

SMP CONNECTED

Friday 15th May 2026 Issue #135

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#LifesongSMP

THE TIMES
BEST SCHOOLS IN THE UK
TOP 100

For our SMPTA SHOP [CLICK HERE](#)



Dear Friends,

We are all so proud of our Year 6 children, who have done fantastically well in their SATs this week. They have all conducted themselves impeccably and have risen to every challenge presented to them. We look forward with anticipation to receiving their results in July; however, there's plenty going on between now and then to focus on instead!

Huge thanks go to Dr Saunders for all of the work she has done in preparing the children, ably assisted in the final few weeks by our wonderful student teacher, Miss Sherwin.

Today, we extend our love and prayers to the ten children who will be receiving Holy Communion for the very first time tomorrow. This is always a special community celebration, made even more so this year in light of our 150th anniversary. We look forward to celebrating with all of the children and to seeing them in their beautiful outfits. We are delighted that our new headteacher, Mr Wheatley, will be joining us for the celebration too!

Whatever you are up to this weekend, I hope that you are able to enjoy a well-earned rest as we head into the final week of this short half-term.

With brightest blessings,
Mr Gray

Cornerstones Week

We are looking forward to another action-packed Cornerstones Week from **22nd-26th June**. This year, we are delighted to have already booked in a freestyle football coach, a hula-hooping session and a music and movement teacher who will be delivering sessions across the week. As always, the week will culminate in an inflatables day on the Friday.

Voluntary financial contributions have been worked out depending on each child's age group and the activities that they will be accessing throughout the week. Please consider making a contribution so that we can continue to offer these activities each year.

New Academic Year - Transition Days

Nursery new starters are invited to attend sessions on the following dates:

- **Wednesday 17th June 9:30pm-11:15am**
- **Tuesday 30th June 1:00pm-2:15pm**

A whole school 'move up' day is scheduled to take place on **Tuesday 30th June**. This coincides with one of the St. Thomas More transition days. Please be assured that there will be provision made for on this day for pupils transitioning to different middle schools.

Class photographs

Debbie Young will be visiting school on **Monday 8th June** to take class photographs. These will be made available for parents to purchase.

Junior Duke Submissions

Mrs. Hatherley has asked me share that all completed Junior Duke books should be **submitted during Cornerstones Week (22-26 June)**.

School Meals Survey

Thank you to those of you who recently completed a survey linked to school meal provision. We found the feedback very useful and we are working with the BWCET catering team to respond to this.

SMPTA reminders

Friday 22nd May - non-uniform day **bring a pre-loved cuddly toy**

Thursday 11th June - to mark the beginning of the World Cup, pupils will be asked to dress in the colours of their class' chosen nation and to **bring some sweet treats** for the children's tombola. Countries and colours still TBC - thank you for your patience!

150th anniversary tea towels - we are currently producing a tea towel to commemorate our 150th anniversary! Pre-orders will be available soon via the SMPTA store. They will be priced at £5.

Father's Day portraits - this year, the children will be producing portraits of the special men in their lives. These will be framed and available to purchase via the SMPTA store soon.

NEXT WEEK

Friday 22nd May Non-uniform day - donate a pre-loved cuddly toy



LET'S CELEBRATE



We are very excited about our weekly **special recognition awards**. Each week, staff members will choose a pupil from each year group who deserves special recognition for exceptional effort and achievement.

Each recipient will get to wear a special pin badge entitling them to special privileges in their class in the following week. Each teacher will decide on what these privileges will look like and these may change over time. **Pin badges must be returned to Mr. Gray each Friday in return for a small treat!**

RECEPTION	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5	YEAR 6	TA'S AWARD	HT'S AWARD
MADDIE	BERTIE	BRIANNE	ALFIE	LOLA	JACKSON	ALL OF Y6	JOSH M	ALL OF Y6

School HOLIDAY

West Northumberland Family Hubs

What's On this half term holiday - May 2026

Prudhoe Family Hub Tuesday 26th May Baby Stay and Play (ages 0-18 months) 10-11am Wed 27th May SEND Safe Space (All ages, additional needs and disabilities) 9.30-11.30am Thursday 28th May Family Stay and Play (All ages) 10-11.30am Friday 29th May Family Stay & Play at Eastwoods Park (All ages) 10-11.30am at Eastwoods Park, NE42 5DX	Haltwhistle Family Hub Tuesday 26th May Go Outside & Play at Walltown Country Park Greenhead, CA8 7HZ (All ages) 1-3pm Wed 27th May SEND Safe Space (All ages, additional needs and disabilities) 1-3pm Thursday 28th May Buggy Walk (All ages welcome) Meet at 1pm outside the Warm Welcome, Haltwhistle Methodist Church Hall, NE49 0AX	Hexham Family Hub Tuesday 26th May Calm Stay and Play (All ages, additional needs and disabilities) 10-11am Wed 27th May Family Stay and Play (All ages) 10-11am Thursday 28th May SEND Safe Space (All ages, additional needs and disabilities) 9.30-11.30am Find us on Facebook & Instagram @WestFamilyHubs	Bellingham Family Hub Thursday 28th May Family Stay and Play at the Park (All ages) 10.30-11.30am at Bellingham Jubilee Play Park, NE48 2JS (Weather dependant) Become a Family Hub Member! Scan the QR code or visit nland.cc/fthreg Find us online! Scan the QR code or visit nland.cc/familyhubs
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Please get in touch for more information about our groups, sessions & digital offer

Sign up for a group or session

Online Notice Board

Parent Support & Skills Workshops and discussions helping parents and carers strengthen relationships and support their children's wellbeing.

Navigating Parenthood Information & ideas to help parents and carers navigate parenting older children & teens

Dad Pad The essential guide for new dads developed with the NHS

Dad Talk Online workshop for dads, during pregnancy and beyond

Healthy Relationships Support to reduce conflict and improve everyone's lives.

Togetherness Free digital programme providing tools to support parents/carers & young people at each developmental stage <https://togetherness.co.uk> access code - MADRIDAN

Sleep Workshop Support & guidance available from trained sleep awareness practitioners

Additional Needs &/or Disabilities Supportive sessions for children and young people with additional needs, and their families, to connect, relax, and share experiences.

SEND Safe Space A welcoming, safe space where you can make the most of our Family Hub facilities.

Empowering Parents Supportive wellbeing group for parents/carers of children with additional needs and/or disabilities

SEND Family Chill Out Regular relaxed after school sessions

Calm Stay & Play Weekly calm & fun sessions, with no booking required

Early Learning & Play Fun and engaging sessions helping you support your children's learning and development through everyday activities.

Brilliant Babies Specially designed supportive groups for families with young babies

Terrific Toddlers Meet other families with toddlers at these social sessions with topical themes

Ready Steady School Encourage your little one's independent skills with these fun, friendly sessions

Early communicators For children between 15-30 months who are experiencing some difficulties with their understanding and/or use of language

Stay & Play Regular fun sessions, with no booking required

Baby Support & Early Parenting Friendly sessions for new and expectant parents to connect, learn, and explore their baby's growth and development together.

Building a Brain A bite-size online workshop exploring brain development

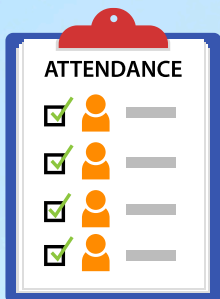
Preparation for Parenthood Develop a healthy lifestyle for you and your baby, support for expectant mums and dads.

Feeding Friends NHS partner support with breastfeeding and more

Starting Solids A guide to starting solid foods with your little one

Toilet Training Workshop Practical advice for parents and carers beginning the toilet training journey

Wellbeing Service Tailored support for Mums or Dads living in Northumberland who are expecting a baby or have a child under 2 years of age.



This week



Year 3 100%

Rec, Y3 and Y4 97.3%



Year to date podium



St Matthew's
Catholic Primary School



LITTLE SHOOTS

STAY & PLAY

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS 1:30PM

Bursting with LIFE

Join us for joyful afternoons of outdoor play, gentle discovery, and seasonal crafts — all rooted in the wonders of nature. At Little Shoots, we believe in nurturing young minds through mud, leaves, laughter, and learning. Whether we're planting seeds, splashing in puddles, or listening to birdsong, every session is a chance to grow together.

Perfect for babies, toddlers and their grown-ups who love fresh air, friendship, and the magic of the natural world.



FIND US ON HIGHFIELD LANE, PRUDHOE NE42 6EY
LOOK FOR THE RED ARCH!



www.stmatthewsprudhoe.bwcet.com



@StMatthewPrudhoe

#LifesongSMP

16th May
22nd May
31st May - 3rd June
1st June
8th June

11th June
19th June
22 - 26th June
22nd June
23rd June
24th June
25th June
26th June

29th June
30th June

2nd July
3rd July
6th July
7th July
8th July
10th July
16th July
17th July

First Holy Communion - 10am in church
Non-uniform day - donate a cuddly toy
Year 6 Field Trip to Boggle Hole (**leaving Sunday**)
Year 4 Multiplication Check (this week)

Class photographs day
Year 1 Phonics Check (this week)

World Cup non-uniform day (see above)

School Closed - INSET Day
Cornerstones Week 2026 / Summer fair on Friday

Football freestyle - including free parents' workshop after school!

Hula-hooping - including free parents' workshop after school

EYFS Pirate Trip to Longsands Beach

Tennis Day!

Inflatables and school fair!

Final date for Junior Duke submissions

Year 6 visit to the Emmaus Youth Village

'Move up' Day

New Reception Parents' Information Evening - 5:30pm

Year 5 Celebration of Sport at Gateshead International Stadium

Sports Day - Reception - Year 6

Stellar Futures Club - Kielder Observatory Visit - NEW DATE!!

Summer Arts Festival - 2pm

Nursery Sports Afternoon - 1pm

Anniversary Celebration Mass with Bishop Stephen Wright - 10am

Nursery Graduation 1:30pm. Nursery will close for the summer today

Leavers' Mass - 10am

Year 6 Leavers' Assembly - 2pm / School closes



**Please note that
all dates are
subject to
change.**

Please note that new dates are added in bold