



St Anne's CE Primary School & Nursery

NEWSLETTER



Twinkly Nativity!

On Wednesday, our KS1 and EYFS children presented The Twinkly Nativity.

The show was truly amazing and brought extra sparkle to our Christmas celebrations in school.

We had an all-star cast, led by Year 2, who delivered their lines beautifully. We are super proud of all our children, who shone with confidence in front of a sell out audience.

This shiny retelling of the Christmas story gave us a wonderful dose of dazzle and no shortage of delight. Thank you to everyone who came to support us, we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did.





Head Teacher: Mrs S Binks

Minds to learn hearts to care.





Snow Fest Fun at St. Anne's

We were delighted to finally see the sun shine on St. Anne's this week, which meant our much anticipated Snow Fest could go ahead!

The children had a wonderful Christmas morning dancing and celebrating in the snow with Turkey Rob and Elf Luke. There was lots of laughter, music, and festive cheer as our yard truly transformed into a magical Winter Wonderland

It really was a morning full of joy and Christmas spirit





A crafty afternoon for Year 6!



Rocksteady Assembly

A huge thank you to Chris from **Rocksteady Music School** for visiting us on Monday and delivering an amazing assembly! The children loved learning about the different instruments and joining in with some fantastic familiar tunes.

The highlight? Chris formed our very own St. Anne's Teachers Band- and they were so good, he's decided to take them on tour!

Your child will be bringing home an information letter about how they can get involved with RockSteady. If you'd like to find out more, you can visit:

<https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com>



St Anne's Rocksteady Superstars!

Last Friday, this wonderful group of children filled the school with music during a fantastic concert. With guitars, keyboards, bass, vocals and drums, the hall at St Anne's was buzzing with energy!

We are so proud of all the children who took part- what an incredible performance! **Rocksteady Music School**



Year 6 Big Sing

Year 6 continued celebrating their last Christmas together at the Big Sing held at Ushaw Collage. Huge thanks to [Durham Music Service](#) for organising such a wonderful event. Unfortunately, we couldn't video the children singing as they were joined by schools from across the county, but if you look at our Facebook page, you'll be able to hear their amazing voices! They then returned to school and shared their Secret Santa gifts. Well done Year 6. Proud as always.

Celebrating Leo!

In July, Leo was awarded the Susan Clarey Memorial Trophy-and what a worthy recipient he is! Those lucky enough to see KS1's Nativity this year will know exactly why- Leo sparkled and shone every step of the way along with his friends.

Leo, Susan would have absolutely adored you—your kindness, joy and spirit represent everything she brought to our school. Leo, you are a credit to us all.





Years 1 and 2 enjoyed a wonderful Christmas visit to the **Auckland Youth and Community Centre** Winter Wonderland. They enjoyed snowball fights, decorated biscuits, made Christmas crafts and had a special visit to Father Christmas in his grotto.

We had the most amazing elves and a snowman helping us with our activities this morning. We are very grateful to the staff at the centre for making us feel so welcome and giving our children this fantastic opportunity





A Joyful Celebration at St Anne's Church!

Our wonderful Year 6 children filled St Anne's Church with the true spirit of Christmas through their beautiful singing and telling of the Christmas story. Their voices brought warmth and joy to everyone and we couldn't be prouder. A special well done to those who read so proudly and to our soloists who sang with such confidence- you were amazing.

A heartfelt thanks to Rev. Brett and Rev. Matt for inviting us to be part of this service. It truly is one of the highlights of our year.

Finally, thank you to all the parents, families and friends who joined us in worship and song. Your support means the world to us and makes these moments even more special.





Welcome to Mayor of the North East, Kim McGuinness

On Wednesday 10th December, we were delighted to welcome the Mayor of the North East, Kim McGuinness, to St Anne's.

During her visit, our Reception Class were lucky enough to enjoy a very special story time, with the Mayor reading one of her favourite stories, Stick Man. The children listened beautifully and thoroughly enjoyed every moment.

Once the story finished, the room was filled with festive cheer as the children burst into Christmas songs — a truly magical moment!



Year 3 had a cosy Christmas read on Wednesday, practising our fluency and storytelling voices.

We loved reading a wide variety of traditional stories such as The Snow Queen and stranger titles such as The stinky sprouts in a rather smelly tale.





Weekly class attendance.....

15 to 19 December 2025

Reception **96.67%**

Year 1 95.33%

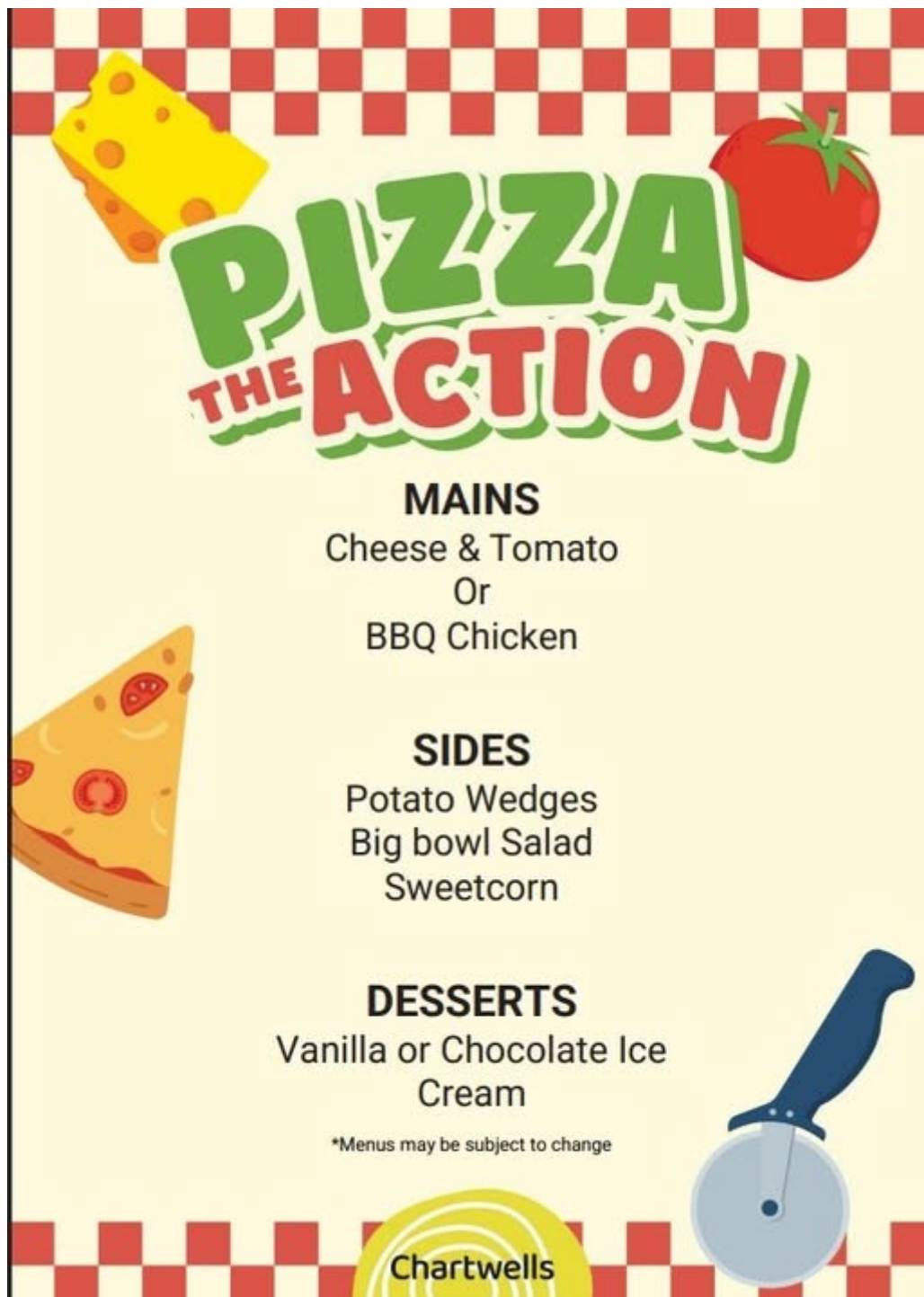
Year 2 96.00%

Year 3 91.38%

Year 4 94.44%

Year 5 93.19%

Year 6 96.43%



We look forward to a Pizza the Action lunch on Thursday 15 January 2026

If your child is on packed lunch but would like a school lunch on this day,
please update your child's meal choice on their Arbor account



All lost property from across school will be
available to view and claim from the
Main Entrance all next week

Items not claimed at the end of term will be
donated to charity

Could we please ask that all clothing is
labelled with your child's name so that we
can return any lost items. Thank you



We are delighted to be working with **Durham County Council** WEE by providing in school, a recycling point for your small electrical items. This can include items such as toasters, straighteners, irons, mobile phones, hair dryers, cameras, kettles, music players and computer accessories including game controllers. So long as it can fit into a carrier bag. The recycling point is located in our Main Entrance. We also have the facility to recycle used household batteries, which can be handed over to the Office.

www.durham.gov.uk/weee

We were delighted to take delivery of our new book and DVD recycling bank. We would be grateful if any donations of books, could be securely wrapped in a carrier bag please.



Fun & Food Parent Christmas Guide 2025

Looking for ways to keep your children active, inspired, and smiling this Christmas?

Our Fun & Food programme is back with an amazing line-up of **FREE** holiday activities for eligible families across County Durham! **The Fun & Food programme** is managed by Durham County Council and is a brilliant initiative from the Department for Education.

The programme offers **FULLY FUNDED** places for children and young people (reception to year 11) including children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, who are in receipt of benefit-related free school meals.

Get ready for an unforgettable Christmas with over 70 locations packed with fun, food and learning. Choose from theatre thrills, arts & crafts, outdoor adventures, sports galore, youth day trips for teens, fun on the farm, xmas parties, panto magic and even a visit from Santa himself!

This is a great opportunity for children and young people to be active, make friends and enjoy a healthy meal over the Christmas holidays – for free!

Our online portal for Christmas activity bookings opens at 12 noon on Monday 24 November 2025.

Use the QR code or weblink found on your Fun & Food ticket to access the online portal. Speak to your school before the end of term if you have not received your ticket and think you are eligible. Not sure how to book...

Watch our step by step video guide [here](#) or email funandfoodtickets@durham.gov.uk



Department
for Education



Durham
County Council





Little Light Lantern Walk

13th December 2025 3.30 - 4pm
Newgate Centre



www.ChristmasAtNewgate.co.uk



22nd November to 21st December 2025

BOOK YOUR VISIT TO SEE SANTA

Use this code at the checkout to save 10%
and help your local school/nursery

st-annes-primary

Book at www.christmasatnewgate.co.uk

Scan the QR code to book





Head Teacher: Mrs S Binks

Minds to learn hearts to care.

JOY

4-7 Dec - Christmas Tree Festival
in St Anne's

14 Dec - Nine Lessons and Carols
3pm in St Andrew's

20 Dec - Carols in the Market Place
6pm outside St Anne's

21 Dec - Panto-Nativity
11am in St Anne's

24 Dec - Christingle
4pm in St Andrew's

24 Dec - Midnight Mass
11:15pm in St Andrew's

25 Dec - Christmas Celebration
10am in St Anne's

All welcome to our regular services in St Anne's on
Thursday at 10am and Sunday at 11am
and in St Andrew's on Sunday at 9am



Bishop Auckland Parish
St Andrew's + St Anne's





From January 2026, the weekly newsletter will have a new look! The newsletter will be more condensed but still contain all the important information and updates you need. We will continue to publish news and events on our social media platforms on Facebook and Instagram.



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

AUTUMN/WINTER 2025 MENU

WEEK 1 ST ANNE'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
HOT DISHES	OPTION 1 Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Potato Wedges and Baked Beans	THEME DAY Chicken Katsu with Wholegrain Rice	Roast Chicken with Potatoes and Gravy	Minced Beef and Dumplings with Mashed Potato	Breaded Fish Fingers with Chips
	OPTION 2 Spicy Pasta Bake		Quorn Roast with Potatoes and Gravy	Chinese Vegetable Noodles	Veggie Burger with Chips
	OPTION 3 Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings		Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings
DELI	OPTION 4 Sandwich Selection	Cheese and Tuna Panini Melt	Sandwich Selection	Cheese Panini Melt	Sandwich Selection
ALL DISHES ARE SERVED WITH CRUNCHY VEGETABLES AND / OR FRESH SALAD					
VEG	Sweetcorn Salad Bar	Garden Peas Big Bowl Salad	Cabbage Sweetcorn	Green Beans Carrots	Baked Beans Garden Peas
DESSERT	Vanilla Crunch	Oatie Cookie with Fruit	Cornflake Tart	Apple Crumble with Custard	Chocolate Ice Cream



AVAILABLE DAILY

Fresh Fruit, Freshly Baked Bread, Yoghurt and Water



Vegetarian



Wholegrain



Nutritionist's choice



Oily fish



Fruity!



Vegan

Our menu is subject to change. Please be assured that all notified medical diets and allergy requirements will be safely catered for.



Chartwells
Schools



AUTUMN/WINTER 2025 MENU

WEEK 2 ST ANNE'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
HOT DISHES	OPTION 1 Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Potato Wedges	Pork Sausage with Yorkshire Pudding Mashed Potato and Gravy	Roast Chicken with Stuffing, Potatoes and Gravy	Chicken Korma with Wholegrain Rice	Southern Fried Chicken with Chips
	OPTION 2 Veggie Sausage in a Bun with Potato Wedges	Cheese and Onion Pie Mashed Potato and Gravy	Quorn Roast with Stuffing, Potatoes and Gravy	Macaroni Cheese	Quorn Dippers with Chips
	OPTION 3 Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings
DELI	OPTION 4 Sandwich Selection	Cheese and Tuna Panini Melt	Sandwich Selection	Cheese Panini Melt	Sandwich Selection
ALL DISHES ARE SERVED WITH CRUNCHY VEGETABLES AND / OR FRESH SALAD					
VEG	Sweetcorn Coleslaw	Garden Peas Carrots	Green Beans Cabbage	Big Bowl Salad Sweetcorn	Baked Beans Garden Peas
DESSERT	Crispy Crackle Bar	Chocolate Cookie with Fruit	Flapjack with Custard	Lemon Cake	Strawberry Ice Cream



AVAILABLE DAILY

Fresh Fruit, Freshly Baked Bread, Yoghurt and Water



Vegetarian



Wholegrain



Nutritionist's choice



Oily fish



Fruity!



Vegan

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Minds to learn hearts to care.





AUTUMN/WINTER 2025 MENU

WEEK 3

ST ANNE'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
HOT DISHES	OPTION 1	Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Potato Wedges <small>OR</small>	Homemade Sausage Roll with Potato Wedges and Baked Beans <small>OR</small>	Roast Gammon with Yorkshire Pudding, Mashed Potato and Gravy <small>OR</small>	Beef Bolognese with Wholemeal Pasta <small>OR</small>	Breaded Fish Fingers with Chips <small>OR</small>
	OPTION 2	Macaroni Cheese <small>OR</small>	Vegetable Korma with Wholegrain Rice <small>OR</small>	Quorn Roast with Yorkshire Pudding, Mashed Potato and Gravy <small>OR</small>	Meatless Ball Sub with Potato Wedges <small>OR</small>	Quorn Dippers with Chips <small>OR</small>
	OPTION 3	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings <small>OR</small>	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings <small>OR</small>	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings <small>OR</small>	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings <small>OR</small>	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings <small>OR</small>
	DELI OPTION 4	Sandwich Selection <small>OR</small>	Cheese and Tuna Panini Melt <small>OR</small>	Sandwich Selection <small>OR</small>	Cheese Panini Melt <small>OR</small>	Sandwich Selection <small>OR</small>
ALL DISHES ARE SERVED WITH CRUNCHY VEGETABLES AND / OR FRESH SALAD						
VEG		Big Bowl Salad Sweetcorn 	Salad Bar Garden Peas 	Carrots Cabbage 	Big Bowl Salad Sweetcorn 	Baked Beans Garden Peas
DESSERT		Chocolate Marble Cake	Flapjack with Fruit 	Raspberry Yoghurt Cake with Custard 	Lemon Cookie with Fruit 	Vanilla Ice Cream


AVAILABLE DAILY
 Fresh Fruit, Freshly Baked Bread, Yoghurt and Water



Vegetarian

Wholegrain

Nutritionist's choice

Oily fish

Fruity!

Vegan








































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Autumn / Winter 2025/2026 Menu Cycle

WK Commencing	Menu WK	Notes
3 rd November 2025	Week 1	
10 th November 2025	Week 2	
17 th November 2025	Week 3	
24 th November 2025	Week 1	
1 st December 2025	Week 2	
8 th December 2025	Week 3	
15 th December 2025	Week 1	
22 nd December 2025	-	Christmas Holidays
29 th December 2025	-	Christmas Holidays
5 th January 2026	Week 2	
12 th January 2026	Week 3	
19 th January 2026	Week 1	
26 th January 2026	Week 2	
2 nd February 2026	Week 3	
9 th February 2026	Week 1	
16 th February 2026	Week 2	
23 rd February 2026	-	Half Term
2 nd March 2026	Week 3	
9 th March 2026	Week 1	
16 th March 2026	Week 2	
23 rd March 2026	Week 3	
30 th March 2026	Week 1	
6 th April 2026	-	Easter Holidays
13 th April 2026	-	Easter Holidays

AUTUMN/WINTER NURSERY 2025 MENU

WEEK 1 ST ANNE'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY	
HOT DISHES	OPTION 1	Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Potato Wedges and Baked Beans 		THEME DAY Chicken Katsu with Wholegrain Rice 		Roast Chicken with Potatoes and Gravy 		Minced Beef and Dumplings with Mashed Potato 		Breaded Fish Fingers with Chips 	
	OPTION 2	Spicy Pasta Bake   		BBQ Vegetable Wrap with Potato Wedges   		Quorn Roast with Potatoes and Gravy   		Chinese Vegetable Noodles   		Veggie Burger with Chips  	
	OPTION 3	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings 		Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings 		Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings 		Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings 		Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings 	
	OPTION 4	Sandwich Selection		Cheese and Tuna Panini Melt 		Sandwich Selection 		Cheese Panini Melt  		Sandwich Selection 	
ALL DISHES ARE SERVED WITH CRUNCHY VEGETABLES AND / OR FRESH SALAD											
VEG		Sweetcorn Salad Bar 		Garden Peas Big Bowl Salad 		Cabbage Sweetcorn 		Green Beans Carrots 		Baked Beans Garden Peas 	
DESSERT		Vanilla Crunch		Oatie Cookie with Fruit  		Cornflake Tart		Apple Crumble with Custard  		Chocolate Ice Cream 	



AVAILABLE DAILY

Fresh Fruit, Freshly Baked Bread, Yoghurt and Water

Vegetarian

Wholegrain

Nutritionist's choice

Oily fish

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AUTUMN/WINTER NURSERY 2025 MENU

WEEK 2 ST ANNE'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY	
HOT DISHES	OPTION 1	Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Potato Wedges		Chicken Fillet with Yorkshire Pudding Mashed Potato and Gravy		Roast Chicken with Stuffing, Potatoes and Gravy		Chicken Korma with Wholegrain Rice		Southern Fried Chicken with Chips	
	OPTION 2			Cheese and Onion Pie Mashed Potato and Gravy		Quorn Roast with Stuffing, Potatoes and Gravy		Macaroni Cheese		Quorn Dippers with Chips	
	OPTION 3	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings		Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings		Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings		Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings		Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings	
	OPTION 4	Sandwich Selection		Cheese and Tuna Panini Melt		Sandwich Selection		Cheese Panini Melt		Sandwich Selection	
ALL DISHES ARE SERVED WITH CRUNCHY VEGETABLES AND / OR FRESH SALAD											
DELI	VEG										
		Sweetcorn Coleslaw		Garden Peas Carrots		Green Beans Cabbage		Big Bowl Salad Sweetcorn		Baked Beans Garden Peas	
DESSERT		Crispy Crackle Bar		Chocolate Cookie with Fruit		Flapjack with Custard		Lemon Cake		Strawberry Ice Cream	



AVAILABLE DAILY

Fresh Fruit, Freshly Baked Bread, Yoghurt and Water

Vegetarian

Wholegrain

Nutritionist's choice

Oily fish

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Schools



Head Teacher: Mrs S Binks

Minds to learn hearts to care.

AUTUMN/WINTER NURSERY 2025 MENU

WEEK 3 ST ANNE'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

HOT DISHES

DELI

OPTION
1

OPTION
2

OPTION
3

OPTION
4

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

Cheese and Tomato
Pizza with Potato
Wedges

OR

Macaroni Cheese

OR

Jacket Potato with a
Choice of Fillings

OR

Sandwich Selection

Homemade Sausage
Roll with Potato
Wedges and Baked
Beans

OR

Vegetable Korma with
Wholegrain Rice

OR

Jacket Potato with a
Choice of Fillings

OR

Cheese and Tuna
Panini Melt

Roast Gammon with
Yorkshire Pudding,
Mashed Potato and
Gravy

OR

Quorn Roast with
Yorkshire Pudding,
Mashed Potato and
Gravy

OR

Jacket Potato with a
Choice of Fillings

OR

Sandwich Selection

Beef Bolognese
with Wholemeal Pasta

OR

Meatless Ball Sub with
Potato Wedges

OR

Jacket Potato with a
Choice of Fillings

OR

Cheese Panini Melt

Breaded Fish Fingers
with Chips

OR

Quorn Dippers with
Chips

OR

Jacket Potato with a
Choice of Fillings

OR

Sandwich Selection

ALL DISHES ARE SERVED WITH CRUNCHY VEGETABLES AND / OR FRESH SALAD

VEG

Big Bowl Salad
Sweetcorn

Salad Bar
Garden Peas

Carrots
Cabbage

Big Bowl Salad
Sweetcorn

Baked Beans
Garden Peas

DESSERT

Chocolate Marble Cake

Flapjack with Fruit

Raspberry Yoghurt
Cake with Custard

Lemon Cookie with
Fruit

Vanilla Ice Cream



AVAILABLE DAILY

Fresh Fruit, Freshly Baked Bread, Yoghurt and Water



Vegetarian



Wholegrain



Nutritionist's choice



Oily fish



Fruity!



Vegan

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Chartwells
Schools



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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

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

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

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

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