

Email: 3732admin@northumberland.gov.uk

Web site www.st-bedes.northumberland.sch.uk

St Bede's RCVA Primary School
Ridge Terrace
Bedlington
Northumberland
NE22 6EQ

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Dear Parent/Carer

The Gospel this week refers to fears. The disciples are terrified when at sea they were caught up in a storm. Christ calms the sea and eases their fears. There are two messages here, God is all powerful and we should fear nothing when we are close to him.

Father Chris I was saddened this week to learn that Father Chris will be leaving our Parish. This week's Gospel should be very relevant to us as we face this change.

I know that you will agree that he has done an amazing job and in the short time that I have been blessed to work with him, his wisdom, humility and judgement have shown him to be a true man of God.

We welcome Father Peter Stott, but he has huge shoes to fill. Father Peter Stott will be covering St Bede's and St Roberts in Morpeth. (In that order if Mrs Riley and I have anything to do with it)!

Meet the Governor – Michael Douglas

I am a former pupil of St Bedes and St Benet Biscops with my son currently attending St Bedes. During my time at both St Bedes and St Benet Biscops I developed my love of all sport, especially football. I was fortunate to be fully supported in both my academic and sporting ambitions resulting in me achieving my ambition of playing professional football, with Northampton Town.



For the last 18 years I have worked in the Public Sector during this time I have experienced working with a diverse cross section of the community in the local area. I hope the experience gained doing this will assist me in my role of Foundation Governor. Over the last 10 years I have developed a passion for road cycling and in my spare time you will often see me clocking up the miles around Northumberland.

Being a former pupil of St Bedes I was delighted to be given the opportunity to be a Governor at the school and look forward to working with staff, children and fellow Governors as we all strive to help the school and pupils achieve their full potential.

P4C Your child will hopefully have been talking about P4C. P4C stands for Philosophy for Children and is a structured approach to developing critical and creative thought. It increases a capacity to see things from another point of view, to formulate and challenge opinions and think deeply around big concepts such as fear, friendship, ownership, love, war etc.

Please ask your child what they have been doing and when they say 'nothing – what's for tea?' Question them deeply, they are used to it. I will be running a session for Parents and children early in September. Please try to attend.

Maths - Launch of Calculation Strategy It was lovely to talk to Parents after the session on Wednesday. We will be having move of these work alongside your child days.

The calculation strategy is a key document to set out for staff, children, Parents and Governors, showing the methods we use to teach calculation. It is there to achieve consistency so that teaching does not vary from year to year, teacher to teacher and so that you as parents are underpinning the methods we use at school rather than teach different ways to perform calculations in homework. Any problems please contact us.

New Curriculum The school will be moving to a Creative Curriculum from next term. This will involve the children taking part in learning which marries many subjects together. I look forward to communicating to you the themes and the content when it is established. Watch this space.

Wall around Adventure Playground I witnessed an awful fall from the wall onto the path next to the hall in the Key Stage 1 yard. Please do not allow your child to climb and walk on this wall. I would remove it and flatten the area if funds allowed. It is completely understandable that children want to walk along the wall but please support us by reinforcing this message. The fall was a result of a freak accident, but very distressing none the less.

Summer Fayre I urge you to volunteer to help with running the stalls at the Summer Fayre on 11 July. We need your help urgently. We would love to have those tablets in school.

Matched Funders Do you or someone you know, work for a bank or other company that does matched funding? It can double the income of events like the Summer Fayre.

Tombola Non Uniform Many thanks for your gifts to help stock the Tombola stall.

Uniform Uniform can now be ordered from the following stockists.

Emblematic at <http://emblematic.co.uk/index.php/schools/stbed> or

Tesco at <http://www.tesco.com/ues>.

You may also purchase uniform from emblematic at their shop at Benton.

Website Calendar We are in the process of updating the calendar on the website. I know that you will find it useful.

Twitter/Facebook If you haven't joined us please do. So far we have 56 followers. Bottle of wine for the 100th providing they have ID. It is a great way to keep in touch with what the school are doing.

Out-standing money Please ensure that all outstanding money is paid up to date before the end of term.

Thank you

Damian Groark
Headteacher