



St Anne's CE Primary School & Nursery

NEWSLETTER



This week, we came together to celebrate Easter in a beautiful service led by our talented Year 6 pupils.

The children reflected on the events of Holy Week — from Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, to the Last Supper, His crucifixion on Good Friday, and the joy of His resurrection on Easter Sunday.

Through thoughtful readings, heartfelt prayers and uplifting songs, the whole school joined in collective worship to mark this important Christian celebration.

A special thank you to Rev. Brett for coordinating the service so meaningfully, and to Rev. Matt for his supportive presence and for closing with a moving prayer and time of reflection.

It was a truly special moment to gather as one school family to celebrate the message of hope and renewal that Easter brings.





St Anne's were asked to design an Easter egg to display in church over the coming weeks. Who better to take on the task than our very own resident artist, Tyler in Year 5. We're sure you'll all agree that his design is absolutely wonderful and will look beautiful on display. Well done, Tyler!



What an egg-cellent day at school!

Our Easter Egg Competition was an absolute cracking success – the creativity was egg-traordinary!

A huge thank you to all the parents who egg-spertly supported their little chicks in crafting such egg-ceptional masterpieces. The school was bursting with colour, creativity and fun – it was a real treat for the eyes (and not a single scrambled idea in sight!).

Thank you again to everyone who took part – you've truly made this an egg-tra special Easter!

A special well done to our winners from each class!





Easter fun in EYFS



Head Teacher: Mrs S Binks

Minds to learn hearts to care.



Outstanding Easter
artwork produced by
Reception Class.

Well done Reception, they
look amazing!!





Year 1 Easter Gardens

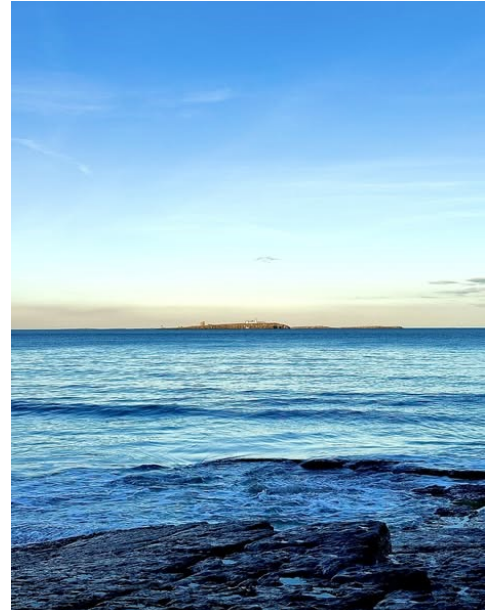
This term, Year 1 have been learning all about Easter and exploring a big question: What is the Easter Story? As part of their learning, the children created their very own Easter Gardens.

An Easter Garden is a small representation of the Easter Story. It often includes a hill with three crosses to symbolise Good Friday, a tomb with a stone to represent where Jesus was laid, and grass and plants to show the new life and hope that Easter brings.

The children took their gardens home to nurture and grow — and I'm delighted to share two wonderful examples of their work with you! Haven't Matthew, Reuben and Myles done a fantastic job caring for them?

Well done, Year 1!





Living Hope

Our talented Year 5 and 6 pupils have been busy exploring the theme of 'Living Hope' through photography – and the results are truly inspiring!

As part of a local competition organised by Bishop Auckland Parish, the children captured thoughtful, creative images that reflect hope in all its forms. We're so proud of their efforts and excited to be entering their photographs into the Living Hope Photography Competition. Here's a sneak peek at some of their amazing entries



Year 4 have been lighting up the classroom – literally!

As part of their Design Technology project, our budding engineers were challenged to design and create their own working electrical torches. The brief? To build a lightweight, bright torch complete with a working on/off switch.

It was a fiddly and sometimes tricky task, but with determination, creativity and teamwork, they were 100% successful! We're so proud of their problem-solving skills and innovative designs.

Well done, Year 4 – the future of engineering looks bright!





Unleash your drive!

This term, our Year 6 pupils have had the fantastic opportunity to take part in a golf programme 'Unleash your drive' organised by The Golf Foundation. The initiative is designed to introduce primary school children to golf in a fun, inclusive and engaging way—helping them develop not only their sporting skills but also key life skills such as resilience, focus and mental toughness.

We're proud to say that Year 6 have really taken a swing at it! They've thoroughly enjoyed their lessons and shown brilliant progress over the term. Watch out, future golf champs in the making!



Year 3/4 Football League

Wednesday was the final night for the year 3/4 football league.

Over the past 4 weeks they have played a staggering 18 matches, competing against 19 local primary schools. They have worked really well as a team and we've seen lots of smiles along the way! They finished in 7th place which I think is a great achievement!

I'm really proud of you all, your chocolate egg was well deserved! - Mrs. Tonge



RockSteady!

What a treat we had on Friday when the school went full rock and roll with our incredible RockSteady bands! From Reception to Year 6, the talent, bravery and progress on show was truly amazing.

RockSteady is a fantastic music programme that brings the experience of being in a real band right into schools. Children get to choose their instrument—keyboard, drums, electric guitar, bass or vocals—and rehearse together each week, building not only their musical skills but also their confidence, teamwork and creativity.

Huge thanks to Dylan, our brilliant RockSteady teacher and band manager, for inspiring and leading the way. We can't wait to see you lead these budding stars all the way to Glastonbury!

Rock on!



The sporting success continues beyond the classroom!

Huge congratulations to Lotti who competed this weekend with her tumbling club, Durham City Gymnastics Club, in the inter-regional qualifier.

We're thrilled to share that she's officially qualified to represent the North of England at the British National Final in Birmingham in July after placing first in her competition. This is in addition to her already qualifying to represent the North in the English Championships in May.

We are beyond proud of her hard work, dedication and amazing achievement. Let's go Lotti– we can't wait to cheer you on at the finals!

Opal Project

Can you help us on our Opal journey? (Outdoor play and learning) we are looking for:

- Barbies/ dolls.
- Doll pushchairs/ prams/ carriers/ high chairs.
- Plastic structures such as farms, dolls houses and pirate ships etc.
- Plastic play figures and animals.
- Camping utensils (cups and plates) for our new mud kitchen)
- Megablocks.

Our dinner times the last two weeks have been lovely with more for the children to play with. We have seen such a positive impact on their well- being. Any additions from the list above will be greatly received. Thank you so much for your continued support.

Mrs. Tonge and Mrs. Hart.

Can you help us on our OPAL journey?

To enhance our 'wheeled zone' we are on the look out for pushchairs and prams to be donated to school. These could be play ones but ideally we are looking for real life child size ones. Maybe yourself or a family member may have an old one in a garage that is no longer used. Our children would love to give them some love and put them to good use.



Weekly class attendance.....7 to 11 April 2025

Reception	94.00%
Year 1	98.33%
Year 2	93.67%
Year 3	97.67%
Year 4	94.67%
Year 5	93.6%
Year 6	94.8%



Stars of the Week



Nursery	<i>Raydon for having a much better week and for participating during group time.</i>
Reception	<i>Whole class for their behaviour and attitudes over the half term. They have worked hard and have been a pleasure to teach.</i>
Year 1 Citizen	<i>Leo</i>
Year 1 Maths	<i>George</i>
Year 1 English	<i>Matthew</i>
Year 2 Citizen	<i>Grace-Olivia</i>
Year 2 Maths	<i>Theo</i>
Year 2 English	<i>Lennox</i>
Year 3 English	<i>Rufus & Niamh</i>
Year 3 Maths	<i>Henry</i>
Year 4 Citizen	<i>James</i>
Year 4 Maths	<i>Anna</i>
Year 4 English	<i>Aiden</i>
Year 5 English	<i>Amelia</i>
Year 5 Maths	<i>Alex</i>
Year 5 Citizen	<i>Harrison</i>
Year 6 Citizen	<i>Eva</i>
Year 6 Maths	<i>Lily</i>
Year 6 English	<i>Sam</i>



Managing your Family Budget



- Would you like support in managing your family budget?
- Would you like to learn about shopping strategies, meal planning and preparing budget friendly meals to get the best value for your money?



DurhamLearn - Family Budgeting Sessions



Scan the QR Code and book onto the session

**St Annes Primary School
Tuesday 3rd June
14:00 till 15:30**

£20 Food Voucher for all attendees



Polite reminder that children who have vomited or have had diarrhoea should remain off school for 48 hours from the last episode. This is to ensure your child is fully fit before returning to school and also to help stop the spread of illness to children and staff. Thank you

School Car Park Gates

We are concerned for the safety of our children crossing the staff car park when entering and leaving school, especially our smallest children in nursery. Therefore the main car park gates will return to being locked from 8.30am - 3.45pm each day. We understand that it can be problematic parking close to school, but we hope you understand that the safety of our children is of paramount importance. We would be grateful if you could let any other family members know who do the school drop off or pick ups.



Breakfast Club

We have Breakfast Club on a morning from 8.00am. The children can participate in activities and enjoy juice, toast and cereal for the cost of £3 per child. Places can be booked via your child's Arbor account

After School Clubs – Summer (Term 1)

Day	Club	Available to?	Cost and how to book place?
Monday	Multi-sports*	Start date Monday 28 April 2025 Children from Reception to Year 6	Places limited to 20 per session and are bookable via your child's Arbor account. Cost £4 per session - payable via Arbor. Invoice charged upon attendance.
Tuesday	Jujitsu	Start date Tuesday 29 April 2025 Children from Years 1-6	Places limited to 25 and are bookable via your child's Arbor account. Cost £3 per session and payable direct to Coach after each session.
Wednesday	TASC Football	Start date Wednesday 30 April 2025 Children from Years 2-6	Bookable via TASC Football www.tascfootball.com/book-online
Thursday	Film Club*	Start date Thursday 8 May 2025 All children (does not include Nursery)	Places limited to 20 per session and are bookable via your child's Arbor account. Cost £4 per session - payable via Arbor. Invoice charged upon attendance.
Friday	AJ Sports	Start date Friday 2 May 2025 All children (does not include Nursery)	Bookable via AJ Sports https://forms.gle/Qfmi27uMwTBNtCsi8

*Children in receipt of Pupil Premium funding will have 50% of the cost of Multi-sports and Film Club subsidised through Pupil Premium funding.

Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the School Office.

Wrap Around Care

We operate wrap around care until 6.00pm daily. From 3.30pm each day a different activity is run by our dedicated staff. These activities include Lego, games, crafts, cookery, sports and film club. A snack is also provided e.g. toast and juice. The base for this provision will be the Nursery, with collection to be made via the Nursery entrance. The cost for this provision is on a tiered system, based on the time of collection:

Collected between 3.30 – 4.30pm £4.00 per child

Collected between 4.30 – 6.00pm £9.00 per child

Due to this provision costing £88.00 per night in staff costs alone, it can only be sustained if sufficient numbers attend. Should we not have the required numbers attend to cover costs, then we cannot guarantee the provision will continue, as it must not come at a cost to the school budget.

To book a place at wrap around care, please contact the School Office by 12 noon on the day the provision is required (unless in the case of an emergency). The charges for the provision will be added to your child's Arbor account. You will have the facility to use Childcare Vouchers as payment, but unfortunately, we are not able to subsidise the costs through Pupil Premium Funding.

Please don't forget to ask for your tokens and help us raise funds for our school library

Stronger Starts.

St Anne's CE Primary School calls out for votes to get a share of Tesco's Stronger Starts fund

St Anne's is bidding for a cash boost from the Tesco Stronger Starts scheme. Stronger Starts provides grant awards of up to £1,500 to local community projects, with a particular focus on children and young people. Three groups in every community have been shortlisted to receive grant awards and Tesco customers can vote for the group they think should take away the top award in their local Tesco store. St Anne's is one of the groups on the shortlist in Bishop Auckland.

We would use any funding available to "To refurbish our school library so that all children, staff, volunteers and visitors across school can enjoy reading for pleasure"

Voting is open in all Tesco stores from April to the end of June 2025. Customers will cast their vote using a blue token given to them at the check-out each time they shop. Tesco's Stronger Starts – previously known as Tesco Community Grants - has already provided over £117 million to more than 67,000 projects across Britain. This £5m Stronger Starts grant programme, delivered in partnership with Groundwork UK, helps schools and children's groups provide nutritious food and healthy activities that support young people's physical health and mental wellbeing, such as breakfast clubs or snacks, and sports equipment for after school clubs.

Claire de Silva, Tesco UK Head of Communities and Local Media, said: "Helping schools and children's groups access the food and resources they need is vitally important in getting children a stronger start in life. Children with enough food have more energy, better concentration, and ultimately achieve more too."

Graham Duxbury, Groundwork's UK Chief Executive, said: "As a community charity, we have seen first-hand how schools and other groups supporting young people have been playing a much bigger role in ensuring children are getting a healthy start to the day and getting access to spaces and services to support physical activity and mental health. Family budgets are tight and school budgets are tight, but it's so important that children stay fed, fit and focused, so we're delighted to be able to prioritise these activities alongside Tesco with the Stronger Starts programme."

Funding is available to community groups and charities looking to fund local projects that bring benefits to communities, particularly those helping to provide food and giving children the support, they need for a good start in life. Anyone can nominate a project and organisations can apply online.

To find out more visit tescoplc.com/strongerstarts



April	May
1	1 School Closed Polling Station
2	2 Y2 class worship
3	3
4 2pm Rock Steady Concert	4
5	5 Bank Holiday
6	6
7	7
8	8
9 Easter Lunch	9 Nursery & Reception Visit to Hall Hill Farm (details to follow)
10 Decorate an egg competition	10
11 Tuck shop	11
12	12 KS2 SATs week
13	13
14 Holiday	14
15 Holiday	15
16 Holiday	16
17 Holiday	17
18 Holiday	18
19	19
20	20
21 Holiday	21
22 Holiday	22
23 Holiday	23 Tuck Shop
24 Holiday	24
25 Holiday	25
26	26 Holiday
27	27 Holiday
28	28 Holiday
29	29 Holiday
30	30 Holiday
	31



June	July	August
1	1 Sports Day	1 Holiday
2	2	2
3 2-3.30pm Parent Budget Session	3	3
4	4	4 Holiday
5	5	5 Holiday
6	6	6 Holiday
7	7	7 Holiday
8	8 Reception/Year 6 Beach Trip (details to follow)	8 Holiday
9 Y1 phonics screening	9 Music concert	9
10 Year 6 Leavers Service Durham Cathedral (details to follow)	10 Year 6 Transition Days	10
11	11 Year 6 Transition Days Nursery graduation	11 Holiday
12	12	12 Holiday
13 Someone Special Day (pm)	13	13 Holiday
14	14 Reports to parents	14 Holiday
15	15 School Performance (further details to follow)	15 Holiday
16	16 School Performance (further details to follow)	16
17	17	17
18 PD Day	18 Y6 Leavers Tuck Shop	18 Holiday
19	19	19 Holiday
20	20	20 Holiday
21	21 Holiday	21 Holiday
22	22 Holiday	22 Holiday
23	23 Holiday	23
24	24 Holiday	24
25	25 Holiday	25 Holiday
26 Y1 class worship	26	26 Holiday
27 Summer Fayre (pm)	27	27 Holiday
28	28 Holiday	28 Holiday
29	29 Holiday	29 Holiday
30 Year 5 King James	30 Holiday	30
	31 Holiday	31

