know who the replacement priest shall be but we will keep you updated in due course. Father Duffy has promised that as he will be living in the parish, he will still pop into school and church so he isn't getting away from us that easily! Please keep Father Duffy in your prayers.

## Home Reading Support

Our children love to receive their reading reward certificates and overall, Reading is one of our strongest subjects in school. However, teachers are becoming more concerned about the children who are not reading at home. Reading with your children will enhance their English understanding and development as a whole. Please continue to read with your child at home; it is incredibly important for their education.



## Walking for Water Challenge

On **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> April**, we shall be supporting the WE foundation and the UNICEF Rights of the Child by partaking in a worldwide sponsored event. Children from Reception to Year 6 shall be participating in a water challenge where in groups, they will complete relay activities around the school field. Walking with water in a jug, they will move around the field completing so many laps (age dependent). On Monday, your child will receive a sponsorship form and children can be sponsored to complete this event. It isn't compulsory to be sponsored, yet all funds raised shall go to the WE foundation which supports those in developing countries who walk to access water every day.

Wishing you all a wonderful, sunshine-filled weekend!

Catherine Harper (Head teacher)

*'A happy and holy place of learning, and the centre of a thriving community'*

## Melanoma Me Parent's Workshop- Next Friday 27<sup>th</sup> April

In memory of the beautiful and much loved Amanda Seymour, we have paired up with Melanoma Me and are holding an awareness session for parents and carers. Please come along and meet people from the charity that was very close to Amanda's heart to find out about melanoma and what we can do to prevent it. The workshop shall be held on **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> April, 9.15am**. Tea, coffee and sweet treats shall be served. Everyone is welcome.

Year 3 and Year 4 are  
the attendance  
winners this week – **100%**



## Gold Book Winners (Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April)

Miss Harper- **Zara Blondrage**

Miss Caulfield- **Matthew Hall**

Mrs Lauder- **Aran Huey**

Miss Loughlin – **Olivia Reed**

Miss Williamson – **Fionn Donnelly**

Mrs Rowley – **Ellen Simcox**

Mrs McNally – **Reily Pomphrett**

Mrs Brown – **Jayden Doherty**

Mrs Donaghy- **Harrison Hurrell**

Miss O'Sullivan – **Teddy Forster-Bowater**

Mr Kent – **Kaden Lee**

Mrs Stone- **Oliver Reed**

Mrs Bissell- **Leah Burrell**

Mr McQueen- **Mackenzie Prested**

Mrs Hanley- **Conrad Bellerby**

Mrs Malpass – **Dominic Bradley**

Mr Rooney- **Neve Watson**

Mrs Finley- **Lilly Hartley**

Mrs Tallentire- **Anna Atack**

Mrs Wealleans- **Fraizer Brown**



## Dogs on school premises

Thank you to those parents who come to pick up their children with their four legged friend and who leave their dogs at the gate, outside of school premises. Please can you ensure that dogs do not come into the school playground (which includes carrying them under arms).

## Earrings –not for school.

Earrings are NOT to be worn for school. There are some children who continue to wear earrings after having their ears pierced a long time ago. They should not be worn for school, with or without the micropore or masking tape. This is for health and safety reasons. Please ensure that your child is not wearing earrings for school next week. If children do need to wear earrings for justifiable reasons, please provide a letter of explanation. Thank you for your cooperation.

## Statements to Live By

This week's Statement to Live By is...



*'I know how to help others when they are in trouble'*

This week, we have discussed how we can help others; others at home and others at school. Talk to your child about the benefits of helping others and how we know when someone needs help.



*'A happy and holy place of learning, and the centre of a thriving community'*

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