



St Benet's Catholic Primary School

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

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Newsletter: Friday 16th May 2025

Statement to Live By (next week's)

I can work, play, rest and pray
each day

Headteacher News

Dear Parents, Carers and Governors,

First of all, I would like to start this week's newsletter by congratulating our **Year 6 children** for completing their KS2 SATS this week. We want to applaud them as they have shown incredible determination, focus, and resilience throughout their SATs, and we couldn't be prouder of them. All of the hard work, early mornings, and revision sessions have truly paid off and whether they found the tests easy or challenging, what matters most is the effort that they have put in and the positive attitude they brought to school each day. Well done Year 6!



Our **Year 4 and Year 5 children** are away on their exciting residential trip at the Youth Mission Village and school has certainly felt a little quieter—but we know they're making unforgettable memories! From walks in the Derwent Valley to Escape Room activities, they're learning new skills, growing in confidence, and strengthening friendships. We can't wait to hear all about their experiences when they return this afternoon!

Healthy Well-being Session

Just a reminder that we have our Healthy Well-being Session coming up on **Monday 19th May**. Please see the information below and pop along to school if you can.

Year of Jubilee Competition

The deadline for the Diocesan **Year of Jubilee** competition is **Friday 23rd May**. If any of our children fancy testing out their photography skills and wish to enter, please see the information below.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Kindest regards,
Catherine Young



Pope Leo XIV

We're excited that we have a new leader of the Catholic Church – **Pope Leo XIV**. Born in Chicago, USA, Pope Leo has already captured hearts around the world with his kindness, sense of humour, and love for children. As a boy, he used to play "pretend priest" using his mum's ironing board as an altar. He's also a big sports fan, especially of baseball and tennis, and he believes in showing kindness and courage in everything we do. Pope Leo reminds us that even the most important people were once children with big dreams. Let's keep him in our prayers as he begins this special journey.

A Prayer for Pope Leo

Dear God,
Thank You for giving us Pope Leo to lead and guide Your Church.
Bless him with wisdom, strength, and kindness as he shares
Your love with the world.
Help him to be a light of hope, peace, and joy for all people.
Keep him safe and close to You every day.
May he always feel the prayers and support of children
everywhere.

Amen



'Benet's in Bloom' – Gardening Plea

As you know, school budgets are very strained these days and have very little money for some of the 'nice things' that we would like for our school. As we prepare to celebrate our 50th Birthday, we would love to spruce up the school grounds and enjoy some 'Benet's in Bloom!' Therefore, we are asking if anyone has any spare or unwanted garden pots that could be donated to school so we could plant some flowers. We would also be very appreciative of any bedding plants, bags of compost, hanging baskets etc. I know our Y6 children would love to do some gardening now SATS are over! Any gardening items would be gratefully appreciated. Thank you in advance!



London Meeting for Parents/Children

There is a meeting for all Y6 children and parents on **Tuesday 20th May at 3:30pm** in the Y6 classroom.

If anyone is unable to attend, please let us know so we can ensure you are provided with the information.



Leave of Absence Requests

We have received an increase in the amount of leave of absence requests for holidays during term time. If any of these holidays are for 5 days or more, they are sent to the local authority who may issue a fixed penalty notice. This has happened to some families this year.

School Ties Reminder

We still have some children not wearing a tie with their shirt or polo shirt and they are reminded about it in school by staff each day. Please remember that a school tie is a mandatory item of our school uniform. We have some ties to purchase in school.

Healthy Eating and Wellbeing Session for Parents

How can Healthy Eating improve your Mental Wellbeing?



- Increase food familiarity - widen the taste experiences of healthy foods
- Increase fibre intake - more wholegrains and fruits and vegetables, healthy snack swaps
- Increase 5 a day portions - snack swaps, healthy food access and including fruits and vegetables throughout the day
- How do foods affect behaviour / mood / energy levels / sleep
- Healthy weights / exercise



Come along to St Benet's Catholic Primary School

on
Monday 19th May 2025
from
13:00 till 15:00



DurhamLEARN

Year of Jubilee Competition

YEAR OF JUBILEE COMPETITION

Signs of hope!

Whatever your sign of hope is - simply take a picture and share it with us using edu.entries@diocesehn.org.uk

Include your name, year group, school name and postcode.

Deadline: Friday 23 May 2025

Winners announced: Thursday 5 June 2025

There is one simple rule:

No people are allowed in your picture!



ONE DIOCESAN FAMILY
WELCOMING + WORSHIPING + SHARING + GROWING



St Benet's Golden Jubilee

Our school is **50 on Monday 2nd June 2025**. We have a lot of activities planned for that week, however we are asking parents to please come along to our special anniversary Mass on Friday 6th June.

If anyone has a lovely memory of St Benet's (as a parent or a past pupil), please send it into school via email as we would love to add it to our memory book.



Arbor Payments

Please ensure that all payments for wraparound care and trips are paid for and your Arbor system is up to date. It is particularly important that the payments for the Y6 London trip are paid so we can book and pay for the activities that we wish to take the children to. Thank you.



Whole School Mass

Please join us next **Friday 23rd May** for our next whole school Mass (Nursery to Y6) where we shall celebrate Mary, our Mother.

