



Caring for each other as we live, learn and grow in God's love.

NEWSLETTER

27th JUNE 2025

DIARY DATES

Weekly Mass: Sacred Heart and St John Bosco Church - 9:30am every Sunday. All are welcome.

CAREERS WEEK W/C 30th JUNE (Dress up day on Thursday 3rd July)

Year 5 Bikeability Monday 30th June until Thursday 3rd July

Friday 27th June - Year 5 liturgy 9:15am (school hall)

Friday 4th July - INSET DAY, SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS

Thursday 17th July Year 6 Leaver's Mass

Thursday 17th July 1pm - End of summer term

PE Days 2024-25

Nursery / Reception: Monday

Year 1: Tuesday & Wednesday

Year 2: Tuesday & Thursday

Year 3: Tuesday & Friday (swimming)

Year 4: Tuesday & Friday

Year 5: Monday & Thursday

Year 6: Monday

Attendance

**THIS WEEK'S
*attendance***

94.24%

As of September, no holidays will be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances. Any holiday over 5 days will also be subject to a referral for a penalty notice. Lateness and absences must now be closely monitored too. There have been a number of children being collected early - please note that we are required to see a letter, email or text as proof of appointments.

always check
the website for
the most up
to date
holiday dates



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office@stjohnboscosunderland.org.uk



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NEW STAFFING STRUCTURE



ST. JOHN BOSCO CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL CLASS ORGANISATION 2025-2026

Mrs L. Peart

Executive Head Teacher – St John Bosco Catholic Primary School
& English Martyrs Catholic Primary School

Mr P. Roddy

Acting Head of School – St John Bosco Catholic Primary School

Year Group	Class Teacher
Nursery	Mrs L. Adams (Foundation Stage Leader)
Reception	Mrs L. Grady
Year 1	Miss K. Robertson
Year 2	Mrs G. Gray
Year 3	Mr K. Bailes
Year 4	Miss B. Thompson (Mrs B. Joyce – Maternity)
Year 5	Mrs K. Collins (KS2 Leader)
Year 6	Mr P. Pickering



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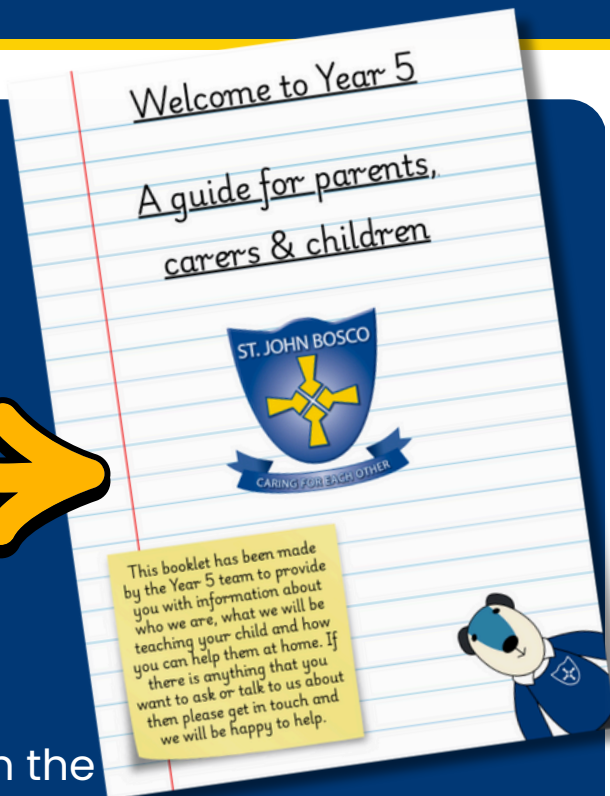
TRANSITION DAYS

All children will soon be receiving Transition Booklets to bring home to help explain their new routines, PE days and other useful information.

Transition day will be taking place on Thursday July 10th and will give children the opportunity to meet their new teacher, familiarise themselves with their new classroom and get used to their new routines.

On transition day your child will meet their new staff and will receive a transition booklet that will support them to transition to their new class.

Some teachers have already been introducing themselves to the children and will continue to do this in the next couple of weeks.



Reminder



If you haven't done so already, please ensure that you have paid any money owed. School are currently owed **£613** for school meals and **£266** for breakfast club. Reminder letters have been issued. Thank you.



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YEAR 6 TRANSITION

We wish all of our Year 6 pupils the best of luck as they embark on their transition visits to their secondary schools next week. We are sure they will do themselves proud and create a great first impression!



St Aidan's & St Anthony's
Tuesday 1st July - Thursday 3rd July



St Robert's
Monday 30th June - Wednesday 2nd July



Castle View
Wednesday 2nd July and 3rd July



Houghton Kepier
Wednesday 2nd July and 3rd July

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CAREERS WEEK

Careers week is beginning **Monday 30th June** and we would love your children to come dressed up as a career that interests them or inspires them on **Thursday 3rd July**, it is great to see how their ideas and aspirations change over time. We look forward to welcoming them into school, please do not go to any additional expenses, use what you already have!

Careers Week at St John Bosco



WEEK BEGINNING MONDAY 30TH
JUNE 2025

Careers week is back!

Throughout the week children will be invited to learn about lots of different careers. We have some very special visitors planned so look out on our social media to see what we have been up to.

Children are invited to come to school dressed to represent what they would like to be as an adult on **THURSDAY 3RD JULY 2025**.

We look forward to hearing about your aspirations!



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STARS OF THE WEEK



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JOB VACANCY

LUNCH TIME



Bishop Chadwick
Catholic Education Trust



St. John Bosco Catholic Primary School, Bradford Avenue, Sunderland SR5 4JW
office@stjohnboscosunderland.org.uk
0191 5368090
www.stjohnboscosunderland.org.uk

Lunchtime Supervisor Vacancy

Salary: Scale 2 SCP3/RLW or Real Living Wage, whichever is the higher (Pro rata)
Start Date: 1st September 2025
Contract: 7.32 hours per week, term time only (38 weeks) 11.30am-1.00pm

CEO: Mr T.B. Tapping
Headteacher: Mrs L. Peart

St. John Bosco School wish to appoint a Lunchtime Supervisory Assistant to join our team to help supervise and engage our younger children in activities during the lunchtime break.

A good understanding of caring for young children and the ability to work as part of a team is essential. You will be expected to supervise children whilst eating their lunch and then engage children in play activities and to be pro-active in ensuring safe and constructive play/sport is encouraged.

Please note – a large proportion of this post involves being outdoors, and standing/walking for the duration of the lunch period. Candidates should therefore consider the physical demands of the role prior to applying.

Are you:

- Reliable and enthusiastic with a 'can do' attitude?
- Able to support the personal, social and emotional development of the children?
- Able to maintain the highest standards of confidentiality and safeguarding?
- Caring, kind, calm and dedicated to helping children?
- Committed to achieving high standards of positive play and behaviour?

We will offer:

- A dedicated and supportive team of staff,
- Friendly, positive and well-behaved children,
- The opportunity to make a difference!

St. John Bosco School is part of Bishop Chadwick Catholic Education Trust which is one of four Trusts in the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle. The Trust includes five Secondary and twenty five Primary Schools across South Tyneside, Sunderland and East Durham.

Bishop Chadwick Catholic Education Trust safeguards and protects its students and staff by being committed to respond in accordance with South Tyneside Child Protection Procedures. Enhanced DBS checks are mandatory for all school staff.

All application documents should be fully completed and submitted by email to office@stjohnboscosunderland.org.uk by 12 noon on 10th July 2025. Applications are required and CV's will not be accepted. For enquiries regarding this role, please contact the School Office on 0191 5368090.

Interviews will be held on 14th/15th July 2025

The position we are filling is exempt from the provisions of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act and a satisfactory Enhanced DBS from the Disclosure and Barring Service is required as part of pre-employment checks. An online search will be completed for all shortlisted candidates.

Bishop Chadwick Catholic Education Trust is an equal opportunities employer, welcoming applications from all sections of the community. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and vulnerable adults and we expect staff and volunteers to share this commitment.



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HEAD FOR THE DAY

One of our amazing Year 6 School Council members has been spending time today with Mrs Peart to learn more about the role of a Head Teacher.



She has taken on all sorts of responsibilities today!

- Helped Year 3 get safely on their bus to swimming.
- Spent time in Year 2 helping with Maths.
- Helped proof-read to some letters and photocopied the final versions.
- Had lunch and played with the EYFS children.
- She visited each of the Key Stage 2 classroom to discuss looking after the toilets properly.
- Helped Mr Roddy with the newsletter.

Here's what she had to say...

'If I were head teacher, I would try and make learning fun for those children who find some jobs a bit tricky.

Today, I learnt how to be a head teacher and experienced a morning of being the Head. Although being a Head is hard, I would still love to become a Head teacher in the future! There isn't much I would change about this school, but something I would add would be a more fun way to teach for adults, such as instead of normal Maths lessons we could do a Maths game, which would teach the same lesson, but in a better way to help the children who want to learn in a fun way.'



ONLINE SAFETY

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about **NINTENDO SWITCH 2**

Nintendo launched its Switch 2 games console in early June 2025 – its first new console in eight years. While it builds on the original's success by remaining compatible with certain existing games, it also adds powerful hardware and new features like GameChat and a USB-C camera. As more children look to upgrade, it's important to understand how this new console might affect their play and safety.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

EASIER TO ACCESS MATURE CONTENT

18
CENSORED

Despite Nintendo's reputation for family-friendly titles, mature games like Cyberpunk 2077 and Hitman have been released onto the platform. With the Switch 2's improved performance, developers will be able to port even more mature-rated games. These may appeal to children due to their popularity, but they contain content that is highly unsuitable for young audiences.

IN-APP & GAME STORE PURCHASES

The Nintendo eShop enables purchases with just a few taps. If payment details are saved and PIN protection is disabled, children may unknowingly make costly purchases – including game add-ons, cosmetic items or entire new releases – without parental approval.

UNRESTRICTED ONLINE PLAY IN SOME GAMES

While GameChat is one feature, Switch 2 also connects to the broader Nintendo Switch Online service. Many free-to-play titles like Fortnite or Splatoon 3 allow voice or text chat with strangers unless chat settings are adjusted, meaning children could encounter inappropriate language or unwanted contact.

GAMECHAT & REAL-TIME VOICE COMMUNICATION

GameChat enables live chatting with up to 12 people, even across different games, with optional video and screen-sharing. Though children under 16 are restricted to chatting only with approved friends, the sheer interactivity could raise privacy concerns or create pressure to remain online longer.

CAMERA COMPATIBILITY & PRIVACY CONCERNS

The optional USB-C camera supports video calling and facial overlays in games; however, this also raises the risk of cyberbullying or the unwanted sharing of personal images. The camera can be disabled, removed or covered, and parental controls are essential to manage how and when it is used.

POWERFUL PULL OF FAMILIAR CHARACTERS

Nintendo's mascot, Mario – along with Pikachu, Donkey Kong and others – remains hugely appealing to younger audiences, especially after the success of the recent film, 'The Super Mario Bros. Movie' (2023). These beloved icons are central to Nintendo's branding and often feature in merchandising, adverts and in-game promotions, creating strong emotional attachments in children and a sense of urgency to keep up with their peers.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CHECK RATINGS & USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Every Switch and Switch 2 game comes with a PEGI age rating. Before buying one, ensure the content matches your child's age. Use the Nintendo Parental Controls app to monitor gameplay, set screen-time limits and manage friend requests.

REVIEW FRIEND LISTS AND CHAT PERMISSIONS

Child profiles are restricted to chatting with approved friends only, but it's good practice to regularly check their friend list and communication settings. Use the Parental Controls app to switch off voice or video chat if necessary.

REMOVE OR RESTRICT PAYMENT METHODS

Avoid accidental spending by unlinking credit cards from the device. Instead, consider adding funds via prepaid eShop cards or requiring a PIN for purchases. Some banking apps can also be set to approve transactions manually.

ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Teach children how to block, report and capture any behaviour or content that makes them uncomfortable. The console's built-in tools allow them to create screenshots and video clips, which can aid in reporting any issues. Keeping an open dialogue helps children feel supported and safe.



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SAFEGUARDING

SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY!

If incidents involving children from our school are taking place in the local community, please report your concerns to **Together for Children**.

- To report a child safeguarding concern (0 to 17 years old) contact Together for Children on **0191 5617007** (available 8.30am to 5:15pm Monday – Thursday, 8.30am to 4.45pm Friday).
- Out of hours duty safeguarding officer: **0191 5205552**
- **For serious incidents, we would always advise contacting the police directly, 999 or 101 for non-emergencies**
- **Gentoo Housing co-ordinator for North Sunderland 07734597810**

Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility



Our Safeguarding Children Process





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'SENSORY TOYS / SQUISHYS'

We wanted to remind everyone about our expectations regarding toys in school. While we understand that toys can be a source of comfort and fun for children, we kindly ask that **they are not brought into school.**

We have seen an increase of children bringing in 'squishy toys' and teddies. This is leading to bigger and more expensive toys being brought in.

There are several reasons for this request to leave toys at home. Firstly, toys can be a distraction during lessons, making it difficult for students to focus on their work. We want to ensure that all children have the best possible learning environment, free from unnecessary distractions. Secondly, toys can sometimes lead to disagreements or conflicts among children, which can disrupt the harmony of the classroom and playground. By keeping toys at home, we can help maintain a positive and inclusive atmosphere for all.

Additionally, there is always the risk of toys getting lost or damaged, which can cause distress for the children. We want to avoid any upset and ensure that personal belongings are kept safe.

We understand that some children with special educational needs may require sensory toys to help them regulate. If this is the case, it should be agreed with the school SENDCo, Mrs Gray, and written into the child's support plan.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in this matter. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out.

