



# St Anne's CE Primary School & Nursery

# NEWSLETTER



Yesterday we celebrated our Buddies – big and small!

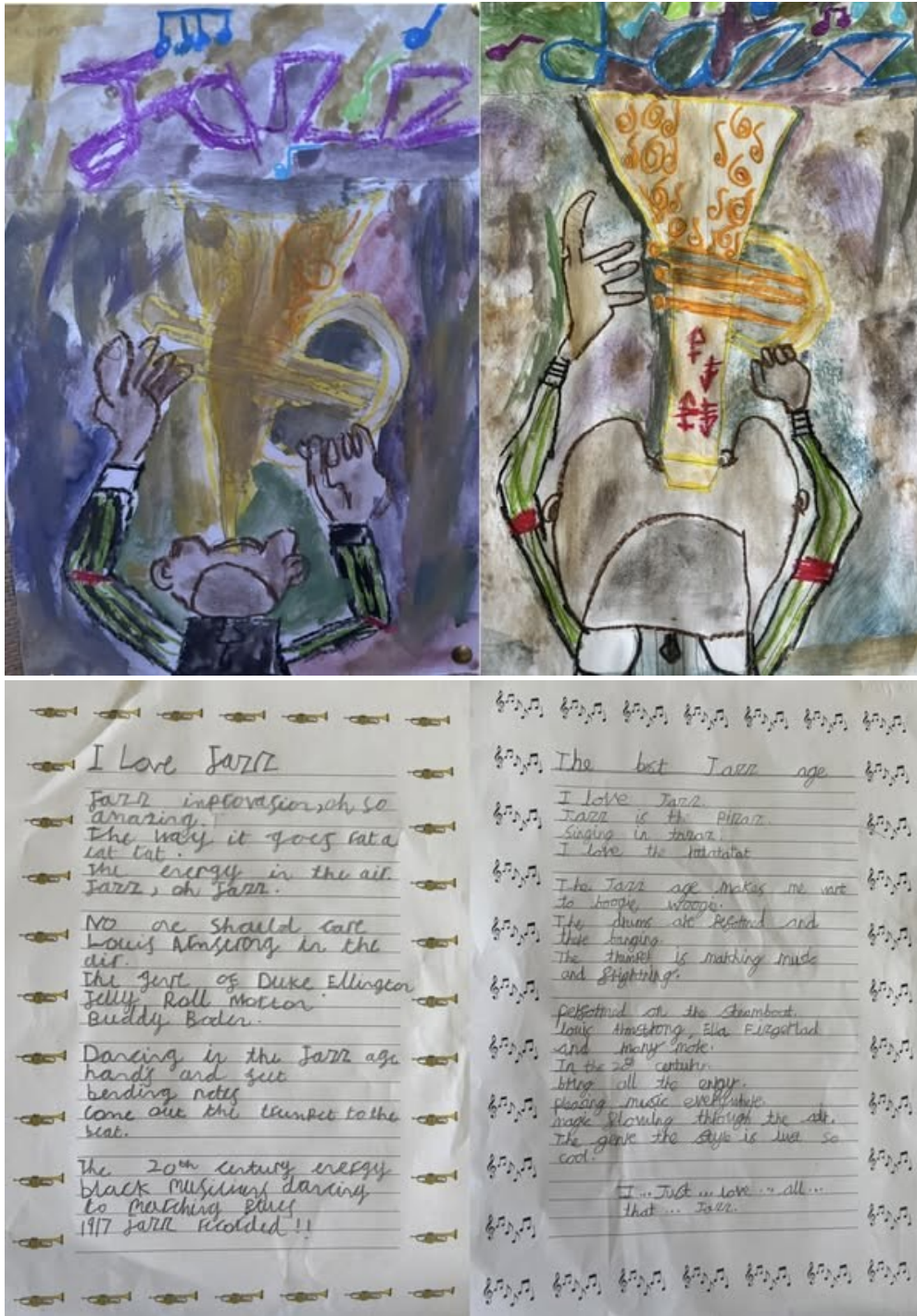
This much-loved tradition has been part of St Anne's for over 15 years.

Our oldest children in school 'buddy up' with our youngest, guiding them through their first year. Out on the yard we already see this in action: the kindness and care of Year 6 has helped our Reception children feel truly welcomed into the St Anne's family.

During yesterday's worship, the Year 6 children spoke beautifully about their buddies, while our Reception children showed great courage standing proudly in front of friends and family.

It was a morning filled with love, laughter and friendship – values that mean so much to us here at St Anne's.





## Year 4 Jazz Week

This week in Year 4, it's been Jazz Week! We have prepared for the upcoming Black History Month and International Music day (Wednesday 1st of October) all while making links to our current English text- Tar Beach by Faith Ringgold. We have researched the history of Jazz Music, listening to various artists, exploring improvisation, syncopation and expression. We have honoured Jazz artists, such as Louis Armstrong and Duke Ellington by creating our own jazzy artworks and poetry to share what we have learned.





## Cross Country Success!

Well done to all of our Key Stage 2 children who attended the cross country event today at Staindrop Academy. You all represented the school brilliantly and we couldn't be prouder!

Special congratulations to:

Cerys – 1st place in the Year 3/4 girls event!

Year 5/6 Boys Team – 2nd place overall.

Both are now through to the County Finals!

A huge well done to everyone who took part-you showed fantastic determination, teamwork and school spirit



Head Teacher: Mrs S Binks

Minds to learn hearts to care.



This week in Reception.....

It's all about circles and lines in Reception this week! With the formation of new letter shapes in phonics this week we have focussed on circular motions and forming straight lines.

Circles are a crucial early pre-writing pattern, along with lines and loops, that build the foundation for learning to write.

Inspiration came from the artist Kandinsky, Squares and Circles, 1912 and the children have produced amazing artworks of their own. We had some great discussion about colour mixing too.

This followed on from our daily circle dance to 'You Spin me Round' with our 'flappers'. Dancing and artwork are the best way to enjoy early writing!





In Year One this week we have been working hard in maths,  
recognising numerals written as words.





EYFS Parents/Carers,

Gardening in the Early Years provides extensive benefits, promoting physical development through motor skills by linking maths, science and literacy. Gardening also develops personal, social and emotional skills through responsibility, patience and collaboration.

We are keen to get our garden up and running and plant seasonally to grow our own produce.

To help kick start our gardening journey we need your help. We would love the children to take part in a sponsored Welly Run! This will be lots of fun and will be celebrated at the finish line with a biscuit and juice.

The run will take place on Wednesday 8th October.

We would like to thank you for your continued support.

A sponsor form will be given to each child this week.



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## ***Weekly class attendance.....22 to 26 September***

Reception 94.00%

Year 1 **99.00%**

Year 2 89.00%

Year 3 96.55%

Year 4 93.41%

Year 5 94.19%

Year 6 92.06%



# Stars of the Week



|                   |                                                        |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| Reception Citizen | <i>Lea</i>                                             |
| Reception Maths   | <i>Thomas</i>                                          |
| Reception English | <i>Robyn</i>                                           |
| Year 1 Citizen    | <i>Joud</i>                                            |
| Year 1 Maths      | <i>Francis</i>                                         |
| Year 1 English    | <i>Indie</i>                                           |
| Year 2 Citizen    | <i>Leo</i>                                             |
| Year 2 Maths      | <i>Logan</i>                                           |
| Year 2 English    | <i>Ezra</i>                                            |
| Year 3 Citizen    | <i>All for fantastic behaviour on our school visit</i> |
| Year 3 Maths      | <i>Alex</i>                                            |
| Year 3 English    | <i>Zoey</i>                                            |
| Year 3 Computing  | <i>Reya</i>                                            |
| Year 4 Citizen    | <i>Ava</i>                                             |
| Year 4 Maths      | <i>Hudson</i>                                          |
| Year 4 English    | <i>Oliver</i>                                          |
| Year 5 English    | <i>Holly</i>                                           |
| Year 5 Maths      | <i>Dominic</i>                                         |
| Year 5 Citizen    | <i>Scarlett</i>                                        |
| Year 6 English    | <i>Alex</i>                                            |
| Year 6 Maths      | <i>Sammy</i>                                           |
| Year 6 Citizen    | <i>Amelie</i>                                          |







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

### Medication

Please ensure that all medication, including over the counter medication is taken to the School Office each day and the appropriate form is completed. No medication should be placed in your child's bag or lunch box. This will ensure that the medication is managed correctly and is not accessed by another child.

Polite reminder that no dogs should be brought onto school property including those being carried.

Thank you

### Pupils Online Safety

[https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/4\\_7/6-7/badges/chatting-online/](https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/4_7/6-7/badges/chatting-online/)

### Parents Online Wellbeing

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/>

## September

### **Monday 29th September** – *Reception Opening Evening*

For prospective new starters and their families.

## October

### **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October** - Harvest Lunch

### **Friday 3rd October** – *Harvest Worship*

Year 3 parents are invited to attend at **9:15am**.

### **Wednesday 8th October**—EYFS Welly Run

**Friday 10th October**— Wear something yellow in support of Young Minds

### **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> to Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October** - Half term break

## November

### **Tuesday 4th November** – *Individual Photographs*

All children will have their school photographs taken.

### **Wednesday 5th November** – *Book Fair*

A wonderful opportunity to explore and purchase books.

### **Thursday 6th November** – *Book Fair*

A wonderful opportunity to explore and purchase books.

### **Friday 7th November** – *Year 4 Class Worship*

Year 4 parents are invited to attend at **9:15am**.

### *Book Fair*

A wonderful opportunity to explore and purchase books.

### **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> - Thursday 13th November** – *Parents' Evening Week*

Further details and booking information will be shared soon.

### **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November** - Children in Need

## December

### **Friday 5th December** – *Christmas Fayre*

A festive event for all – times to be confirmed.

### **Monday 8th December** – *Christmas Pantomime*

A special treat for all children.

### **Wednesday 10th December** - Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Lunch

### **Wednesday 11th December** – *Year 6 Singing at St Anne's Church*

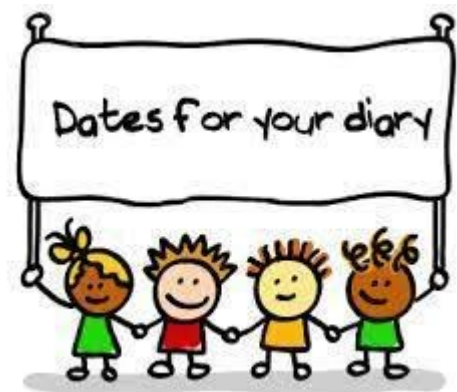
Performance begins at **10:00am** – Year 6 parents are welcome to attend.

### **Wednesday 17th December** – *EYFS and KS1 Nativity*

Held in school – more details to follow.

### **Friday 19th December** – *KS2 Carol Service at St Andrew's Church*

This will take place in the afternoon – a lovely way to end the term



We look forward to welcoming you to these events and thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the school office.





## Food Collection

We would be grateful of any kind donations to our Harvest collection which will be donated to Woodhouse Close Church & Community Centre Foodbank.

Donations could include:

- Tinned foods
- Rice/pasta
- Lentils, beans and pulses
- UHT milk and fruit juices
- Tea/coffee
- Biscuits
- Cereals

Donations can be made at the School Entrance/Office

Thank you for your continued support





Whether you joined us for the cause,  
the chatter or the tasty treats,  
your generosity helped raise a fabulous

**£ 320**

to help support people living  
with cancer.



Simply scan this QR code  
with your phone  
to donate to your host's  
Coffee Morning.  
It's easy, quick and secure.  
Thank you.

Thank you so much for your kind generosity in  
supporting our Macmillan Coffee Morning.  
Together we have raised an amazing £320 for  
this wonderful charity





# Reception Class September 2026 Open Day

Monday 29 September 2025  
4.00—5.30pm

If you are considering applying to St Anne's for  
your child for entry in September 2026 to our  
Reception Class, we would love to welcome  
you to visit St Anne's

During your visit, you can meet the team and  
view our facilities, whilst your child plays







A festive poster for a Harvest Festival menu. The background is a light yellow sunburst. At the top and bottom are decorative borders of red and orange pennants. In the center, a large white sunburst contains the text. On either side of the title are illustrations of harvest produce: corn, pumpkins, and wheat stalks. The menu lists mains, sides, and dessert, with additional offerings at the bottom.

# HARVEST *Festival*

## MENU

### Mains

Chicken Burger  
Veggie Burger (V)

### Sides

Chipped Potatoes  
Sweetcorn  
Coleslaw

### Dessert

Chocolate Brownie

Fresh Bread, Salad Bar, Fruit  
and Yoghurt also Available



Chartwells  
Schools





## Lets turn St Anne's yellow in support of Young Minds

On Friday 10 October all children are invited to wear yellow in support of Young Minds. We would welcome any donations to this worthy cause either in cash or using the link below. Further information about the vital work Young Minds provides, can be found at <https://fundraise.youngminds.org.uk/.../hello-yellow...>

Thank you for continued support



Head Teacher: Mrs S Binks

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As a school, we are working with Durham County Council and the FISO Programme to provide support for families within our school community. As a result, we have been allocated a Financial Inclusion Support Officer, Julia Waterhouse, who can offer advice and support with any financial concerns. She can also offer full welfare benefit checks and assist with applying for welfare benefits, disability benefits and grants.

Accessing this provision is completely confidential. If you would like your details passing on, we can do this on your behalf. Alternatively, you can arrange an appointment by completing the online referral form: <https://doitonline.durham.gov.uk/.../Request for...> You can also email FISO@durham.gov.uk or contact Julia on 07386659728.

Julia can also be available in school via a pre-bookable appointment if a face-to-face appointment is preferred.





**Are you missing out on Universal Credit?**

Universal Credit can be paid to working and non working families

There will no longer be an earnings threshold if working and claiming Universal Credit

**ALL families in receipt of Universal Credit will be eligible for Free School Meals from September 2026**

By claiming Free School Meals this could save you £490 per year per child

Contact your FISO for a FREE confidential welfare benefit check  
FISO@durham.gov.uk

[https://doitonline.durham.gov.uk/en/service/Request\\_for\\_Financial\\_Inclusion\\_Support](https://doitonline.durham.gov.uk/en/service/Request_for_Financial_Inclusion_Support)

Julia would like to make all parents and carers aware that the government are changing the eligibility criteria for free school meals in September 2026. This means that every family receiving Universal Credit will now qualify for free school meals. Even if you think you may not qualify for Universal Credit/Free School Meals it is always worth checking. Please contact Julia who will complete a quick, free and confidential welfare benefit check for you. FISO@durham.gov.uk



# Starting School

**Will your child turn 5 between  
1 September 2026 and 31 August 2027?**

If so, you need to complete an application online to tell us which school you would like your child to attend from September 2026.

Visit [www.durham.gov.uk/primaryschoolplaces](http://www.durham.gov.uk/primaryschoolplaces) where you can access a useful guide to help with your application. The easiest way to apply is online. If you are unable to apply online, paper application forms are available on request.

You still need to apply even if your child attends the nursery unit attached to the school, or already has a sibling at the school. You will also need to apply for a place for year 3 in a junior school if you wish your child to attend there.

**Applications open 1 September 2025 and close midnight 15 January 2026.**

**For more information please contact**

School Places and Admissions Team

🌐 [www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

☎ 03000 265896

