



BISHOP BEWICK

CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

AUTUMN 2025



St Vincent's Catholic Primary School

One Trust, One Family
A great education has the power to transform lives

An update from the Chief Executive, Anita Bath

This edition of our newsletter is full of joy, hope and happy events as our schools move through the Advent period and prepare for Christmas. Within these stories you can clearly see the mission of our schools to develop the whole child and include all our children in a range of opportunities. Many of these invite our students to contribute to their communities and positively impact the wider world.

I was also struck by how our schools are committed to providing the very best outcomes and life-chances for all their children. Through these stories we can witness the real successes celebrated by so many of our students who have benefited from a truly transformative education through their Catholic primary and secondary education. It is also wonderful to see the wide range of gifts and talents that they will now take into their adult lives.

On behalf of our school staff and Bishop Bewick team, I wish you all a happy and peaceful Christmas and much joy in 2026.



Anita Bath

A message from our Chair of Trustees, Dave Harrison



Dave Harrison

Pope Leo XIV, in a recent conference, encouraged educators to let Christ be their guiding compass, shaping character, enriching knowledge, and illuminating every classroom with truth and love. This is our shared mission: to educate the whole child, reminding us that teaching reaches far deeper than the delivery of curriculum content.

Our Catholic schools are complex and diverse communities, and it makes sense to begin with the universal gifts of truth and love. These form the foundation of an environment where everyone can feel a sense of belonging and a connection to something steady, safe, and enduring.

As we journey through Advent, we are offered a moment of quiet waiting, an opportunity to reflect on our own truth and to consider whether our hearts are aligned with this universal love. A school becomes an embodiment of that love through each one of us. I felt this spirit of warmth and belonging at our first Governance Conference in November.

The event, attended by a remarkable number of our school governors, not only celebrated their tireless volunteer work but also rekindled our shared commitment to shaping the future of our schools, even as we face the challenges ahead. Whether you are a pupil, parent, carer, member of staff, governor, or part of the wider Bishop Bewick family, we hope you feel an ever-growing sense of outward-facing love, connection, belonging and hope through our schools.

On behalf of the Board, may I wish you a joyful, peaceful, and blessed Christmas, and a hopeful New Year.

Inspiring schools

Anthony Gollings, Chief Financial Officer



School buildings are more than just bricks and mortar; they are spaces where young minds develop and flourish. Whilst school funding nationally is tight, we continue to push ourselves to ensure our schools are:

- Safe and secure
- Inspirational places to learn
- Energy sustainable
- Physical representations of our high standards and ethos

In the last year we have invested over £7m in our schools. This includes:

- £2.5m improving dining hall facilities for students at St Cuthberts High school
- £2m at St Benet Biscop on a new Sixth Form facility
- £1m on roofing, security and health and safety measures across our school estate
- Over £1/2m on remodelling work and reception areas at St Alban's, St Cuthbert's (Walbottle) and St Bede's (Denton Burn).
- Over £1/2m enhancing Early Years areas in eight of our primary schools
- £200k refurbishing pupil toilets in four schools

We've been working with the Department for Education to develop plans for the new school buildings at St Columba's in Wallsend and St John Vianney in West Denton. Both schools will seek to share draft plans in the New Year regarding their designs and construction timescales.

We are committed to doing more in 2026, when we will see another £4m invested, including:

- £700k in enhancing the provision for children with SEND in at least 10 of our primary schools
- Over £1m improving outdoor sports facilities at St Cuthberts High, Sacred Heart High school and St Thomas More
- £1m on redecoration measures across our schools
- A further £500k in pupil toilet facilities
- £500k ensuring our schools remain watertight

Exciting times ahead - together, we are achieving great things.

A Celebration of Governance: Our first trust-wide governance conference



On 7 November we were delighted to welcome over 50 governors and trustees from across our Trust to our inaugural Governance Celebration and Conference – a truly inspiring day that brought our governance community together.

The event provided a fantastic opportunity for governors to network, share experiences, and discuss the challenges our schools face together. Our central team gave valuable updates on the collaborative work happening across the Trust, including practical support for schools navigating balanced budgets, responding to rising SEND needs, and managing changing pupil numbers.

The day was bookended by uplifting performances from some of our primary and secondary school choirs, reminding everyone of the importance of our work. Seeing the talent and joy of our children was the perfect way to celebrate the transformative power of a great education.

Feedback from attendees has been overwhelmingly positive, with governors particularly valuing the chance to connect with colleagues from other schools and hear directly from Trust leaders. We are excited to make this an annual fixture in our calendar, strengthening the governance community that works so hard to support our schools and pupils.

If you would like to know about the role of a governor or the process of becoming a governor please contact gilly.box@bishopbewickcet.org



Schools of belonging and love: meeting the needs of all children

A National Crisis?

The recently published report of the House of Commons Select Committee (September 2025) stated that ‘The Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) system is in crisis, failing far too many children and their families, as well as creating intense pressure on local authority funding and education systems.’

The way forward?

The Secretary of State, Bridget Philipson, has stated that the government’s reforms and guidance for schools to be published in the new year, will focus on five areas:

- That children should receive the support they need as soon as possible
- That children with SEND should be able to learn at a school that is close to their home
- Ensuring that every school should be resourced and able to meet common and predictable needs
- That reforms should be grounded in evidence, ensuring that all schools know where to go to find effective practice, thereby improving effectiveness
- Ensuring that education, health and care services should work in partnership with one another, local government, families, teachers, experts and representative bodies

For us?

Whilst we don’t know yet what this will look like in practice, at Bishop Bewick we want to reiterate our commitment to your children, whatever their needs may be. All children belong in our schools whilst

they are journeying with us. Our schools are constantly reviewing how they ensure that this lives out in practice, so that all can achieve their potential and grow as individuals. We will embrace the new government guidance wholeheartedly, set within the backdrop of our schools being places of ‘safety, discovery, learning, achievement, belonging and love.’

Schools and families working in partnership is crucial to making this happen. I asked SENCos from two of our schools to identify ways in which you, as parents and carers, can support schools to create these places for your children. Here are their suggestions:

1. Focus on strengths and wellbeing

Celebrate small successes, build confidence, and prioritise emotional wellbeing to help your child feel capable, motivated and understood.

- Recognise and name your child’s strengths.
- Frame any challenges as areas for development.
- Balance learning with rest and fun.

2. Work closely with the school

Regular communication with teachers and the SENCo ensures you’re using the same strategies at home and supporting your child’s needs effectively.

- Attend scheduled meetings and share your child’s strengths as well as concerns.
- Share insights about what helps your child at home.
- Keep the school informed about your child’s views and opinions of school.

3. Keep routines clear and consistent

Predictable daily structures and simple, step-by-step instructions help children feel secure and reduce overwhelm.

- Create a morning, after-school and bedtime routine using pictures, symbols or simple words.
- Break tasks into small steps and keep the order the same.
- Give one instruction at a time.

Particularly relating to the move to, and journey through secondary school:

1. Build strong communication with school

- Introduce yourself to the SENCo and key staff.
- Share any updated assessments, medical information, or strategies that work at home.
- Keep communication regular but brief—small issues are easier to address before they become bigger concerns.
- Check in with your child about what works well in class and what feels difficult and share this with the SENCo.
- If something isn’t working, discuss it openly with the SENCo; plans can be adapted if the current support is not helping your child in the way it was intended.
- Let school know if there are changes in behaviour, mood, or health that might affect learning.

2. Support organisation and independence

- In secondary school your child will experience new routines, multiple teachers, and more homework. Speak to your school about the support available to help your child with this and they will be able to share advice and guidance about how to support your child at home with this too.
- Help your child practise using a timetable, packing their bag the night before, and breaking tasks into smaller steps.
- Celebrate small wins to build confidence.
- As your child gets older, help them to understand their needs and to speak up when they need help. You can practise simple scripts like “I don’t understand the instructions” or “Can I have a quiet space for a moment?”. Confidence in self-advocacy is a key skill for secondary school and beyond.

“Made for Greatness”

Apostolic Nuncio Visits St Cuthbert’s Catholic High School on the Feast of the Holy Guardian Angels



On Thursday 2 October the Feast of the Holy Guardian Angels, St Cuthbert’s Catholic High School had the great honour of welcoming His Excellency Archbishop Miguel Maury Buendía, Apostolic Nuncio to Great Britain, as part of his official visitation to the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle.

The visit centred on a joyful and reverent celebration of Mass, offered by the Apostolic Nuncio for the pupils, students and staff of the school. Concelebrating were Bishop Stephen Wright, Canon Peter Leighton, Fr William Nichol, and Fr Andrew, the Archbishop’s Secretary.

In his welcome, Bishop Stephen reflected on the rich symbolism of the Nuncio’s pilgrimage through the diocese—from Holy Island, where St Cuthbert lived and prayed, to Durham Cathedral, where his relics rest. “It is fitting,” he said, “that he now celebrates Mass in a school that proudly bears the name of St Cuthbert, a man of deep faith and fearless witness.”

During his homily, Bishop Stephen addressed the pupils directly, reminding them of their dignity and purpose: “You are important in God’s sight. You were made for greatness—but this greatness is not about power or status. It is found in service, in love, and in using your gifts to do good.” His words beautifully echoed the school’s mission of “forming great men,” rooted in humility, courage, and Gospel values.

Archbishop Miguel conveyed Pope Leo’s greetings and blessings from Rome, sharing the Holy Father’s encouragement: “Aspire to great things—to holiness—wherever you are. Do not settle for less.”

Following the Mass, the Nuncio blessed the school’s newly completed dining room dedicated to St Benedict, designed by Howarth Litchfield Architects, and built by Meldrum Construction. Headmaster Mr Murray spoke of St Benedict’s teaching on hospitality: “Let all guests who arrive be received as Christ.” He told the boys, “You deserve the best because you are made in the image of God.”

The Archbishop then toured the school, meeting pupils, visiting classrooms, and spending time with the art department and the Faith in Action Group.



SOLVING THE



Journeying through Advent together...

As we journey through the season of Advent, our schools are embracing this sacred time of waiting and anticipation with renewed focus and joy.

Advent offers a wonderful opportunity for our school communities to pause amid the busyness of term and reflect on the true meaning of Christmas—the coming of Christ into our world. Through prayer, liturgy, and acts of charity, our pupils and staff are walking together through these four weeks, preparing their hearts to welcome the infant Jesus. Below, you will find some of the ways our schools are marking this special season and helping our young people to grow in faith and hope.



St Vincent's Catholic Primary School

Whilst Advent preparations start with a production-line of nimble-fingers transforming pipe-cleaners and pompoms into adorable decorations for the school's 12-foot Christmas tree, it's the opening of the first Advent window on classroom calendars that initiates a snow-globe flurry of festive activity at St Vincent's.

Travelling-cribs travel home, parents and pupils get crafty with glitter and glue and we all head off to the panto (Oh, yes we do!). Year 5 Mini Vinnies' voices ring out as the collection bucket rattles at our local Asda before heading down to a neighbourhood care home to lead a seasonal sing-along with residents.

Christmas shows are performed with toe-tapping pizzazz (Key Stage



2), sweet sincerity (Key Stage 1) and endearing unpredictability (Reception), and a poignant whole-school carol service with families and friends is introduced by Year 6.

On the last day of term, a parish Mass is led by Year 1, who portray perfectly the innocence of Jesus' birth. In the afternoon, we enjoy much-anticipated Christmas parties: pass the parcel, pin-the-tail, musical chairs and a host of other traditional games for which the children are well-fuelled by festive party food provided by parents and carers. Singing, dancing, fun and laughter fill the classrooms and corridors until, suddenly... 'ho,ho,ho!'

St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

Advent is an important time at St Bernadette's because it helps us slow down and prepare our hearts to welcome Jesus at Christmas. However, something that makes it extra special is our ever-evolving and incredibly beautiful Advent Project.

Inspired by the needs of our local and wider community, and scripture, our Year 6 children design and create our 'Advent Project'. Every child in school then makes their own little bag of something special.

Our previous projects have included 'Jars of Light', 'Bags of Love' and most recently, 'Seeds of Hope'. In this way, Advent becomes a time not just of waiting, but of doing, helping our children understand that spreading love and peace is part of preparing for Jesus.

This year, the children of St Bernadette's are spreading 'Angels of Peace'. Our children will be giving their angels to someone in need, or leaving them in carefully chosen places, in the hope that they will reach someone who needs to feel peace and love, at what can be a difficult time for some.



St Benet Biscop Catholic Academy

Through prayer, charity, and acts of kindness, we come together to embody the spirit of Advent, bringing hope, peace, joy and love to our community and beyond. The Jubilee Year of Hope has been an anchor to focus on and live out our school's RISE values during our planned Advent activities.

Our mornings begin with prayers written by students who are all given an Advent 'kindness calendar' and asked to complete an act of kindness each day. Care packages containing Christmas cards, prayers, festive decorations, and small gifts are delivered to members of the community nominated by students and staff. A simple but meaningful way to let people know they are supported during this season.

This spirit of giving runs throughout Advent. Donations are collected for local food banks. An Advent Fayre run by students from Year 7 and 12 raises money for charities including St Cuthbert's Care and CAFOD. Our talented Drama department delights care home residents with wonderful carol performances.

Our last day of term features a Spirituality 'Drop-Down' Day, where students reflect on the meaning of Advent through prayer, activities, and discussions. 'Celebration of the word' is a highlight of the day which students lead through readings, prayers and song. This year we reflect on the 'ultimate journey of hope'.

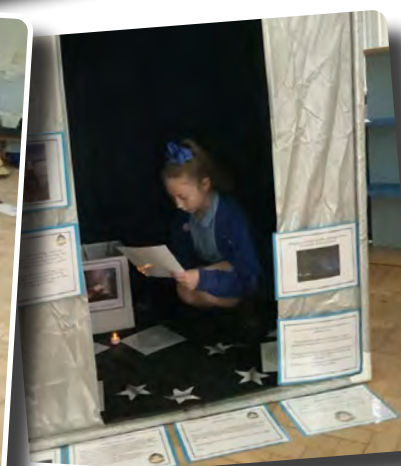


English Martyrs' Catholic Primary School

At English Martyrs', we prepare for the coming of Christ by creating time and space for focus, reflection, and anticipation. Our Advent celebrations include a travelling crib that pupils take home in turn, a daily Advent calendar featuring and reflecting on scripture, and our 40 Days of Advent Challenge, which encourages children to complete daily acts of kindness which are planned around our school Be-Attitudes to spread love, peace, joy and give hope to all around them.

As a community, we also collect donations of chocolate and toiletries for those in need within our parish, as well as for local charities including Joe's Place and Feeding Families First. During Advent, the children engage in a series of prayer stations. This year's theme is 'The Wonder of Waiting'. Pupils explore the Nativity story through their senses.

We focus on promoting our children's understanding and confidence with a variety of performances including Key Stage 1 and Early Years Nativity performances, lower Key Stage 2's Carols Around the World, and upper Key Stage 2's traditional carols and scripture readings. The children embrace each activity with enthusiasm and joy. It is a wonderful time of year.



School in the Spotlight...

St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Cullercoats



St Mary's is our School in the Spotlight in this edition of our newsletter, and have shared just a few of exciting things happening in the school.

Historic England Award

Miss Buzzeeo, our History Lead, has been successful in gaining the Historic England Heritage Schools Award for St Mary's. This award recognises the outstanding history education provided in a school. In order to receive the award, we needed to demonstrate that we had a rich curriculum including local history in at least two year groups.

We passed the criteria with flying colours by sharing the wonderful work across school including Year 1 learning about George Stephenson, Year 2 learning about the Great Fire of Newcastle and Gateshead, Year 4 linking their work on the Romans to Arbeia, Year 5 linking their work on Anglo Saxons to Jarrow Hall and Year 6 taking part in a Local History Study of Cullercoats including history walk, using the census and links to WW2.

Miss Buzzeeo also runs a weekly history club where children can explore periods of history outside of our curriculum including significant figures such as Neil Armstrong and Rosa Parks, WW1 and WW2 and even the history of Newcastle United. We are incredibly proud of this achievement and that the wonderful teaching and learning in History at our school is recognised and celebrated.



Campaigning for Justice

As part of our Values Curriculum, our pupils took part in two campaigns this summer, to raise their awareness of justice in our world.

They began by taking part in CAFOD's 'Cancel Debt, Choose Hope' campaign and learnt about the impact of global debt on smaller countries. The children then went on to take part in the Send my Friend to School project, after being shocked to learn that over 250 million children worldwide can not attend school because of war, poverty, lack of teachers and lack of schools.

We wrote letters to the Prime Minister asking for his support in improving education for all children in the world and invited Alan Campbell MP to come to school to hear about our work and to take our letters to Sir Keir Starmer. We were delighted to receive a response from him in the form of individual letters to each pupil, thanking them for their time and commitment.

We are very proud of our pupils for campaigning for justice and equality in our world and to know that their voices, however small, are being heard!



Pupil Mental Health Ambassadors

As part of our whole school approach to Mental Health and Wellbeing, we were delighted to appoint 13 pupil Mental Health Ambassadors across Key Stage 1 and 2.

These pupils applied in writing for their role, showing wonderful understanding and empathy for others. They worked with our Connect Mental Health Team and Mrs MacDonald to complete their training sessions, learning about attentive listening, confidentiality and respecting personal space. They developed a rota system and volunteer at playtimes and lunchtimes to be available to any pupil who needs support or someone to talk to.

Our ambassadors are a wonderful addition to the Mental Health and Wellbeing offer within our school community, encouraging everyone to recognise and talk about their feelings and emotions and ask for help when needed.



Big Art Week

Each year, our pupils thoroughly enjoy taking part in our Big Art Week. During this week, the children become immersed in a theme and explore that through a range of art activities which allow them to learn and practice a range of artistic skills including painting, sketching, collage, photography and large-scale sculptures.

Our theme for this year was North Shields 800, which allowed us to work collaboratively with our local community which was celebrating eight hundred years of the town. Each class chose an inspiration such as the fish quay, food, music or local artists. We were delighted to have Conrad Milne, one of the artists working on the project, come to school to talk about his work.

The children's work is then displayed during our Big Art Exhibition, and they proudly share their work with their families and local community. Visitors to the exhibition commented "Big Art is one of my favourite events of the year and I love seeing all the amazing pieces in the exhibition" "What an excellent display of the children's work – such colour and creativity!"



School Leavers... Where are they now?

This summer, pupils from our Trust's five secondary schools celebrated wonderful achievements in both A Level and Vocational A Level examinations.

There is so much to be proud of, and each school's website features further details about individual and collective success.

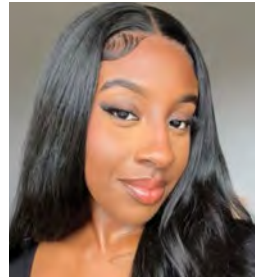
Below is just a small sample of these remarkable accomplishments.

A huge well done to all of our school leavers, and a heartfelt thank you to our incredible staff for supporting our students throughout their journey.

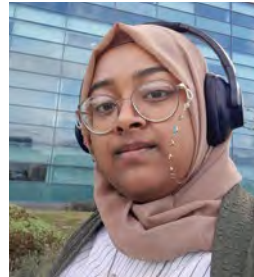
Sacred Heart Catholic High School



Katie attended St Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School before Sacred Heart. Katie achieved Distinction* in Applied Law and an A in Religious Studies and a C in Geography. Katie is completing a Paralegal Apprenticeship with Clifford Chance.



Grace attended Our Lady and St Anne's Catholic Primary School before Sacred Heart. Grace achieved A*, A, A in Textiles, Economics and Mathematics and is now at Newcastle University studying Business Accounting and Finance with PWC placements.



Sabiya achieved A, B, C in Computer Science, Film Studies and Maths at Sacred Heart. Sabiya is now undertaking a Digital and Technology Solutions Apprenticeship at Newcastle Building Society, doing an L6 BSc (Hons) Applied and Digital Technology (Integrated Degree) Apprenticeship.



Celia attended St Teresa's Catholic Primary School before Sacred Heart. Celia achieved A*, A, B in Biology, Spanish and Chemistry and is now studying Biology with Spanish at the University of Manchester.



Victry attended St Charles' Catholic Primary School before Sacred Heart. Victry achieved A*, A, B, C in Biology, Maths, Chemistry, and Further Maths. Victry is now studying Medicine at Newcastle University.

St Thomas More Catholic High School



Charlie attended St Joseph's Catholic Primary School before St Thomas More. Charlie achieved Distinction* Distinction* Distinction* in BTEC Sport and is studying Sport Exercise and Science at Northumbria University.



Scout attended St Aidan's Catholic Primary School before St Thomas More. Scout achieved A*, A*, A, A in English Literature, Geography, Religious Studies and EPQ. Scout is now studying English Literature at Cambridge University.



Macy attended St Mary's Catholic Primary School before St Thomas More. Macy achieved A*, A, B, A in Physics, Maths, Chemistry and EPQ and is now studying Physics at the University of Sheffield.



Thomas attended Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School before St Thomas More. Thomas achieved A, A, C in Business, Psychology and Mathematics. Thomas is now completing a Trainee Cost Manger Degree Apprenticeship with Turner and Townsend.



Rachel attended Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School before St Thomas More. Rachel achieved a Distinction* Distinction* in Health and Social Care and A, B, in English Literature and EPQ. Rachel is now studying Master of Nursing at Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh.

St Cuthbert's Catholic High School



Felipe attended St Charles' Catholic Primary School before St Cuthbert's. Felipe achieved A*, A, B in English Literature, Spanish and History. Felipe is now studying Law with Spanish at the University of Liverpool



Mathew attended Sacred Heart Primary School before St Cuthbert's. Mathew achieved A*, A, B in Maths, Further Maths and Physics. Mathew is now studying Mechanical Engineering at University College London.



Shannon attended St Mark's Catholic Primary School before St Cuthbert's. Shannon achieved Distinction* in CTEC Information Technologies, Distinction* in BTEC Science and D in Computer Science. Shannon is now undertaking a degree apprenticeship for digital technology solutions with Accenture with a specialism in data analytics.



Alan attended St Paul's Catholic Primary School before St Cuthbert's. Alan achieved A*, A, A, A, in Maths, Further Maths, Physics and Chemistry. Alan is now studying Theoretical Physics at Durham University.



Andrias attended Sacred Heart Primary School before St Cuthbert's. Andrias achieved B, B, C in Geography, Economics and Computer Science. Andrias is now studying Accounting and Finance at Newcastle University.

St Mary's Catholic School



Juliana attended St Lawrence's Catholic Primary School before St Mary's. Juliana achieved a B in Sociology and a double Distinction* Distinction in BTEC Health and Social Care. Juliana is now studying Psychology at Northumbria University.



David attended St Catherine's Catholic Primary School before St Mary's. David achieved A*, A*, A in Physics, Maths and Further Maths. David is now studying Mathematics and Economics at the University of Edinburgh.



Eunice attended St Mary's Catholic Primary School before St Mary's. Eunice achieved A*, A, A in English Literature, Biology and Chemistry. Eunice is now studying Pharmacy at Cardiff University.



Jasmine attended St Vincent's Catholic Primary School before St Mary's. Jasmine achieved A*, A, B in English Language, Film Studies and Biology. Jasmine now goes to the Liverpool Institute of Performing Arts (Acting).



Kyle attended St Mary's Catholic Primary School before St Mary's. Kyle achieved B, B, B in Biology, Chemistry and Mathematics. Kyle has taken up employment at Northumbrian Water.

St Benet Biscop Catholic Academy



Lola attended St Bede's Catholic Primary School before St Benet Biscop. Lola achieved A* A, A in Religious Studies, Biology and Drama. Lola is now studying Dental Hygiene at Teesside University.



Holly and Grace (twins) both attended St Aidan's Catholic Primary School before St Benet Biscop. Holly achieved A, A, A, A in Biology, Chemistry, Maths and EPQ and is now studying Medicine at Sunderland University.



Grace achieved Distinction in Applied Business, Distinction in Health and Social Care, and a Merit in Child's Play, Learning and Development. Grace is now studying Adult Nursing at Sunderland University.



Sam achieved A, A, B in Chemistry, Physics and Maths. Sam is now studying Chemistry with a year abroad at the University of Birmingham.



Hollie achieved A*, A, B in Product Design, Geography and Maths. Hollie is undertaking a Finance Apprenticeship with Huvexo.

School Leavers... Where are they now?

Sacred Heart High celebrates four of their pupils going onto Oxbridge.



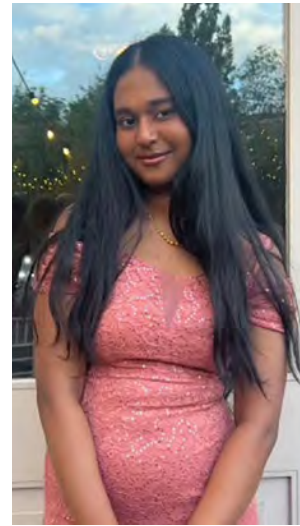
Poppy is reading History and Politics at Oxford University after achieving A*, A, A in Politics, History and English.

"I've always been involved in politics and motivated by the idea of representing others, so studying it at degree level felt like a natural next step. History fit alongside it because it gives the context for why our systems and debates look the way they do, and in my head the two became completely interlinked. What really attracted me to Oxford was the atmosphere; I have always enjoyed being challenged and having to defend my arguments, and learning alongside people who have such passion and expertise on these subjects feels both motivating and rewarding."



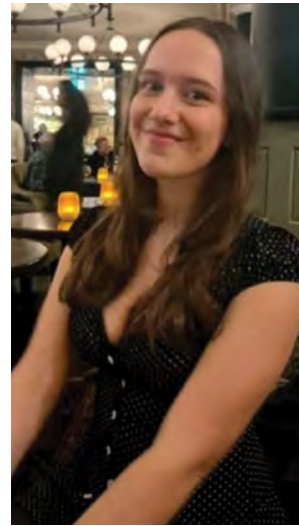
Julia is reading English Language and Literature at Trinity College, Oxford after achieving A*, A, A, A* in English Literature, Religious Studies, History and EPQ.

"I chose to apply for English at Oxford because I wanted to study something I genuinely enjoyed in an environment which would challenge me with the course's wide scope and fast-paced nature. I think the most important factor though was the collegiate system, as I was drawn to the idea of having everything in one place with your social life and your academic work being interconnected."



Imera is reading Psychology and Philosophy at Oxford after achieving A*, A*, B in Psychology, Geography and Maths.

"I chose Oxford for the tutorials; I thought they would suit the way I learn. And I chose my subjects because I love to waffle about philosophy so why not get a degree out of it? Not to mention the fact that I find psychology fascinating and the human brain is something I want to understand."



Scarlett is reading English Literature at the University of Cambridge after achieving A*, A*, B in English Literature, Psychology and History.

"I chose to do this course at Cambridge because literature gives the reader an insight into what it means to live and learn in various contexts, time periods and even ages."

St Charles' Catholic Primary School brings joy to church community

Earlier this term, St Charles' School Council brightened the day of local church community members with a special visit.

Pupils shared songs, cakes, and stories about their work on the council. As a small token of appreciation pupils gave church members a handmade salt dough heart decoration that they made themselves.

It was a heartwarming occasion that truly brought the community together.



Pupils at St Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School in North Shields champion diversity in a week-long celebration

Earlier this term, pupils at St Cuthbert's held their week-long annual Celebration of Diversity. This was the culmination of a series of activities held during the first half of autumn term.

The theme for this year's celebration was Diversity and Democracy. Students from Nursery through to Year 6 participated alongside Year 7 students from St Thomas More Catholic High School.

Led by St Cuthbert's Assistant Headteacher, Kerry Cottiss a diverse range of activities such as dance performances, poetry, cooking, sports competitions, and a Harvest Assembly took place over a seven-week period.

Students engaged with the community by visiting venues like the Laing Art Gallery, performing in a mental health-themed show, and cycling around their local area.

They also met with North Tyneside's Young Mayor and Young MP both of whom are students of St Thomas More and worked with MP Sir Alan Campbell on refugee family support, and connected with residents at a local care home.

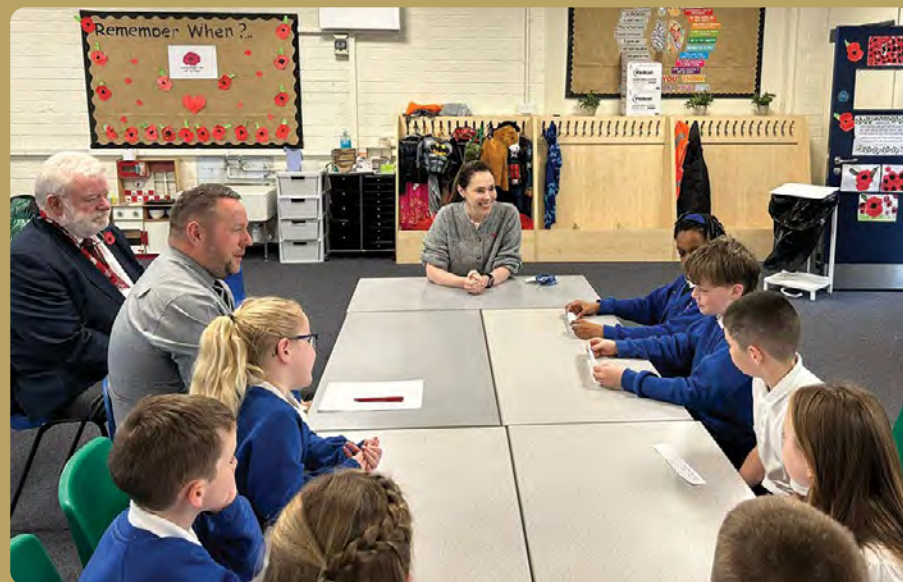
Headteacher Shaun Dillon explained that these annual celebrations, taught through the school's Compassion Matters curriculum, are central to the school's mission of treating everyone with kindness, care, respect, and compassion.



Ss Peter & Paul's Catholic Primary School



Local MP Miss Emma Foody visits Ss Peter and Paul's Catholic Primary School



On the 10 November Miss Emma Foody, the Member of Parliament for Cramlington and Killingworth, visited Ss Peter and Paul's, following an invitation from Mr Kevin Dawson (Chair of Governors).

Miss Foody initially met with Stephen Anderson, the Head of School and Kevin Dawson, where she was informed of the history of the school and the recent progress in turning round a "Requires Improvement" OFSTED Report to a "Good, with Outstanding features" Report.

As this is the only Catholic School in her Constituency, and as a former pupil of Sacred Heart School, Emma was interested in how the catholic life in the school was developed.

Following on from the initial meeting, Miss Foody was then given a tour of the school and entered all the classrooms to discover what was being taught at the time.

She spent a particularly fun and enjoyable time in the reception class, where at the request of the pupils, she donned a witch's hat and helped the pupils mix lotions and potions.

Miss Foody concluded her visit by meeting with the elected members of the School Council, where she faced some intriguing questions posed by the pupils.

St Lawrence's pupils shine at Winter Choirs Celebration in Newcastle Cathedral



On 18 November St Lawrence's choir joined others from across the city for a special event, Winters Choirs Celebration.

Organised by Newcastle Music Service the event was held at Newcastle Cathedral. Led by Music Lead and Year 4 Teacher, Megan Wilson, St Lawrence's Choir included children with special educational needs, and some for whom English was an additional language.

They performed to a sold-out audience featuring worship songs 'Who Put the Colours in the Rainbow?' and 'This is Amazing Grace,' along with traditional pieces 'Bella Mama' and 'Tongo'.

The choir performed the traditional songs acapella, in a different language, and used sign language. Commenting on the experience Charlotte Robson, Head of School, said 'giving these pupils the opportunity to shine in an event like this is very important to us. It helps improve their love of music listening to different choirs of different sizes and ages all performing different songs.'



To keep up to date with what is happening at
Bishop Bewick schools please follow us on our social media pages

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