



St John Boste
Catholic Primary School

NEWS AND UPDATES

10th July 2026

Dear parents and carers,

We've almost made it to the end of another school year, and we've only had to negotiate three heatwaves and one England match at 2:00am to get through the last month or so!

It has been another wonderful year at St John Boste and as always I feel immensely proud to be Headteacher of such a fantastic community. As we approach the (always hectic) final week of term, can I extend my thanks to all of our parents, carers and families for your ongoing support to our children and school community.

This newsletter should hopefully give you some important information about next week and the start of the new school year in September.

Mr Morris



What a day we had on Friday for our summer fayre! Thank you to everybody who helped to make the event such a success – especially our wonderful Friends of St John Boste PTA volunteers who went above and beyond to organise a great afternoon and raise a phenomenal amount of money! Thank you also to our Year 6 stall holders and everybody who came to support the event!



St John Boste
Catholic Primary School



Bishop Wilkinson
Catholic Education Trust

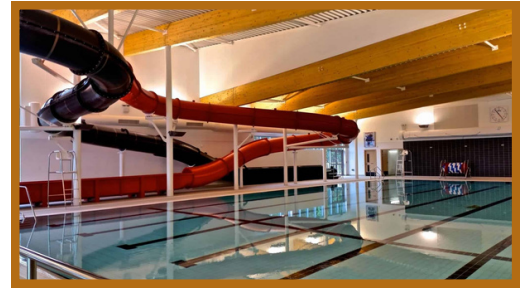


DIOCESE OF Hexham & Newcastle

SWIMMING LESSONS

We are making some changes to our swimming lessons from next year. Year 6 will no longer have school swimming lessons, and instead:

- Year 5 will have their swimming lessons from September to Christmas
- Year 4 from January to Easter
- Year 3 will have swimming lessons from after the Easter holidays until the summer.



END OF YEAR REPORTS AND SATS RESULTS

You will receive your child's end of year school report early next week, please note this will come to you via email, so keep an eye on your inbox.

Usually Year 6 reports would include SATs results, but I wrote to Year 6 parents last week to explain that there is a national delay in the publication of the results. We will receive these on Thursday 16th July, so to give us time to check and analyse them, we will send them home on Friday 17th July. Thank you again for your patience with this.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Our school uniform information can be found on our website at the following link:

<https://stjohnbostewashington.bwcet.com/families/school-uniform/>

If any of our families need any support to buy school uniform items or shoes then please get in touch with either myself or the school office and we will be happy to help.

In addition, we have a good stock of pre-worn uniform items that families can take free of charge. Once again if you would like to take any of these items, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

EARRINGS

I wanted to remind parents that children are not allowed to wear earrings for school.

If you are planning on having your child's ears pierced over the summer holidays, please can you do so at the start of the six weeks so that they are able to take out their earrings for coming back to school in September.



ARBOR CONSENTS

Parental consents on Arbor automatically roll over into the next academic year, so could you please check the items you currently consent to on Arbor and make sure you are happy with those, and make any changes you need to.

Children in Year 5 and 6 may travel home from school alone. If you would like your child to do so, please make sure you have given your consent on Arbor and also in writing to the school office.

EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS

You may remember I wrote to parents earlier this year to ask for opinions on after-school clubs. We have found this year that attendance at after-school clubs has been dropping, sometimes to the point where we have had to cancel some clubs altogether.

To try and address this, from September we are planning on moving some clubs to a lunchtime or possibly before school. I will send out more information about this in September.

CHANGES TO WRAPAROUND HOURS FROM SEPTEMBER

We are making some changes to our wraparound provision for the next academic year:

- Our breakfast club provision will run from 7:30am to 8:40am Monday to Friday. The price will remain at £5 per session.
- Our after-school provision will now have an additional session, meaning it will run until 5:45pm.
- The first afternoon session will run from 3:20pm to 4:30pm Monday to Friday. The cost for this session will be £5.
- The second afternoon session will run from 4:30pm to 5:45pm Monday to Friday. The cost for this session will also be £5.

Any sessions you would like your child to attend must be pre booked on Arbor up to 48 hours in advance. Any last minute bookings/cancellations after the 48 hour cut off can be made via the school office. We accept tax free childcare vouchers, please contact the office for help with the top-up procedure.

MUSIC INSTRUMENT LESSONS

Music instrument lessons will continue in September. Anyone in Years 3 to 6 who would like to give a musical instrument a go should contact the office by next Friday (17th July) to book in a free trial lesson in September. We currently offer lessons in drums, guitar and keyboard.



ATTENDANCE

We want our pupils to experience the highest quality education to enable them to excel. We know that pupils who attend school well have the best chances of success academically and socially. They are more likely to achieve well in examinations and assessments and more likely to form secure and lasting friendships.

This can only be achieved if pupils are in school regularly, and on time.

We have a very carefully planned curriculum which sets out exactly what pupils should be taught at every stage of the year. When pupils are absent, they risk developing large gaps in their learning.

Excellent attendance is everyone's business and improving attendance is in everyone's interests. We aim to secure good attendance by building strong relationships with pupils, parents and carers so that we can support them to reduce any barriers to school attendance.

Our target is for all pupils to attend for a minimum of 97% of the school year.

Our average attendance this year across school is 96.2%, which is slightly below our target.

Could I please ask that in the coming school year, we have a real effort to ensure our children are in school every day they can possibly be and we can hopefully smash our target for 2026/27!

SCHOOL MEALS

From September 2026, there will be national changes to Free School Meals (FSM). These changes are led by the Department for Education (DfE), and guidance is continuing to evolve.

Please check the online Sunderland portal: <https://www.togetherforchildren.org.uk/FSMschools>

If you your child would like to changes between school meals or packed lunch, please notify the office by 17th July.

YEAR 6 LEAVERS MASS

Next week is our last week of this school year, where we will bid farewell to our wonderful Year 6 children. Everybody is very welcome to join our whole school at our Year 6 leavers Mass on Friday 17th July at 10:00am at church.

SCHOOL DATES 2026/27

Here are our term dates for the next academic year.

SEPTEMBER						
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28	29	30				

OCTOBER						
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NOVEMBER						
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DECEMBER						
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JANUARY						
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FEBRUARY						
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MARCH						
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JUNE						
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JULY						
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AUGUST						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



Holidays



Bank Holidays



Holidays (Staff Inset Days)

**SCHOOL GATES OPEN 8.40AM-8.50AM
THE SCHOOL DAY ENDS 3.20PM**