

St. Patrick's Post

Friday 4th September 2026

Issue #1



We follow in Christ's footsteps

Dear Friends of St. Patrick's,

It is my absolute pleasure to introduce myself as the new executive headteacher of St. Patrick's. This is a school with a rich history, and one which also holds a lot of significance within my own family. Leading this amazing school is an enormous privilege; one which comes with huge responsibility. I hope and pray that I can lead a school that we can all feel proud of. It certainly hasn't been the start to the year that we had all imagined or hoped for. I thank you all sincerely for your patience in the last couple of days while we have been working hard to get the school ready to welcome the children back on Monday.

I am really looking forward to getting to know all of you over the coming days, weeks and months. Please come and say 'hello' when you see me out and about school and know that I am always prepared to listen to you and to work with you to make sure your child's school experience truly is a special one.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend! See you (finally!) on Monday morning!

With bright blessings,

Martin Gray

Back to school - important information

Thank you all for your patience as we have been working hard to get the school ready to welcome the children back.

A reminder that the school day starts at 8:45am, with the school bell being rung on the main yard at 8:40am. Nursery and Reception pupils can then enter via the small yard, while pupils in Years 1 to 6 should enter school via the main yard.

Collection time is 2:45pm for Nursery (unless attending an extended session), 3:15pm for Reception via the small yard, and 3:20pm for Years 1-6 via the main yard.

Wraparound Care

Our Wraparound Care is available from the start of the new school year. Breakfast Club runs daily from 7:40am (£3.50 per session, or £1.50 for pupils in receipt of Pupil Premium). After School Club sessions until 4:15pm cost £3.00, with full sessions until 5:30pm Monday to Thursday (5:00pm on Fridays) costing £5.50. Places must be booked in advance via the Arbor app.

For further information, please contact the school office.

Welcome Mass and Parish Children's Mass

We are delighted to invite family members to join us at church on Friday 25th September at 10am for our Welcome Mass. You are also warmly encouraged to join us for 9am Mass on Sunday 4th October which will be led by our school children. More details to follow.

Uniform reminders

We are blessed to have a beautiful school uniform at St. Patrick's. Please support us in upholding the highest standards and the school's long-held traditions. A reminder that jewellery is not permitted (with the exception of a non-SMART wrist watch). We ask politely that all earrings are removed.

On your child's designated PE day, they can come to school in their PE kit. Information about this has been shared via the school office.

Enrichment

We are currently looking at our wider offer for pupils. Going forward, we will be running a range of clubs of activities aimed at enhancing your child's whole school experience. We are very keen to involve parents and family members in this provision so please let the office know if you have a particular passion or interest which you feel you would be interested in sharing with our pupils in an after school club. Clubs will run for 4 weeks either side of half-term. More to follow...

Year 5 Swimming

Pupils in year 5 will commence swimming lessons on Wednesday 9th September at the Louisa Centre, Stanley. On swimming days, pupils should come to school wearing their PE kit and bring their swimming kit in a drawstring bag. Swimming kits should include swim trunks or a swimming costume, a towel and a swimming cap.



www.stpatricksdipton.bwcet.com

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8th September
9th September
11th September
15th September
17th September
25th September
28th September
4th October
16th October
23rd October

Mrs Hamill St Bede's Headteacher to visit Y6 pupils
Y5 Swimming Lessons to Commence
Y5 Nasa Engineers Teams Session
Little Acorns Meeting 9:00-10:30am. Invited carers
Open the Book Assembly 2:30pm. All Welcome.
Whole School Welcome Mass in church 10am. All welcome.
After School Clubs to Commence this Week
St Patrick's Church Family Mass 9am. All welcome.
School Photograph Day
Break up for Half Term

2nd November
3rd November
4th November
11th November
14th November
16th-18th November
22nd November
25th November
2nd December
6th December
7th December
9th December
11th December
12th-13th December
18th December
18th December

Return to School
Little Acorns Meeting 9:00-10:30am. Invited carers
Parents' Consultation Evening (1)
Parents' Consultation Evening (2)
Parish Christmas Craft Fair 12:30pm-3:30pm
Y5 Emmaus Village Residential Retreat
Christ the King Mass at St. Joseph's Stanley 11:00am
Pupil Flu Immunisations
Y3 Pedestrian Safety Training Course
St Patrick's Church Family Mass 9am. All welcome.
Y3 Pedestrian Safety Training Course
Whole School Pantomime Trip - Durham Gala Rapunzel
Advent Mass in Church 10am. All welcome.
Parish Christmas Tree Festival at St Patrick's Church (time tbc)
Carols Around the Tree 1.30pm. All Welcome.
Break up for Christmas



Please note that
all dates are
subject to
change.

Please note that new dates are added in bold

Menu Week 1

APRIL 29th - MAY 11th - JUNE 1st & 22nd - JULY 13th - 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

Garden Kitchen

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 Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust - PRIMARY SCHOOL THREE-WEEL MENU CYCLES FOR SPRING/SUMMER 2024

Menu Week 2

APRIL 29th - MAY 19th - JUNE 6th & 26th - AUGUST 21st - SEPTEMBER 21st - OCTOBER 12th

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

Garden Kitchen

*vegetarian alternative available

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Menu Week 3

MAY 4th & 25th - JUNE 15th - JULY 6th - SEPTEMBER 9th & 28th - OCTOBER 16th

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Pizza Margherita with potato wedges or Sausage roll with wedges Sweetcorn & Garden peas	Chicken burger with crispy diced potatoes or Cheese pastry with crispy diced potatoes Carrots & Green beans	Pork dinner with roasties & Yorkshire pudding or Quorn mice & dumplings Mixed vegetables & Garden peas	Mild beef chilli tacos or Macaroni cheese with garlic bread Sweetcorn & Broccoli	Salmon fish fingers & chips or Quorn nuggets & chips Baked beans & Garden peas
Baked doughnut	Iced sponge cake	Chocolate cake	Shortbread biscuit	Ice cream pot

Garden Kitchen

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