

St Anne's CE Primary School & Nursery

NEWSLETTER



Twinkly Nativity!

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

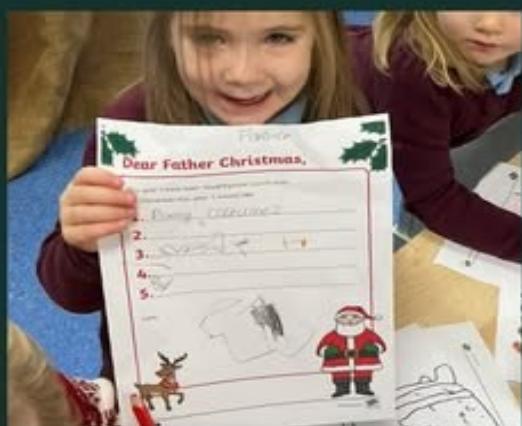
The show was truly amazing and brought extra sparkle to our Christmas celebrations in school.

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.







Merry Christmas from everyone in Nursery! We've had another lovely week celebrating. We hope everyone has a restful 2 weeks ready for more learning in the new year!

Merry Christmas!

PIC COLLAGE





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.

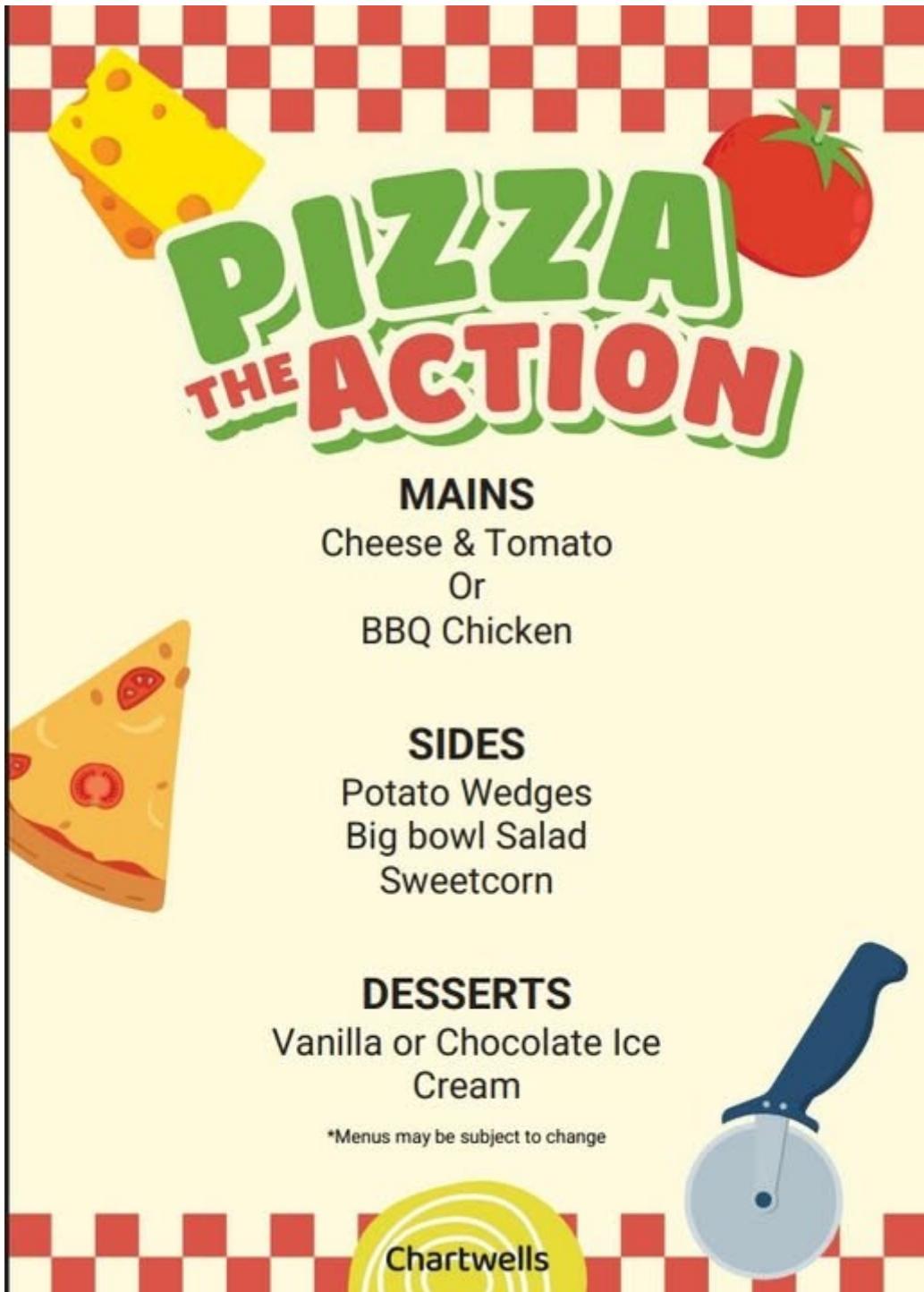




Weekly class attendance.....

15 to 19 December 2025

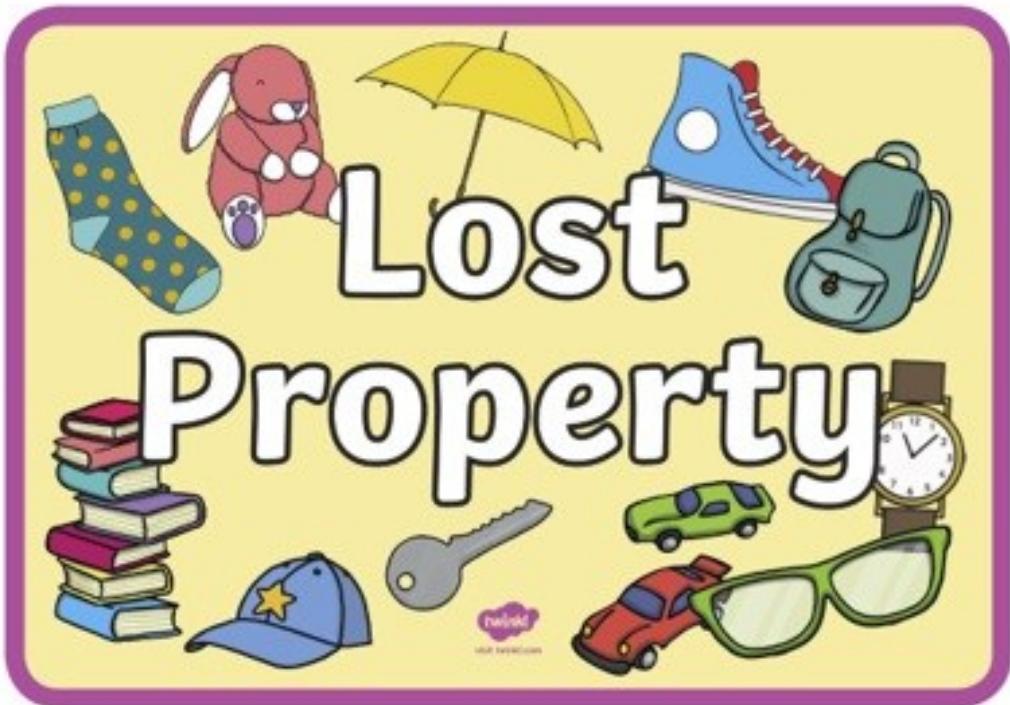
Reception	96.67%
Year 1	95.33%
Year 2	96.00%
Year 3	91.38%
Year 4	94.44%
Year 5	93.19%
Year 6	96.43%



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



Investing in children



360^o
Degree Safe

ACCREDITED
SAFER
ONLINE



garden
organic

International
School Award



Healthy School





Little Light Lantern Walk

13th December 2025 3.30 - 4pm
Newgate Centre



www.ChristmasAtNewgate.co.uk

Christmas
AT
NEWGATE
CENTRE

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



A small illustration of a Christmas tree with a yellow star on top, surrounded by snow and small gifts.

A small illustration of Santa Claus carrying a large sack of gifts, walking through snow.



investing in children



360°
Degree Safe



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	OPTION 2	OPTION 3	OPTION 4	
		Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Potato Wedges and Baked Beans 	THEME DAY Chicken Katsu with Wholegrain Rice  BBQ Vegetable Wrap with Potato Wedges 	Roast Chicken with Potatoes and Gravy  Quorn Roast with Potatoes and Gravy 	Minced Beef and Dumplings with Mashed Potato  Chinese Vegetable Noodles 	Breaded Fish Fingers with Chips  Veggie Burger with Chips 
		Spicy Pasta Bake 	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 	Cheese and Tuna Panini Melt 	Sandwich Selection	Sandwich Selection	Cheese Panini Melt 
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						
Our menu is subject to change. Please be assured that all notified medical diets and allergy requirements will be safely catered for.						

		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
HOT DISHES		OPTION 1	OPTION 2	OPTION 3	OPTION 4	
		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 
		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 
		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 
		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						
Our menu is subject to change. Please be assured that all notified medical diets and allergy requirements will be safely catered for.						



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> Macaroni Cheese	Homemade Sausage Roll with Potato Wedges and Baked Beans <small>OR</small> Vegetable Korma with Wholegrain Rice	Roast Gammon with Yorkshire Pudding, Mashed Potato and Gravy <small>OR</small> Quorn Roast with Yorkshire Pudding, Mashed Potato and Gravy	Beef Bolognese with Wholemeal Pasta <small>OR</small> Meatless Ball Sub with Potato Wedges	Breaded Fish Fingers with Chips <small>OR</small> Quorn Dippers with Chips
DELI		OPTION 2	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings <small>OR</small> Sandwich Selection	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings <small>OR</small> Cheese and Tuna Panini Melt	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings <small>OR</small> Sandwich Selection	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings <small>OR</small> Cheese Panini Melt	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings <small>OR</small> Sandwich Selection
OPTION 3		Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings <small>OR</small> Sandwich Selection	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings <small>OR</small> Cheese and Tuna Panini Melt	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings <small>OR</small> Sandwich Selection	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings <small>OR</small> Cheese Panini Melt	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings <small>OR</small> Sandwich Selection	
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		Big Bowl Salad Sweetcorn <small>OR</small>	Salad Bar Garden Peas <small>OR</small>	Carrots Cabbage <small>OR</small>	Big Bowl Salad Sweetcorn <small>OR</small>	Baked Beans Garden Peas <small>OR</small>	
DESSERT		Chocolate Marble Cake	Flapjack with Fruit <small>OR</small>	Raspberry Yoghurt Cake with Custard <small>OR</small>	Lemon Cookie with Fruit <small>OR</small>	Vanilla Ice Cream <small>OR</small>	
AVAILABLE DAILY							
Fresh Fruit, Freshly Baked Bread, Yoghurt and Water							
Our menu is subject to change. Please be assured that all notified medical diets and allergy requirements will be safely catered for.							

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

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



BIG
Bullying Intervention Group



Local Offer



Investing in Children



Eco-Schools



360°
Degree Safe



SAFER
ONLINE



RESPECTING
OTHERS



garden
organic



International
School Award



Safeguarding
Schools Project



Healthy School



FAIRTRADE



QUALITY MARK
SILVER
2015-16



SAFEGUARDING
QUALITY MARK
SILVER
2015-16



SAFEGUARDING
QUALITY MARK
GOLD
2015-16



RE
Quality Mark
GOLD

AUTUMN/WINTER NURSERY 2025 MENU

WEEK 3
ST ANNE'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

HOT DISHES

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
OPTION 1	Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Potato Wedges 	Homemade Sausage Roll with Potato Wedges and Baked Beans 	Roast Gammon with Yorkshire Pudding, Mashed Potato and Gravy 	Beef Bolognese with Wholemeal Pasta 	Breaded Fish Fingers with Chips 
OPTION 2	Macaroni Cheese 	Vegetable Korma with Wholegrain Rice 	Quorn Roast with Yorkshire Pudding, Mashed Potato and Gravy 	Meatless Ball Sub with Potato Wedges 	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

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
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

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



Julia Waterhouse
Financial Inclusion Support Officer
Free help and advice to families

Benefits Advice and Support: Universal Credit, Disability Benefits, Council Tax, Carers Allowance

Help with Debt

Budgeting

Welfare Benefit Appeals and Tribunals

Durham County Council

Email: FISO@durham.gov.uk
Telephone: 07386 659 728

Signposting for Emotional Support, Mental Health and Wellbeing

Signposting for Employment and Training

Fuel Support and Grants

Education Entitlements: Free School Meals, Uniforms, EMA

Social Inclusion Team

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

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

