

ST PATRICK'S, CONSETT

Welcome back!

Welcome back to a new school year at St Patrick's. We hope that all families had a lovely summer holiday and managed to spend quality time together.

Our children have all settled well into their new classes; it has been wonderful to see them all focused and working hard, right from the start of the term and showing positive attitudes to learning and behaviour, in class and around school.

A special welcome to the new children and families who have joined us - we are delighted that you have chosen our school and look forward to working with you as your child moves through the school.

Welcome also to new staff - Miss Robertson who is teaching Year 4 and to Miss Henderson who is a SCITT student in Year 2. They are excited to be part of our school community and looking forward to sharing their skills and talents with us.

We look forward to building on the successes of last year as we strive to make our school even better.

Congratulations

To the following children who have been elected to positions of responsibility in our school:

Head Girl and Boy: **Pippa and Joey**

House Captains: **Bella, Teddy, Noah and Laila**

School councillors:

Elsie and Alice

Hannah and Harper

Neve and Charlotte

Isabelle and Noah

Arian and Georgina

Allora and Tola

The children cannot wait to get started in their new roles and get involved with school improvement projects.

The first area that the school council will look at is our after school provision so watch out for a short questionnaire that they will be sending out!



ABC reminders!



Please support our efforts to improve the **attendance** rates of our children - good attendance at school is vital to ensure the best possible academic progress and it lays the foundations for positive attitudes and habits that are vital to success in later life. We do appreciate that holidays are much more expensive during school holiday times but missing school through irregular attendance or holidays creates learning gaps that children struggle to close and can affect their emotional wellbeing and relationships.

To clarify for parents: leave of absence for holidays during term time will not be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances.

With regards to leave of absence to attend sporting events - these will only be authorised when accompanied by an official club letter which details when the sporting fixture takes place and will only be granted for the child who is taking part. Absence on the days before or after will not be permitted. This change follows a discussion with other Trust schools and brings us into line with cluster schools. Please see our Trust Attendance Policy for full details of attendance procedures.

We have extremely high expectations for pupil **behaviour**, both in the classroom and around school. Our three simple rules - **ready, respectful and safe**, complemented by our **Fab 5**, are understood by all children and they know what is expected from them. Pupils are praised for making the right choices and a range of rewards are in place to promote and reward excellent behaviour. Where behaviour falls short of our expectations, it is addressed in a sensitive way that enables children to reflect on their behaviour choices, accept responsibility and repair any harm done. Forgiveness and reconciliation are at the heart of our restorative approach. We understand that it may be upsetting for parents when their child makes a mistake, no one likes to think their child has done something wrong, but it is human nature to make mistakes; how we respond when this happens influences whether or not children learn from their mistakes and move forward positively.



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As a school we value strong partnerships and honest **communication** with families. We know that there may be times when you have concerns, worries or questions - please do not hesitate to get in touch and let us know as soon as possible so that we can work together and solve any problems and ease any worries that you or your child may have.

You can contact class teachers or senior staff (phase leaders, DHT or HT) via email, phone or the school office.

Although we not be able to speak to you immediately, we will always aim to respond swiftly.

16 - 18 Sept	Year 6 residential at Youth Village
20 Sept	Welcome back Mass - 10am in church
24 Sept	Open afternoon 3:30 - 5pm
27 Sept	Family Film Night 5:30 - 8:30pm
2 - 4 Oct	Year 5 residential at Ford Castle
10 Oct	Guest speaker at coffee morning - SEN Space
7 Oct	Reception parent-teacher meetings
8 Oct	Nursery and Years 1 - 3 parent-teacher meetings
9 Oct	Years 4 - 6 parent-teacher meetings
18 Oct	Harvest Mass 10am in church
21 Oct	Hallowe'en Swap Shop
25 Oct	Hallowe'en dress up and disco after school
28 Oct - 1 Nov	School closed for half term
25 Nov	INSET DAY - school closed to pupils



Further information and booking details for various events will follow.

Celebration of the Word:

25 Sept Y4M	27 Sept Y3D	2 Oct Y6H	4 Oct Y2T
9 Oct Y5F	11 Oct Y2S	16 Oct Y4R	18 Oct Harvest Mass
23 Oct Y6C	24 Oct Y1MC		



All at 9:00am in the hall except Mass (10am)



We also have our regular weekly Stay and Play café in the school hall - every Thursday from drop off until 10:30 - please drop in if you can, **all are welcome!**

