



Star of the Sea Primary School  
Seatonville Road, Whitley Bay, Tyne & Wear, NE25 9EG.  
Telephone: (0191) 643 2080  
E-Mail: [starofthesea.primary@ntlp.org.uk](mailto:starofthesea.primary@ntlp.org.uk)  
Website: [www.staroftheseaschool.co.uk](http://www.staroftheseaschool.co.uk)



*ADVENT, a time for hope, peace, joy and love*

6<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy term we are having.

We are looking forward to all our Christmas performances next week. All pupils and staff have been very busy preparing for them. It is a joy for us to hear the children singing the Christmas songs this Advent and we have already invited some of our Early Years parents/carers into school for Christmas crafts!

#### **Donations of Food, Toiletries and Essential Items**

The SVP (St Vincent de Paul Society) would appreciate any donations you can give this Christmas. Please send these into school at any time on **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December**. Thank you.

#### **School Term and Holidays 2023 – 2024 and 2024 - 2025**

Please see our school website for our school term and holiday dates for this academic year and next. As mentioned in my earlier newsletters, we close for the Christmas holidays on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December **and re-open on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024**.

#### **Children in Need and support for children in Zambia**

Thank you to everyone who came to school dressed in their football kits or favourite colours on Children in Need day. We raised £378-75p. Well done everyone!

#### **Christmas Performances**

We are so excited to perform our Christmas plays, carols etc. for you.

All performances will take place in the school hall. Please come to the school office for access.

This year we will be having a raffle at the start of each show to raise much needed funds for school. If you would like to buy a raffle ticket, one strip will be £1. Many thanks in advance.

### **Years 5 and 6 Advent service**

This took place last night at St Edward's church. It was a beautiful service. A huge thank you to all the families for supporting this and to all the children who came along, your reading, singing and acting were fabulous!

### **Christmas parties**

These take place the week beginning 18<sup>th</sup> December (see below). We are asking for small food donations for parties and teachers will send more information about this, nearer the time.

### **Christmas Jumper day**

We will hold our annual Christmas Jumper day for Save the Children on the last day of term, **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December**.

Please do not buy a new jumper for your child/ren. Anything Christmassy will look fantastic! Many thanks in advance for any donations given on this day for Save the Children.

### **School meals**

Can everyone ensure that they have paid school for their children's school meals for this term. School has already been invoiced and has paid for these meals up until Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December. School meals can be paid for via Parentmail. If you have any queries, please contact the school office on 0191 6432080.

### **Year 5 swimming**

Please remember that swimming starts next week.

### **Gospel Values at Star of the Sea**

Our pupils have agreed the Gospel values which we all agree are important to us. We hope to live by these values. Our Good News award, given out in our whole school assembly, is now linked to these.

We hope our children can talk about these important principles at home and at school. Here is a photograph of the display in the school hall.



### **Academic Information Sheets**

Every term you will receive an information sheet about the attainment and effort of your child. This will be completed by the class teacher and will include a target for English and Maths, alongside a general comment and attendance information. More information will follow when they are sent out in the last week of term.

### **Our new school badge**

Michael Ashton-Thompson from BBCET Trust, has designed a new badge for us. It now incorporates the name and location of our school. It can be found at the top of this newsletter. We are delighted with this, as we are with the new website he created. Any feedback about this would be welcome.

### **Invite into school to see our Christmas story**

Every year we like to send an invitation to our families to experience the joy of Christmas in school. Every year group has created part of the Christmas story which can be seen around school.

On Monday 18<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> December, we hope you will be able to walk around school, with your child/ren, at the end of the school day, and explore our school at Christmas time.

In the hall there will be the opportunity to take home some pre-loved uniform too. There will also be hot drinks and biscuits to enjoy.

### **Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> December – last day of term. Early pick up**

As Thursday is the last day of term, you will be able to pick your child up early, if you wish to. **Please come to the school yard and collect your child from the usual place between 1pm and 1.30pm.**

After 1.30pm, the gates will be closed until the usual pick up time: 3.20pm.

If your child is leaving school early and walking home on their own, please email the class year group email address so the teachers know you have agreed to this. We cannot allow any child to leave early unless we have permission from an adult.

Children who are not leaving school early will stay with their class teacher until the end of the school day.

Thank you.

### **Support for families**

School holiday food vouchers are being paid to families who are eligible for income based free school meals. If your circumstances have changed or you feel that you may be eligible for free school meals please email [studentsupport@northtyneside.gov.uk](mailto:studentsupport@northtyneside.gov.uk) and provide them with your child's name, date of birth and school.

If you are experiencing exceptional hardship, you may be entitled to Crisis Support. Please telephone the North Tyneside Council Welfare Assistance team on (0191) 643 2777 and press option 2 between 9am and 2pm, Monday to Friday.

### **Support for Children who require more support in mainstream school: ARP Parent Carer Engagement**

Please find attached information from the North Tyneside Parent Carer Forum requesting parents and carers to give their opinions/feedback on ARPs within North Tyneside.

### Dates for December

Date	Occasion
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Whole school Design and Technology day
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 begin swimming lessons all week
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Nursery performance: 10.45am Reception performances: 9.15am and 2.15pm
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Stella Maris mass at Immaculate Heart church at 7pm. All are welcome and our school choir are singing
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1 Christmas performance: 2.15pm
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Year 2 Christmas performance: 2.15pm
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 performance: 9.15am Year 4 performance: 2.15pm
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Reception, year 1 and year 2 parties
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Donations given to school for SVP
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Families invited into school for a Christmas walk around <b>3.20pm – 4pm</b>
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 to 6 Christmas party day
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Year 4 pupils go to the pantomime
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	School Christmas Lunch
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Christmas jumper day
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Children can be picked up between 1pm and 1.30pm or at 3.20pm (please see above)

### Safeguarding

Every newsletter has information about safeguarding included. Here are some reminders for you:

- Safeguarding our pupils and staff is the most important part of school life.
- We are part of Operation Encompass, where we are informed whenever the police are involved with a family. This is so we can ensure pupils in our care feel safe and have a voice.
- The safeguarding team in school are: Mrs DiMambro (safeguarding lead), Mr Hall, Mrs Chidlow and Mr Thompson (all deputy leaders).
- We use a system called CPOMS in school, where all our safeguarding and child protection incidents are logged. Most schools use this system.
- If you have any safeguarding concerns you can contact school, the NSPCC on 0808 800 5000 or Front Door (Social Services) on 0345 2000 109.

Thank you to all our staff for working so hard this term and to you, for all your support. Also, thank you to our governors for the time they give to school so freely.

Kindest regards,

*K.L. DiMambro*  
Mrs K DiMambro,  
Head Teacher.

*'Come, Lord Jesus'. Revelations. 22:20*



North Tyneside Parent Carer Forum cic



North Tyneside  
Council

# Parents and Carers We Need Your Voices!

## What is an ARP?

Some mainstream schools already have additional provision for children and young people who require more support than a typical mainstream school can provide. In North Tyneside, this type of provision is called an ARP (additionally resourced provision). The ARPs often meet a more specific area of need, such as Autism, Speech, Language and Communication or Cognition and Learning Difficulties.

## Why do we want to hear from you?

North Tyneside are keen to develop this type of provision further across the borough. As part of this development, we are very keen to hear your voice as it will help us to shape any future plans.

We are holding events and want to speak with parents and carers who:

- Have children and young people who currently attend an ARP
- Have children and young people who have previously attended an ARP
- Have children and young people who may need to attend an ARP in the future
- Or parents and carers who are interested to know more about ARPs in North Tyneside.

## What if I cannot attend these sessions?

If you cannot attend these in-person events, there will be further opportunities to share your views. If you have any questions, please email [info@ntpcf.co.uk](mailto:info@ntpcf.co.uk) or call/text 07572 787 044.

## When/Where?

On 23 January 2024 at Linskill Centre (refreshments provided). Please choose:  
10am - 11.30am OR 1pm - 2.30pm

## How do I book?

Please use the Eventbrite QR code/link to book your space.



← Morning Session

Afternoon Session →

